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MATTHEW RODRIGUEZ
SECRETARY FOR
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board

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Craig Lindsay
The Western Mining Alliance
PO Box 33218
Reno, NV 89532

MERCURY DATA FOR FEATHER, SACRAMENTO, AND YUBA RIVERS

This letter is in response to your 15 April 2015 request for sediment and water column mercury data for the following waters:

North Fork of the Yuba River
Middle Fork of the Yuba River
South Fork of the Yuba River
North Fork of the Feather River
Sacramento River

Following are lists of data we have here at the Central Valley Regional Board and other data sources we are aware of but not housed at the Board. The electronic files (Microsoft Excel, Microsoft Word, and pdf) will be emailed to the addresses provided in your letter (craig@themineralalliance.com and emaksymyk@themineralalliance.com).

Mercury in Sediment

1. Excel file: CEDEN data_sediment_04_2015.xlsx. This is a compilation of sediment mercury data from several projects. These data are publicly available through the California Environmental Data Exchange Network portal: <http://www.ceden.org/>
2. Excel file: FR MidFk Sac R sed data.xlsx. This file contains raw mercury data in a few sediment samples collected by Central Valley Water Board staff. The accompanying quality assurance information is in Word file: FR MidFk Sac R sed data QA.docx.

Mercury in Water

1. Excel file: RB5_Data_aqueous_THg-MeHg-TSS.xlsx. This is a spreadsheet of data for mercury and suspended sediment compiled by Central Valley Water Board staff. Data were collected between 2001 and 2009.
2. Excel file: Delta-MeHg-TMDL-Append-L_Source-Data.xlsx. This is the data file prepared for the administrative record for the Delta Methylmercury TMDL. It is publicly available on the Central Valley Water Board's Delta TMDL webpage. Use of the filter and sort features of Excel will allow you to view data for only Sacramento, Feather, and Yuba Rivers and the time period of interest. Mercury and suspended sediment in water

data were collected 1993-2004. Note that there is likely overlap between some Sacramento River data in these two water data files.

Mercury in Water and Sediment

Pdf file: Henson-et-al-2008_DeerCreekHgSurvey.pdf. This is a report with mercury data in water and sediment in the Deer Creek Watershed (tributary to the South Yuba River).

Following is a list of other sources of data that we do not have copies to provide but may be of interest to you.

1. The US Geological Survey has published its own data, which includes mercury data for the Sacramento and Feather Rivers. Data spreadsheets are available with the following reports:

Bauch, N.J., Chasar, L.C., Scudder, B.C., Moran, P.W., Hitt, K.J., Brigham, M.E., Lutz, M.A., and Wentz, D.A., 2009, Data on mercury in water, bed sediment, and fish from streams across the United States, 1998–2005: U.S. Geological Survey Data Series 307, 44 p. <http://pubs.usgs.gov/ds/307/>

Scudder, B.C., Chasar, L.C., Wentz, D.A., Bauch, N.J., Brigham, M.E., Moran, P.W., and Krabbenhoft, D.P., 2009, Mercury in fish, bed sediment, and water from streams across the United States, 1998-2005: U.S. Geological Survey Scientific Investigations Report 2009-5109, 74 p. <http://pubs.usgs.gov/sir/2009/5109/>

2. As part of obtaining or renewing a license under the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, dam and hydroelectric utility operators collect water quality data, including mercury in water, sediment, and fish. Data are available in reports available at the websites below; use links technical memos and technical reports. If you need help locating data collected by the utilities, you may contact Jeff Parks, Division of Water Rights at the State Water Resources Control Board (Jeff.Parks@waterboards.ca.gov or 916 341 5319).

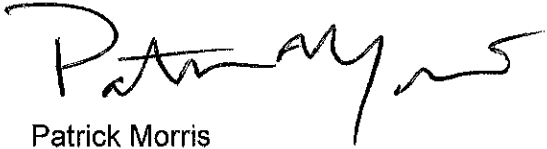
Pacific Gas and Electric and Nevada Irrigation District Projects - <http://nidwater.com/lower-division-water-rights-licensing/> and <http://www.eurekasw.com/NID/default.aspx>. The second website has information specific to relicensing of Drum Spaulding and Yuba-Bear facilities.

Yuba County Water Agency projects - <http://www.ycwa-relicensing.com/default.aspx>

3. The Department of Water Resources maintains a water data library for data collected by the Department. It is accessible on-line: <http://www.water.ca.gov/waterdatalibrary/index.cfm>
4. The Sacramento River Watershed Program and Delta Tributaries Mercury Council gathered data and wrote a strategic plan for addressing mercury in the Sacramento River Watershed. It was completed in 2002: <http://www.sacriver.org/files/documents/dtmc-documents/DTMCMercuryStrategyPlan.pdf>
5. The USGS is in the process of completing reports for the Sierra Nevada Impairment Project which is funded, in part, by the State Water Resources Control Board and led by Charlie Alpers of USGS. Sediment sampling locations for that project included sites in the North,

Middle, and South Forks of the Feather River, the South Fork of the Yuba River, and some of their smaller tributaries.

If you have questions about information provided here or difficulty opening attached files, please contact Janis Cooke (Janis.Cooke@waterboards.ca.gov or 916 464 4672).

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick Morris". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Patrick Morris
Senior Water Resources Control Engineer