



FEB 03 2014

Dr. Peter Goodwin  
Delta Science Program  
Delta Stewardship Council  
980 Ninth Street, Suite 1450  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Response to the Delta Science Program and Independent Review Panel Report  
From the 2013 Annual Review of the Long-Term Operation Biological  
Opinions

Dear Dr. Goodwin:

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service), and the Bureau of Reclamation, collectively the Federal Agencies, appreciate the Delta Science Program (DSP) and Independent Review Panel's (IRP) participation in the 2013 annual review. The annual review is a critical component of adaptive management within NMFS' reasonable and prudent alternative (RPA) for the 2009 Biological Opinion on the Coordinated Long-term Operation of the Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP). Additionally, under direction from the Secretaries of Commerce and Interior, the annual review was expanded to include a review of the implementation of the Service's 2008 Biological Opinion on the Coordinated Operation of the CVP and SWP.

The Federal Agencies appreciate the specificity and detail of the analyses and feedback received this year, as well as DSP's leadership and constructive role in facilitating the annual review. We will begin working with staff in the coming months to evaluate opportunities to incorporate the IRP's feedback and recommendations.

Thank you again for your participation in the 2013 annual review. We look forward to reporting on our continued progress of implementing RPA actions in 2014. If you have any questions regarding this letter, please contact Garwin Yip (NMFS) at 916-930-3611, or via e-mail at [garwin.yip@noaa.gov](mailto:garwin.yip@noaa.gov); Kim Turner (Service) at 916-930-5604, or via

e-mail at [kim\\_s\\_turner@fws.gov](mailto:kim_s_turner@fws.gov); or Traci Michel (Reclamation) at 916-414-2420, or via e-mail at [tmichel@usbr.gov](mailto:tmichel@usbr.gov).

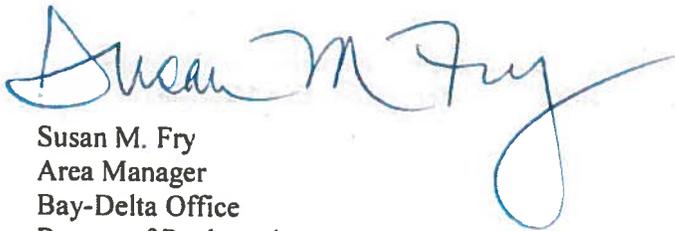
Sincerely,



Maria C. Rea  
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National Marine Fisheries Service



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Field Supervisor  
Bay-Delta Fish and Wildlife Office  
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Susan M. Fry  
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