



UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE  
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration  
NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICE  
West Coast Region  
650 Capitol Mall, Suite 5-100  
Sacramento, California 95814-4700

December 15, 2020

Ernest A. Conant  
California-Great Basin Regional Director  
Bureau of Reclamation  
2800 Cottage Way  
Sacramento, CA 95825-1898

Dear Mr. Conant:

Thank you for inviting the National Marine Fisheries Service to participate as a cooperating agency in the development of a supplemental environmental impact statement (SEIS) for the North-of-the-Delta Off stream Storage/Sites Reservoir Project. We accept your invitation and offer to assist with the National Environmental Policy Act development tasks by assisting in the development of the SEIS, increasing efficiency and providing input for those actions that might otherwise have unavoidable impacts on threatened and endangered species and critical habitat designated under the Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.), marine mammals protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (16 U.S.C. 1361 et seq.), and essential fish habitat identified under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1855(b)).

The lead contact for this process will be Stephen Maurano at (916) 930-3710 and [stephen.maurano@noaa.gov](mailto:stephen.maurano@noaa.gov). According to your letter, a meeting will be scheduled to discuss the Project and NMFS's involvement in more detail, and a memorandum of understanding may be established. Please provide background materials and a schedule for development milestones when available, and prior to public scoping. We look forward to working with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation on this important project.

Sincerely,

Cathy Marcinkevage  
Assistant Regional Administrator

