

**PUBLIC NOTICE FOR
CLEAN WATER ACT 401 WATER QUALITY CERTIFICATION
BEFORE THE STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD**

An application for water quality certification under section 401 of the Clean Water Act for the following project was filed with the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board). California Code of Regulations, title 23, section 3858 requires the Executive Director of the State Water Board to provide public notice of an application before taking certification action on the application. Written questions and/or comments regarding the application should be directed to:

Michael Maher
Water Quality Certification Program
Division of Water Rights
State Water Resources Control Board
P.O. Box 2000
Sacramento, CA 95812-2000

RECEIVED: March 12, 2015
PROJECT: El Dorado Hydroelectric Project - Request for Temporary Amendment to Clean Water Act Section 401 Water Quality Certification During Extreme Drought Conditions
APPLICANT: El Dorado Irrigation District
CONTACTS: Mr. Brian Deason, El Dorado Irrigation District
COUNTIES: Placer and El Dorado
PUBLIC NOTICE: March 13, 2015
PROJECT STATUS: Pending

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The El Dorado Irrigation District (District) is requesting State Water Board approval to implement temporary streamflow variances to conserve and manage the El Dorado Hydroelectric Project (Federal Energy Regulatory Commission Project No. 184)(Project) reservoir storage and maintain consumptive water supplies in response to extreme drought conditions in the Project area. The proposed streamflow variance request includes reducing minimum instream flows in 2015 as follows:

- At the SouthFork American River below Kyburz (gage A-12) from 60 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 45 cfs from May 16-31, from 60 cfs to 18 cfs in June, from 40 cfs to 15 cfs in July, and from 18 to 15 cfs in August;
- Below Caples Lake main dam (gage A-6) from 10 cfs to 5 cfs in April, from 14 cfs to 5 cfs from May 1-15, and from 14 cfs to 7 cfs from May 16-31;
- Below Echo Lake dam (gage A-3) from 6 cfs or natural flow* to 2 cfs or natural flow* in April and May;
- Below Silver Lake dam (gage A-8) from 4 cfs or natural flow* to 2 cfs or natural flow* in April and May;
- Below Lake Aloha main dam (gage A-40) from 3 cfs to 2 cfs or natural flow* in April; and from 5 cfs to 2 cfs or natural flow* in May.

The District proposes to resume license-specified minimum instream flow requirements if forecasts indicate the District can achieve: (1) 15,080 acre-feet of consumptive water deliveries; and (2) meet a storage target at Caples Lake of 13,000 acre-feet on November 30, 2015. The District is proposing to monitor water quality and water temperature in affected stream reaches throughout the streamflow variance period.

*Note: When "natural flow" is used, the minimum instream flow would be reduced to the lower of the new proposed flow or natural flow, whichever is less.