

Meeting Minutes
Diversion Effects on Fisheries
March 3, 1998
1:00 to 3:00pm

Action Items

- 1) Michael Fris will make up a straw man species/stressor matrix and e-mail around to team members for input before next meeting.
- 2) Ron will contact potential species team leaders and have them at next meeting.
- 3) Ron will contact potential stakeholders to have them at meeting after next.
- 4) Next meeting Wednesday, March 18th, 9-12, Room 1147 CALFED.

General

Need to define goals and objectives for each species and life stage. Then test each alternative for how close it comes to meeting these goals and objectives. Example goals could be the restoration of salmon, striped bass, delta smelt and splittail.

The team will focus on the species that are most sensitive to diversion effects. These are:

- Sacramento River Salmon (all runs)
- San Joaquin River Salmon
- Striped Bass
- Delta Smelt
- Splittail (to a lesser extent)

Need to evaluate the direct and indirect effects on all life stages in a spatial and temporal (month and year type) context for the following scenarios:

- Existing Condition
- No Action (without CALFED)
- Common Programs
- Alternative 1, 2, and 3

Starting meeting after next stakeholders will join the agency representatives to comprise the "Team".

Process

- I. Agency team construct preliminary matrix for review by stakeholders.
 - A. Identify species life stages
 - B. Identify stressors

C. Construct Matrix

**** Michael Fris will make up a straw man matrix and e-mail around to team members before next meeting ****

II. Small teams focus on particular species to assess effects.

- A. Assess direct effects of operations
- B. Assess indirect effects of operations
- C. Assess direct effects of construction
- D. Assess indirect effects of construction

III. Team determines overall species impacts for science and public review.

IV. Team develops overall summaries for each alternative.

V. Team suggests operations for each alternative.

Sample Evaluation Process

San Joaquin Salmon -Fry in the Delta

Direct Stressors

- Entrainment
- Predation
- Handling
- Food Supply
- Habitat degradation

Indirect Stressors

- Water Quality Toxicity
- Agriculture Diversions
- Predation

There is uncertainty as to where and when fry reside in the Delta.

Existing Condition

The most important months for San Joaquin River salmon fry in the Delta are December, January, and February.

A species specific evaluation team should:

- Review the assumptions in the model runs for the existing conditions.
- Review the pumping rates used in runs for December, January and February.
- Review the assumed operational constraints in the model.
- Review past pumping and entrainment records at south Delta pumps and compare year

types and entrainment amounts.

- Determine the incremental improvement historically to present.
- May want to focus on dry years to see the magnitude of entrainment.
- Determine the existing condition impacts of pumps on San Joaquin River fry.

No Action

(process is the same for existing condition)

Common Programs

Make a qualitative assessment of:

- Water Quality (Toxics, DO block on San Joaquin, etc.)
- Food Supply
- Entrainment
- Predation

Alternative 1

- How much will a new combined screen and fish facility at the head end of CCF reduce predation and entrainment of San Joaquin River salmon fry?
- How much predation will occur at the new screen compared to CCF existing system.
- Review the model run assumptions, operations, and pumping rates for Alternative 1.

Alternative 2

- Screens same as Alternative 1.
- Review all modeling assumptions and results.
- Might have increased habitat degradation for fry that hang in Delta.

Alternative 3

- Review all modeling assumptions and results.
- Need to review the timing and amounts that would be pumped from the south Delta.
- How much entrainment will be in December, January, and February?
- What carryover storage will be needed from Shasta to make Alternative work?

Specific Species Teams

The following individuals were recommended to lead a specific species team:

San Joaquin River salmon - Marty Kjelson, USFWS

Sacramento River salmon - Sheila Greene, DWR

Delta smelt - Dale Sweetnam, DFG

Striped Bass - Lee Miller, DFG

Ron will contract and try to get them to next meeting.

Suggested Stakeholders

The following individuals were recommended to participate on team:

Chuck Hanson - Hanson Environmental

Pete Rhoads - MWDSC

Serge Birk - CVP Water Users

Elsie Holland - Bay Institute

Ron will contract and try to get them to meeting after next.

Next Meeting

Review the strawman matrix and fill in gaps.

Wednesday, March 18th, 9-12, Room 1147 CALFED