

Jim and Pete,

It seems that whether the DEFT produces one report, two reports, or takes some other approach the issue of alternative hypotheses must be handled. I went back to the Draft DEFT report and took another look at the "minority hypotheses". In some cases it appeared that the "minority hypotheses" were taking issue with the "majority hypotheses," but did not state an alternative hypothesis. In other cases, the "minority hypothesis" was in agreement with the "majority hypothesis". Therefore, I decided to quickly state what I understood the "minority hypotheses" to say, and would like feedback on whether or not I have misunderstood your point.

Thanks,

Elise

1. Improve Delta Hydrodynamics

a. Net positive flows from the Delta will not reduce risk of fish entrainment in the south Delta.

Or

Improvement in local velocity fields, residence time of species, and habitat will reduce risk of fish moving toward and into the south Delta where they are subject to export operations.

b. X2 is not a surrogate for physical conditions that improve fish survival in the Delta.

c. Increase in overall residence time of water in the Delta will positively influence organism/habitat associations, foodweb interactions.

d. There is no relationship between export/inflow ratios and San Joaquin salmon survival, and adult escapement.

2. Improve Migratory Path for Fish

a. San Joaquin salmon survival is adversely effected by entrainment, salvage, transportation, and release.

b. Survival of juvenile Sacramento River salmon entering the Delta from the DCC or Georgiana Slough is not depressed compared to survival of salmon entering the Delta from the Sacramento River.

3. Reduced Exports

a. High entrainment rates during periods of time when high export rates coincide with high fish density near the pumping facilities will have adverse population level effects on those species.

B. There is a weak or nonexistent relationship between the E/I ratio and adult escapement of Sacramento salmon, and the population strength of Delta smelt.

Reduce Entrainment Losses

a. Improvements in screening, salvage, transportation, and release facilities and operations at the CVP and SWP will reduce entrainment and predation losses.

Improve Delta Habitat

a. minority hypothesis agrees with majority hypothesis