

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 5303**  
**OFFERED BY MR. HUFFMAN OF CALIFORNIA**

At the end of title I, insert the following:

1 **SEC. \_\_\_\_ . RESERVOIR OPERATION IMPROVEMENT.**

2 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 360 days after the date  
3 of enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit to  
4 the Committees on Appropriations of the Senate and the  
5 House of Representatives, the Committee on Environment  
6 and Public Works of the Senate, and the Committee on  
7 Transportation and Infrastructure of the House of Rep-  
8 resentatives a report including, for any State in which a  
9 county designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as a  
10 drought disaster area during water year 2015 is located,  
11 a list of projects, including Corps of Engineers projects,  
12 and those non-Federal projects and transferred works that  
13 are operated for flood control in accordance with rules pre-  
14 scribed by the Secretary pursuant to section 7 of the Act  
15 of December 22, 1944 (commonly known as the “Flood  
16 Control Act of 1944”) (58 Stat. 890, chapter 665), includ-  
17 ing, as applicable—

18 (1) the year the original water control manual  
19 was approved;

1           (2) the year for any subsequent revisions to the  
2 water control plan and manual of the project;

3           (3) a list of projects for which—

4                 (A) operational deviations for drought con-  
5 tingency have been requested;

6                 (B) the status of the request; and

7                 (C) a description of how water conserva-  
8 tion and water quality improvements were ad-  
9 dressed; and

10          (4) a list of projects for which permanent or  
11 seasonal changes to storage allocations have been re-  
12 quested, and the status of the request.

13          (b) PROJECT IDENTIFICATION.—Not later than 60  
14 days after the date of completion of the report under sub-  
15 section (a), the Secretary shall identify any projects de-  
16 scribed in the report—

17                 (1) for which the modification of the water op-  
18 erations manuals, including flood control rule curve,  
19 would be likely to enhance existing authorized  
20 project purposes, including for water supply benefits  
21 and flood control operations;

22                 (2) for which the water control manual and  
23 hydrometeorological information establishing the  
24 flood control rule curves of the project have not been

1 substantially revised during the 15-year period end-  
2 ing on the date of review by the Secretary; and

3 (3) for which the non-Federal sponsor or spon-  
4 sors of a Corps of Engineers project, the owner of  
5 a non-Federal project, or the non-Federal trans-  
6 ferred works operating entity, as applicable, has sub-  
7 mitted to the Secretary a written request to revise  
8 water operations manuals, including flood control  
9 rule curves, based on the use of improved weather  
10 forecasting or run-off forecasting methods, new wa-  
11 tershed data, changes to project operations, or struc-  
12 tural improvements.

13 (c) PILOT PROJECTS.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
15 the date of identification of projects under sub-  
16 section (c), if any, the Secretary shall carry out not  
17 fewer than 15 pilot projects, which shall include not  
18 less than 6 non-Federal projects, to implement revi-  
19 sions of water operations manuals, including flood  
20 control rule curves, based on the best available  
21 science, which may include—

22 (A) forecast-informed operations;

23 (B) new watershed data; and

24 (C) if applicable, in the case of non-Fed-  
25 eral projects, structural improvements.

1           (2) CONSULTATION.—In implementing a pilot  
2 project under this subsection, the Secretary shall  
3 consult with all affected interests, including—

4           (A) non-Federal entities responsible for op-  
5 erations and maintenance costs of a Federal fa-  
6 cility;

7           (B) individuals and entities with storage  
8 entitlements; and

9           (C) local agencies with flood control re-  
10 sponsibilities downstream of a facility.

11       (d) COORDINATION WITH NON-FEDERAL PROJECT  
12 ENTITIES.—If a project identified under subsection (b)  
13 is—

14           (1) a non-Federal project, the Secretary, prior  
15 to carrying out an activity under this section,  
16 shall—

17           (A) consult with the non-Federal project  
18 owner; and

19           (B) enter into a cooperative agreement,  
20 memorandum of understanding, or other agree-  
21 ment with the non-Federal project owner de-  
22 scribing the scope and goals of the activity and  
23 the coordination among the parties; and

24           (2) a Federal project, the Secretary, prior to  
25 carrying out an activity under this section, shall—

1 (A) consult with each Federal and non-  
2 Federal entity (including a municipal water dis-  
3 trict, irrigation district, joint powers authority,  
4 transferred works operating entity, or other  
5 local governmental entity) that currently—

6 (i) manages (in whole or in part) a  
7 Federal dam or reservoir; or

8 (ii) is responsible for operations and  
9 maintenance costs; and

10 (B) enter into a cooperative agreement,  
11 memorandum of understanding, or other agree-  
12 ment with each such entity describing the scope  
13 and goals of the activity and the coordination  
14 among the parties.

15 (e) CONSIDERATION.—In designing and imple-  
16 menting a forecast-informed reservoir operations plan  
17 under subsection (c), the Secretary may consult with the  
18 appropriate agencies within the Department of the Inte-  
19 rior and the Department of Commerce with expertise in  
20 atmospheric, meteorological, and hydrologic science to  
21 consider—

22 (1) the relationship between ocean and atmos-  
23 pheric conditions, including—

24 (A) the El Niño and La Niña cycles; and

1 (B) the potential for above-normal, normal,  
2 and below-normal rainfall for the coming water  
3 year, including consideration of atmospheric  
4 river forecasts;

5 (2) the precipitation and runoff index specific  
6 to the basin and watershed of the relevant dam or  
7 reservoir, including incorporating knowledge of  
8 hydrological and meteorological conditions that influ-  
9 ence the timing and quantity of runoff;

10 (3) improved hydrologic forecasting for precipi-  
11 tation, snowpack, and soil moisture conditions;

12 (4) an adjustment of operational flood control  
13 rule curves to optimize water supply storage and re-  
14 liability, hydropower production, environmental bene-  
15 fits for flows and temperature, and other authorized  
16 project benefits, without a reduction in flood safety;  
17 and

18 (5) proactive management in response to  
19 changes in forecasts.

20 (f) FUNDING.—The Secretary may accept and expend  
21 amounts from non-Federal entities and other Federal  
22 agencies to fund all or a portion of the cost of carrying  
23 out a review or revision of operational documents, includ-  
24 ing water control plans, water control manuals, water con-  
25 trol diagrams, release schedules, rule curves, operational

1 agreements with non-Federal entities, and any associated  
2 environmental documentation for—

3 (1) a Corps of Engineers project; or

4 (2) a non-Federal project regulated for flood  
5 control by the Secretary.

6 (g) EFFECT.—

7 (1) MANUAL REVISIONS.—A revision of a man-  
8 ual shall not interfere with the authorized purposes  
9 of a Federal project or the existing purposes of a  
10 non-Federal project regulated for flood control by  
11 the Secretary.

12 (2) EFFECT OF SECTION.—

13 (A) Nothing in this section authorizes the  
14 Secretary to carry out, at a Federal dam or res-  
15 ervoir, any project or activity for a purpose not  
16 otherwise authorized as of the date of enact-  
17 ment of this Act.

18 (B) Nothing in this section affects or  
19 modifies any obligation of the Secretary under  
20 State law.

21 (C) Nothing in this section affects or modi-  
22 fies any obligation to comply with any applica-  
23 ble Federal law.

24 (4) PRIOR STUDIES.—The Secretary shall—

1 (A) to the maximum extent practicable, co-  
2 ordinate the efforts of the Secretary in carrying  
3 out subsections(a), (b), and (c) with the efforts  
4 of the Secretary in completing—

5 (i) the report required under section  
6 1046(a)(2)(A) of the Water Resources Re-  
7 form and Development Act of 2014 (33  
8 U.S.C. 2319 note; Public Law 113–121);  
9 and

10 (ii) the updated report required under  
11 subsection (a)(2)(B) of that section; and

12 (B) if the reports are available before the  
13 date on which the Secretary carries out the ac-  
14 tions described in subsections (a), (b), and (c),  
15 consider the findings of the reports described in  
16 clauses (i) and (ii) of subparagraph (A).

17 (h) MODIFICATIONS TO MANUALS AND CURVES.—  
18 Not later than 180 days after the date of completion of  
19 a modification to an operations manual or flood control  
20 rule curve, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee  
21 on Environment and Public Works of the Senate and the  
22 Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure of the  
23 House of Representatives a report regarding the compo-



1 nents of the forecast-based reservoir operations plan incor-  
2 porated into the change.

