



Delta Science Program

DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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July 26, 2023

Ted Craddock, State Water Project Deputy Director
California Department of Water Resources
1416 Ninth St, P.O. Box 942836
Sacramento, CA 94236

Delivered via email: Ted.Craddock@water.ca.gov

RE: Independent Peer Review of the State Water Project Delivery Capability Report, Part 1

Dear Mr. Craddock:

The Delta Science Program is pleased to present the enclosed independent reviews of the State Water Project Delivery Capability Report (DCR). The transmittal of these reviews fulfills, in part, a request from the Department of Water Resources to facilitate an independent peer review of the data and methods used for the DCR. As requested, this review is being conducted in two parts: part one is about adjusting historic hydrology to account for non-stationarity due to climate change, and part two is about using new risk-informed climate change scenarios to plan future delivery capabilities. The enclosed reviews are from part one. Reviews from part two are anticipated to be available in October 2023.

Overall, the reviewers agreed that the new method is an improvement over the previous method, and the data and analyses are sound. However, the analyses could be presented more clearly to make a stronger argument for why this change helps us better prepare for climate resilience. The reviewers also offered several specific suggestions for further improvements to make in future iterations of the DCR, particularly as more data become available.

Regarding Review of the SWP-DCR Part 1, Ted Craddock, July 26, 2023

The independent review panel consists of Dr. Daniel Feldman (Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory), Dr. Jonathan Herman (UC Davis), and Dr. L. Ruby Leung (Pacific Northwest National Laboratory). These reviewers were selected for their expertise and reputations in hydrologic modeling, climate modeling, water resources planning, and California water operations. The same three experts will be reviewing part two.

The enclosed review letters will be publicly available at <https://deltacouncil.ca.gov/delta-science-program/delivery-capacity-report-independent-scientific-review>.

If you have any questions about the independent review letters or the review process, please contact Dr. Jill Harris, Senior Environmental Scientist, Delta Science Program at (916) 902-6576 or Jill.Harris@deltacouncil.ca.gov.

Sincerely,



Laurel Larsen, Ph.D.
Lead Scientist, Delta Science Program
Delta Stewardship Council

Enclosures:

- Independent Peer Review of the State Water Project Delivery – Capability Report, prepared by Dr. Daniel Feldman
- Independent Peer Review of the State Water Project Delivery – Capability Report, prepared by Dr. Jon Herman
- Independent Peer Review of the State Water Project Delivery – Capability Report, prepared by Dr. L. Ruby Leung

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