

---

**From:** Garwin Yip - NOAA Federal <garwin.yip@noaa.gov>  
**Sent:** Thursday, December 13, 2018 8:01 AM  
**To:** Barbara Byrne  
**Cc:** Cathy Marcinkevage; Howard Brown  
**Subject:** Re: Question for ROC on Managers...re: SWRCB, VA, and ROConLTO

We already kind of asked that question yesterday, that is, if the VAs aren't adopted, are they reasonably certain to occur, since putting them into the PA makes them Reclamation's (and DWR's) responsibility to implement things they may not have discretion over.

I suggest we sit back a little and listen. After all, this is Reclamation's PA, so what we need to do is focus, and ask clarifying questions on their PA and not get distracted by outside "noise."

-Garwin-

---

*Garwin Yip*  
Water Operations and Delta Consultations Branch Chief  
NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region  
U.S. Department of Commerce  
California Central Valley Office  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100  
Sacramento, CA 95814  
Office: 916-930-3611  
Cell: 916-716-6558  
FAX: 916-930-3629  
[www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov)



On Thu, Dec 13, 2018 at 7:47 AM Barbara Byrne - NOAA Federal <[barbara.byrne@noaa.gov](mailto:barbara.byrne@noaa.gov)> wrote:

I suggest that when Jeff Rieker arrives for a discussion of the Voluntary Agreements (VAs), we have a frank conversation about whether it is even reasonable to consult on this very-moving target, or at least get clear on the timeline for when things might settle so we can elevate to Maria and Barry.

I am still trying to figure out exactly WHAT the Board agreed to. I think they adopted the plan (which would call for 40% from the Merced, Tuolumne, and Stanislaus, all other standards including Delta and Sacramento remain untouched since not part of the Phase I update), but also agreed to consider the voluntary agreements as they are fleshed out. As proposed, some of the VA elements are...nebulous (based on a very quick skim yesterday).

So, what does it all mean for how the CVP/SWP and other trib flows will be operated, and by when those operations are expected to begin? No idea. Voluntary agreements would likely go into effect faster, so could be assumed to be in place Jan 1 2010 when operations under the new BiOp begin, but I don't think we

currently have sufficient meat on the voluntary agreement framework for meaningful analysis, let alone any certainty that they'll be adopted in the end by the Board.

--

**Barb Byrne**

Fish Biologist

*NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region*

*U.S. Department of Commerce*

Office: 916-930-5612

[barbara.byrne@noaa.gov](mailto:barbara.byrne@noaa.gov)

*California Central Valley Office*

*650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100*

*Sacramento, CA 95814*



**Find us online**

[www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov](http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov)

