



Westlands Water District

**MEMORANDUM**

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**TO:** SLDMWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
**FROM:** TOM BOARDMAN, WATER RESOURCES ENGINEER  
**SUBJECT:** OCTOBER OPERATIONS UPDATE  
**DATE:** OCTOBER 2, 2020

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**Project Operations**

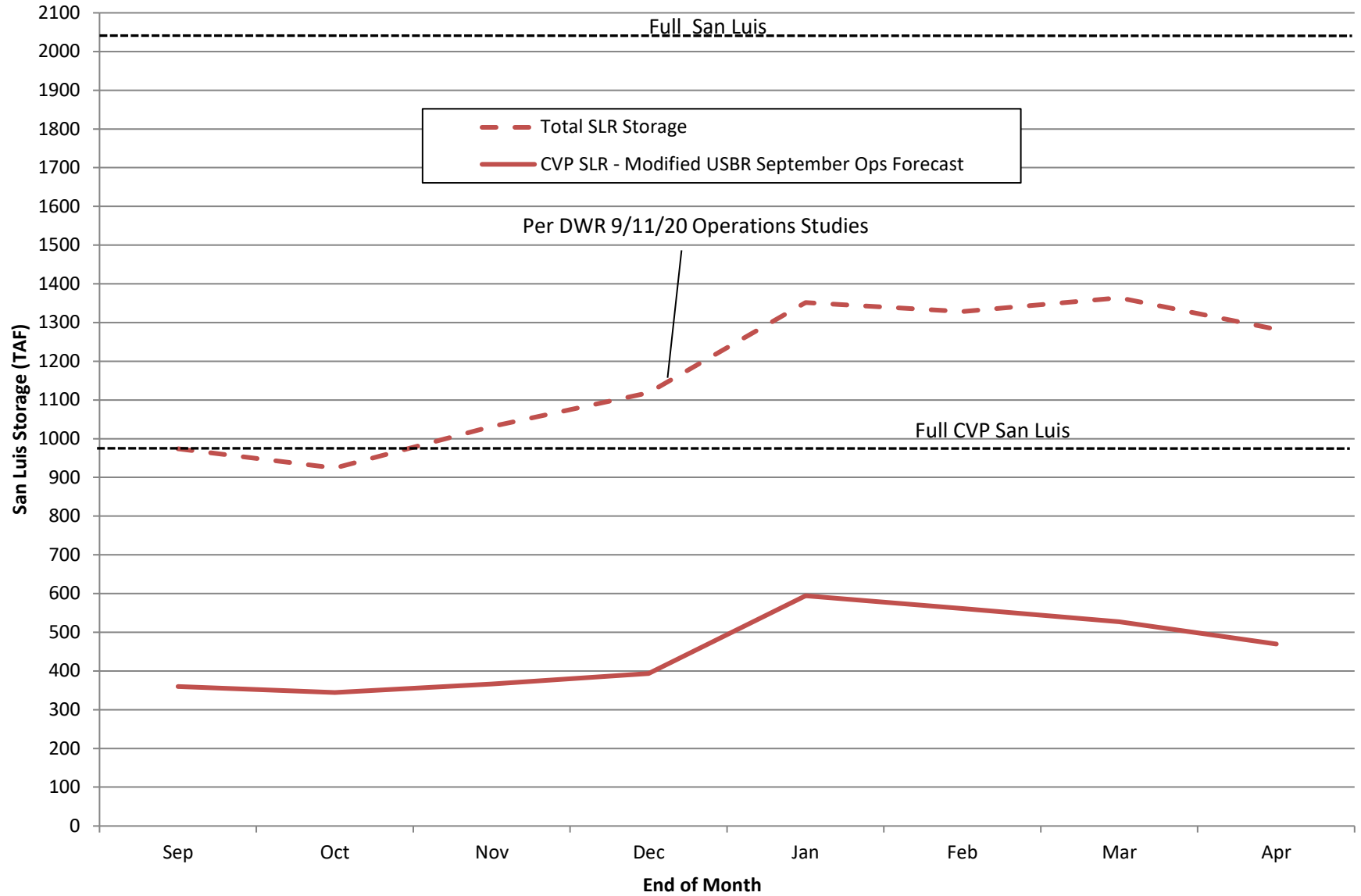
- Jones pumped at capacity during most of September except for a slight reduction during the middle of the month to clear debris from the trash racks and to reduce power consumption during the statewide heat wave. Absent storm events, export reductions may occur by mid-month when additional upstream release cuts are made to conserve storage.
- Banks limited its pumping to under 20% of capacity with nearly one third of the reduced export rate used to wheel CVP water. Further reductions in SWP pumping are expected by mid-October when Feather river releases are typically reduced to maintain stable flows for salmon migration.
- Shasta storage ended the 2020 water year at 2.2 MAF which is about 300 TAF higher than Reclamation's late spring projection. Releases have been gradually declining over the past several weeks in efforts to conserve storage. Releases are scheduled to continue dropping through October while providing sufficient flows for rice decomp diversions. Reclamation's latest operations forecast shows Shasta refilling to within 200 TAF of capacity under median conditions. Under dry conditions, a Shasta critical year will likely result, and the reservoir will refill to about 60% of capacity by late April.
- Folsom storage is 423 TAF with releases ramped down to 1,500 cfs to prepare for October fall attraction and spawning flows in the lower American river. Under dry conditions, the reservoir will refill to only 65% of capacity; the 5<sup>th</sup> lowest refill in the past 20 years. Folsom is expected to refill by late May under median conditions.
- CVP demands were about 127 TAF during September; about 30% below the 15-year average.

**2020 San Luis Operations**

The current CVP San Luis storage of 363 TAF is the result of unusually high storage at the end of August, sustained capacity exports through September, and low demands. Although, the daily refill rate for CVP San Luis has been nearly 4 TAF over the past 30 days, the refill trend is expected to flatten without wetter hydrology during late October. The attached San Luis storage projection graphs show CVP San Luis storage falling short of refilling by about 350 TAF in early 2021. With average hydrology and minimal export cuts for fish protections, CVP San Luis is expected to fill by late February to mid-March.

# 2020-21 San Luis Storage Projection

## 90% Exceedance Hydrology



# 2020-21 San Luis Storage Projection

## 50% Exceedance Hydrology

