

Delta Smelt Scoping Team Meeting (7/21/20)

Attendees: Brycen Swart, Chuck Hanson, Erin Cole, Eva Bush, Larry Brown, Pat Coulston, Sam Luoma, Scott Hamilton, Shawn Acuna

Action Items

- Bruce – add the following items to the Entrainment Study packages, then share updated version with DSST:
 - title page
 - table of contents
 - preface language summarizing what's included in package
- Eva – revise typos in memo (described in notes below)
- Bruce – reach out to Pete re: Entrainment Study #3
- Bruce – check status of Fall Outflow Study with Darcy/Erica (confirm there will be an opportunity for DSST to review before submission)
- Bruce – circulate potential priorities and coordinate getting input from CAMT

Discussion

- Entrainment Reports
 - Manuscript Status (Study 2)
 - Lenny has started a new position with DWR
 - Manuscript (including Josh and Ed's modeling papers and Lenny's statistical paper) was submitted to SFEWS for publication
 - Currently being reviewed, safe to assume revisions will be forthcoming. Likely 3-12 months until publication.
 - Packaging Studies 1 & 2
 - Study 1 package includes: preface for Entrainment Study 1, Lenny's executive summary for Entrainment Study 1, three reports
 - Does not include DSST memo to CAMT
 - Study 2 package includes: preface for Entrainment Study 2, executive summary, reports from Ed and Josh, response to comments document
 - Does not include draft manuscripts or DSST memo to CAMT
 - Questions/Comments
 - Packaging looks fine – consider including a reference to manuscript? DSST memo may be a little over the heads of some CAMT member without someone to help with technical aspects
 - Assumed we were packaging each study separately and including a table of contents and other docs that have been included (the DSST memo would be loose on top)
 - Agree that DSST memo is excellent. Confused as to why there are two executive summaries (one for first report and one overall). Consider providing an outline in the preface re: which documents are included (what the reader can expect to find)?
 - Perhaps call one of the executive summaries an “abstract” instead to avoid confusion?
 - On the second page of DSST memo, there's a sentence that starts “The authors” that seems confusing.
 - Consider changing to “avoid uncertain assumptions **and** would be beneficial...”

Facilitator Notes, Not Reviewed or Approved by Meeting Participants

- Typo in the last sentence of first paragraph, remove “of”
 - Study 1 – not clear what Figure 3 is showing and what labels on x-axis are showing
 - Consider leaving out manuscripts?
 - And/or add note that manuscripts have been submitted?
 - Would prefer not to leave out manuscript – it’s ok if publication is different
 - Study 3
 - Not clear on Pete’s availability/timeline
- Fall Outflow Study
 - There will just be a manuscript, no technical report
 - Confirm we will see a draft before submission
 - Haven’t seen abundance modeling, will need to review (potentially in August)
 - Can track progress with Darcy as well as Erica
- DSST Potential Focus Areas
 - Would like to review status of the species at some regular interval, discuss CAMT smelt priorities (in relation to management needs)
 - Could also focus on implementation of Delta Smelt Science Plan and reporting (e.g., changes to FLOAT MAST)
 - Review of adaptive management conceptual model – see where we are, relation to original/new questions
 - Where do we stand in regards to old list of juvenile smelt questions? Who is working on that?
 - Not sure – could follow up with Ted re: recent DWR presentation on juveniles
 - ICF has submitted a proposal to study juvenile loss – but has been put on hold until factory fish issues have been solved. Not sure what the status of that effort is.
 - DSST could help review smelt related CAMT management needs questions to help shape future priorities (identify opportunities for adding value).
 - Consider summarizing/sharing recent research for CAMT to digest
 - Synthesis reports are one of the things that we try to do with FLOAT MAST DOP. Coordinating presentations might be helpful – no formal process in place for scientists to share information with managers (besides publication). More regular sharing is one of the proposed changes to reporting.
 - Could DSST’s role be formalized for this function through DSSP?
 - May lead to stepping on toes in terms of who is taking the lead. Could be helpful to take science one step further to outline potential management applications - but would require consensus
 - Are there specific issues with new ITP and BiOp that need to be addressed? Might DSST have a role helping there?
 - Delta Coordination Group may be fulfilling that need (they’re looking at Delta smelt and longfin smelt in relation to ITP and BiOp)
 - Need to get direction from CAMT to make sure we’re not doing work that someone else is already charged with doing
 - Original marching orders for DSST (e.g., Entrainment, Fall Outflow) are winding down – seems like a good time to check in but we can bring some proposals/options in hand
 - Seems like we get lost in speculating what other groups are doing – CAMT may have a better handle
 - Will likely be an iterative conversation

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- DSSP Update
 - Compass is proposing an adaptive management framework that shows how all the various moving parts fit together (to be presented at Aug CAMT meeting)
 - Delivered presentation to IEP Synthesis Project Work Team - they could be a potential partner for fall workshop on DSSP
 - Set to deliver a presentation to IEP Contaminant Project Work Team – they could be a potential partner for lab experiments/ambient monitoring of contaminants in Delta
 - Working with DWR re: fleshing out adaptive management plan for ITP where it's less proscriptive
 - Continuing to develop three year plan