

Collaborative Action Planning

As part of the Proposed Action, Reclamation will pursue and implement a Collaborative Action Plan with the goal of implementing actions and pursuing science and monitoring at a similar level of effort to that carried out by the 2016 CVPIA Implementation Plan for Fish Programs, and other Reclamation budgetary sources that support science and monitoring. The CVPIA develops an annual process for setting priorities and funding projects across CVPIA fish-related provisions and watersheds in the Central Valley. The process uses an Adaptive Resource Management (ARM) approach with support from Decision-Support Models (DSMs) to prioritize implementation of management actions that have the highest probability of achieving biological objectives for naturally produced populations of native anadromous fish. The ARM approach will also guide plans for monitoring and research by synthesizing existing monitoring data, annually updating DSMs using new information, and estimating the value of new information to the decision making process. Reclamation currently provides funding for science and monitoring through a series of contracts and mechanisms related to the CVPIA ARM decision process, as well as other processes in IEP, CAMT/CSAMP, Sacramento River Partnership, Delta Science Program and DPICC and other related science efforts.

Reclamation will convene an annual Directors level Collaborative Action Planning meeting with NMFS, DWR, DFW and FWS to align collaborative planning actions (including restoration, monitoring and research actions) and to discuss strategies for collectively influencing the likelihood that priority restoration, monitoring and research actions and their beneficial effects will be funded and implemented.

The actions described here are examples of collaborative planning efforts that are being undertaken to provide beneficial habitat conditions to support the proposed action. Some of the actions are already underway and partially funded, some have involvement of DWR, FWS and/or other agencies and partners, others are in various stages of planning with the goal of providing benefits for salmon and steelhead within the reasonably foreseeable future.

Reclamation and/or DWR agree to track, champion, sponsor, and implement these projects as necessary to ensure completion, similar to other efforts to group restoration projects, such as ECO-restore, or those projects listed in CA's salmon resiliency strategy. NMFS understands and expects that these projects will be partially or wholly funded by public funding sources such as the CVPIA program, the PCSRF/FRGP NOAA funds for salmon recovery and or State bond funds (e.g. Prop 1) in addition to PWA funds and other non-state and federal sources. NMFS further understands that each of these funding programs have their own processes, and expects Reclamation, DWR and local sponsors to compete for these funds. Furthermore, NMFS understands that Public Water Agencies will apply for funds, and if funded, implement several projects on this list.

While there is no guarantee that these projects will be implemented, the combination of longtime availability of federal and state funding for these types of actions, and the recent history of

moving forward on projects (eg. CVPIA Implementation, Wallace weir, Painters riffle) and similarly on monitoring and science actions (eg. Commitment to fund SAIL recommendations, lifecycle model, development of SACPASS platform, etc) lead NMFS to conclude that implementation of these actions is reasonably certain to occur over the course of the consultation period.

The actions below are described geographically and are generally categorized by Division. The actions are not intended to be fully inclusive of all actions necessary to affect benefits to anadromous fish populations and designated critical habitat, but are intended to reflect a planning direction that will be influenced through annual planning meetings and funding opportunities:

Shasta Division (Sacramento River)

Livingston Stone NFH

- *Placeholder for items to be cross-walked to letter FWS is drafting where funding is not completely secure. Where funding IS completely secure NMFS will make that conclusion in our Biop, based on letter, and note Reclamation commitment to continuation of those funds in terms and conditions.*

Upper Sacramento River Rearing Habitat Improvements

- Funding and implementation of the B-13 Program as described in the NMFS Biological Opinion
- Rearing Habitat Red Bluff Diversion Dam to Verona; Objective – Enhance ~ 2,000 acres of floodplain habitat in the Sutter Bypass.
- Provide fish passage and floodplain habitat at Tisdale Weir within 5 years and Colusa Weir within 10 - 15 years.
- Inventory historic oxbows and design fish passage and floodplain projects within 5 years and implement projects within 10 years.

Spring-run tributary Habitat Improvements

- Habitat and flow improvements on Mill, Deer and Antelope Creeks

Lower Sacramento River Floodplain Actions

- Restore floodplain habitat along the lower Sacramento River

Knights Landing Outfall Gates

- Repair the damaged outfall gate salmon exclusion device

Sutter Bypass Actions

- Support Sutter Bypass inundation planning and implementation
- Nigiri North: Floodplain restoration in the lower Sutter Bypass

Battle Creek Actions

- Complete “no regrets” actions consistent with Reclamation’s participation in Battle Creek MOU and previous funding and project commitments
- Design and construct a fish sorting facility at Coleman National Fish hatchery to support winter-run reintroduction into Battle Creek.

American River Division

- Funding and implementation of the B-13 Program as described in the NMFS Biological Opinion

Delta Division

- Incorporate salmon habitat restoration into Delta smelt habitat action. Restore 11,000 acres of tidal habitat for improved rearing and reduced reverse tidal flows in critical migratory channels.
- Install non-physical exclusion barrier at Georgiana Slough per DWR program

East Side Division (Stanislaus and Lower San Joaquin River)

- **Would be helpful to ID Potential Stanislaus Actions**
- Restoration of flood plain access and San Luis NWR
- Franks tract or other San Joaquin corridor specific restoration actions in the southern Delta
- Sturgeon Bend Floodplain Restoration
- Durham Ferry State Recreation Area floodplain restoration

Science Support

- Fund science actions such as marking and tagging/survival studies for Battle Creek Reintroduction and spring pulse flow actions.
- Fund science actions and syntheses related to South Delta hydrodynamics, juvenile salmonid behavior and survival consistent with CAMT SST 2017 report and results of related science workshop on (date).
- Fund science actions consistent with priorities discussed and coordinated through the Sacramento River Science Partnership.
- Fund/provide technical assistance to NMFS NWFSC study of SRKW prey availability