From: Sent: To: Subject: Brian Ellrott - NOAA Federal <brian.ellrott@noaa.gov> Friday, March 15, 2019 2:26 PM Strange, Erin ROC update for SJRRP

Erin,

Can you or someone from your branch please add a sentence or two to this paragraph to bring it up to date? This text came from the CWF BO and I'd like to update it for the CVP/SWP BO.

Thanks, Brian

An experimental population of spring-run Chinook salmon has been designated under section 10(j) of the ESA in the San Joaquin River from Friant Dam downstream to its confluence with the Merced River (78 FR 79622; December 31, 2013), and spring-run Chinook salmon are currently being reintroduced to the San Joaquin River. The experimental population area in the San Joaquin River is outside the action area. However, when these fish migrate to and from the ocean, they will pass through the action area, where they are considered part of the non-experimental Central Valley spring-run Chinook salmon ESU. A conservation stock of spring-run Chinook is being developed at the San Joaquin River Conservation and Research Facility at Friant Dam and individuals have been released annually since 2014 to the lower San Joaquin River (CDFW 2014). In 2016, the San Joaquin River Restoration Program released 57,320 Feather River Hatchery and 47,560 San Joaquin River Conservation and Research Facility spring-run Chinook salmon juveniles to the San Joaquin River just upstream of the confluence with the Merced River (NMFS 2016). 2016 was the first year in which the fish released in 2014 may have returned. No fish have been detected returning to the San Joaquin River to spawn from the initial 2014 release (Reclamation 2017, unpublished data).

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