

Significant Technical Issues

Diversion Effects on Fish, Including the Entrainment and Flow Effects on Fish

Can diversion effects in the South Delta be offset by:

- habitat improvements,
- modifications to the three alternatives?

What is the probability of recovery with:

- pumping 6-6.5 MAF from South Delta(Alt 1 and 2),
- diverting 10,000 cfs to central Delta through a screened facility at Hood(Alt 2),
- using a dual conveyance system(Alt 3)?

Which specie population and their life stages that are most sensitive to diversion effects and where and when are they most effected?

What are the direct effect physical effects to life stages of various species (screens, entrainment, flow patterns, habitat changes favoring predators, etc.)?

What is the effect of the operational plan for the alternative? Which species would benefit, which wouldn't care, and which would be hurt? Can the operational plan be flexible to fish needs?

What are the indirect effects of an alternative on fisheries (Delta hydrology, dredging, X2, water quality, ecosystem productivity, etc.)?

What the areas of uncertainty associated with each alternative in reference entrainment and flow effects?

What are increments of protection under such programs as: the water quality control plan, CVPIA, VAMP, biological opinions and operational changes on reservoirs?

What Sacramento River flow is required below a Hood diversion to protect salmon, striped bass and delta smelt?

What are the population level benefits of various levels of reduction in direct and indirect mortality due to diversion effects?