



Westlands Water District

MEMORANDUM

TO: SLDMWA BOARD OF DIRECTORS
FROM: TOM BOARDMAN, WATER RESOURCES ENGINEER
SUBJECT: DECEMBER OPERATIONS UPDATE
DATE: DECEMBER 6, 2019

Project Operations

- Jones pumped at about 25% of capacity during November in order to comply with the fall X2 standard required by the delta smelt BiOp. CVP exports have since increased but remain 20% below capacity due to pumping plant maintenance that will not be completed until late next week. However, once full pumping capacity is restored at Jones, pumping limitations at O'Neill and low DMC demands may limit CVP exports to 90% of capacity. Project operators were discussing the use of Joint-Point-of-Diversion to wheel water for the CVP, but DWR has since decided to use its permitted capacity to capture significant increases in delta inflow to refill its share of San Luis reservoir.
- Banks pumping was about twice the CVP rate during November with about 50 TAF of Banks' pumping related to pay back by the CVP per COA accounting. SWP exports are now at permitted capacity as delta inflow has nearly doubled since the first of the month.
- Although the accumulated precipitation is still trailing the long-term average, the gap between the average and actual is closing rapidly. Accumulated snow water content for the north and central sierra regions is tracking near average.
- Shasta storage is about 3.2 MAF per its flood control requirements. Although reservoir inflow increased slightly after the recent storms, the current release of 5,000 cfs is not scheduled to change during December.
- Folsom storage is at 494 TAF; an 80 TAF reduction from last month as operators comply with flood control requirements. The current release is at 2,440 cfs and may increase as reservoir inflow increases.
- CVP demands were about 156 TAF during November; about twice the 15-year average and about 25 TAF higher than the maximum November demand since 1988.

2019-20 San Luis Operations and Allocation Outlook

Dry fall conditions, fall X2 requirements, and high demands were all factors that delayed the refill cycle of CVP San Luis until early this month. The attached chart titled "Refill of CVP San Luis Reservoir" shows that CVP San Luis refilled only once during the past 20 years when storage on December 1 was near or below the 2019 level of 250 TAF. As such, CVP San Luis is not expected to fill unless hydrology during the next few months is above average and pumping is near the maximum rate allowed under the BiOps.

The attached San Luis Storage projection graphs show that CVP San Luis will fall short of filling by 300 TAF and 100 TAF under 90% and 50% exceedance conditions, respectively.

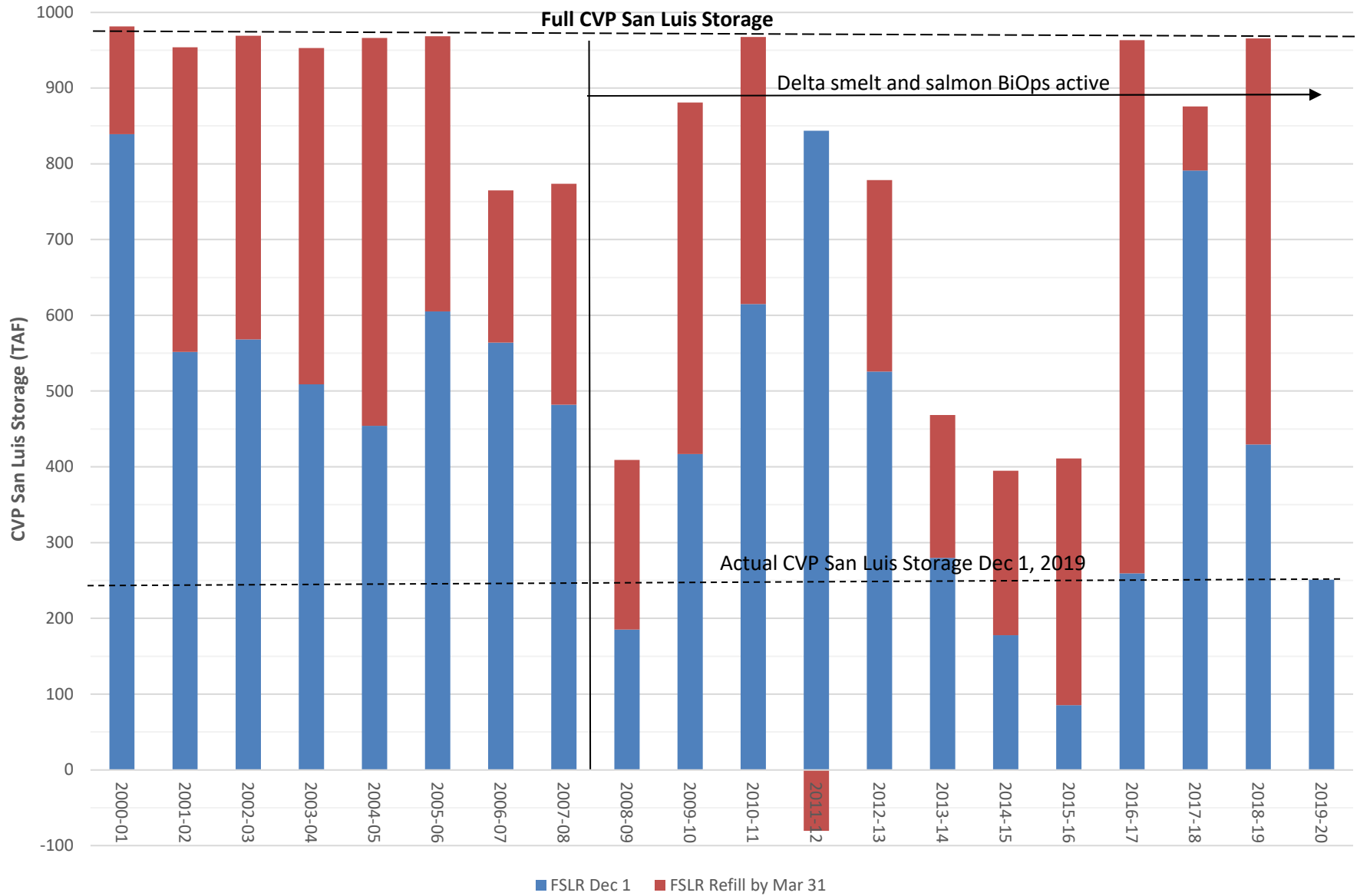
The new BiOps for delta smelt and salmon have been posted and will go into effect when they are finalized early next year. The action analyzed in new BiOps should provide greater operational flexibility. Decisions by Project operators may, at times, lean more towards fish protection rather than water supply.

The following table contains projected allocations based on Reclamation’s most recent Project operations studies under the current BiOps compared to allocations under the new BiOps.

	90% Exceedance		50% Exceedance	
	Existing BiOps	New BiOps	Existing BiOps	New BiOps
Hydrology				
Water Rights/Refuges	100%	100%	100%	100%
Ag Service*	15-25%	15-25%	40-60%	45-65%
Urban	50%	50%	75-95%	100%

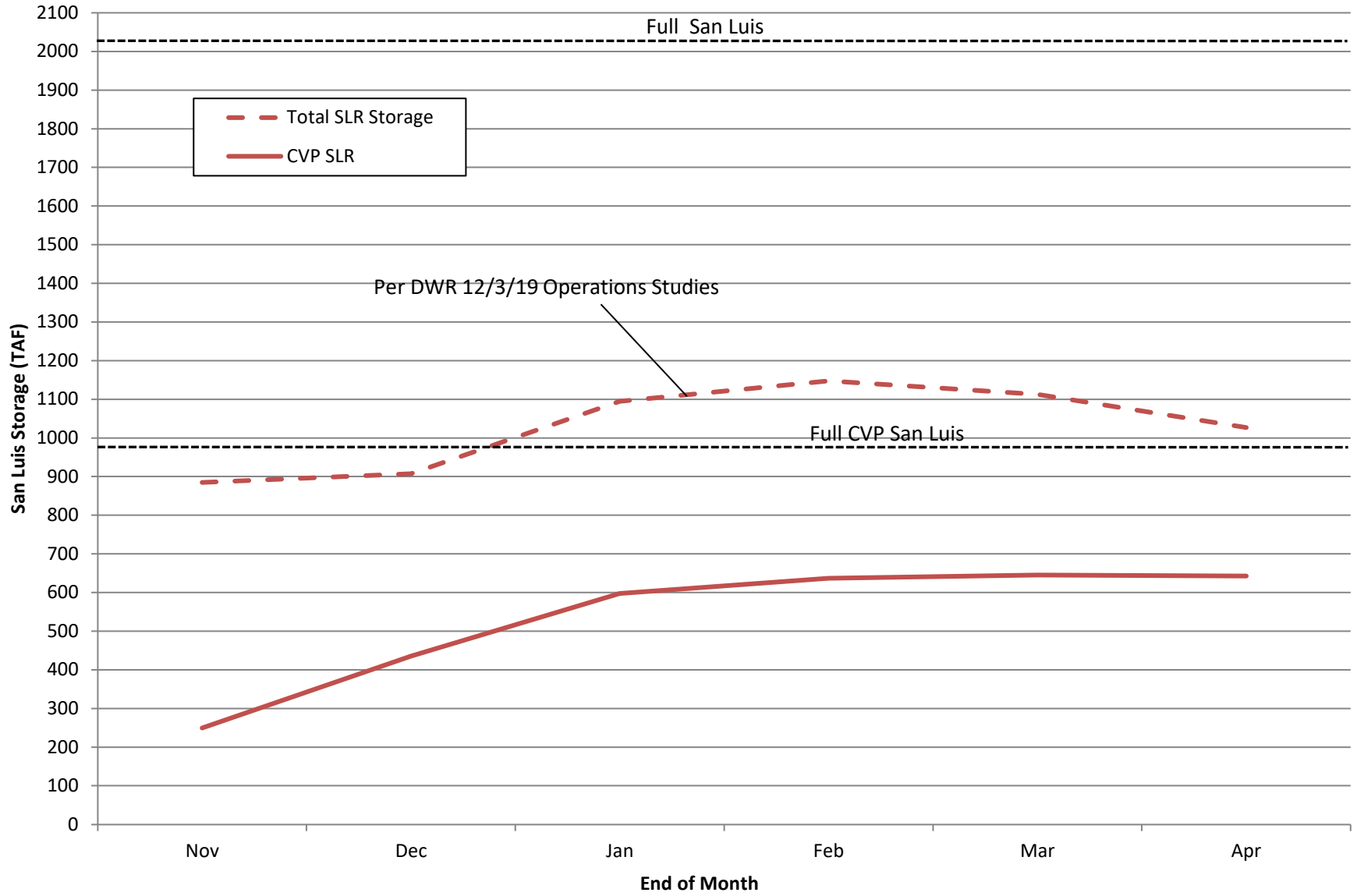
* Low end of the range is due to low CVP San Luis storage on December 1 and possible conservative decisions made by the operators under the new BiOps. The upper range of the projected allocation will depend on Reclamation’s assumed demand used to support the allocation.

Refill of CVP San Luis Reservoir Dec to Mar 2001-2019



2019-2020 San Luis Storage Projection

90% Exceedance Hydrology



2019-2020 San Luis Storage Projection

50% Exceedance Hydrology

