

### 20-mm Survey

### **Project Description**

The 20-mm Survey monitors juvenile Delta and Longfin Smelt distribution and abundance throughout their historic spring range in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and upper Estuary.

### **Project Need**

This survey provides up-to-date information specified in the 1995 Delta Smelt Biological Opinion (BO) for the operation of the SWP and the CVP. This survey monitors Delta Smelt around 20 mm TL in size which it is the size that "take" is counted against the SWP and CVP. This information allows managers to vary water operations and provide sufficient flows to maintain Delta Smelt rearing habitat away from the south and central Delta and minimize entrainment. This survey is also a requirement of Section 5.2 of Incidental Take Permit No. 2081-2009-001-03 for the State Water Project, issued by CDFW under the authority of the California Endangered Species Act and pursuant to Fish and Game Code sections 2081(b) and 2081(c), and California Code of Regulations, Title 14. Similar to Delta Smelt, the distribution and catch information of Longfin Smelt are used to determine entrainment risks and ensure that adequate flows are maintained for the protection of young Longfin Smelt.

### **Project Objectives**

- Determines the distribution of juvenile Delta and Longfin Smelt in relation to the major water diversions
- Compares current relative abundance to historical annual abundances
- Provides concurrent zooplankton density information to monitor the suitability of their food supply

### **Schedule of Milestones**

Every two weeks between March through June field surveys will be conducted and field and laboratory results will be reported weekly to the Smelt Working Group and the WOMT team starting 5 days after the field sampling are concluded. Shortly afterwards, raw and calculated data will be uploaded to the Region 3's 20-mm Survey web page. A memo describing the annual abundance index will be prepared and distributed in June. By the end of the calendar year a draft survey summary article will be submitted to the Editor of the IEP newsletter for publication.

### **Project Cost**

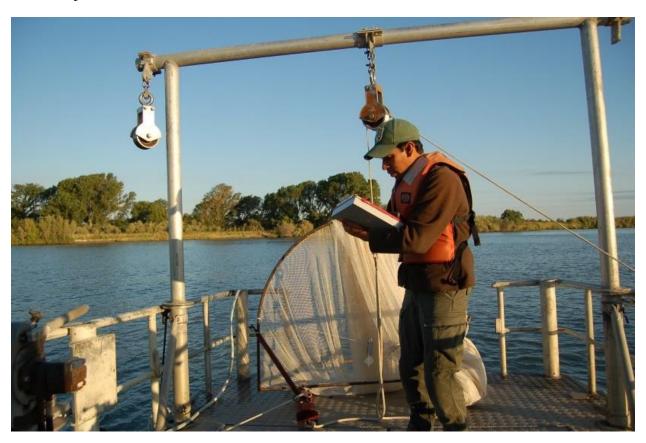
\$0.67 Million, DWR & USBR

### **Project Manager**

Marty Gingras, CDFW

### **Principal Investigator**

Robert Fujimura, CDFW



Environmental Sampling in the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta

### Red Bluff Diversion Dam Rotary Trap Juvenile Monitoring Project

This is Activity #1 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek, and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion.

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 040

### **Project Description**

Quantification of passage and production of juvenile salmonids produced in the upper Sacramento River, CA.

### **Project Need**

This project will allow evaluation and adaptive management of water releases from Shasta/Keswick reservoirs and provide real-time information to Delta Operations for Salmon and Sturgeon (DOSS) group for fishery and water operations management.

Data on the status and production trends of endangered winter-run Chinook Salmon, Threatened spring- run Chinook, the Central Valley ESU of Steelhead as well as the Southern Distinct Population Segment of the North American Green Sturgeon will be derived. This project is required to fulfill Monitoring and Reporting requirements under NMFS (2009, 2011) Biological Opinion RPA 11.2.1.3 (8) b.

### **Project Objectives**

The primary objective is to estimate total annual production of juvenile winter-run Chinook Salmon produced in the mainstem Sacramento River, CA and compare these data to adult escapement estimates. Secondary objectives are to estimates juvenile production of fall, late-fall, and spring-run Chinook Salmon and to measure relative abundance of Lamprey and Green Sturgeon passing Red Bluff Diversion Dam.

### Schedule of Project Milestones (When will data collection, analyses, and reporting elements be completed?)

Date	Milestone	
10/01/2017	Field work initiated	
10/07/2017	Preliminary bi-weekly data posted to FWS website	
12/31/2018	Annual Report due	

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

\$0 - FY18 agreement amount = \$997,572 - \$997,572 (Received in FY17)

### Is this Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

RPA 11.2.1.3 (Monitoring and reporting) related to the Long Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project Biological Opinion (NMFS 2009).

### Investigator

Bill Poytress & James G. Smith U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043



# **Upper Sacramento River Winter Chinook Salmon Carcass Survey**

This is Activity #2 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek, and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion.

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_041

### **Project Description**

This project monitors the annual abundance, timing, distribution, and several life history characteristics of naturally spawning winter Chinook salmon. This project is conducted in cooperation with the California Dept. of Fish and Wildlife and the Pacific States Marine Fisheries Commission.

### **Project Need**

Estimates of abundance of Sacramento River Winter Chinook Salmon provide the basis for monitoring the population status and trends of this endangered species. Information generated from this project also provides the basis for evaluating the supplementation program at the winter Chinook Conservation Hatchery. Recoveries of coded-wire tags from this project feed into cohort reconstructions, which provide the basis for estimating survival rates and evaluating the effects of ocean harvest upon this endangered species.

### **Project Objectives**

An estimate of winter Chinook spawner abundance will be generated based on carcass mark-recapture estimation methods. This project will estimate escapement and contribution to natural spawning by natural and hatchery origin winter Chinook. Recoveries of coded-wire tags will be reported to the Regional Mark Information System for use in a cohort reconstruction analysis.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone
05/01/2018	Daily field surveys initiated
	Complete Annual Project Report for 2016 survey season – will be posted on website of the USFWS-RBFWO
08/31/2018	Daily field surveys concluded

### **Expected FY 2017 Project Cost**

\$110,273 – FY18 agreement amount = \$144,796 - \$34,523 (Received in FY17)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

Estimating adult escapement of winter Chinook is a requirement of RPA 11.2.1.3.8.a of the CVP/SWP Biological Opinion.

### Investigator

Kevin Niemela & James G. Smith U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043



## Adult Spring Chinook Escapement Monitoring in Clear Creek

This is Activity 4 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion".

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 042

### **Project Description**

Estimate population size and distribution of adult spring Chinook holding and spawning in Clear Creek.

### **Project Need**

The Clear Creek spring Chinook population is dependent on the operation of Whiskeytown Dam to survive. The BiOp requires six actions in Clear Creek. This monitoring activity is used to guide and evaluate the effectiveness of these RPA actions and to evaluate the impacts of the operation of the CVP. This monitoring activity estimates annual adult escapement of spring Chinook into Clear Creek using two methods: video counts and snorkel based estimates.

Increasing the population of spring Chinook in Clear Creek so that it can survive independently of other populations is required for recovery and de-listing of spring Chinook in the Central Valley ESU. This monitoring tracks progress towards recovery.

### **Project Objectives**

Operate a video weir station to count and identify fish entering and leaving the watershed. Index adult holding population size by visual counts made during snorkel surveys.

Estimate the spatial and temporal distribution of holding and spawning through snorkel surveys;

Estimate spawning population size using redd counts produced during snorkel surveys. Spawning success is an indicator of the effectiveness of water and temperature management especially during the summer holding period when reservoir management is particularly important.

Obtain genetic samples, scales, and otoliths to determine run, age, natal origin, and juvenile life history of Chinook spawning in Clear Creek. This information is used to evaluate the effectiveness of water management and habitat restoration.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone
10/01/2017	Snorkel survey field work continues from previous FY
11/15/2017	Snorkel survey field work complete
04/15/2018	Video count and snorkel survey field work begins
08/23/2018	Video count field work ends
09/30/2018	Annual Report

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

\$166,654 - FY18 Agreement amount = \$218,830 - \$52,174 (Received in FY17)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

This project is used to develop adult escapement estimates required in Sections 11.2.1.3.7 and 11.2.1.3.8.a of the CVP/SWP BiOp. This monitoring data guides the pulse flows provided in Action I.1.1. Spring Attraction Flows. The project provides spawning gravel evaluations required in Action I.1.3 Spawning Gravel Augmentation. The project provides water temperature data and spring Chinook locations to evaluate Action I.1.5 Thermal Stress Reduction.

### Investigator

Matt Brown & James G. Smith

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043



# Juvenile Spring-Run and Steelhead Production Monitoring in Clear Creek

This is Activity 5 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion".

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 043

### **Project Description**

Estimate production of juvenile salmonids in Clear Creek.

### **Project Need**

The BiOp requires six actions in Clear Creek in addition to required monitoring. Clear Creek juvenile salmon and steelhead production estimates are used to guide and evaluate the effectiveness of the RPA actions. The information is also needed to evaluate the impacts of CVP operations and to track progress towards recovery.

### **Project Objectives**

Operate a rotary screw trap to catch, identify, and count juvenile fish leaving Clear Creek.

Use rotary screw trap capture-efficiency trials to transform juvenile counts into total production estimates for salmon and steelhead.

Estimate spawning success by combining juvenile production estimates with adult population estimates. Spawning success can be an indicator of the effectiveness of water management, habitat restoration and environmental variables.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone	
11/01/2017	Rotary screw trap operation begins	
06/30/2018	Rotary screw trap operation ends	
09/30/2018	Annual Report	

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

\$264,910 – FY18 Agreement amount = \$347,844 - \$82,934 (Received in FY17)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

This project is used to develop juvenile population estimates required in Sections 11.2.1.3.7 and 11.2.1.3.8.a of the CVP/SWP BiOp.

### Investigator

Matt Brown & James G. Smith U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043

### Adult Steelhead and Late-fall Chinook Escapement Monitoring in Clear Creek

This is Activity 6 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion".

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 044

### **Project Description**

Estimate population size and distribution of adult steelhead and late-fall Chinook spawning in Clear Creek.

### **Project Need**

The BiOp requires six actions in Clear Creek in addition to required monitoring. This monitoring activity is used to guide and evaluate the effectiveness of the RPA actions. The information is also needed to evaluate the impacts of CVP operations and to track progress towards recovery. The activity estimates annual adult populations of steelhead and late-fall Chinook in Clear Creek using two methods: video counts and kayak-based redd counts.

### **Project Objectives**

Operate a video weir station to count and identify fish entering and leaving the watershed. Estimate spawning population size using redd counts produced during kayak surveys.

Estimate spawning success by combining redds counts with estimates of the number of juvenile fish produced. Spawning success can be an indicator of the effectiveness of water management and habitat restoration.

Collect spawning habitat data for use as an indicator of the effectiveness of habitat restoration.

Estimate the spatial and temporal distribution of spawning through kayak-based surveys.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone	
12/01/2017	Kayak surveys and video weir counts begin	
04/15/2018	Kayak surveys and video weir counts complete	
09/30/2018	Annual Report	

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

121,382 - FY18 Agreement amount = 159,382 - 38,000 (Received in FY17)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

This project is used to develop adult population estimates required in Sections 11.2.1.3.7 and 11.2.1.3.8.a of the CVP/SWP BiOp. The project provides spawning gravel evaluations required in Action I.1.3 Spawning Gravel Augmentation.

### Investigator

Matt Brown & James G. Smith U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043



### Juvenile Spring Run and Steelhead Production Monitoring in Battle Creek

This is Activity 7 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion".

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_045

### **Project Description**

Estimate production of juvenile salmonids in Battle Creek

### **Project Need**

The BiOp requires monitoring of juvenile salmon and steelhead production in Battle Creek. The BiOp also requires implementation of the Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project which is intended to restore populations of endangered winter Chinook, and threatened spring Chinook and steelhead. This monitoring project is an essential element of the Restoration Project's Adaptive Management Plan. Production estimates are used to guide and evaluate the effectiveness of the Restoration Project. The Restoration Project and its Adaptive Management Plan are high priorities in the NMFS Recovery Plan.

### **Project Objectives**

Operate a rotary screw trap to catch, identify, and count juvenile fish leaving Battle Creek.

Use rotary screw trap capture-efficiency trials to transform juvenile counts into total production estimates of salmon and steelhead.

Estimate spawning success by combining juvenile production estimates with adult population estimates. Spawning success can be an indicator of the effectiveness of water management, habitat restoration and environmental variables.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone	
11/01/2017	Rotary screw trap operation begins	
06/30/2018	Rotary screw trap operation ends	
09/30/2018	Annual Report	

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

\$240,581 – FY18 Agreement amount = \$315,899 - \$75,318 (Received in FY17)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

This project is required in Section 11.2.1.3.8.a of the CVP/SWP BiOp. The project is an element of the RPA Action I.2.6 Restore Battle Creek for Winter-Run, Spring-Run, and CV Steelhead.

### Investigator

Matt Brown & James G. Smith U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043



## Adult Salmonid Escapement Monitoring in Battle Creek

This is Activity 8 of contract "Fisheries Monitoring Activities in Sacramento River, Clear Creek and Battle Creek required by NMFS OCAP Biological Opinion".

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_046

### **Project Description**

Estimate annual adult escapement of naturally-produced spring Chinook salmon and steelhead upstream of the Coleman National Fish Hatchery (CNFH) barrier weir in Battle Creek.

### **Project Need**

The BiOp requires monitoring of adult escapement in Battle Creek. The BiOp also requires implementation of the Battle Creek Salmon and Steelhead Restoration Project which is intended to restore populations of endangered winter Chinook, and threatened spring Chinook and steelhead. This monitoring project is an essential element of the Restoration Project's Adaptive Management Plan. Escapement estimates are used to guide and evaluate the effectiveness of the Restoration Project. The Restoration Project and its Adaptive Management Plan are high priorities in the NMFS Recovery Plan.

### **Project Objectives**

Count the number of adult Chinook and steelhead returning to Battle Creek and ascending the CNFH barrier weir fish ladder using two methods, fish trapping and video monitoring. Capture fish in a trap from March through May when water temperatures are sufficiently cool to minimize stress to the fish. Collect biological information and tissue samples from trapped fish. Analyze tissue samples to genetically determine the run of Chinook. Record fish passage using video cameras from late May to August when average water temperatures are generally above 60°F. Compare escapement estimates to spawning population estimates based on redd counts to evaluate over-summer survival which can be an indicator of the effectiveness of water management, habitat restoration and environmental variables.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone	
03/01/2018	Fish counting operation begins	
07/30/2018	Fish counting operation ends	
09/30/2018	Annual Report	

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

162,844 - FY18 Agreement amount = 13,824 - 50,980 (Received in FY17)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

This project is required in Section 11.2.1.3.8.a of the CVP/SWP BiOp. The project is an element of the RPA Action I.2.6 Restore Battle Creek for Winter-Run, Spring-Run, and CV Steelhead.

### Investigator

Matt Brown & James G. Smith U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Red Bluff Fish and Wildlife Office 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080 530-527-3043 **Reclamation Point of Contact: John Hannon** 

# Constant Fractional Marking/Tagging Program for Coleman and Nimbus Fish Hatcheries Chinook Salmon (R14AP00125)

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 047

### **Project Description**

A constant fractional marking program for production releases of Coleman and Nimbus hatchery-reared fall-run Chinook salmon and marking of 100% of the steelhead (at Nimbus) and sample returning escapement adults in fisheries, hatcheries and rivers.

### **Project Need**

The marking/tagging program is needed to (1) evaluate the contribution rates of hatchery fish to Central Valley Chinook salmon populations, (2) monitor and evaluate the hatchery programs' genetic and ecological effects on natural populations, (3) evaluate the success of restoration actions designed to increase natural production of Central Valley Chinook salmon, (4) estimate exploitation rates in ocean and inland fisheries, and (5) evaluate the impacts of straying on natural populations. Determination of the age structure of Central Valley Chinook salmon populations is also needed on an annual basis for run reconstruction of the salmon populations.

### **Project Objectives**

### Task 1: Project Management and Administration

Semi-annual and annual administrative reports, monthly invoices, and final invoice.

#### Task 2: Mark/tag Chinook Salmon Production Releases

Annually at Coleman and Nimbus Hatcheries, approximately 4,250,000 CWT/Ad-clipped juvenile fall- run Chinook salmon, spring 2014-2018. Count of total production of juvenile fall-run Chinook salmon and average size. Annual and final reports. Tagging data in electronic format (excel preferred) showing statistics on numbers tagged, tagging dates, tag retention, and fish size (mean, range, length frequency distribution).

#### **Task 3: Ocean Harvest Sampling**

Complete the recovery of CWTs in the private recreational skiff and recreational charter fisheries, from Crescent City to Avila Beach ports (Crescent City, Trinidad, Eureka, Shelter Cove, Fort Bragg, Bodega Bay, San Francisco, Sausalito, Princeton, Santa Cruz, Moss Landing,

Monterey, Morro Bay, and Avila Beach). In addition, recovery of CWTs from the commercial troll fishery, from Crescent City to Avila Beach ports. Assistance is also provided to inland Central Valley hatcheries in recovery of CWTs and scale samples.

Currently, PSMFC hires and supervises the existing field personnel sampling catches at the ocean ports. This project will continue staffing levels at each port checking for adipose fin clips, and removing, labeling, storing, and transporting CWT heads to the Santa Rosa laboratory. Sampling staff are hired and supervised by PSMFC, and receive technical guidance from the CDFW Ocean Salmon Project staff.

Ocean fishery effort and catch will be reported in the Pacific Fishery Management Council's annual preseason documents: Review of Ocean Salmon Fisheries and Preseason Report I: Stock Abundance Analysis and Environmental Assessment Part 1. All CWT data used in the analysis will be made available via the Regional Mark Processing Center for public and agency consumption.

#### Task 4: Coded-wire Tag Processing Laboratory

Assistance with staffing and providing a modernized coded-wire tag processing laboratory, which will meet the Central Valley CWT processing needs. This includes assistance with supervision of the laboratory and coordination of CWT data, managing the CWT database, processing CWTs. All Central Valley Chinook CWTs (60 – 80,000) can be processed each year in a timely manner. Automated equipment will be purchased to streamline the CWT processing.

CWT data will be entered, verified, and submitted on a timely basis to the RMIS system, consistent with standard requirements. Using data from the CWT and age determination program (Task 5), estimation of population parameters and cohort reconstructions will be developed on an annual basis.

Laboratory and data analysis staff will be hired and supervised by PSMFC, and will receive technical guidance from the CDFW Ocean Salmon Project staff.

Annual report that includes the following:

- 1. Estimate of hatchery contribution to ocean fishery by management zone, hatchery source, and juvenile release strategy.
- 2. Estimate of natural contribution to ocean fishery by management zone
- 3. Estimate of hatchery contribution to Central Valley rivers with sampling programs to include, at a minimum, the Sacramento River, Battle Creek, Clear Creek, Feather River, American River, and Stanislaus River. Include hatchery source, and juvenile release strategy.
- 4. Estimate of natural contribution to Central Valley rivers with sampling programs to include, at a minimum, the Sacramento River, Battle Creek, Clear Creek, Feather River, American River, and Stanislaus River.

5. CWT release and recovery data used to produce the annual report will be made available via the Regional Mark Processing Center for public and agency consumption.

### Task 5: Age Determination

The age structure of Central Valley Chinook salmon populations will be determined by scale analysis. Approximately 550 scale samples will be collected and analyzed from each tributary stream, for each Chinook run. Scale preparation and reading will be conducted using optical scanners and computer-aided software to speed reading and allow for the collaboration of readers. Each scale will be read independently by two readers, and a third reader will be used to resolve any disagreement between the two primary readers. The validation of scale-based age determination will be accomplished by using scales of known-age CWT recoveries each year. Statistical methods (Kimura and Chikuni 1987, Cook and Lord 1978, Cook 1983) will then be used to correct for the potential of reader ageing-bias, by correlating known-age CWT scales with their corresponding scale-read age assignments.

Annual report detailing the age structure, of the Chinook populations in the sampled streams. Sample design, sample totals, and age totals will be reported. Estimates of age structure for Central Valley rivers and hatcheries with sampling programs will include, at a minimum, the Sacramento River, Battle Creek, Clear Creek, Feather River, American River, and Stanislaus River. Age structure for the corresponding hatcheries where applicable will be reported.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone
10/01/2017	Work initiated with hatchery contacts
11/01/2017	Tag order placed with Northwest Marine Tech
11/01/2017	Semi – Annual Progress Report
12/01/2017	Staff Hiring Process
02/2018 – 04/2018	Marking/Tagging at Coleman NFH
04/2018 – 06/2018	Marking/Tagging at Nimbus Hatchery
07/2018 – 08/2018	Trailer Maintenance and Report Writing
09/2018	Annual CFM Marking/Tagging Report
10/01/2017 - 09/30/2018	Tag Reading/Scale Ageing (Year-Around)
10/01/2017 - 09/30/2018	Head (Tag) and Scale Collection (All Runs)
04/01/2018 - 09/30/2018	Ocean/Inland Harvest Sampling
11/01/2017	Semi-Annual Progress Report
09/2018	Annual Report

### **Expected FY 2017 Project Cost**

\$1.7 Million; Program is done in cooperation with CDFW (marking trailers, office space, etc.) and additional funding partners (CDWR, EBMUD, USFWS, BuRec, CDFW).)

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

Not specifically, but the California Fish and Game Commission Salmon Policy requires hatchery releases of Chinook salmon to be externally marked and coded wire tagged at the CDFW standard. The current Department standard is 25% of all production releases in anadromous waters.

### Investigator

**Stan Allen** PSMFC

**Reclamation Point of Contact: John Hannon** 

# Sacramento River Basin Salmonid Monitoring (R16AC00149)

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_048

### **Project Description**

Conduct annual Chinook salmon spawning escapement surveys in the Sacramento River Basin (mainstem, Deer Creek, Antelope Creek, Mill Creek, Clear Creek, Battle Creek, Cottonwood Creek, Cow Creek, Bear Creek, and American River) to estimate the abundance and distribution of Chinook salmon spawners.

### **Project Need**

The monitoring activities of this agreement are part of the Reasonable and Prudent Actions (RPA) described by National Marine Fisheries Service in the biological opinion (BiOp) on long-term operations of the CVP and California State Water Project (SWP). To maintain CVP operations, Reclamation must ensure these activities occur in order to comply with the Endangered Species Act.

### **Project Objectives**

The primary objective of this project is to continue to determine the annual abundance and distribution of adult Chinook salmon returning to spawn in the Sacramento River Basin and to assess effectiveness of restoration actions.

### Schedule of Project Milestones (When will data collection, analyses, and reporting elements be completed?)

Date	Milestone
10/01/2017 - 09/30/2018	Adult Chinook Salmon escapement monitoring in the Upper Sacramento River Basin
10/01/2017 - 09/30/2018	Tributary Adult Chinook escapement surveys
10/01/2017 - 09/30/2018	Sacramento River spawning and rearing habitat restoration monitoring program
09/01/2017 - 06/30/2018	American River Chinook Salmon escapement estimation and monitoring
09/30/2018	Annual Survey Reports

Date	Milestone
03/31/2018	Semi-Annual Performance Report and Financial Report
09/30/2018	Semi-Annual Performance Report and Financial Report

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

\$1,106,254. This is a cooperative/partnered project with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

The escapement surveys for winter-run and spring-run Chinook in the Sacramento River, Clear Creek, Mill Creek, Deer Creek, and Battle Creek is a requirement in the 2009 water ops biological opinion, Section 11.2.1.3 Monitoring and Reporting item 8.a. on page 585. The restoration effectiveness monitoring task is a CVPIA funded activity.

### Investigator

**Stan Allen** PSMFC



Reclamation Point(s) of Contact: Joshua Israel, Bay Delta Office, Sacramento CA

# Genetic Identification of Salmonids and Smelt to Inform Central Valley Project Operations and Bay-Delta Monitoring

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_049

### **Project Need**

Average yearly false positive rate for winter run (i.e. calling a fish winter run when it wasn't) at salvage during 1996-2010 was 56%, although error rates varied considerably within a season. For 2011-2014, average yearly false positive rates at the CVP have been 58% - 80%, with rate >85% during recent years of drought. There is reason to believe that observations from salvage may reflect general inaccuracy that would apply to IEP monitoring programs, which collect upwards of 100,000 Chinook Salmon juveniles annually. Further there is indication that identification of spring run in IEP surveys is also problematic (i.e. ~2/3 false positive rate) using length-at-date criteria. These error rates compromise interpretations from compliance monitoring activities regarding listed Chinook Salmon populations.

### **Project Objectives**

The primary objectives of this work is the genetic classification (to race; ESU) of Chinook Salmon captured from SWP and CVP fish protection facilities and IEP monitoring programs during 2018. The population-of-origin is determined for juveniles by comparing their genotypes to reference genetic baselines in order to quantify the number and distribution of true ESA-listed (genetic) winter and spring runs categorized by length-at-date criteria models. The overarching goal of this work is to directly target (and reduce) one source of uncertainty in the estimation of loss for listed Chinook Salmon (but primarily winter run) at South Delta fish salvage facilities and from IEP compliance monitoring. Additionally, this project intends to develop the means to scale (increase) genotyping capacity without dramatically altering current cost projections.

A separate project objective pertains to assisting USBR staff with determining the species of larvae collected as part of USBR activities and deemed ambiguous by USBR staff. Species identification information is relied upon to estimate the effects of project operations, especially in the spring as specified in the USFWS BiOp. Genetic approaches to species identification are intended to reduced labor costs and increase accuracy of USBR species enumeration activities.

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone
December 2017	CVPIA/IEP Genetic Monitoring Methodology
December 2017 – April 2018	Execution of RapidID protocol
September 2018	Completion of CVP/SWP salvage and IEP monitoring programs genetic stock identification results
September 2018	Annual Reporting

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

\$270,385

Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance? If so, Which Specific Requirement?

### Investigator

Scott Blankenship Cramer Fish Sciences Sacramento CA



### **Compliance**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 050

### **Project Description**

Compliance is a 40-foot, 1985 Munson Hammerhead 30 that has been stretched. The Compliance is an aluminum work boat that is powered by twin diesel sterndrives, which provide a cruising speed of about 22 knots and a top speed of about 30 knots. In 2016, the vessel was retrofitted with a gantry frame, wing davits and deck winches to conduct trawling operations. The interior contains dual counters which currently serve as a small wet lab. The aft deck is elevated above the cockpit and extends beyond the transom and over the sterndrives. There is a flying bridge above the pilothouse that provides greater visibility to the operator. An inverter provides 110V AC power for small computers and sampling equipment.

### **Project Need**

Compliance monitoring is a responsibility shared by Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Reclamation. To ensure resiliency of boat based monitoring, Reclamation operates and maintains its own monitoring vessels. Compliance is a smaller, faster and more nimble vessel compared to Reclamation's other vessel (R/V Endeavor). This allows work to be performed in smaller bodies of water and more efficiently.

### **Project Objectives**

The primary objective of Compliance is to provide a complimentary platform to carry out compliance monitoring that is mandated by the State Water Resources Control Board as part of Reclamation's water rights permit.

### **Project Schedule for FY18**

Sacramento Ship Channel Monitoring– Monthly (1 day) Ship Channel Nutrient Experiment – Weekly, June-August

### **Project Costs for FY18**

\$50,000

### **Project Point of Contact**

### Nicolas Sakata

Bureau of Reclamation Bay-Delta Office 801 I St. Suite 140 Sacramento, CA 95814 916-414-2411

nsakata@usbr.gov





### Central Valley Juvenile Salmon and Steelhead Monitoring Project

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_060

### **Project Description**

Monitoring of out-migrant juvenile Sacramento River Chinook salmon and steelhead utilizing rotary screw traps located near Knights Landing, CA on the Sacramento River.

### **Project Need**

Mandates created by the NMFS OCAP BiOp dictate the need for juvenile salmonid monitoring in the upper Sacramento River between Red Bluff Diversion Dam and confluence with the Feather to provide an early warning of increases in emigration rates of listed salmonids out of the upper Sacramento River toward the Sacramento- San Joaquin Delta. This near real-time data and early warning information provided by the program allows for data related triggers for the operation of the DCC. Daily catch data are reported to the Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon Technical Work Group (DOSS), as well as posted on the publically accessible CalFISH website for interested parties. DOSS utilized catch data to advise NMFS, through the Water Operations Management Team (WOMT), of entrainment risk in CVP/SWP export facilities and the data driven management tools/triggers: (1) from October 1 to November 30, if the Knights Landing Catch Index (KLCI) is greater than three juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon per day, within 24 hours the DCC gates will be closed and (2) DCC gates are to be closed from December 1 to December 14, unless the KLCI is less than three juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon per day.

### **Project Objectives**

- Monitor and report the outmigration of juvenile salmonids from the Sacramento River as they move toward the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta on a real-time basis
- Monitor, record and compare movements of emigrating salmonids during specific environmental conditions.
- Estimate emigrating salmonid numbers and composition in the lower Sacramento River above the Delta.
- Examine the influences of Sacramento River flood relief structures on emigrating juvenile salmonids.

### **Schedule of Milestones**

Date	Milestone
06/30/2017	Traps removed from river for maintenance
08/01/2017	Traps positioned on river, monitoring begins
Daily	Catch updates are reported
Bi-weekly	Report summarizing trends in catch and trap operation

### **Project Cost**

\$502,860, Various sources

### **Project Manager/Principle Investigator**

Colin Purdy, CDFW

### **Principal Investigator**

### **Jason Julienne** CDFW



Rotary screw traps located on the Sacramento River near the town of Knights Landing, Ca. (photo by Jason Julienne, CDFW)

### **R/V Endeavor**

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 051

### **Project Description**

R/V Endeavor is a 50-foot, 1973 Delta Marine charter boat. The vessel was acquired by the federal government in 2003 and retrofitted to conduct environmental monitoring in the San Francisco Bay and Delta. Endeavor is primarily used to conduct compliance monitoring under the Interagency Ecological Program's (IEP) Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP). Powered by twin diesel inboards, Endeavor has a cruising speed of 17 knots and a top speed of 25 knots. Endeavor is equipped with a diesel generator, which provides 110V AC power for pumps, climate control, computer systems and sample processing equipment. An onboard hydraulic system provides hydraulic power to an anchor winch, deck crane, and scientific winch.

### **Project Need**

Compliance monitoring is a responsibility shared by Department of Water Resources (DWR) and Reclamation. To ensure resiliency of boat based monitoring, Reclamation operates and maintains its own monitoring vessels. Both agencies have benefitted from the ability to perform scheduled and unscheduled maintenance, while the other agency performs the required monitoring.

### **Project Objectives**

The primary objective of R/V Endeavor is to provide a platform to carry out compliance monitoring that is mandated by the State Water Resources Control Board as part of Reclamation's water rights permit.

### **Project Schedule**

Benthic – Monthly (2 days, except 5 days for May and October) Stockton Dissolved Oxygen – Twice per month (June through November) Water Quality – Backup Vessel (Monthly, 6 days) Maintenance – Fall 2018 (4 months)

### **Project Costs for FY18**

\$450,000

For Fiscal Year 2018 (FY18), in addition to normal O&M costs, Reclamation is anticipating a repower of the Endeavor's engines. They are nearing the end of their service life and due for replacement. While the vessel is out of service, other maintenance to the hull is expected to be performed. Work is scheduled to begin late in FY18.



### **Project Point of Contact**

# Nicolas Sakata Bureau of Reclamation Bay-Delta Office 801 I St. Suite 140 Sacramento, CA 95814 916-414-2411 nsakata@usbr.gov



### **Environmental Monitoring Program**

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 061

### **Project Description**

The Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP) was established in 1971 to collect environmental data for resource management, to better understand estuarine processes, and to document compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Water Right Decision D-1379. The Department of Water Resources (DWR), CA Department of Fish and Wildlife, and the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) are responsible for collecting water quality, chlorophyll, phytoplankton, benthic, and zooplankton samples at fixed locations in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, Suisun Bay, and San Pablo Bay. Two of the program's strengths are continuity and data integration; the EMP is one of the nation's oldest environmental monitoring programs and has compiled over four decades of consistent and comprehensive water quality and biological data.

### **Project Need**

The data collected by the EMP is currently mandated by State Water Resources Control Board's Water Right Decision 1641 (D-1641) for the operation of the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP). D-1641 stipulates that DWR and USBR implement a comprehensive monitoring program to ensure compliance with water quality objectives and standards, which were established to protect the beneficial uses of water in Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and Suisun Marsh.

### **Project Objectives**

- Ensure compliance with State Water Resources Control Board Water Right Decision 1641
- Provide accurate and validated water quality and biological information to managers for real time and adaptive management of the SWP and CVP
- Document and evaluate long term water quality and ecological trends in the San Francisco Estuary
- Detect and document invasive species, such as Microcystis aeruginosa and Potamocorbula amurensis, and conduct specials studies to discern their impact on native species, the food web, and human health

### **Project Cost**

USBR: \$2.08 Million DWR: \$2.16 Million Total: \$4.24 Million



### **Project Manager**

**K. Gehrts** DWR

### **Principle Investigator**

**S. Philippart** DWR



### **Fall Midwater Trawl**

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 062

### **Project Description**

Fall Midwater Trawl Survey (FMWT) sampling began in 1967 to measure the abundance and distribution of age-0 Striped Bass and has since collected similar information on a suite of pelagic fishes including Delta Smelt and Longfin Smelt. Survey staff calculates annual abundance indices based on September through December monthly sampling data collected from San Pablo Bay through the Delta. POD and subsequently FLaSH funding allowed survey sampling to expand into Cache Slough and the Sacramento Deepwater Ship Channel and to add zooplankton sampling and processing (see element # 062). The abundance and distribution data acquired along with other survey data provide means to determine species status and to evaluate the success of various mitigation and restoration projects for benefitting fishes in the estuary. Fish collected are also used to support various research activities (see element #s 062, 296).

### **Project Need**

The FMWT survey is mandated by the Delta Smelt Biological Opinion for the combined operations of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project (USFWS 2008). The survey's catch data provides means to calculate adult Delta Smelt incidental take at the export facilities. The State Water Project Incidental Take Permit for Longfin Smelt requires the FMWT Longfin Smelt abundance index to calculate the incidental take limit for the salvage facilities.

### **Project Objectives**

- To annually measure the abundance and distribution of selected species of pelagic fishes in the estuary.
- To gain understanding of the factors affecting abundance, distribution and survival of pelagic fishes in the estuary.
- To detect introductions of new exotic fish and invertebrates.
- Provide baseline data to evaluate management plans and habitat restoration projects.
- To measure availability of fall planktonic food resources (since 2010).

### **Schedule of Milestones**

List major milestones using this format so people will understand when it will start, when key activities will occur and when results will be available.

Date	Milestone
September	Monthly surveys start and continue through December
Late December	Wrap up data entry and database corrections
Late December to Early January	Calculate and report annual abundance indices
March/April	Submit status and trends article to IEP Newsletter



# R15PG0006 Genetic Analyses of California Salmonid Populations

Task 3: Parentage Based Tagging (PBT) of salmonids in California Hatchery Programs.

### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_052

### **Project Description**

The purpose of this task is to collect genotype data and conduct the genetic analyses necessary to evaluate the genetic pedigree relationships of California salmonid hatchery broodstock. NMFS and Reclamation will use this information to inform hatchery broodstock management, including supporting recovery actions for ESA listed Central Valley salmonids stocks.

### **Project Need**

California hatcheries release a large number of juvenile salmonids every year, and genetic parentage based tagging (PBT) of adult spawners provides critical information about spawner age distribution, inbreeding, the distribution of reproductive success among spawners, migration among Central Valley hatcheries, and other population parameters. The California Hatchery Scientific Review Group recommended PBT as an effective monitoring tool for the management of hatchery broodstock programs.

### **Project Objectives**

- Genotyping and analysis of up to 6,000 samples per year, contingent on ongoing sampling at Central Valley hatcheries by NMFS, CDFW, and FWS staff. Continued broodstock PBT supports Central Valley salmon and steelhead monitoring programs and hatchery broodstock management by identifying hatchery-of-origin and brood year for field caught and hatchery return samples and monitoring inbreeding and migration among Central Valley salmon and steelhead hatcheries.
- Evaluation of genetic data for special hatchery broodstock projects to improve broodstock management in cooperation with agency partners (NMFS, CDFW, FWS, DWR, EBMUD, etc.).

### **Schedule of Project Milestones**

Date	Milestone
09/30/2018	FY17-18 Progress Report
FY15-19, ongoing	Ongoing PBT analysis
FY15-19, ongoing	Review and advise broodstock management

### **Expected FY 2018 Project Cost**

• FY18 as budgeted: \$209,165.81

• Modified FY18-FY19 request: \$374,606.59

### Is This Project for a CVP/SWP Biological Opinion or Water Right Decision Compliance?

Yes. The BiOp on the CVP/SWP regarding evaluation of RPA actions for broodstock management practices and reintroduction of steelhead and Sacramento River spring-run Chinook salmon above Shasta and Nimbus Dams, as well as other RPA recovery efforts.

### Investigator

**Dr. Devon Pearse** NMFS/SWFSC/FED devon.pearse@noaa.gov



# Juvenile Salmon Emigration Real Time Monitoring

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18\_063

#### **Project Description**

Beach seining and surface trawling 3 days/week from October 1st to January 31st near Sacramento to detect the arrival of older juvenile Chinook Salmon entering the Delta.

#### **Project Need**

This monitoring is mandated by (1) the State Water Resources Control Board Water Quality Control Plan and (2) the National Marine Fisheries Service's RPA proposed by the 2009 biological opinion and conference opinion on the long-term operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. Monitoring data are used to inform Delta Cross Channel Gate closure decisions from October 1st to December 15th to minimize the diversion and mortality of emigrating juvenile winter-run sized Chinook Salmon. These data also were and will continue to be used to inform biological opinions, and drought operations planning decisions.

#### **Project Objectives**

- Provide data for Delta Cross-channel Gate operational triggers.
- Inform the Real-Time Drought Operations Management Team.

#### Schedule of Milestones

Date	Milestone
January 2016	Completed real time monitoring



## **Project Cost**

DWR: \$111,187 USBR: \$88,472 Total: \$199,659

# **Project Manager**

Julie Day USFWS julie\_day@fws.gov

# **Juvenile Salmon Monitoring**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 064

#### **Project Description**

Year-round beach seining throughout the San Francisco Estuary and surface trawling at Chipps Island, Sacramento, and Mossdale to monitor the relative abundance and distribution (spatial and temporal) of juvenile Chinook Salmon and other native species in the Central Valley of California.

#### **Project Need**

This monitoring is mandated by the National Marine Fisheries Service's 2009 biological opinion and conference opinion on the long-term operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project.

### **Project Objectives**

- Determine the status and trends of juvenile Chinook Salmon in the San Francisco Estuary.
- Examine factors influencing the status and trends of juvenile Chinook Salmon.
- Inform biological opinions, drought operations, and management action assessments.

#### **Schedule of Milestones**

Date	Milestone
May 2016	Beach Seine Efficiency Study Report Completed
September 2016	FY16 Field year completed
June 2017	2014-2015 Draft Annual Report Completed



## **Project Cost**

DWR: \$1,816,971 USBR: \$1,445,602 Total: \$3,262,573

# **Project Manager**

Julie Day USFWS julie\_day@fws.gov



# Coleman Hatchery Late Fall Chinook Tagging

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 065

#### **Project Description**

Hatchery produced late fall-run Chinook Salmon and naturally produced endangered winter-run Chinook salmon overlap in size significantly. To prevent taking winter-run, monitoring programs and Federal and State pumping facilities must able to differentiate between the two races.

Approximately 1,100,000 late fall-run Chinook Salmon are marked and tagged each year. The coded wire tags are purchased by the USBR and tagging and marking operations are conducted at the Coleman National Fish Hatchery by USFWS personnel or by sub-contractors. Contract costs are for the actual tagging of the fish. Operations costs include operational oversight and recovery of tags from adults at the hatchery.

## **Project Need**

Tagging is mandated under the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) 2009 RPA with 2011 amendments (Action IV.3). Recovery of tagged late fall-run Chinook Salmon is also part of the spring-run recovery plan.

- Use hatchery origin late fall chinook salmon as surrogates to determine take of winter-run Chinook Salmon at Delta pumping plants
- Provide pumping facilities and monitoring programs a way to differentiate between natural produced winter run and hatchery produced late-fall run Chinook Salmon
- Inform biological opinions and management action assessments.



N/A

## **Project Cost**

USBR: 1.1 Million Tags: \$100,200 (purchased directly)

DWR: Tag Application: \$58,300

DWR: Tag Recovery: \$69,377 Total: \$227,877

## **Project Manager**

Julie Day USFWS julie\_day@fws.gov

## **Principal Investigator**

Kevin Niemela USFWS Kevin Niemela@fws.gov



# **Mossdale Spring Trawl**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 066

#### **Project Description**

This project is a long term San Joaquin River basin juvenile Chinook salmon monitoring using a trawl net. The project samples on San Joaquin River near Mossdale County Park.

#### **Project Need**

This project needs to identify annual juvenile Chinook salmon production in the San Joaquin River Basin. This project is mandated by National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion and Conference Opinion on the Long-Term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project RPA 11.2.1.3. This project also provides data to the San Joaquin River Basin salmon life model refinement.

### **Project Objectives**

- What is the annual juvenile Chinook salmon production in the San Joaquin River Basin?
- How do water quantity and quality conditions affect smolt production trends?
- To determine *Oncorhynchus mykiss* passage at Mossdale trawl.

#### **Schedule of Milestones**

- List major milestones using this format so people will understand when it will start, when key activities will occur and when results will be available.
- Project starts the first week of April and ends the last week of June every year.
- Draft technical report is generated within 18 months



Kodiak trawl sampling at Mossdale

# **Project Cost**

\$340,000

## **Project Manager**

**Dean Marston**CDFW

## **Principal Investigator**

Steve Tsao CDFW



# **Spring Kodiak Trawl**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 067

#### **Project Description**

The Spring Kodiak Trawl (SKT) began in 2002 and is designed to provide information on the distribution of pre-spawning and spawning Delta Smelt to improve our ability to detect adult Delta Smelt, obtain maturity status data, and provide results on a near "real-time" basis to assist in water management and export decisions.

## **Project Need**

The survey is designed to determine pre-spawning and spawning distribution of adult Delta Smelt in relation to the CVP and SWP water export facilities. As specified in the 2008 Delta Smelt Biological Opinion (BO) for the operation of the SWP and the CVP real-time distributional information is used to implement RPA Component 1 Actions 1 and 2 to protect pre-spawning adult Delta Smelt from entrainment and loss related to water operations. This data is then used to adaptively water exports and flows to protect these fish and their rearing habitat. Due to its superiority in sampling efficiency to the earlier Fall Midwater Survey, the early results of the SKT are also been used by USFWS to help estimate the absolute abundance of adult Delta Smelt at extremely low population levels.

- Determines the distribution of maturing Delta Smelt during the period of December through May
- Evaluates the sexual maturation of Delta Smelt during this period and detects the start of spawning migration
- Reports current relative abundance compared to historical annual abundances



Employee taking a survey for the Spring Kodiak Trawl

Every month between December through May field surveys will be conducted and field results will be reported during that same week to the Smelt Working Group after the field sampling are concluded. Shortly afterwards, raw and calculated data will be uploaded to the CDFW Region 3's SKT Survey web page. A memo describing the annual abundance index will be prepared and distributed by early June. By the end of the calendar year a draft survey summary article will be submitted to the Editor of the IEP newsletter for publication.

## **Project Cost**

\$0.42 Million, DWR & USBR

## **Project Manager**

Marty Gingras; CDFW

## **Principal Investigator**

Robert Fujimura; CDFW



# **Summer Townet Survey**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 068

#### **Project Description**

Summer Townet Survey (STN) is a long-term effort to monitor young pelagic fishes in the upper San Francisco Estuary. Since 1959, STN has sampled fixed locations from eastern San Pablo Bay to Rio Vista on the Sacramento River, and to Stockton on the San Joaquin River; and a single station in the lower Napa River. The study area was expanded in 2011 to include the Sacramento Deep Water Ship Chanel and Cache Slough. Currently, 40 stations are sampled every other week June through August using a conical, fixed-frame net, which is pulled obliquely through the water column 2 to 3 times at each station. Data collected at 31 stations are used to calculate annual relative abundance indices for age-0 Striped Bass (*Morone saxatilis*) and Delta Smelt (*Hypomesus transpacificus*). The remaining 8 stations are sampled to increase our understanding of juvenile fish abundance and distribution in the lower Napa River and the north Delta. In 2005, STN added a zooplankton net to assess fish food resources at each station. A subset of the fish collected are retained for diet analysis by CDFW researchers. The STN also measures water temperature, water clarity and specific conductivity. Managers and researchers use the data collected by STN to inform decisions and improve our understanding of the health of the upper San Francisco Estuary.

### **Project Need**

This project is mandated by the 2008 Delta Smelt biological opinion for the combined operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project. While the original intent was to monitor the population of age-0 Striped Bass throughout the upper San Francisco Estuary, its scope has broadened to include other species of fish such as Delta Smelt (which is listed as threatened under the federal and state endangered species acts) and the food resources they rely upon.

- Measure annual abundance of selected age-0 fish
- Measure factors affecting abundance and distribution of age-0 Striped Bass, Delta Smelt and other fish in the estuary
- Measure availability of summer planktonic food resources
- Examine summer diets of young Striped Bass, Delta Smelt, and other pelagic fishes

List major milestones using this format so people will understand when it will start, when key activities will occur and when results will be available.

Date	Milestone
June	Sampling begins and is conducted every other week through August
July	Annual index of relative abundance is calculated for Delta Smelt and released to the public
August	Annual index of relative abundance is calculated for age-0 Striped Bass and released to the public
September	Data is made available on the STN webpage

## **Project Cost**

\$325,500 California Department of Water Resources \$319,500 United States Bureau of Reclamation

# **Operation of Thermograph Stations**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 069

#### **Project Description**

The purpose of this portion of the project is to provide continuous information on the temperature and sediment regimes in the rivers in order to evaluate effects on the restoration of native species fisheries, amphibians and other aspects of the aquatic ecosystem. And better understand the transition from cold water to warm water regimes and how flow magnitude interacts to control the transition.

#### **Project Need**

This portion of the I.E.P. is to help evaluate effects of temperature and sediment on fisheries, amphibians and other aspects of the aquatic ecosystem and better understand the transition from cold water to warm water regimes and how flow and changes in sediment interact to control the transition.

## **Project Objectives**

- Provide accurate continuous temperature readings.
- Provide data regarding sediment loading.

#### Schedule of Milestones

List major milestones using this format so people will understand when it will start, when key activities will occur and when results will be available.

Date	Milestone
October 1, 2016	Start of 2017 Water Year data collection
April 1, 2018	Approval of 2017 Water Year Data

## **Project Cost**

\$54,800 USGS, DWR

# **Project Manager**

**Paul A. Work, Ph.D., P.E.** USGS

# **Principal Investigator**

**Armando R. Robledo** USGS



# **Tidal Wetland Monitoring Study**

#### **Fact Sheet Number**

FY18 070

#### **Project Description**

The CDFW Fish Restoration Program will collect fish and invertebrate data near existing and planned tidal wetlands. These data will provide information on how fish and invertebrate communities change pre-/post-restoration. While collecting these data, the variability of invertebrate catches will be assessed for each gear type to determine the optimal number of samples per sampling site. Additionally, methods of assessing the efficiency of fish sampling gears will be compared in 2018.

### **Project Need**

Under the 2008 State Water Project/Central Valley Project Joint Operations Biological Opinion from United States Fish and Wildlife Service, 2009 National Marine Fisheries Service, and 2009 State Water Project Incidental Take Permit, Department of Water Resources (DWR) is required to restore 8,000 acres of tidal wetlands in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) and Suisun Marsh to improve habitat and food web resources for threatened fishes. The Fish Restoration Program is responsible for biological monitoring in these restored tidal habitats to assess their success for providing benefits for at-risk native fishes. Pre-project monitoring data allows project managers to evaluate the effectiveness of tidal wetland restoration projects.

- 1. Determine the extent to which long-term IEP sampling reflects conditions in nearby shallow- water and wetland habitats.
- 2. Determine whether gear efficiency evaluations are feasible using new sampling technology (i.e. ARIS sonar).
- 3. Determine the level of spatial and temporal replication necessary to make sampling design recommendations for long-term monitoring.
- 4. Continue developing a baseline of biomass, community composition, and fish condition for fish and invertebrates near planned tidal restoration and comparison sites. This will allow us to make pre-and-post-restoration comparisons for evaluating restoration progress.

Date	Milestone
February, 2018	Project sampling begins
December, 2018	Project sampling ends
July, 2019	Report finalized

## **Project Cost**

\$600,000

## **Project Manager**

# **Stacy Sherman**California Department of Fish and Wildlife (209) 234-3687

## **Principle Investigator**

# **Dave Contreras**California Department of Fish and Wildlife (209) 234-3459

