

Delta Independent Science Board Educational Briefing Questionnaire

Please provide short written responses to the following:

1. Program Title: Juvenile salmon survival studies
2. Lead Agency/Department for Program: USFWS Stockton Fish and Wildlife Office
3. Brief Description of Program: Assess survival of juvenile salmon and test hypotheses affecting survival through the Delta using acoustic and coded wire tags.
4. Purpose and Objectives of Program: To estimate juvenile salmon survival (and at times steelhead) in the and through the Delta to assess the effects of various operations such as CVPIA b2 environmental water releases. (VAMP, Delta Action 8 (DA8), Delta Cross Channel operations).
5. Timeline for Program Objectives: VAMP ended in 2011, DA 8 studies ended in 2009-2010 due to lack of funding but will be further analyzed by Russ Perry/Pat Brandes during their Delta Science Program project. We will also be working closely in partnership with Reclamation to conduct the 6 year acoustic steelhead study in the south Delta and a possible surrogate salmon release.
6. Current Status of Program: The Program, with the exception of implementing the 6 year steelhead acoustic study, is currently not supported to continue juvenile salmon survival studies. This Program will undergo a Program review as part of the IEP review of the Delta Juvenile Fish Monitoring Program review in 2012.
7. Contact Information for Lead Staff of this Program:

Name	Patricia Brandes
Title	Fish Biologist
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8. Associated Total Annual Budget for Program: highly variable
9. URL, if a Website is Available: www.fws.gov/stockton
10. How does adaptive management play a role in your program? The results of the juvenile survival studies can and should be used to inform activities that would propose to alter conditions and /or operations in the adaptive management context ie. highlight appropriate hypotheses and approaches to further improve outcomes. Though many have committed to adaptive management concepts using the data from these programs, our experience does not reflect successful implementation.
11. Any additional information that would be helpful to understand the program: A commitment to long-term funding is needed to assure a comprehensive monitoring and research program to assess juvenile salmon survival in and through the Delta.

Thank you very much for taking the time to respond to this questionnaire. Please return your completed questionnaire to Gina Ford (gina.ford@deltacouncil.ca.gov) no later than October 6, 2011.