

## **DRAFT Working Definitions/Examples**

### **Ag Dominated Water Body**

Ag Task Force Report working definition: *Greater than 50 percent of the flow comes from agricultural discharges during a significant portion of the irrigation season.*

Alternative proposal: *Systems designed or modified for the primary purpose of conveying or holding agricultural waters, and/or water bodies with greater than 50 percent of the flow coming from agricultural operations for greater than 50 percent of the irrigation season.*

*Note –A review of the 1992 Inland Surface Water Plan report indicated that almost all of the 160-ag dominated natural water bodies identified were ephemeral with NO flow anticipated during the irrigation season without agricultural operations. Some of the exceptions that may be useful for further discussion on an alternative for flow include: Cache Creek, San Joaquin River (Merced to Stanislaus Rivers), and the Delta Channels (e.g. Mormon Slough).*

### **On-farm/Ancillary Structures**

*On-farm or ancillary structures are privately constructed water conveyances necessary to maintain agricultural operations under a single owner and/or operation. Such structures include but are not limited to on-farm irrigation systems such as furrows, beds and checks, and on-farm distribution systems (including tail-water ponds, ditches and sumps). On-farm or ancillary structures do not include facilities or improvements that may mix with natural or non-agricultural waterways (e.g. storm water drains) or are within the jurisdiction of the Federal Clean Water Act*

### **Controlled Recirculating Systems**

#### **Ag Recirculating System**

*Ag Recirculating Systems are designed to deliver irrigation water and retain agricultural return flows through recirculation in natural or constructed conveyance facilities through an area under single or coordinated management control which may or may not contain multiple individual farms. Examples include tail water recovery and irrigation systems managed to maximize water use, energy savings and/or chemical management while protecting downstream beneficial uses.*

#### **Closed Recirculating System**

*Closed Recirculating Systems are designed to deliver and recirculate irrigation water and agricultural return water in a system of constructed conveyance facilities under a single or coordinated management system that may or may not contain multiple individual farms that retains all waters within the management area.*

## **Natural Water Body (in National Hydrography Dataset)**

*Water body feature type attribute is described as “natural” or made up of “natural” water bodies in the [Standards for National Hydrography Dataset](http://nationalmap.gov/standards/nhdstds.html) (<http://nationalmap.gov/standards/nhdstds.html>). Most common example of a natural water body is a feature type of “Stream/River”. Water bodies that are not considered “natural” include those with a feature type of “Canal/Ditch” and “Artificial Path”.*

## **District**

Agencies managing and/or maintaining the water bodies in question (irrigation, water, reclamation, or other).

## **Natural Flow**

*The flow of a water body without anthropogenic inputs or outside management, such as operational spills, drainage or other diversions or inflows.*

## **Perennial Water Body**

*Natural year-round flow of water during years of normal rainfall.*

## **Non-Perennial Water Body**

*Natural flow of water ceases for weeks or months each year -includes ephemeral and intermittent.*

## **Modified/Reconstructed Water Body**

*A water body in which the hydrology has been changed through construction and/or management and/or in which the channel has been extensively realigned and reconstructed.*

Examples include any or a combination of the following:

- *The natural head waters have been diverted;*
- *The water body contains dams, diversions or other types of hydrologic modifications that make it infeasible to restore the water body to its original condition;*
- *The channel has been physically altered such as deepened, straightened and/or graded;*
- *Portions of the water body are concrete lined and/or rip-rapped;*
- *Portions of the water body have been piped*