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ATTACHMENT A

Constructed in 2018, the Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage Project (AFP) facilitates fish passage, including passage of listed salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon, between the Yolo Bypass and the Sacramento River. Operational periods for AFP are from November 1 to May 31. Under the current project design, the gated structure is opened following a Fremont Weir overtopping event once the Sacramento River reaches a stage of 32.3 feet, after which operation of the AFP structure occurs under the following scenarios;

- The fish passage structure remains open for three days after the Fremont Weir stops overtopping.
- The fish passage structure remains open for one day after the Fremont Weir stops overtopping and reopens when the river stage falls below 27 feet and closes when the river stage reaches 24 feet, for no longer than five days.

The Adult Fish Passage gate opened on December 26, 2025, when the Sacramento River reached elevation 32.3 feet (NAVD 88) at the facility, overtopping the Fremont Weir and spilling flood waters into the Yolo Bypass. The gate has remained open and operating during the current overtopping period, which is anticipated to continue until December 31, 2025. However, a subsequent overtopping event may occur several days later (approximately between January 2 and 5, 2026) (Figure 1). During this period, Sacramento River stage is not expected to drop below 27 feet, a water level threshold for the scenario identified in bullet point 2 above. Based on the operating scenario in bullet 1 above and forecasted overtopping dates, this would result in the AFP gate closing for a short period (approximately 1-3 days) before re-opening when the river reaches 32.3 feet. The California Department of Water Resources (DWR or Department) proposes to leave the gate in an open position during the interim period between the first scenario identified above and the next overtopping event as an opportunity to simplify gate operations and gather information to help support future facility management decisions. The Department anticipates leaving the gate open during this period will help to reduce potential fish stranding that would otherwise occur if the gate were to close during the short interim period between overtopping events.

During the proposed operational period, DWR will monitor existing water elevation and flow gages within the Yolo Bypass and perform visual monitoring at various locations along Tule Pond, Tule Channel, and Tule Canal. Monitoring will inform decisions on gate operations with the intent to keep all flows within the extent of inundation areas identified and analyzed in the project's Initial Study/ Environmental Assessment (SCH No. 2017022012). Any fish capture and relocation efforts associated with this operation would be conducted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) under existing California Endangered Species Act (CESA) Incidental Take Permits (ITP). No cumulative impacts to additional projects within the vicinity of the project area are anticipated.

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Operations of the AFP gate would be similar to existing authorized AFP operating scenarios. Therefore no unique circumstance giving rise to significant effects on the environment are expected. There is likewise no effect on scenic highways, historic resources, or hazardous waste sites.

Information gathered during the intended operations will inform future adaptive management efforts and be considered when evaluating whether similar operational scenarios would be required in order for the project to achieve its intended purpose in comparable future hydrologic conditions.
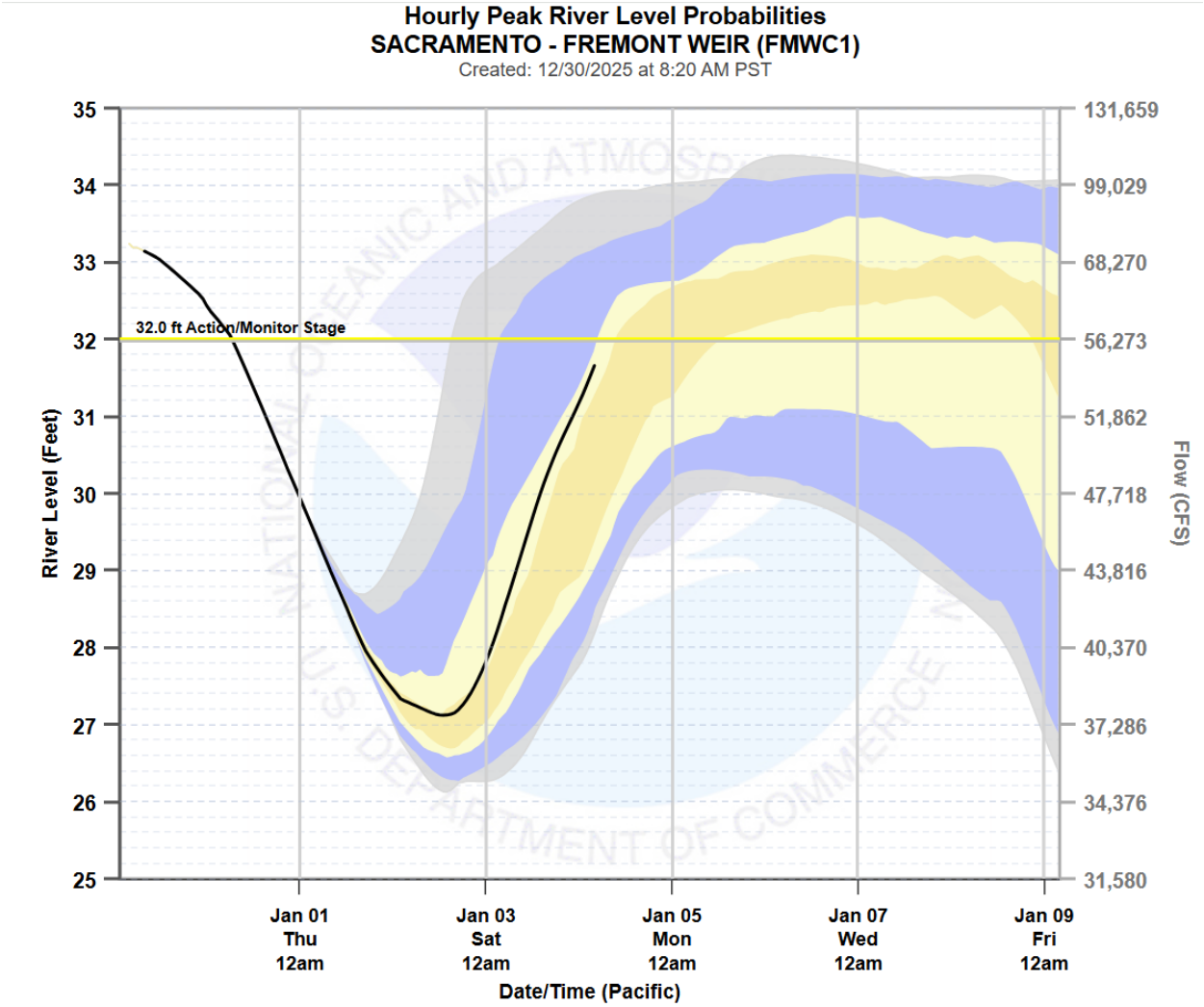
Figure 1: NOAA California Nevada River Forecast Center River Forecast Verification Plot for Fremont Weir (FMWC1) from Dec. 29, 2025 – Jan. 08, 2026