

Winter-Run Chinook Salmon Annual Loss Public Input

Received December 2, 2025

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the Winter Run Salmon Annual Loss.

I am a concerned 81 year old fisherman and conservationist, not a scientist. My personal observations and conclusions have come from living my entire life in the San Francisco Bay Area and the past 43 years in the West Delta. I have been involved in fishing organizations, environmental ngos and have obtained direct knowledge from leading scientists from UC Davis.

I hope my comments and observations are taken into consideration.

1. Too much consideration is given to the impact of the operation of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project trying to protect Winter Run Salmon. The survival of our iconic salmon should take precedence over nut trees in the desert. Extinction is forever and I doubt if those orchards are in danger of becoming extinct.

It has been known for decades that the operation of the export facilities have killed this natural resource by not maintaining a cold water pool to protect them in all stages of their spawning cycle and protecting the Alevin, Fry, Parr and Smolt stages of their progeny.

Incidental take permits are not enforced and need to be at both ends CVP and SWP. No exceptions.

2. The Delta Plan must be implemented and enforced. Inadequate flows have put the entire Delta ecosystem at risk. Pollutants, algae blooms, and salinity intrusion are destroying the very things that are most cherished in the Delta including the 7 threatened or endangered native fish species in the Delta.

3. Winter Run Salmon are important and are essentially a small part of the whole problem existing in the Delta. Lack of flows are silting up our inverted Delta and freshwater needs to flow out the Golden Gate to the sea.

4. Consideration of stressors needs to be addressed. Some predators need to be controlled especially sea lions that have come into the Delta in large numbers to feed on the remaining salmon and steelhead stocks. The largest predator in the Delta remains the export pumps.

Thank you for taking the time to read my concerns.