

# Stanislaus Operations Group



Photo credit: John Hannon

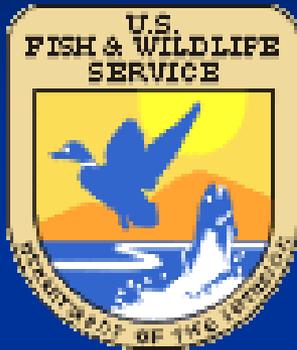
## OCAP Annual Review – 2010

Randi Field (Reclamation) & Barb Byrne (NMFS)

# OUTLINE

- SOG overview
- Fish monitoring summary for 2009-2010
- Summary of RPA Actions
- Operational summary for 2009-2010
- SOG successes and discussion topics

# Who is SOG?



# SOG website

Notes from monthly SOG meetings are available online:

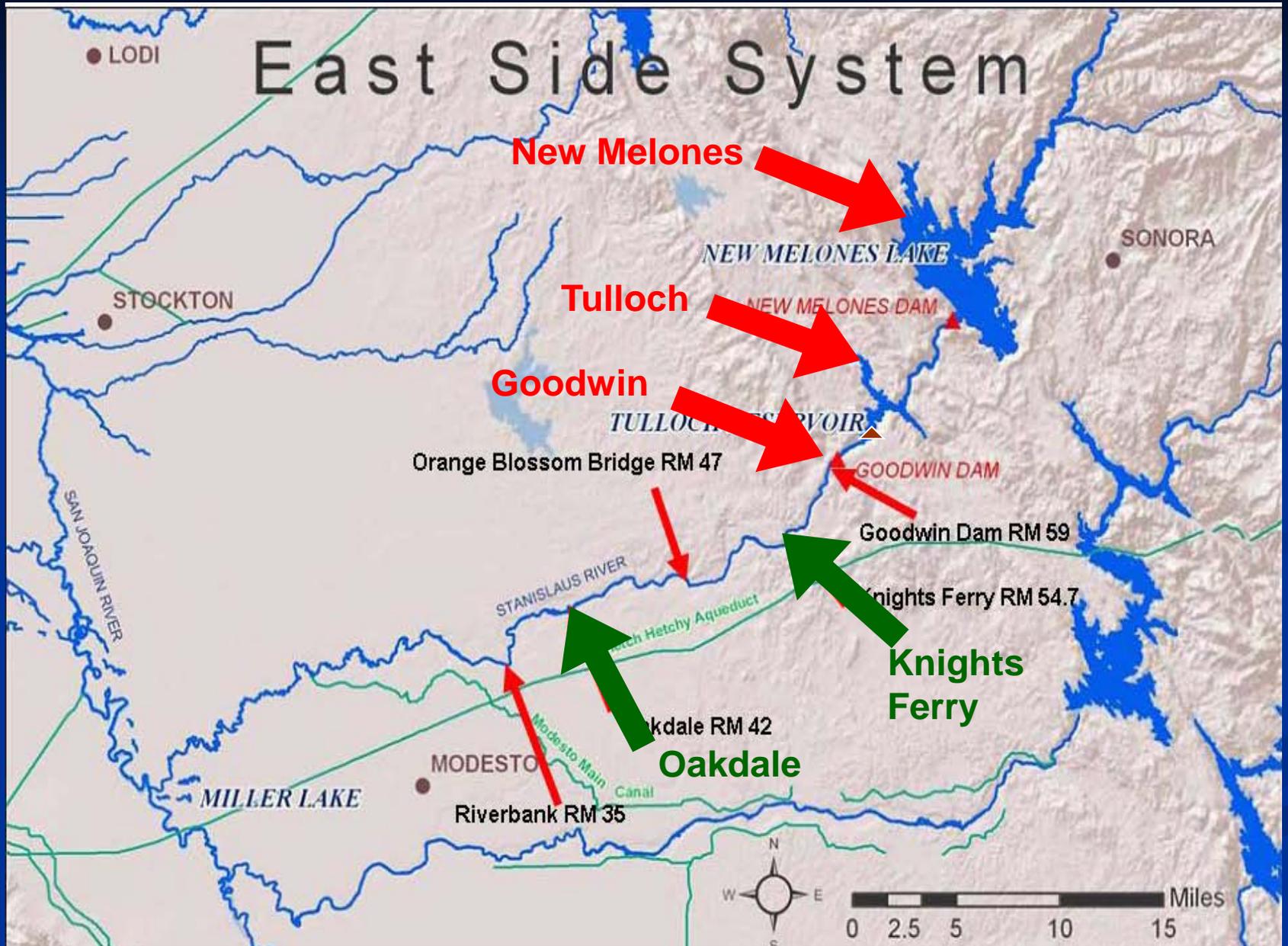
*<http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/ocap/sog.htm>*

# What does SOG do?

“gather and analyze information, and make recommendations, regarding adjustments to water operations within the range of flexibility prescribed in the implementation procedures”

-- *NMFS Biological Opinion at p.581*

# East Side System



# Stanislaus River species covered by NMFS Biological Opinion



Threatened Central Valley steelhead

Chinook salmon prey (including unlisted runs) of endangered Southern Resident killer whales.

# Acknowledgements

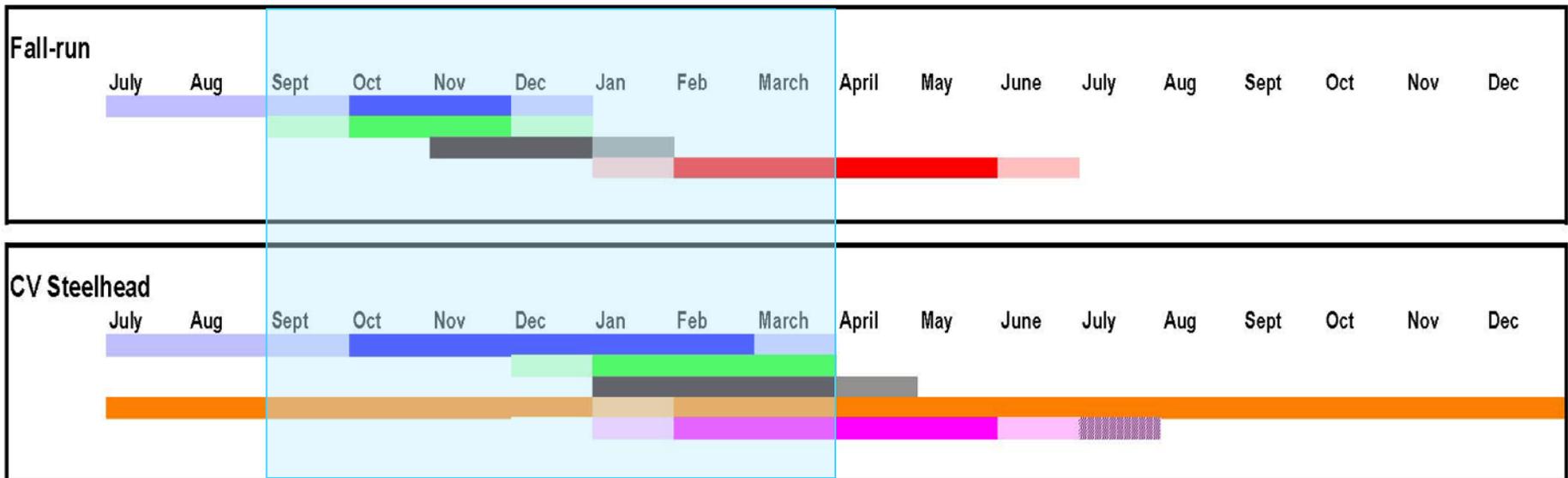
- SOG members
- Other agency staff who provide information to SOG
- Those who collect, and provide funding for, fish monitoring data throughout the San Joaquin Valley Basin:

*Fishbio, Cramer Fish Sciences, OJD, SSJID, Fishery Foundation, Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission, DFG, FWS, Reclamation*

# Fish monitoring summary

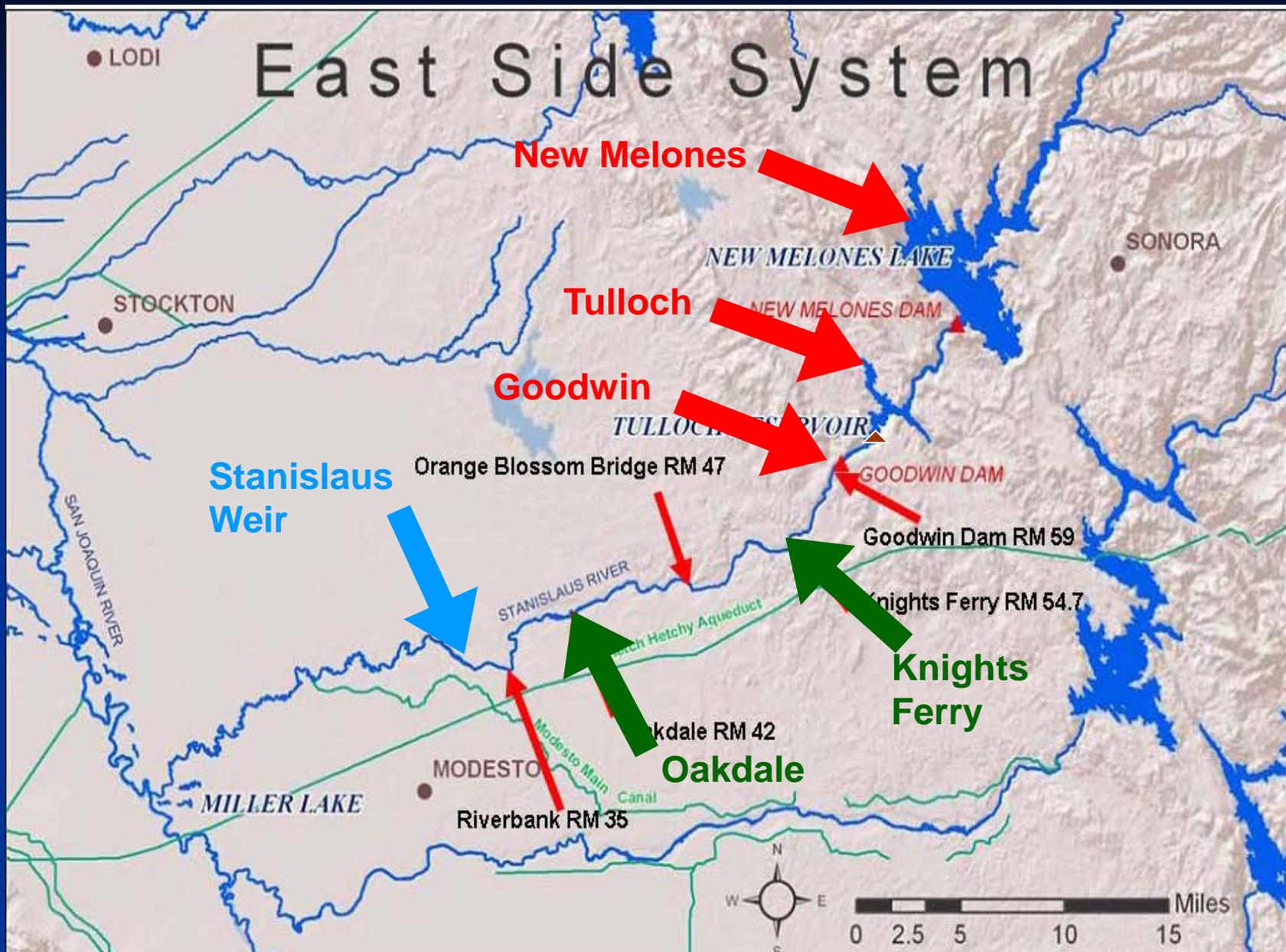
## Life History Review

### Fall-run Chinook salmon and CV steelhead

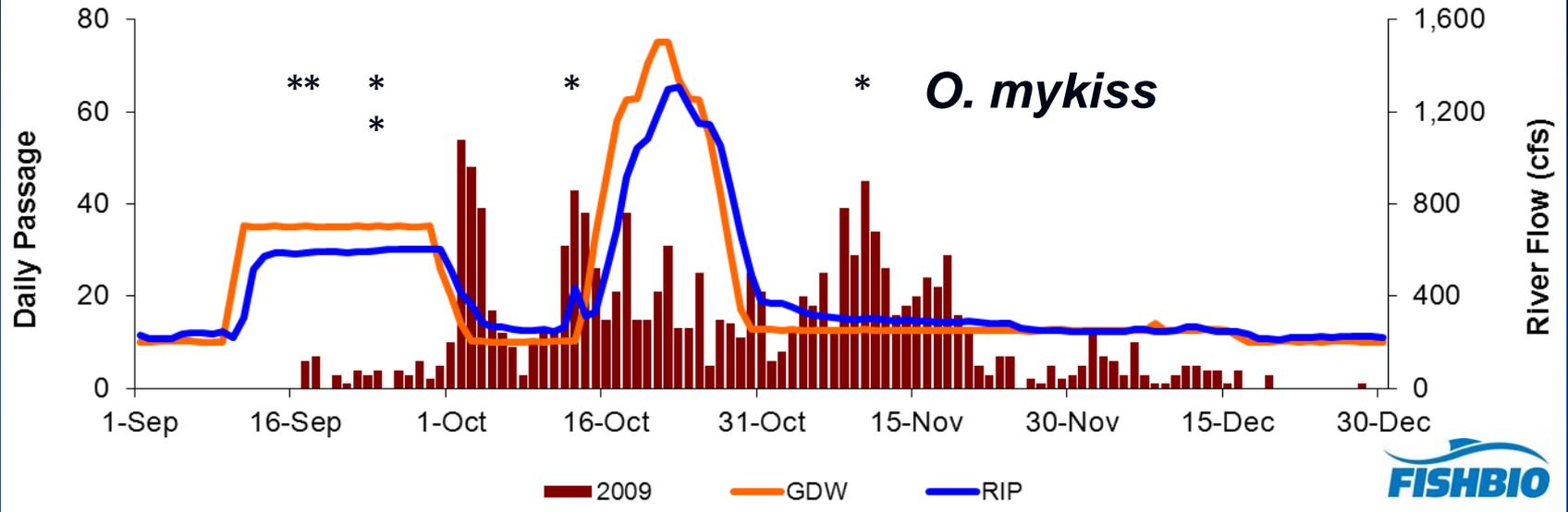


Adult migration at  
Stanislaus weir

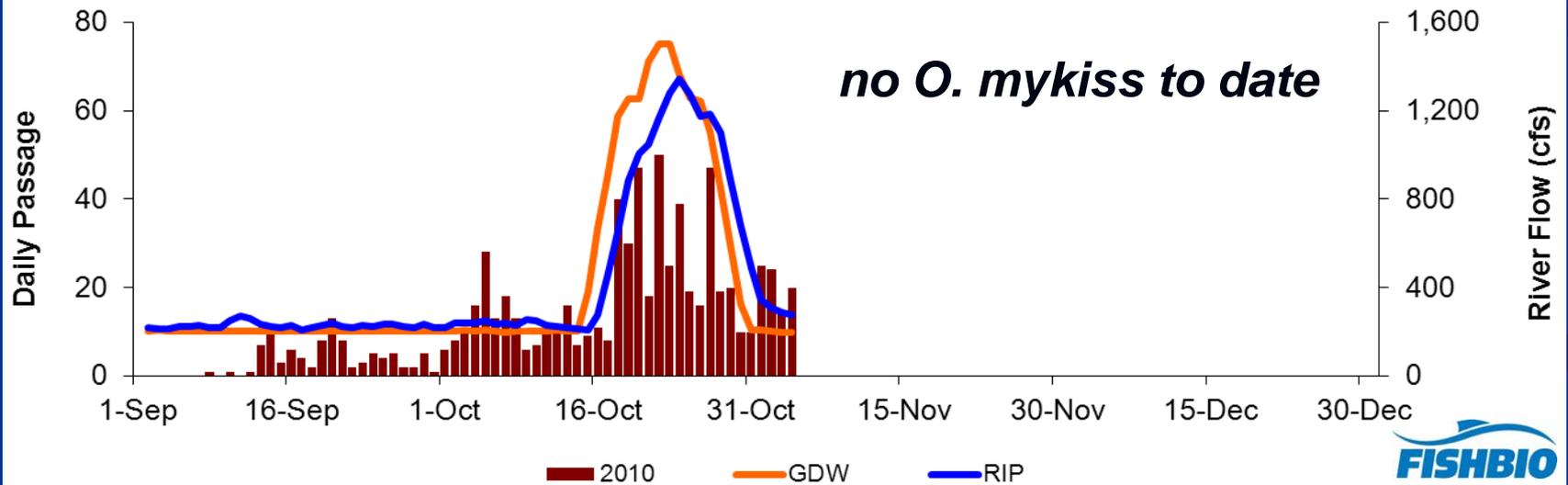
# East Side System



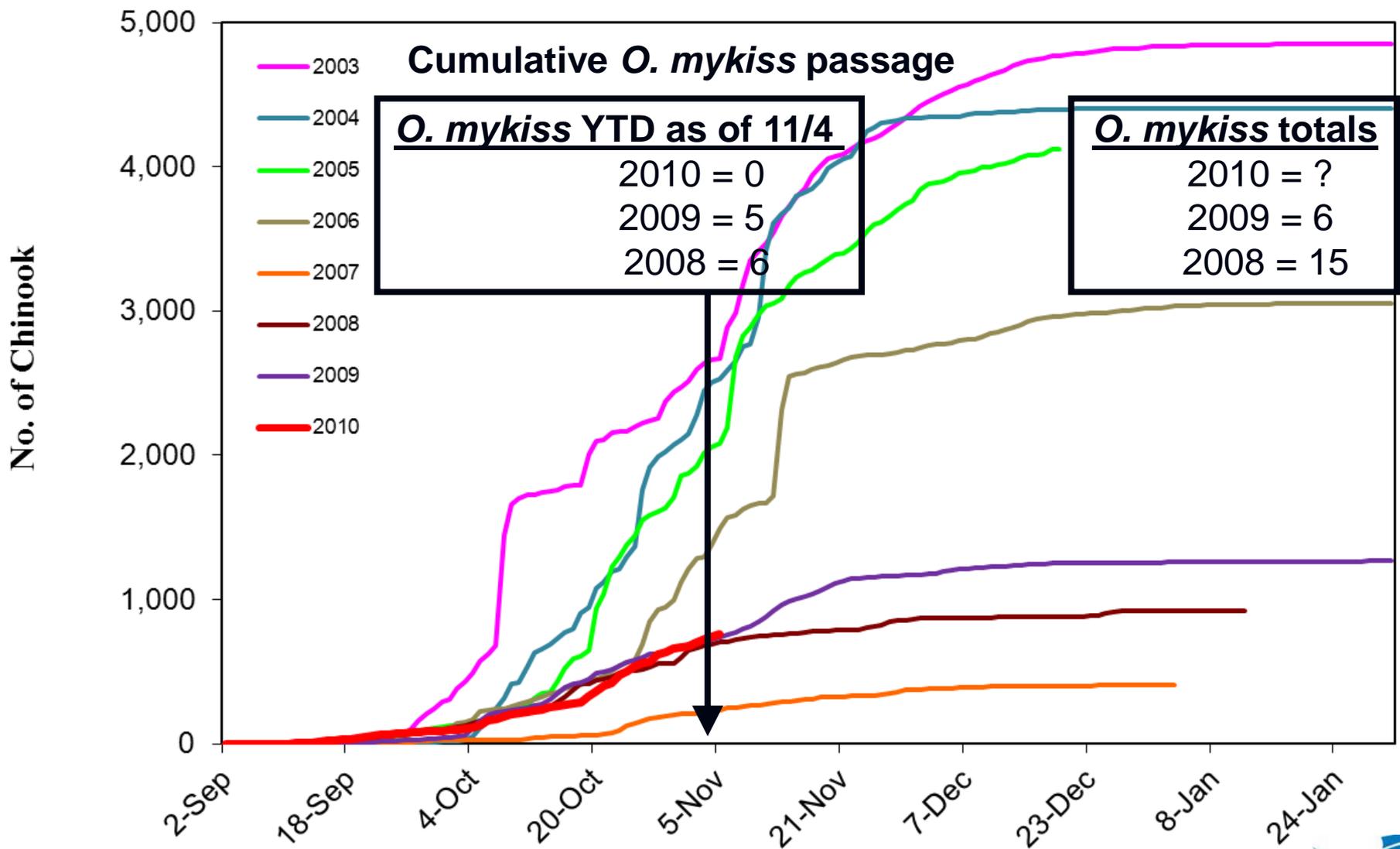
### 2009 Chinook Passage and Stanislaus River Flow



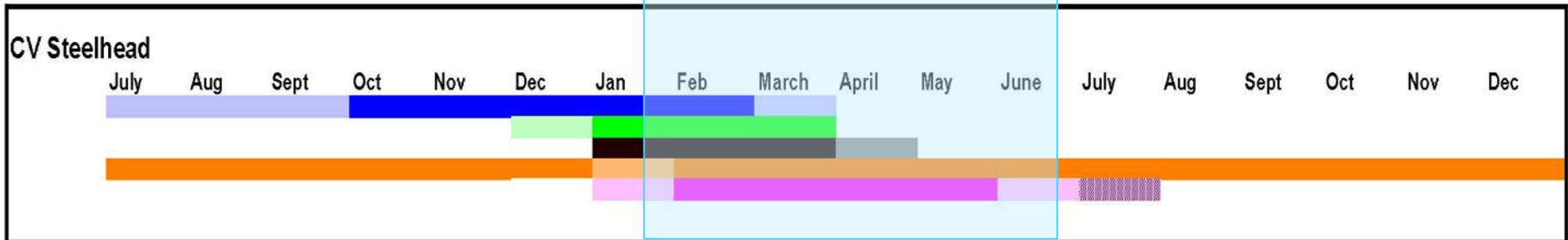
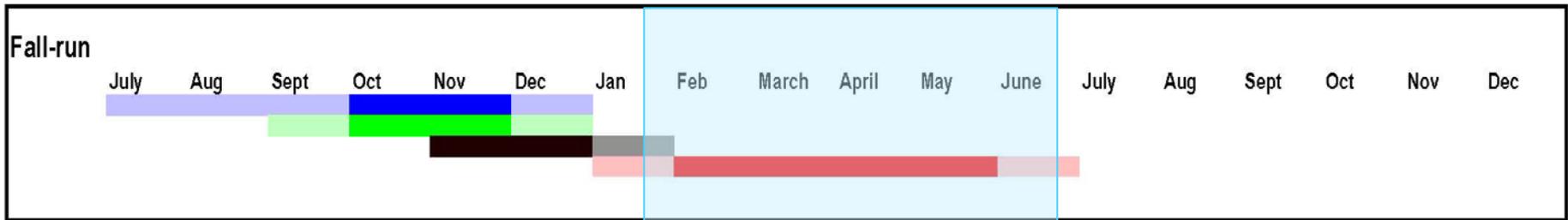
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# Cumulative Chinook Passage at the Stanislaus River Weir

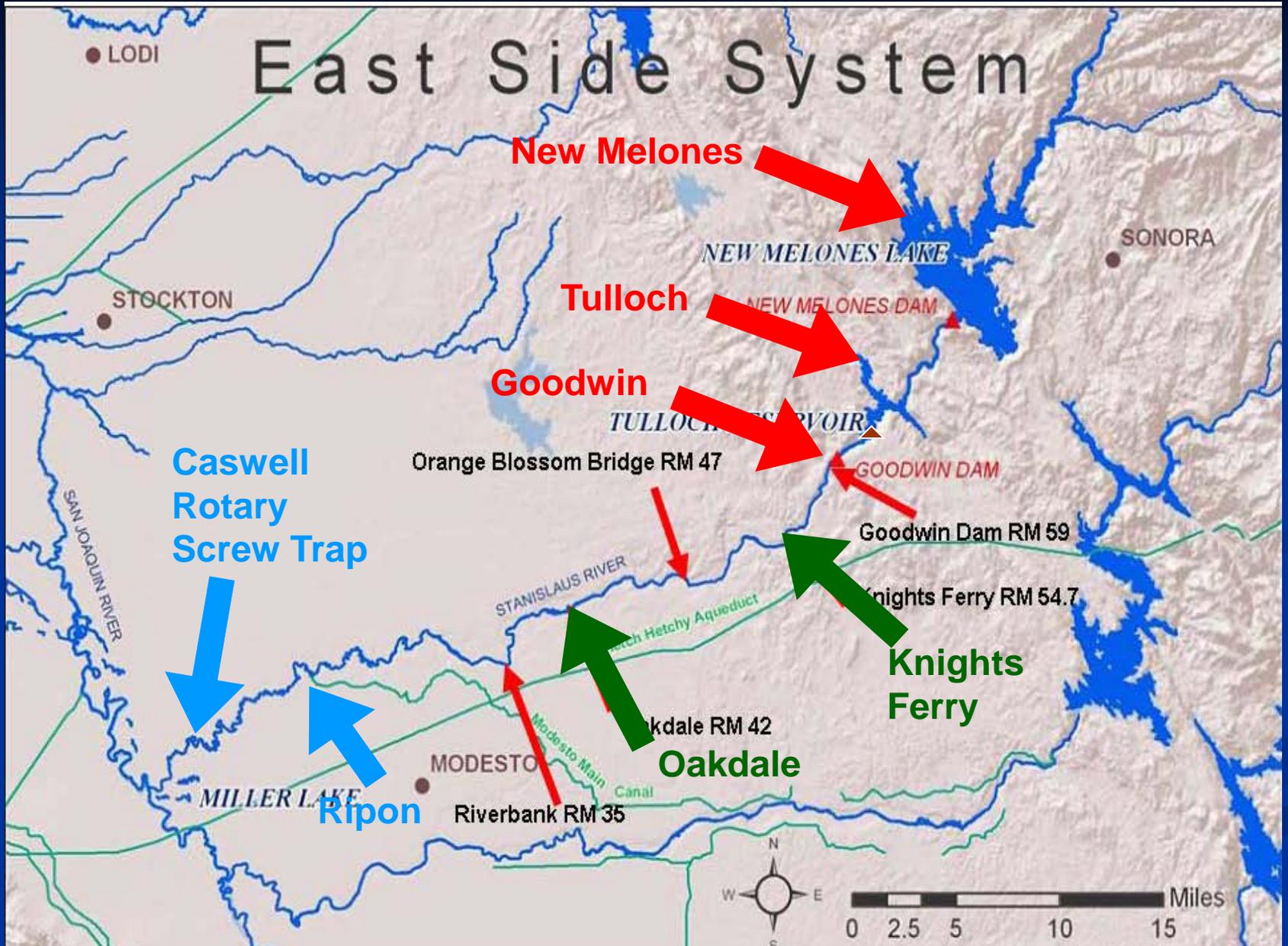


# Fish monitoring summary

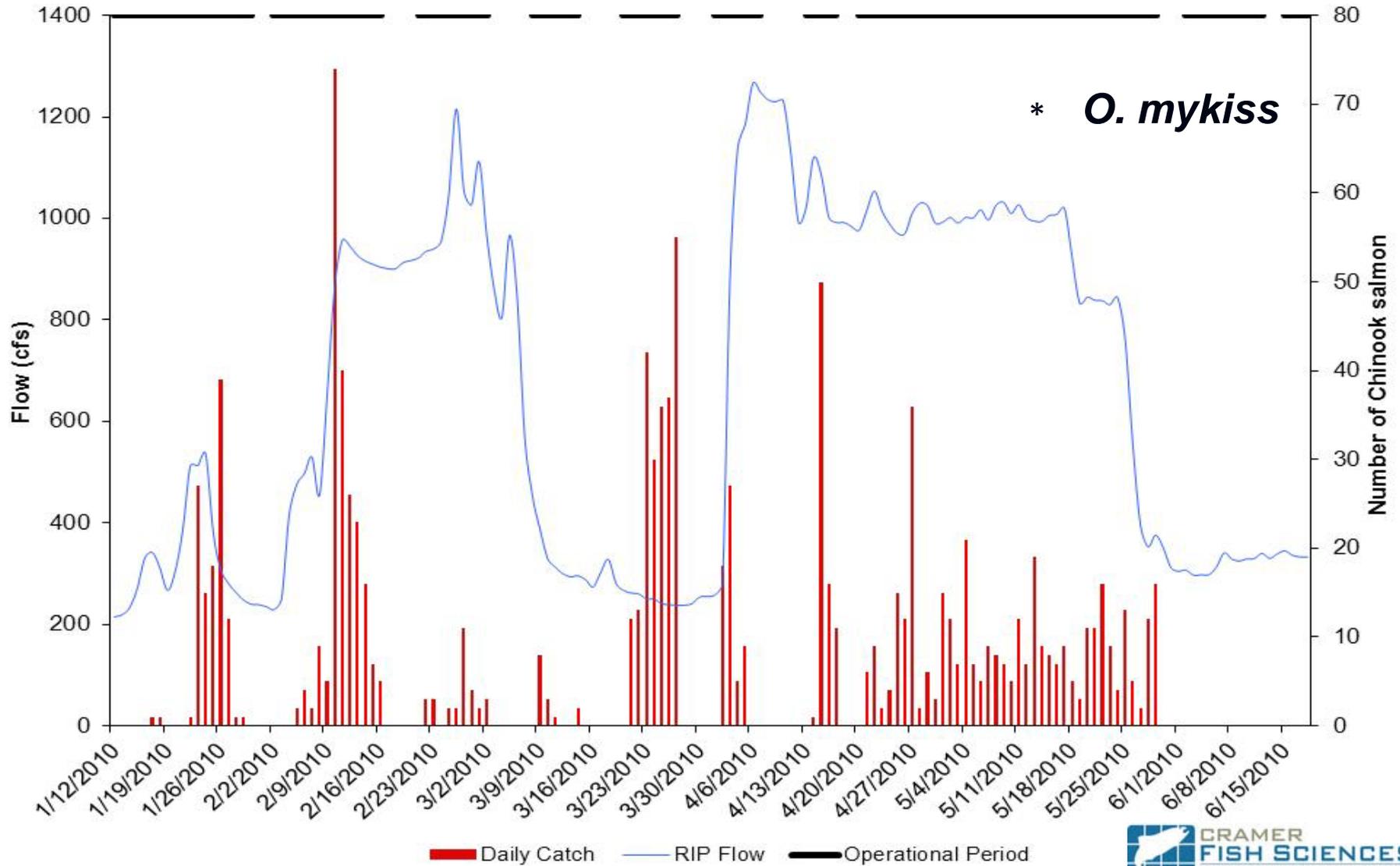


Juvenile emigration at  
Caswell Rotary Screw Trap

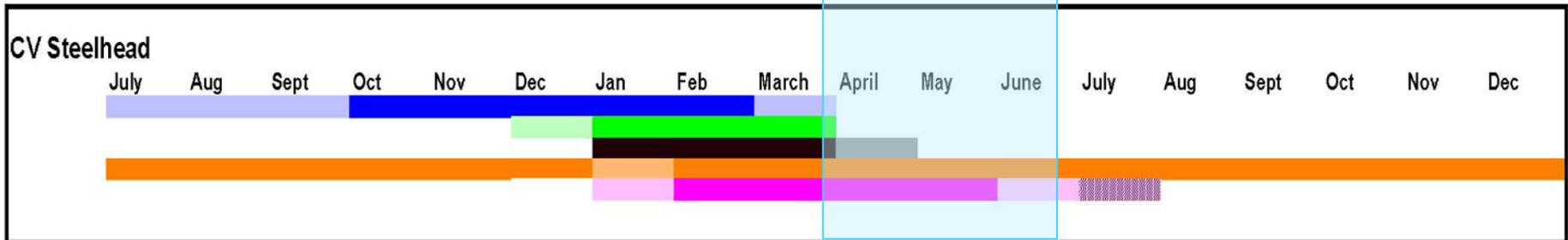
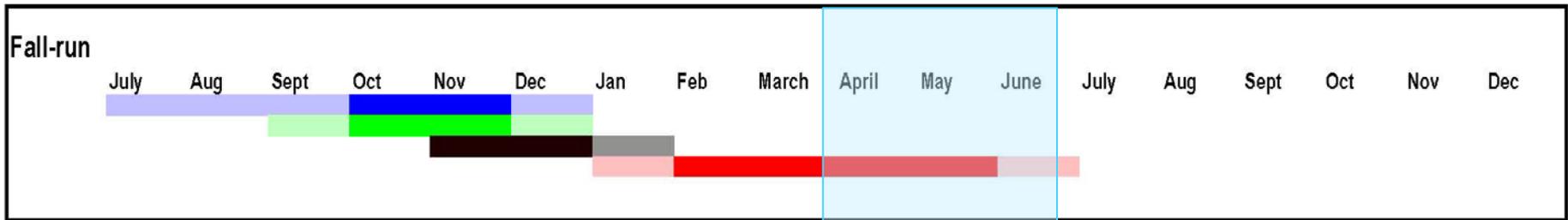
# East Side System



# Juvenile out-migration -- Caswell RST

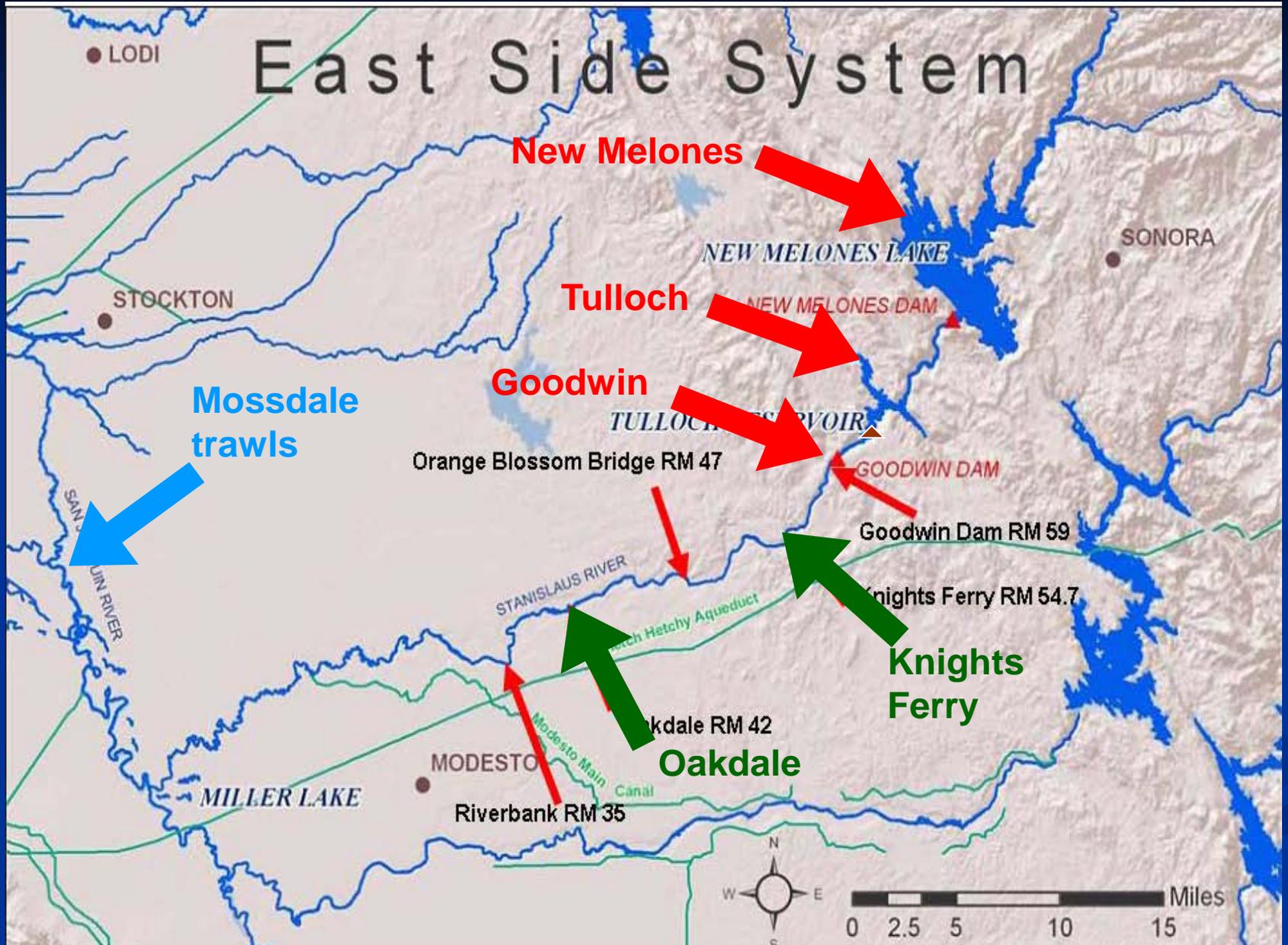


# Fish monitoring summary



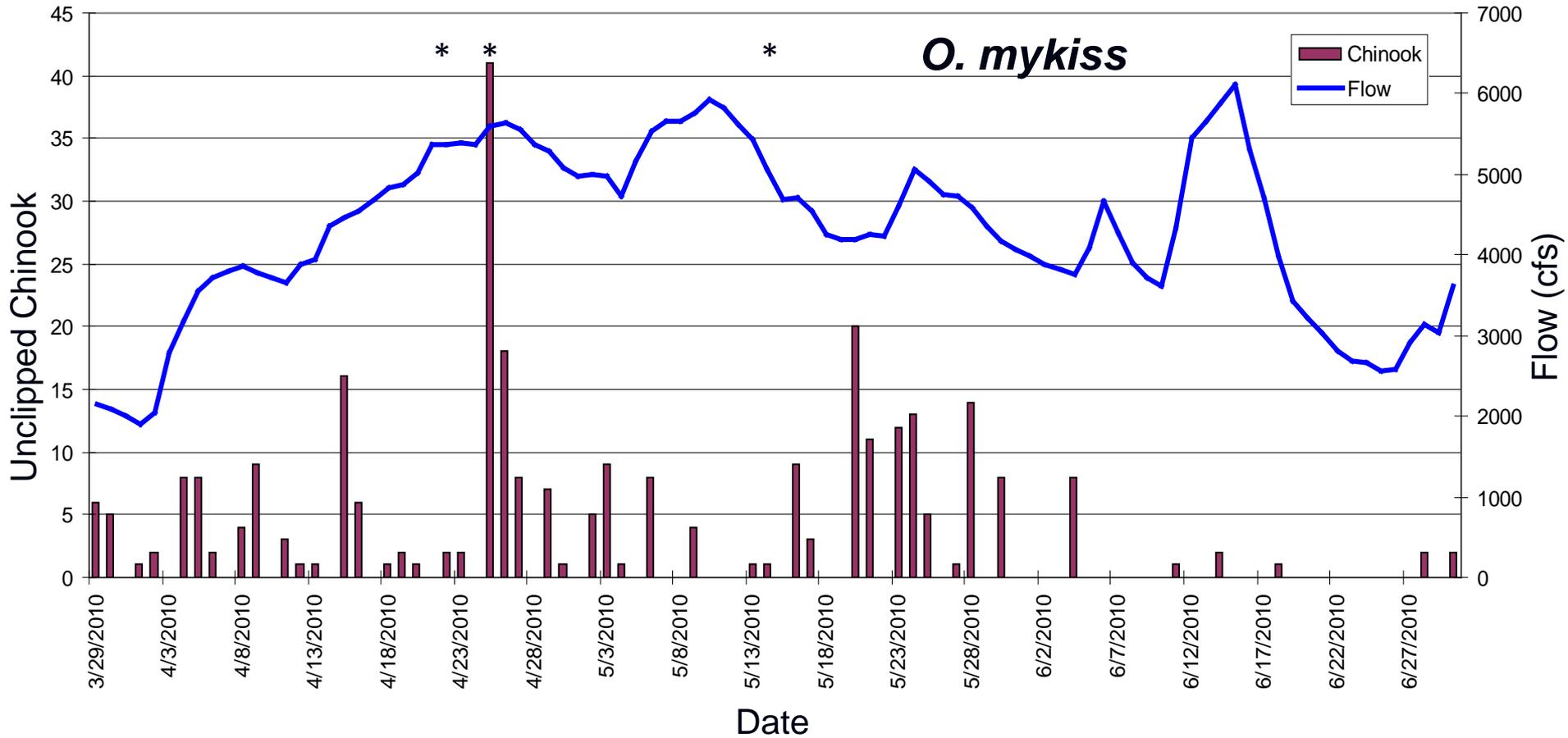
Juvenile emigration at  
Mossdale trawls

# East Side System



# Juvenile out-migration on the mainstem SJR –Mosssdale trawls

Catch of Unmarked Chinook Salmon Juveniles at Mosssdale, 2010



# Summary of RPA Actions in NMFS BO

- III.1.1 – Establish SOG
- III.1.2 – Temperature management
- III.1.3 – Minimum Flow management
- III.2.1 – Improve spawning habitat through gravel augmentation
- III.2.2 – Improve rearing habitat through floodplain restoration
- III.2.3 – Improve freshwater migratory habitat
- III.2.4 – Evaluate fish passage at New Melones, Tulloch, and Goodwin
- IV.2.1 – San Joaquin River actions

# **Operations and RPA Implementation Summary 2009-2010**

# Operational Decisions

- Components
  - Multi-Purpose Objectives
  - Agency and Water Users Coordination
  - Monthly Hydrology Information
  - Analysis Tools

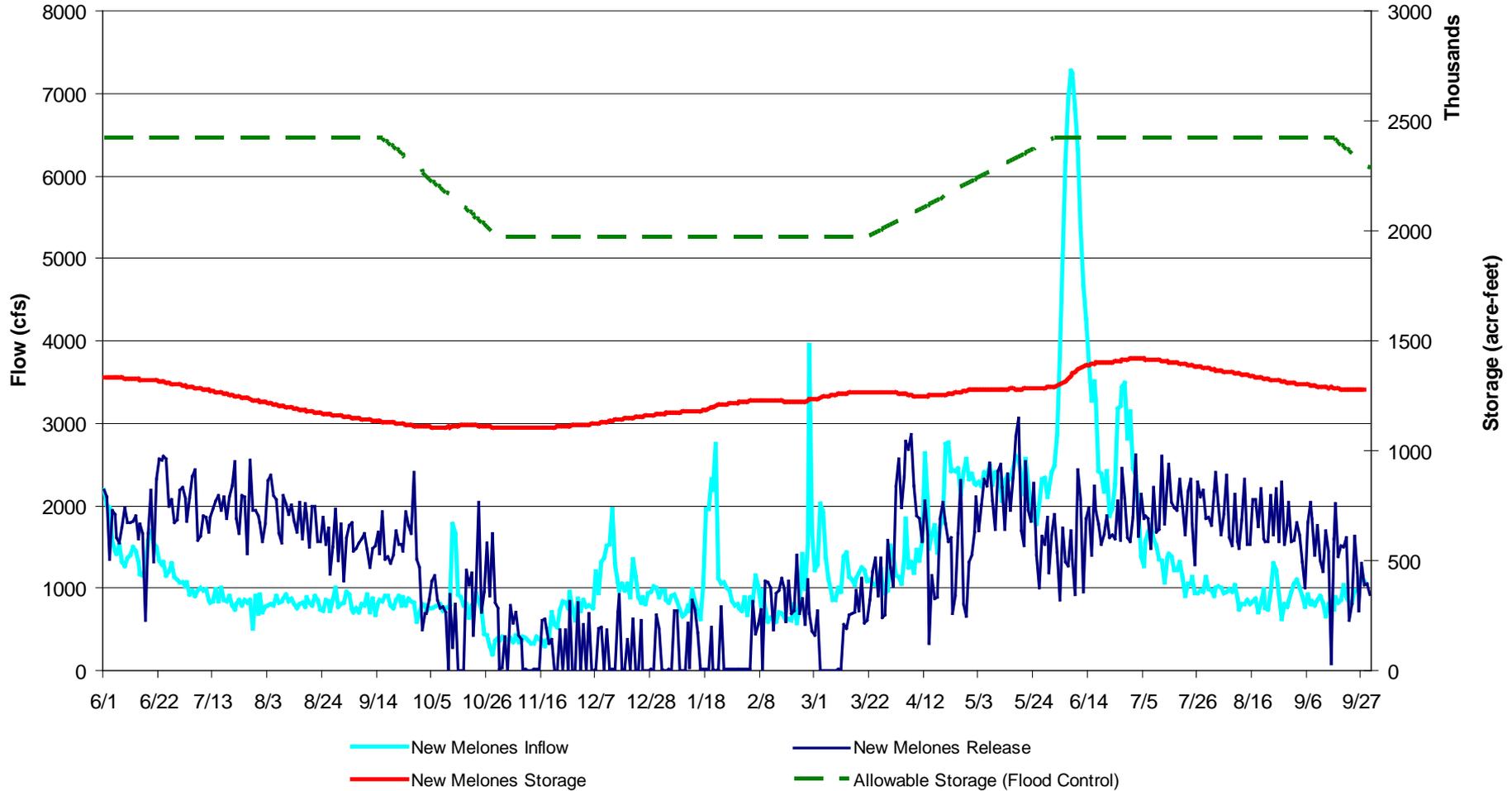


# Reservoir Considerations

- Hydrology
- Flood control
- NMFS BiOp RPA Actions
- CA State WQCP
- Water Rights
- DFG Agreement
- Basin Plan
- CVP Contractors
- CVPIA
- Recreation
- Hydropower

# Operation Overview

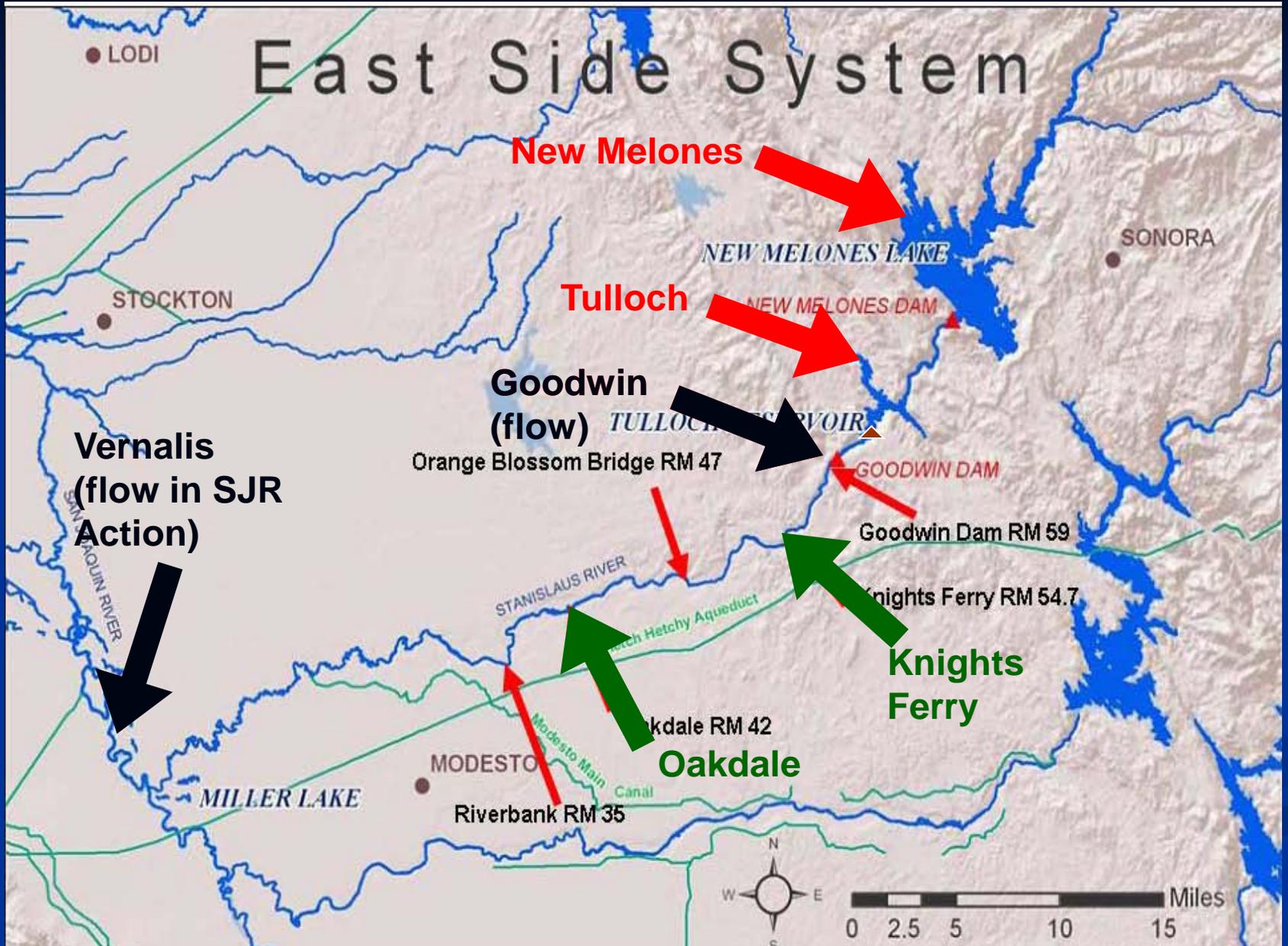
New Melones Reservoir and the Stanislaus River  
2009 - 2010



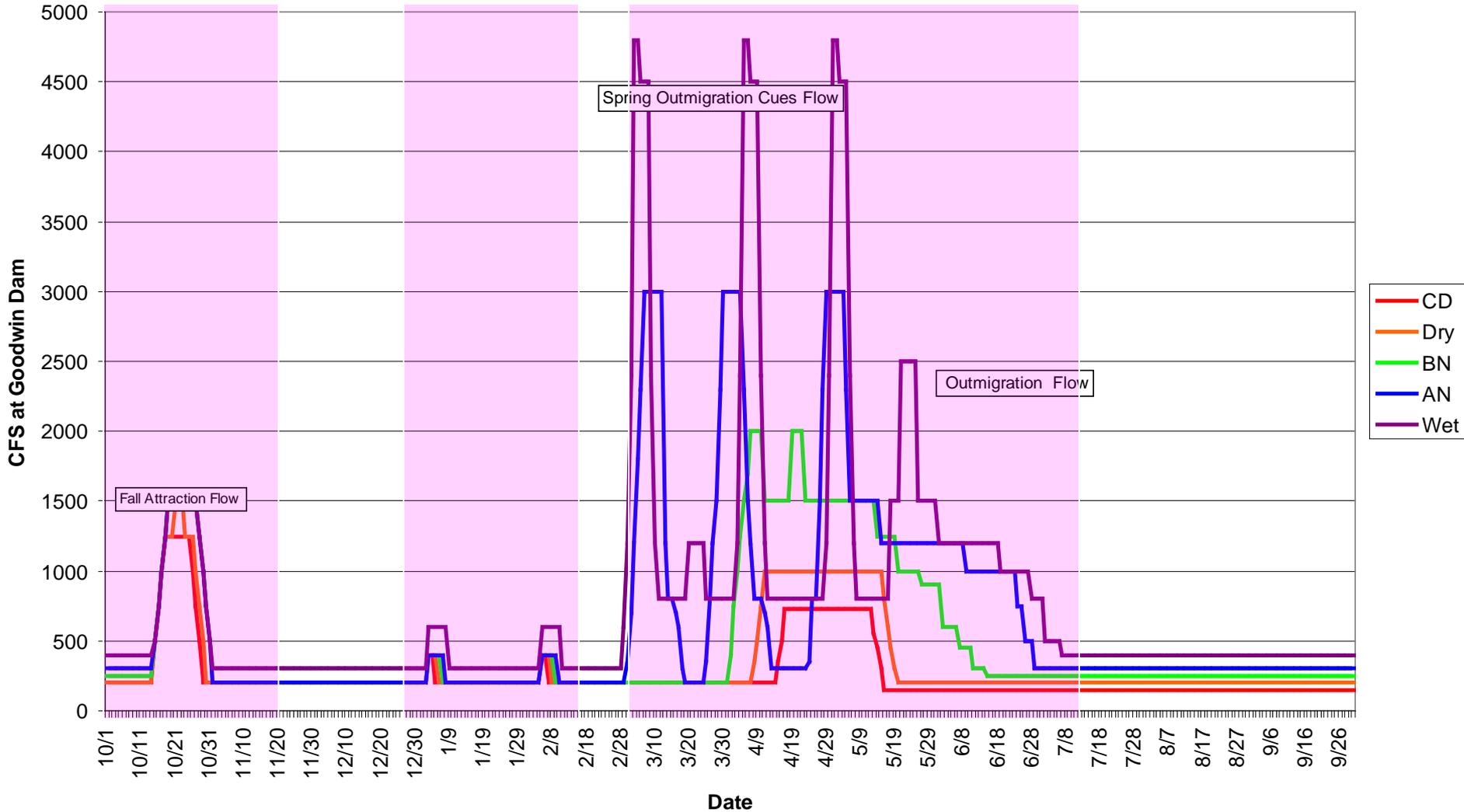
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# East Side System



# RPA Action III.1.3 – Goodwin Dam Minimum Flow Criteria

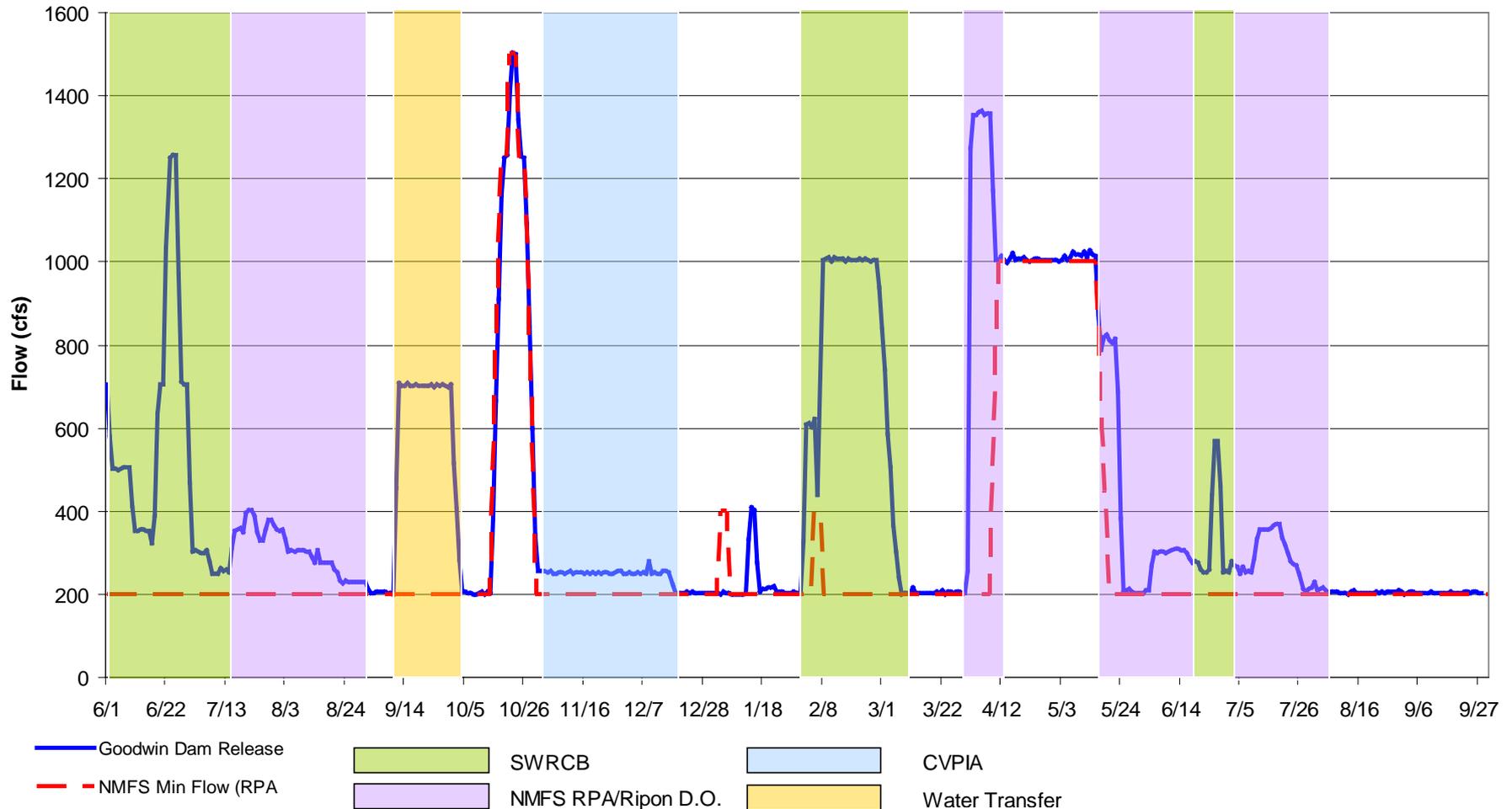


# RPA Action IV.2.1 San Joaquin River Flow Criteria

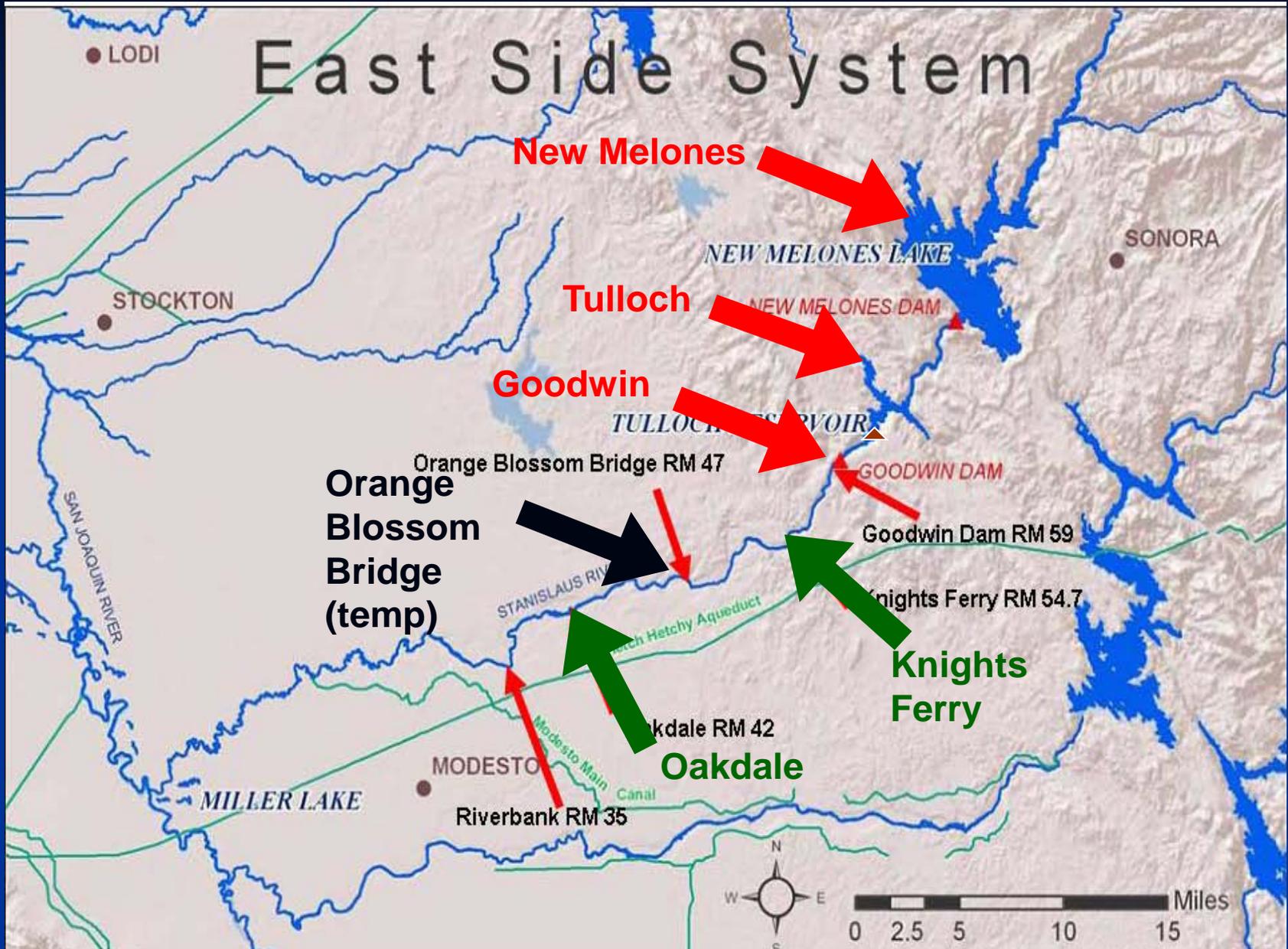
- April and May
- Prescribed Flow at Vernalis (SJR) based on storage/inflow index
  - Low index = 1,500 cfs
  - High index = 6,000 cfs

# Stanislaus R. Flows 2009-2010

Stanislaus River Release at Goodwin Dam  
2009 - 2010

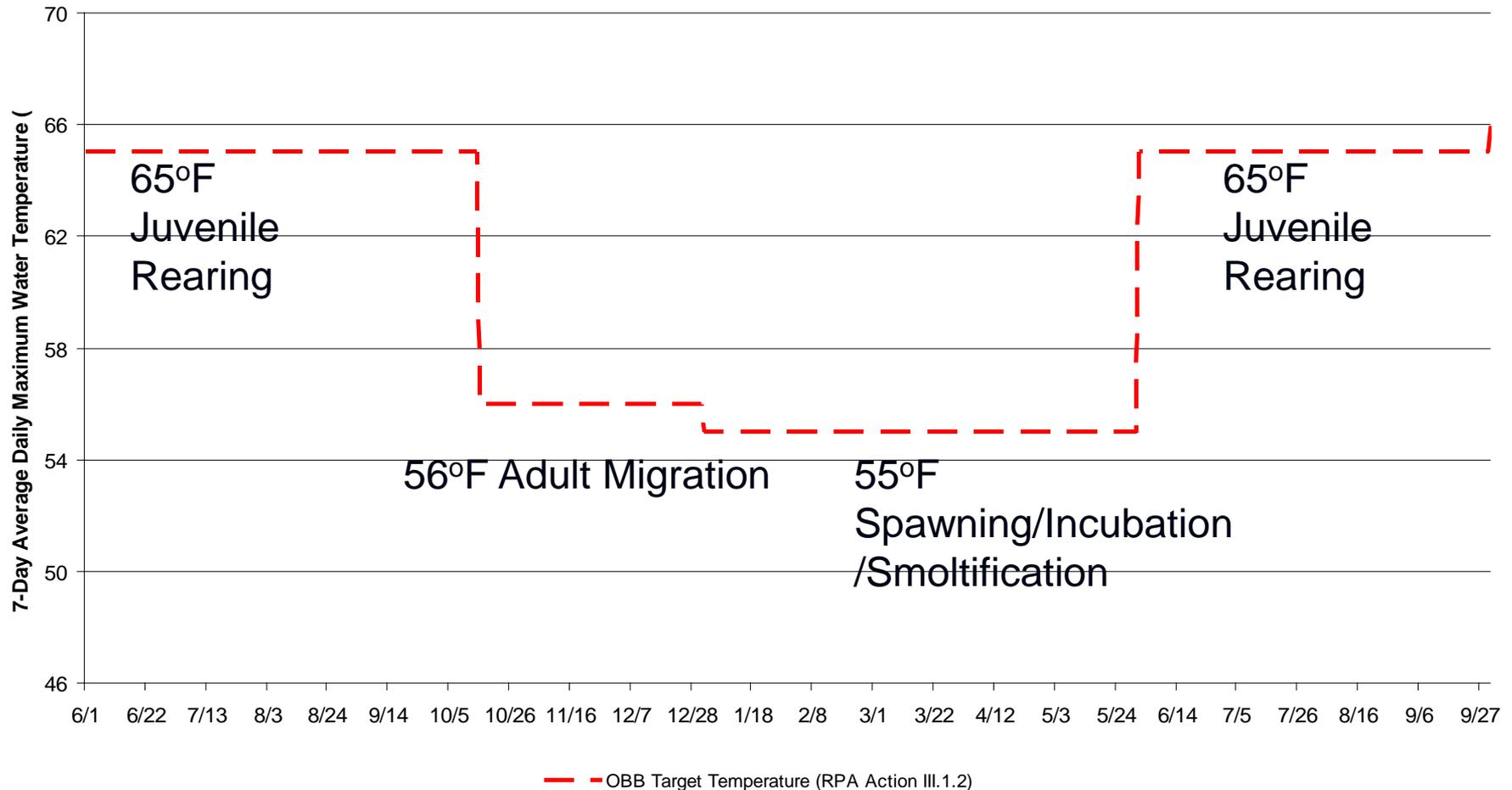


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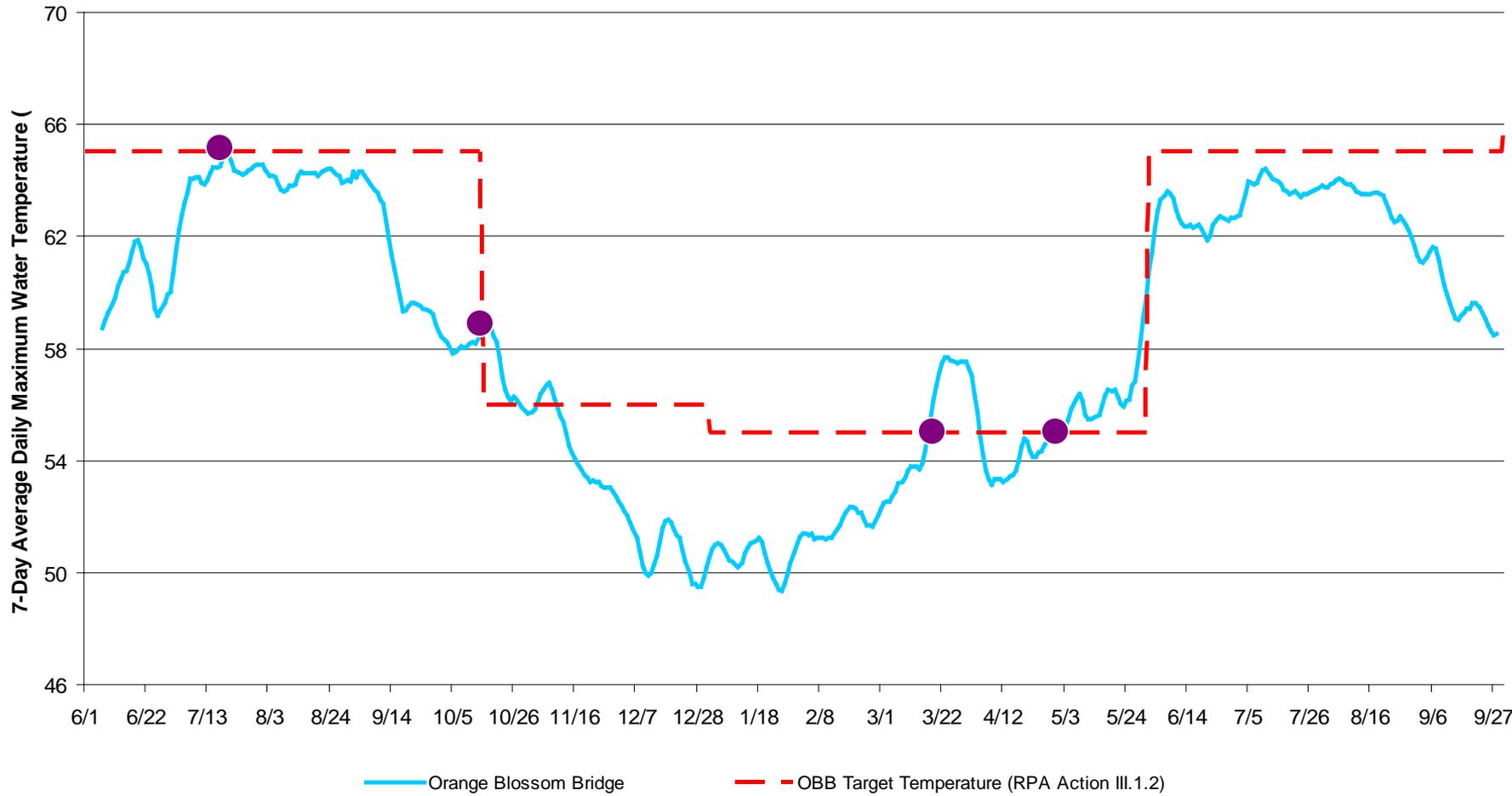
# Orange Blossom Bridge Temperatures

Stanislaus River Temperature at Orange Blossom Bridge  
2009 - 2010

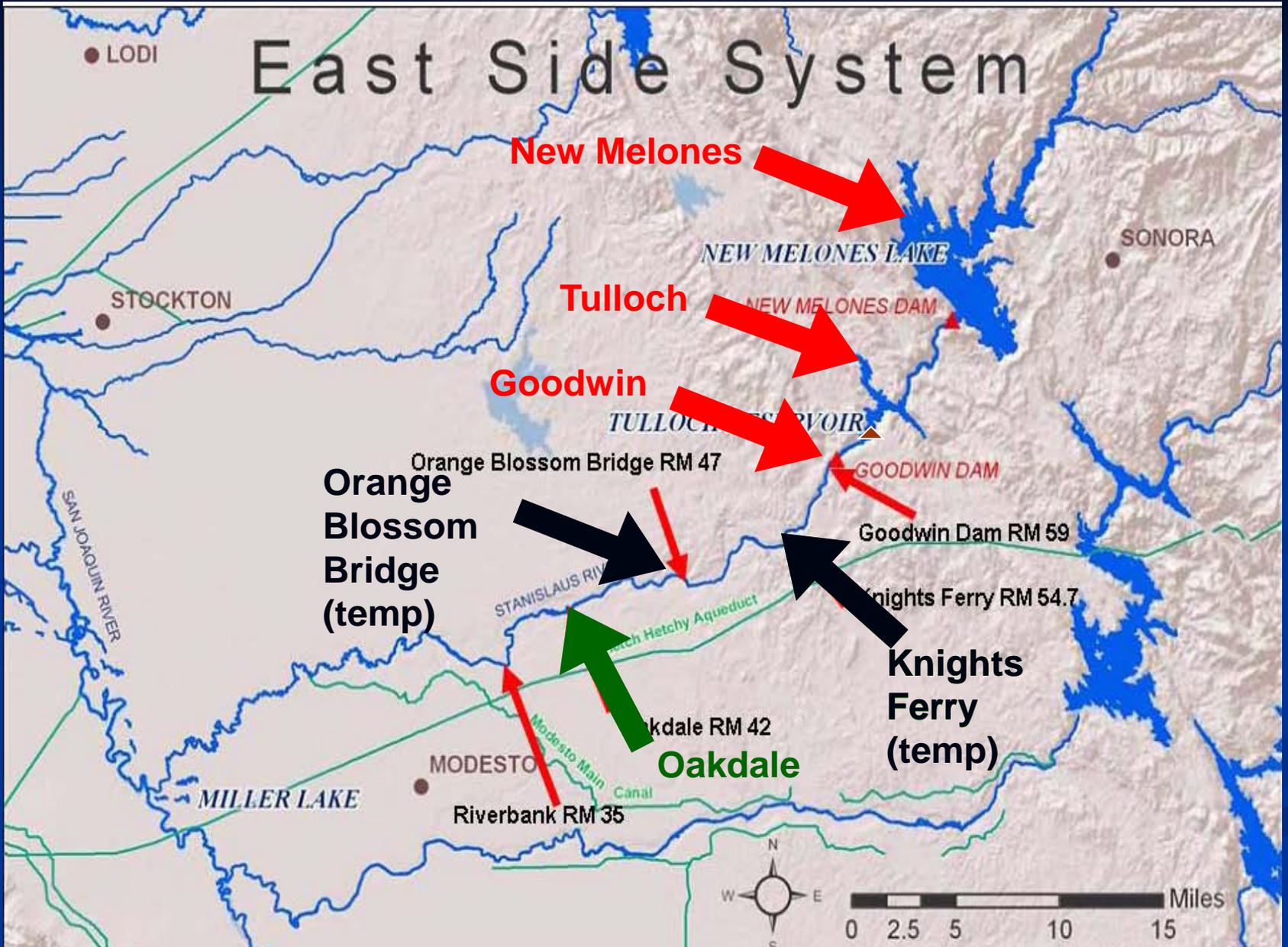


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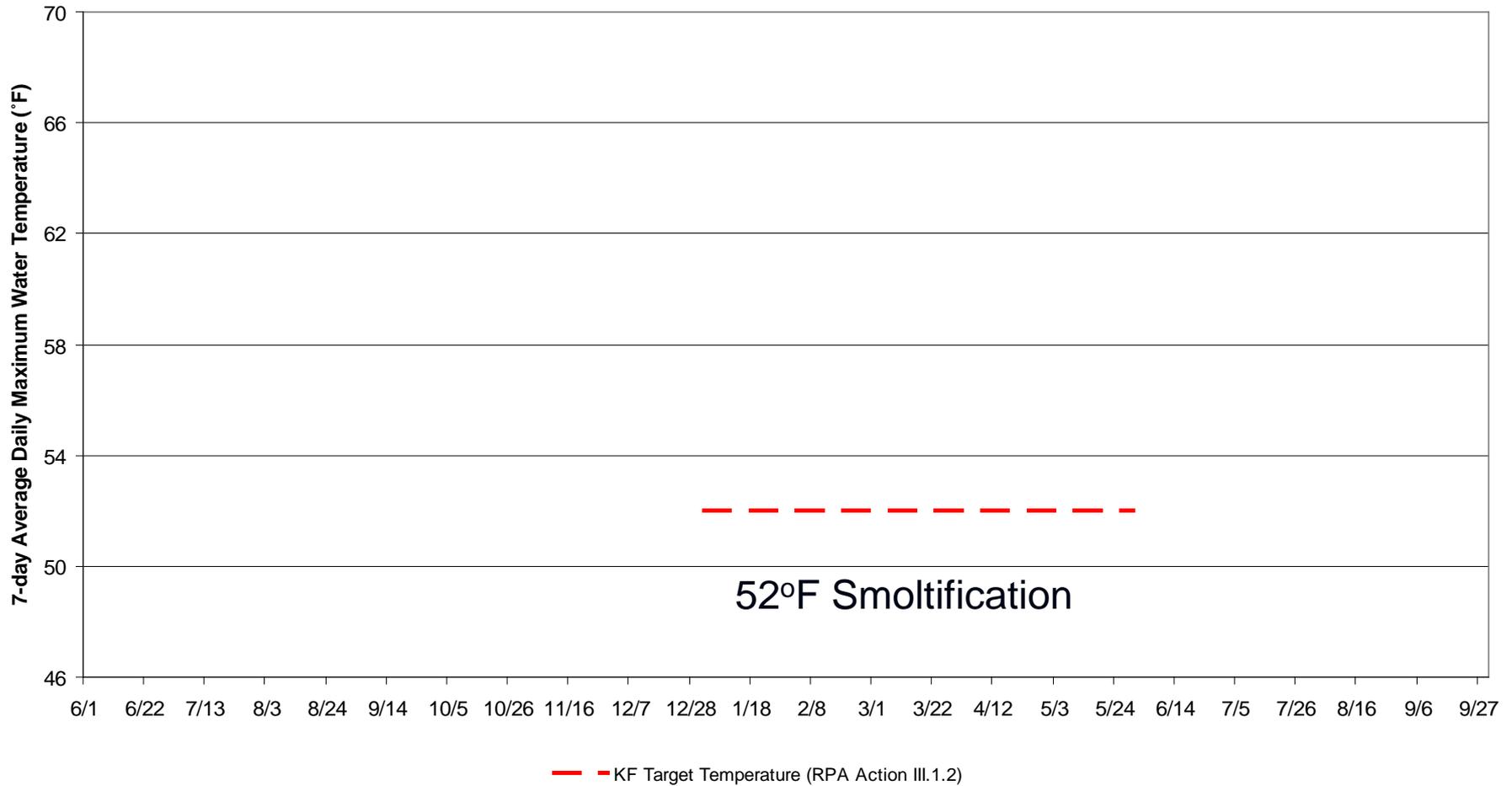


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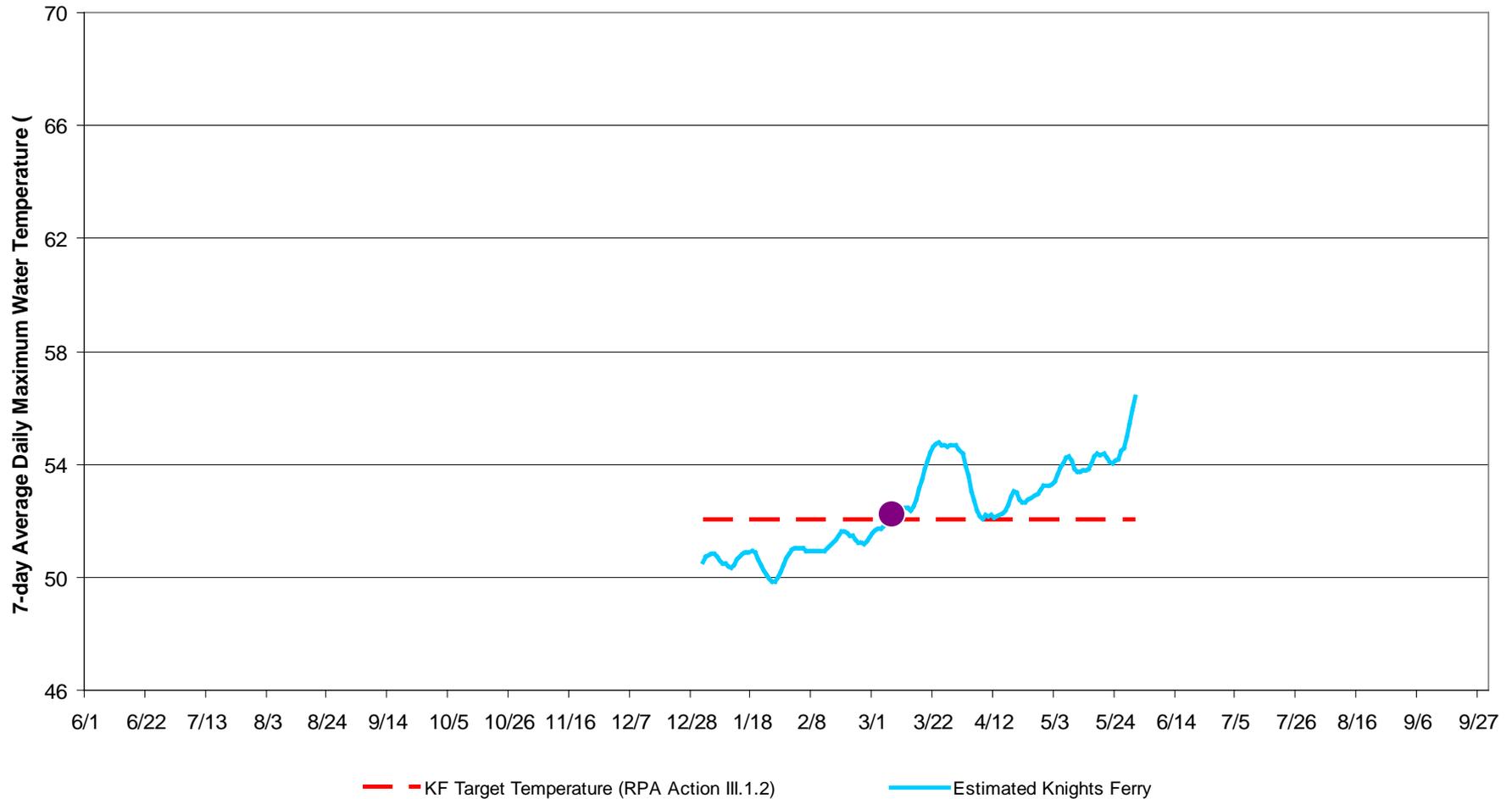
# Knights Ferry Temperatures

Stanislaus River Temperature Knights Ferry  
2009 - 2010



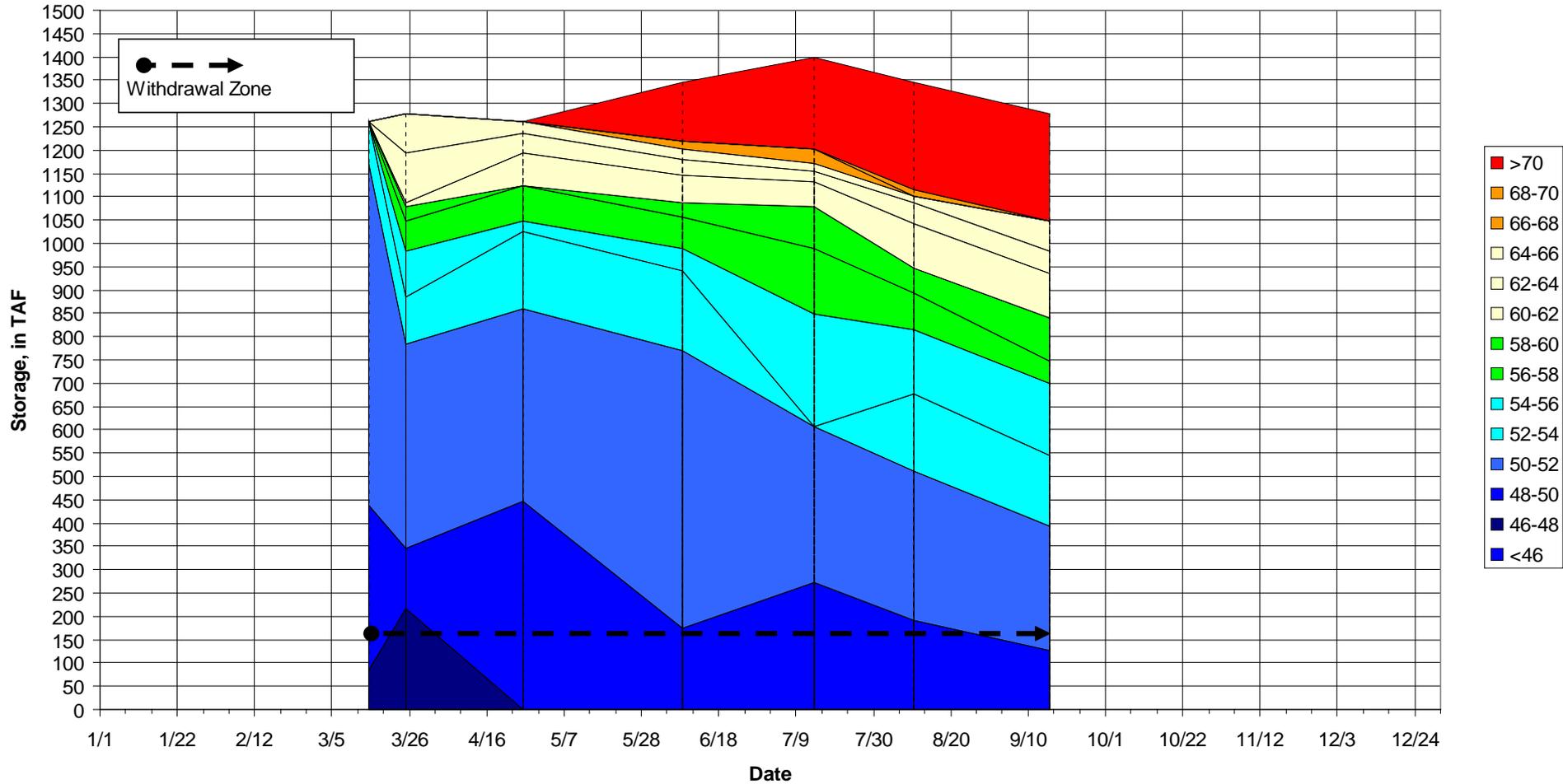
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Stanislaus River Temperature Knights Ferry  
2009 - 2010



# New Melones Isothermobaths

New Melones Lake Isothermobaths - 2010  
(Water Temperature, in ° F)



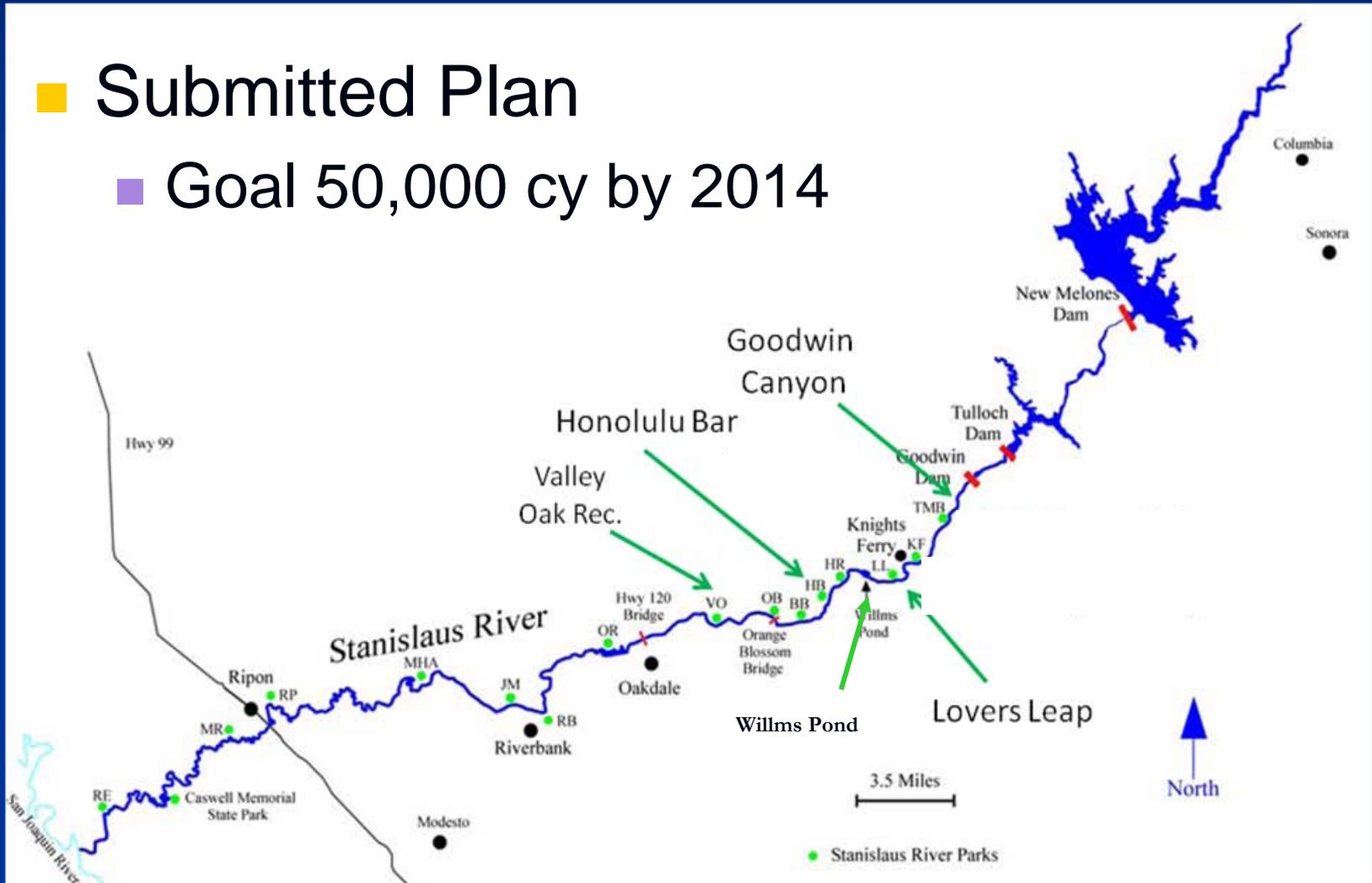
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# Gravel Augmentation, Floodplain Restoration, and Migratory Habitat

- Submitted Plan

- Goal 50,000 cy by 2014



# SOG Successes in 2010

- Interagency communication at technical staff level, and coordination with other teams
- Technical advice to WOMT
- Pulse implementation and initial development of new guidelines for managing within the RPA flexibility

# SOG Clarifications in 2010

- **Action III.1.2 – Temperature management**
  - Multiple temperature criteria
  - Knights Ferry temperature
  
- **Action III.1.3 – Minimum flow management**
  - Yeartype designation procedure
  
- **Action III.2.1 – Gravel augmentation**
  - Cubic yards, not tons.

# Topics still under review by SOG

- **Yeartype clarification** -- See Appendix C of Annual Report

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- Handling temperature exceedances with the temperature exception procedure -- See Appendix B of Annual Report

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- Handling temperature exceedances with the temperature exception procedure
- **Initiation date of fall temperature criterion**

# Requests for feedback

- Studies or monitoring
- April-May flow management
- Pulse shaping and timing
- Temperature management decision process

# Questions?

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Randi Field | [rfield@usbr.gov](mailto:rfield@usbr.gov)

SOG website: [\*http://swr.nmfs.gov/ocap/sog.htm\*](http://swr.nmfs.gov/ocap/sog.htm)