**Sent:** Monday, January 3, 2022 6:36 PM **To:** <u>Delta Drought Email Subscription List</u>

Subject: JANUARY 3 UPDATE ON CURTAILMENT STATUS OF WATER RIGHTS AND CLAIMS IN THE DELTA WATERSHED – ALL CURTAILMENTS REMAIN TEMPORARILY SUSPENDED THROUGH JANUARY 10, 2022

All curtailments under the August 20, 2021 curtailment orders (Order for water rights/claims under 5,000 acre-feet and Order for water rights/claims over 5,000 acre-feet) issued pursuant to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) Watershed Emergency Reporting and Curtailment Regulation remain temporarily suspended through at least January 10, 2022. The reporting requirements identified in the August 20 Orders remain in place, as do other requirements that may be applicable for specific water rights and claims. Water supply forecasts will continue to be evaluated regularly to determine if, when, and to what extent re-imposition of curtailments may be appropriate after January 10, and updates will continue to be provided by email and web posting.

The decision to continue the temporary suspension of curtailments is based in part on the Water Unavailability Methodology for the Delta Watershed, together with consideration of a range of water supply projections from the California Nevada River Forecast Center (CNRFC) updated on January 3, 2022, low historical water demand for direct diversions in January, the importance of allowing reservoirs to refill when water becomes available due to storm events, and existing instream flow requirements. State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) Resolution 2021-0028 directs staff to closely monitor evolving hydrology and weather conditions and suspend curtailments, as circumstances warrant, as quickly as possible, and to consider opportunities and needs to replenish stored water supplies.

If water right holders or claimants believe their water rights are being impacted by the continued suspension of curtailments, they may notify the State Water Board by emailing <a href="mailto:Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov">Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov</a> with specific details regarding their concern, or they may file a formal complaint by visiting: <a href="https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/">https://calepacomplaints.secure.force.com/complaints/</a>.

Suspension of curtailments should not be construed as a validation of water right claims or an authorization to divert. Existing constraints on water right permits and licenses, such as seasonal diversion restrictions and bypass flow requirements, remain in effect. In addition, all water right holders and claimants may only divert under valid water rights and are not authorized to divert if it would result in injury to other water users.

Water right holders and claimants are responsible for monitoring their curtailment status online on the <u>Delta Watershed Curtailment Status List</u>. Notice of changes to curtailment status will not be mailed. For those with limited internet access, a pre-recorded

curtailment summary can be heard on the Delta Curtailment Status phone line at (916) 323-4643.

For more information about drought in the Delta watershed, please visit the <u>Delta Drought webpage</u>. For more information about curtailment compliance and responses to the August 20 Orders, please visit the <u>Curtailment Compliance and Responses webpage</u>. The Curtailment Compliance and Responses tracker is updated regularly and can be filtered to see the latest changes. If you have any questions, you may send an email to <u>Bay-Delta@waterboards.ca.gov</u> or call the Delta Drought phone line at (916) 319-0960.