

VI - SUMMARY

6-01. Summary. The intent of this interim water control plan is to provide guidance for operating Prado Dam during the Prado Dam Embankment and Outlet works Construction project for the purpose of maintaining public safety, while at the same time providing flood control and water conservation benefits and facilitating project construction to the extent possible. The current Prado Dam Water Control Manual, dated September 1994 contains all the pertinent information about the existing Prado Dam and shall be used as the basis of operation for any situation not explicitly covered in this document. This document will be in use until all construction is complete. The interim water control plan contained in this document will be updated as construction progresses and the new project features come on-line, such as the completion of the new outlet works. In addition, if a situation arises where the construction schedule is significantly changed or for any other unforeseen reason, an update to the plan may be made as necessary in order to ensure the most effective operation of the dam. At the completion of the construction project, a preliminary water control plan will be developed and implemented until the final water control manual for the new Prado Dam is finalized.

Due to the current condition of the lower Santa Ana River channel and possible overlapping of construction activities at the dam and in the downstream channel, flexibility is incorporated into this interim water control plan, in order to optimize the dam's operation as much as possible. Contractors for the Prado Dam construction, as well as Reach 9 - Santa Ana River Project, or any other project scheduled during the time frame may be required to plan, design, construct, and operate features necessary for operation that are not covered in this interim water control plan. The contractors will also be responsible for ensuring that their project sites maintain sufficient diversion capacity to accommodate releases from Prado Dam and to coordinate available channel discharge capacities with the Corps (Reservoir Regulation Section), as necessary.

The dam will be operated to provide seasonal water conservation benefits during the entire construction period, in accordance with the April 1995 Cooperative Agreement,

which was signed by the US Fish and Wildlife Service, the Orange County Water District and the Corps. Should water conservation operation interfere with the construction activities, coordination among the agencies shall be made in order to arrive at a solution. Public safety will be the primary consideration in resolving conflicting operation objectives.