DELTA STEWARDSHIP COUNCIL

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October 5, 2015

Frances Brewster
CAMT Co-chair
Santa Clara Valley Water District
5750 Almaden Expressway
San Jose, CA 95118

Leo Winternitz
CAMT Co-chair
GEI Consultants
2868 Prospect Park Drive, #400
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670

Re: Report of the Delta Science Program Independent Review Panel on CAMT Proposed Investigations on the Delta Smelt Fall Outflow

Dear Mrs. Brewster and Mr. Winternitz:

The Delta Science Program is pleased to provide the enclosed review report titled "***Independent Review Panel (IRP) Report of the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT) Proposed Investigations on Characterization of Relations between Autumn Outflow and Survival, Recruitment, and Habitat Quality for Delta smelt (Hypomesus transpacificus), Collaborative Adaptive Management Team Work Element 3-1-3***". The transmittal of this report fulfills a request from the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT) Delta Smelt Scoping Team (DSST) to provide an independent external review of the proposed "*Characterization of relations between autumn outflow and survival, recruitment, and habitat quality for delta smelt (Hypomesus transpacificus)".*

The overall goal of this peer review was to inform the CAMT on the scientific quality of the proposed work and to respond to the review charge questions. The review provides general recommendations such as prioritization of proposal goals and consideration of movements in terms of tidal 'surfing' processes, as well as specific suggestions on simulation of environmental covariates, modeling abundance, survival and recruitment, detecting collinearity among covariates, and regions designation.

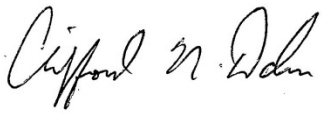
The independent review panel consisted of Dr. James J. Anderson (Lead Author), Dr. James A. Gore, Dr. Robert T. Leaf, Dr. Mary C. Fabrizio, and Dr. Charles Yackulic. These science experts were selected for their expertise and reputation in the fields of fisheries ecology, population dynamics, estuarine ecology and environmental statistics.

Detailed information on this and other reviews conducted by the Delta Science Program can be found on the Delta Science Program website. The Delta Science Program was pleased to assist in

the process of evaluating the scientific integrity and quality of the directed research investigation under the CAMT process.

If there are questions about the review, IRP report or the overall process, please contact Martina Koller, Senior Environmental Scientist, Delta Science Program, at (916) 445-5838.

Sincerely,



Cliff Dahm, Ph.D.
Lead Scientist, Delta Science Program
Delta Stewardship Council

Enclosure

Cc: Paul R. Brown, CAMT Facilitator, Paul Redvers Brown Inc.

Bruce DiGennaro, CAMT DSST Facilitator, Consultant, The Essex Partnership