





State Water Resources Control Board

NOTICE OF IMMEDIATE RESCISSION OF THE JUNE 30, 2014 CURTAILMENT NOTICE FOR CERTAIN POST-1914 WATER RIGHTS ON THE MAIN STEM EEL RIVER, DOWNSTREAM OF THE SOUTH FORK EEL RIVER CONFLUENCE

On June 30, 2014, the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board) issued a curtailment notice to post-1914 water right holders on the North Fork and Main Stem Eel River and the Van Duzen River. The curtailment notice was based on the projected water supply and reported diversion demands for senior and junior water right holders. At that time, the water supply was insufficient to service all senior water right holders.

State Water Board staff has continuously monitored flow conditions in the Eel River watershed, and, based on new information, has determined that there is sufficient water available downstream of the confluence of the South Fork and Main Stem Eel River to justify allowing 22 appropriative water rights holders, of which you are one, to commence diversions under post-1914 water rights. This determination is based on July 14th and 16th, 2014 recalibrations of the stream gages at Scotia and Fort Seward by the United States Geological Survey (USGS) which are used to monitor and project water supply. State Water Board staff has monitored the adjusted gages for two weeks to ensure consistency prior to releasing parties from curtailment.

Given these adjustments to water supply, State Water Board staff finds that additional water is available to certain post-1914 water rights in the Eel River near the Scotia gauge. Due to the downstream location of the Scotia gauge and supply of water still entering from the South Fork, only those post-1914 water rights downstream of the South Fork and Main Stem Eel River confluence are being released from curtailment.

State Water Board staff also checked this decision to partially lift curtailments with results from a flow model being developed by the University of California, Davis. Results from the Davis model support lifting the curtailments for the post-1914 water rights below the confluence of the South Fork and Main Stem Eel River, but not for the remainder of the Main Stem Eel River, North Fork Eel River, or Van Duzen River.



The Division of Water Rights will continue to actively monitor the conditions for the remainder of the Main Stem and North Fork Eel River as well as the Van Duzen tributary, and should conditions change, we will notify the affected parties.

If you have any questions or concerns, you may contact John O'Hagan at (916) 341-5368.

Sincerely,

for,

Thomas Howard Executive Director