

STRIPED BASS CONCLUSIONS

- No EWA actions were taken with an intent to increase striped bass population. Thus, results reflect incidental consequences of EWA actions to protect other species.
- The most significant effect observed on striped bass salvage is that the number salvaged under base conditions for each game was greater than the historical salvage. While that relationship varies substantially among years, the average percent increase was more than 40% for each game. That largely reflects the shift in export pumping from winter and spring to the summer and fall.
- The effect of EWA game decisions on striped bass was to increase salvage in all games from July through November, but those increases were roughly offset by decreases in January through March. Hence the net effect on salvage, in terms of yearling equivalents, was small.
- On the premise that outflow in May through July benefits striped bass, EWA effects on outflow during those months were found to be small and inconsistent. The most consistent EWA caused improvement was in Game 5 (early Stage 1, without in-Delta AFRP). That reflected use of EWA assets to provide benefits included in AFRP.