

DRAFT
Meeting Minutes
Diversion Effects on Fish Team (DEFT)
July 23, 1998
9:30am to 1:30pm

Participants

P. Chadwick, B. Herbold, S. Greene, P. Rhoads, E. Holland, J. Buell, M. Cowin, R. Ott, G. Bardini, P. Fujitani, T. Smith, J. Snow, G. Stern, D. Hayes, C. Creel, D. Fullerton, T. Mills, M. Holderman, S. Roberts, J. Miyamoto, P. Nader, BJ Miller

Information on July 9 Questions:

Team members reviewed information obtained on questions assigned at July 9th and July 16th Meetings. Numbers shown were assigned to the questions in those meetings.

23. Joe Miyamoto-presented a summary of a handout, "Issues For Eastside Tributaries That Need To Be Addressed By The Diversion Effects On Salmon Team-July 22, 1998".

3. Sheila Greene-presented charts on flow survival relationship below Hood for salmon from Mark Pierce USFWS and the Newman/Rice Smolt Survival Model. No good relationship for flow vs survival. Not a good relationship for flow vs temperature, Best survival relationship was for flow vs salinity especially low flow high salinity.

Questions?

- How can the salmon group describe results?
- Do these analysis support the scoring of the alternatives? If alternatives were re-evaluated using assumptions implicit in these results, how would the ranking and magnitude of scores differentially change?
- If intakes were moved to turner cut area (South Stub), how would the proximity to the mouth of the Mokelumne River and 3-mile Slough change the ranking?

9. Elise Holland will talk to Bill Loudermilk.

2. Elise Holland - Two pages on flows and survival from Exhibit 2-1630 hearings, "Re-Examination of Factors Affecting Striped Bass Abundance in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Estuary".

5. Elise Holland - Results have shown that some fry/Larvae have some ability to hold position so particle tracking models may be overestimating travel distance.

8. Elise Holland- Need information from Lee Miller, Don and Kevan on 1976-1977 drought salvage at pumps. Need for relative priorities on timing and magnitude of curtailments to

minimize losses at south Delta pumps.

12A. Elise Holland- Need info from Lee, Don and Kevan on peak periods of passage needed in a hood/Mokelumne connection. Pete Rhoads and Elise Holland will summarize important questions from Chuck Hanson's paper.

24. Terry Mills- Summarized his handout on "Other Issues to be Considered" relating to how diversions affect other ecosystem components.

Sediment- Need short writeup on the effects (Jim Buell & Bruce Herbold)

Food Web- Wen Kimmerer work on entrainment effects on food web at south delta pumps. Also Arthur and Ball (Peggy Lehman - DWR)

Residence Time-Particle tracking

All issues are important but may not have time to evaluate.

Pete Chadwick will discuss how the species team took these variable into account in their work.

New Considerations

Modeling Runs

Elise Holland reviewed the results of 4 modeling runs testing re-operations strategies. Handout "Re-operation Scenarios of Interest."

1. New base case reflecting optimization of the present system for fish benefit while considering water supply and water quality.
2. New base case + environmental protections
3. New base case + environmental protections + operational flexibility tools
4. New base case + environmental protections + operational flexibility tools + 1 MAF of groundwater storage south of the Delta.
 - Need to consider how operations might change with time as we accomplish actions.
 - Need interchange with NoName group as we consider operations principles and options.
 - Correlation between E/I ration and fish survival has not been proven
 - For stage 1 primary focus is on operations, south delta screening and common program programs

Ag/Urban water Users

BJ Miller presented status report on their efforts to look at different approaches to operations of the south delta pumps to improve fish and water supply.

- Preliminary analysis by Hanson and ? showed there may possibilities of operational scenarios that maintain the same water supply while reducing mortality by 1/3 to 1/2 .
- Developing a daily electronic record of adult equivalent mortality (normalized to populations) for the last ten years.
- Primary species are salmon, striped bass, delta smelt, splittail, an Stealhead .

Ideals that the group is testing;

- No change in operations and manage by numbers.

- Look at E/I ratio and test protection levees
- Mortality targets
- Assurances for water supply (Ag/urban)
- Test flexible compliance options

Database should be on web site in a 2 week to 2 month time frame.

BJ will give the group a more detailed presentation when there are some results.

Non-water related actions

Need draft writeups on the following actions for our report to policy in mid August:

- Habitat- Pete Rhoads, Terry Mills
- Effects on Sediment, Food-web, etc- Terry Mills, Jim Buell, Pete Chadwick
- Exotics- Elise Holland
- Water Quality actions that effect fish- Paul Marshall, Ron Ott, Steve Roberts
- Screening, SWP, common actions not on list-Terry Mills, Mike Thabault, Steve Roberts, Jim White

Structural actions

Fish facilities team

Darryl presented the variables and options considered by the Interagency Fish Facilities Team for the screens at Hood, Georgiana Slough, and At the DCC. He also presented the important variables to be considered for a screen in central delta.

Hydraulic Barriers

Ron Ott presented several options suggested by John Winther in his letters to CALFED on April 4, 1997, May 16, 1997, and June 3, 1998:

- Georgiana Slough hydraulic Barrier
- Mokelumne River Current Deflector
- DCC screening

South Stub

Bruce Herbold reviewed that latest issues on the South Stub proposal. Screening, salvage, hydrodynamics, etc.

Water Quality

Bruce Herbold will check if the NoName group is considering:

- Exchanges using cross-valley canal and Kern water bank
- Fullerton split-splitting aqueduct to keep better quality water separate

Consideration for Populations/Recovery?

Striped Bass Recovery Plan (Gary Stern and Lee Miller)

Harvest Management (?)

Hatchery Management (?)

Next Meeting

Tuesday, July 28th

9:00am to 5:00pm

Room # 1506-12