

NMFS Exhibit 9

Flow criteria for green and white sturgeon – NMFS
summary and AFRP paper

Submitted for the “Informational Proceeding to Develop Flow Criteria for the Delta Ecosystem
Necessary to Protect Public Trust Resources”, scheduled to begin March 22, 2010

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 1995b. Working paper on restoration needs: habitat restoration actions to double natural production of anadromous fish in the Central Valley of California. Volume 3. May 9, 1995. Prepared for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under the direction of the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program Core Group. Stockton, California
[paper is included following the summary page]

NMFS summary of flow recommendations for white and green Sturgeon from the above paper:

1. Provide a mean April-May Delta outflow index (Chippis Island) of at least 25,000cfs in above-normal and wet year types. The minimum daily Delta outflow index will not be less than 20,000cfs in April and will not be less than 15,000cfs in May.

Objective: Increase sturgeon production by providing adequate Delta outflow in above-normal and wet year types.

2. Provide mean monthly flows of at least 17,700cfs at Grimes(RM 125) and at least 31,100cfs at Verona (RM 80) between February and May for wet and above-normal water years.

Objective: Provide flows to allow adult migration from the estuary or ocean to spawning grounds, spawning and downstream larval transport.

San Joaquin River flows

3. Provide mean monthly flows of at least 7,000cfs at Newman and 14,000cfs at Vernalis from February to May during above-normal and wet water years.

Objective: Provide minimum or greater flows to ensure suitable conditions for sturgeon to migrate and spawn and for their progeny to survive.

Outflow requirements should be consistent with upstream flow requirements for sturgeon and other anadromous species so they augment one another.