5.D.3.1.1 Model Structure

The IOS Model is composed of six model stages defined by a specific spatiotemporal context and are arranged sequentially to account for the entire life cycle of winter-run Chinook salmon, from eggs to returning spawners (Figure 5.D-135). In sequential order, the IOS Model stages are listed below.

- 1. Spawning, which models the number and temporal distribution of eggs deposited in the gravel at the spawning grounds in the upper Sacramento River between Red Bluff Diversion Dam and Keswick Dam.
- 2. Early Development, which models the effect of temperature on maturation timing and mortality of eggs at the spawning grounds.
- 3. Fry Rearing, which models the relationship between temperature and mortality of fry during the river rearing period in the upper Sacramento River between Red Bluff Diversion Dam and Keswick Dam.
- 4. River Migration, which estimates mortality of migrating smolts in the Sacramento River between the spawning and rearing grounds and the Delta.
- 5. Delta Passage, which models the effect of flow, route selection, and water exports on the survival of smolts migrating through the Delta to San Francisco Bay.
- 6. Ocean Survival, which estimates the effect of natural mortality and ocean harvest to predict survival and spawning returns by age.