



United States Department of the Interior



BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
Bay-Delta Office
801 I Street, Room 140
Sacramento, California 95814

IN REPLY REFER TO:

BDO-100
2.2.1.06

Dr. Laurel Larsen
Delta Lead Scientist, Delta Science Program
Delta Stewardship Council
715 P Street, 15-300
Sacramento, CA 95814

Request for Independent Peer Review for 2021 Reinitiation of Consultation of the Long-term Operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project: Review Draft Fish and Aquatic Effects Analysis Independent Peer Review

Dear Dr. Larsen:

The Bureau of Reclamation requests the Delta Science Program's (DSP) assistance in conducting an external independent peer review on the subject topic.

The 2021 Reinitiation of Consultation of the Long-Term Operation (LTO) of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project will result in a draft Biological Assessment in 2023. The LTO Fish and Aquatic Effects Analysis is a portion of that Biological Assessment and includes numerous technical appendices, literature, models, and tools to evaluate the Proposed Action's potential effects on aquatic resources. The Draft LTO Fish and Aquatic Effects Analysis: (1) systematically evaluates the potential effects and outcome of the Proposed Action on specific life stages of species, (2) assesses the population-level consequences of the Proposed Action on Endangered Species Act (ESA)-listed populations, and (3) support our ESA consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and the National Marine Fisheries Service.

Reclamation would like to use the DSP's established independent scientific peer review and advice processes to evaluate the adequacy and relevance of the LTO Fish and Aquatic Effects Analysis. We would like this review to evaluate the analytical approach for aquatic environment effects on the exposure, response, and risk to listed individuals, populations, and diversity groups of target species resulting from the Proposed Action, and whether quantitative and qualitative methods and risk assessment tools are used appropriately.

If you have any questions regarding this request, please contact Dr. Joshua Israel at jaisrael@usbr.gov or 916-296-8792.

Sincerely,

Original signed by David M. Mooney

David M. Mooney
Manager, Bay Delta Office

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* PARTIAL