

The purpose of this project is to re-examine historical and on-going studies involving the release and recovery of juvenile Chinook hatchery salmon in the Delta to determine what has been or can be learned about the impacts of water projects on juvenile salmon survival. This question directly relates to the scientific topics and general CALFED Bay-Delta Program management questions identified in this solicitation by obtaining and applying information on the direct and indirect effects of the CVP and SWP Diversion on at-risk species (salmon). It also would identify weakness in the existing monitoring and assessment programs and identify how they could be improved. The USFWS would be the lead agency and hire a technical expert to review four coded wire tag experiments used to manage water project operations in the Delta for juvenile salmon. The technical expert would review the relevant literature, review study designs, conduct power analyses, review data and results, evaluate statistical methods and interpretation and suggest and evaluate alternatives if appropriate. The technical expert will meet with the lead investigator to assure a thorough and efficient review of these programs. A report of the results will be written up and provided to CALFED Science, the new EWA Panel, the SWRCB, the VAMP technical group and other interested parties. The results will be used to modify or support the experiments that presently are being used to evaluate water project affects on juvenile salmon survival. The hypothesis of the overall project is that the analyses to date is correct, and that the open cross channel, high exports, lower flows in the San Joaquin river and diversion into upper Old River decrease juvenile salmon survival through the Delta. This work will be conducted out of the Stockton USFWS office. The expected outcome would be a thorough review, with suggestions for improvement in the methods used to date. The cost of total project is \$83,100.

Give additional comments, information, etc. here.

Cost share for the USFWS's principal investigator's time is approximately \$3000.