

**From:** Collins,Alison L  
**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2019 11:23 AM  
**To:** Amanda Cranford - NOAA Federal; mbeakes@usbr.gov; Joshua Israel (jaisrael@usbr.gov); Mario Manzo  
**Subject:** RE: ROC Steelhead Protections  
**Attachments:** MWD\_WCB\_Prop1Proposal.pdf

Sounds like a great opportunity, thank you for including me in the discussion.

As a strawman here is some short language:

Objective for a steelhead monitoring program: Protection for out-migrating steelhead on the San Joaquin River

Criteria: Implement a steelhead lifecycle monitoring program for in San Joaquin basin tributaries and on the mainstem of the San Joaquin River. This program would add a permanent monitoring station on the mainstem of the San Joaquin River that is integrated with export and salvage monitoring to better identify timing and abundance of steelhead entering the Delta and timing of salvage at the SWP-CVP facilities.

Scientific rational: There is little information available regarding abundance, distribution, and timing of outmigration and escapement of steelhead in the San Joaquin Basin. A monitoring station would count the number of juvenile steelhead leaving the San Joaquin Basin, determine the timing and conditions under which steelhead migrate into the Delta, and collect information on the condition of fish during outmigration. This new information would support future management actions.

Also, attached is the proposal we put together to for a WCB Prop 1, submitted 2016. The proposal is long and formatted for the application process but this could be used as a potential starting point as we developed this collaboratively and spent much time discussing with state and federal fishery agencies and I am more than welcome to discussing refinements. For a quick summary, this proposed to leverage efforts by CDFW on the Sacramento River to jump-start a program on the SJR. The goal of this project was to deliver a steelhead life-cycle monitoring station infrastructure and a structured decision making (SDM) framework for assessing alternative enhanced stream flow actions that contribute to the recovery of threatened steelhead populations in the San Joaquin Basin. To accomplish this, a scientific technical team of San Joaquin Basin stakeholders will 1) design and deploy infrastructure to support a functioning life-cycle monitoring station for quantifying and evaluating alternative stream flow enhancement actions as well actions related to habitat restoration, and/or water export restrictions; and 2) develop a SDM framework that facilitates adaptive management of stream flow enhancement actions that contribute to recovery of San Joaquin Basin steelhead populations. This multi-stakeholder group will be comprised of technical staff from state and federal agencies, water districts, and non-governmental organizations. An adaptive management facilitator will lead the technical team in setting management objectives, identifying concerns, and collaborating in a design charrette to plan the infrastructure of the life-cycle monitoring station. The life-cycle monitoring station will be deployed in the field over four different sampling seasons and will be tested and refined to ensure that the data generated is sufficient to meet the objectives set by the technical team. At the end of each sampling season the technical team will review what objectives were met, what were not, and what lessons can be applied to the upcoming sampling season. The life-cycle monitoring station will produce data that compliments existing monitoring and recovery efforts, including the Scientific Evaluation Process (SEP), and the Science Integration Team (SIT) which need San Joaquin steelhead data to monitor biological goals of the State Water Board's San Joaquin River flow objectives and to develop life-cycle models for prioritizing Central Valley Improvement Act (CVPIA 1992) restoration actions, respectively. In addition, this proposal, in collaboration with CDFW, will be vital in jump-starting a robust life-

cycle monitoring station in the San Joaquin Basin that will complement CDFWs efforts to develop a system-wide Central Valley Steelhead Monitoring Program (Fortier et al. 2014). The need for improved San Joaquin River steelhead data was widely recognized, as evidenced by letters supporting our proposal from state and federal regulatory agencies (CDFW, USFWS, NMFS), water users (EBMUD, SFCWA, SWC), and non-governmental organizations (TU and TNC).

Looking forward to the discussion,  
Alison

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**From:** Amanda Cranford - NOAA Federal [mailto:[amanda.cranford@noaa.gov](mailto:amanda.cranford@noaa.gov)]

**Sent:** Tuesday, June 11, 2019 10:58 AM

**To:** [mbeakes@usbr.gov](mailto:mbeakes@usbr.gov); Joshua Israel ([jaisrael@usbr.gov](mailto:jaisrael@usbr.gov)) <[jaisrael@usbr.gov](mailto:jaisrael@usbr.gov)>; Collins, Alison L

<[ACollins@mwdh2o.com](mailto:ACollins@mwdh2o.com)>; Mario Manzo <[mmanzo@usbr.gov](mailto:mmanzo@usbr.gov)>

**Subject:** Re: ROC Steelhead Protections

Good morning folks,

Per Howard's email, I have been tasked with setting up a call to discuss potential San Joaquin steelhead monitoring/research needs. Given this request is on an expedited timeline, please provide your availability for a 1-hour call this afternoon anytime between 1:00pm - 5:00pm. Once I have a time that works for everyone, I will provide a calendar invite and call-in number.

Thank you,

Amanda

On Tue, Jun 11, 2019 at 10:34 AM Howard Brown - NOAA Federal <[howard.brown@noaa.gov](mailto:howard.brown@noaa.gov)> wrote:

Amanda, Alison, Josh and Maria,

During a 3-agency Director meeting yesterday we had a good discussion about putting together some SJ steelhead monitoring concepts for Reclamation to include as part of the proposed action. As Dave describes below, the ultimate goal is to support actions that would improve through Delta survival for SJ basin steelhead. I've asked Amanda Cranford to set up a call with all of you to put together a brief proposal. I agree with Dave that continuing the 6-year acoustic study is a good starting point but please don't feel constrained by that alone. We will need a proposal by today or tomorrow at the latest in order to fold it into the consultation schedule.

Thanks for your help on this!

Howard

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Mooney, David** <[dmmooney@usbr.gov](mailto:dmmooney@usbr.gov)>

Date: Mon, Jun 10, 2019 at 3:03 PM

Subject: ROC Steelhead Protections

To: Beakes, Michael <[mbeakes@usbr.gov](mailto:mbeakes@usbr.gov)>

Cc: Joshua Israel <[jaisrael@usbr.gov](mailto:jaisrael@usbr.gov)>, Mario Manzo <[mmanzo@usbr.gov](mailto:mmanzo@usbr.gov)>, Howard Brown <[howard.brown@noaa.gov](mailto:howard.brown@noaa.gov)>

Mike,

Howard (cc'd) should be reaching out to you shortly to setup a meeting for an addition to ROC actions. I think this would first include looking at continuing the 6-year steelhead study and related modifications. We would look at other indicators that we are at risk of salvage. Don't limit your creativity though. The goal is to get more San Joaquin Steelhead juveniles past Chipps Island.

Thanks.

Dave

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**Howard L. Brown**

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