

**Attachment No. 1
to Environmental Information for
Petition for Temporary Urgency Change to
License 9407 (Application 1389)
held by Walker River Irrigation District**

Description of Proposed Temporary Urgency Changes

Walker River Irrigation District (WRID) is filing a Petition for Temporary Urgency Change (Petition) with the Division of Water Rights (Division) to request a temporary change to Term and Conditions of its License 9407 (Application 1389) for the purpose of relaxing the minimum release requirement from 20 cfs (or 30 cfs depending upon temperature) to a consistent 10 cfs downstream of Bridgeport Reservoir. As is explained in greater detail in the Petition, the purpose of the proposed temporary change is to address and help mitigate the unprecedented drought conditions and impacts. The request is intended to provide for optimal management of the remaining storage in Bridgeport Reservoir for the benefit of the fishery in Bridgeport Reservoir and in the East Walker River downstream of the Reservoir in an effort to avoid potential water quality issues associated with reducing storage, as experienced in the drought period of the late 1980's. Withdrawals from storage held in Bridgeport Reservoir to provide minimum releases for fish species are depleting the minimum remaining storage.

WRID proposes these changes be effective upon approval of the Petition until February 28, 2015, or if extended as discussed below, for a period of up to 180 days. During the period from the date of an order to February 28, 2015, inflow over 10 cfs would be collected to storage in Bridgeport Reservoir to preserve and increase storage, and assist in later meeting minimum downstream releases. WRID proposes these changes be effective upon approval of this Petition through February 28, 2015. In February 2015, WRID will re-evaluate the hydrologic conditions and may request an extension past February 28, 2015, but not longer than a total of 180 days from approval. Any such request will be made in consultation with CDFW. There is no change to the existing point of diversion, place of use, or purpose of use. In addition, the proposed temporary changes do not involve any construction or other physical changes to WRID's facilities. Absent approval of this Petition, releases of 20 cfs, and up to 30 cfs given temperature conditions, will continue to decrease the quantity held in storage at Bridgeport Reservoir.

Lahontan Regional Water Quality Control Board (LRWQCB) staff were contacted in order to discuss the proposed temporary urgency changes; however, a consultation has not occurred at this time. Copies of this petition have been provided to Scott Ferguson (530/542-5432) of the LRWQCB.

This Petition is exempt from the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to paragraph 19 of Governor Brown's Proclamation of a Continued State of Emergency dated April 25, 2014, and pursuant to California Public Resources Code § 21080(b)(4) as a specific action necessary to prevent or mitigate an emergency. WRID anticipates the Division will issue a Notice of Exemption following approval of the proposed changes requested by the Petition.

Photographs

Attached are photographs of the current conditions at Bridgeport Reservoir, and photographs upstream and downstream of Bridgeport Reservoir along the East Walker River.

Maps

The present point of diversion and place of use are shown on maps filed with the Division for License 9407, which are incorporated herein by reference.

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