

Environmental Planning and Permitting Workgroup

May 12, 2022



Agenda

- UC Santa Cruz contract for Winter-run Life Cycle Modeling Effort
- Environmental Permitting and Planning Manager Report
 - Key Planning Activities Report
- Upcoming Meetings

UC Santa Cruz Contract for Winter-run Lifecycle Modeling Effort

Ali Forsythe

Winter-run Lifecycle Model Background

- Evaluates the effects of water operations on the population dynamics of Sacramento River winter-run Chinook salmon
 - Integrate effects across entire life-cycle and multiple environmental conditions
 - Sacramento River focused
- Includes the lifecycle model and a series of submodels

Model Review and “Ownership”

- Initially developed in 2014 by NMFS, who contracted development to UC Santa Cruz
- Continued development and expansion
- Full model and submodels have never been released
- Some components of the model documented in published papers, but not all
- UC Santa Cruz is the only organization that can run the model as it has not been released publicly

Requests to Run Winter-run Lifecycle Model

- NMFS
 - RDEIR/SDEIS comments
 - Biological Opinion analysis
- CDFW
 - RDEIR/SDEIS comments
 - Operations ITP analysis
- USEPA
 - RDEIR/SDEIS comments

Proposed Contract

- Proposed sole source contract with UC Santa Cruz to run the model
 - UC Santa Cruz is the only organization that has and can run the model
 - University team works with NMFS team to complete the effort
- Contract not to exceed \$200K
- Issued RFP on April 26
- Expect proposal on May 16
- Contact with UC Santa Cruz, NMFS funds its own efforts

Scope of Work

- Three Tasks
 1. Evaluate effects of initial two proposed Project operations on winter-run population dynamics (plus a baseline)
 2. Second batch of baseline and two proposed Project operations
 3. Third batch of baseline and two proposed Project operations
- Subtasks for each task
 - Project management
 - Database management
 - Generate habitat capacity estimates
 - Generate delta smolt survival estimates
 - Generate life-cycle model results
 - Communicate life-cycle model results
- Each task takes about 3-4 months, all efforts to be completed by March 2023

Considerations

- Documentation of key model assumptions
- Discuss results with Sites Project
- Not release results until Sites approves
 - Iterative process, initial results may not be representative of Project effects

Environmental Planning and Permitting Manager Report

Ali Forsythe

Dashboard Update

Deliverable	Start	Finish	Status	Notes, New or Potential Issues
Negotiate and Execute Benefits Contracts with DWR & CDFW	Jun-22	Jun-23	N/S	
Water Right Application				
• Submit to State Board	Sep-20	May-22	●	Submitted on May 11
• Complete Protest Resolution Period	May-22	Dec-22	N/S	
• Receive Water Right Permit	Jan-23	Dec-23	N/S	
Federal ESA				
• Submit BA to Reclamation	Oct-20	Jly-22	●	
• Receive BiOps	Jly-22	Dec-22	N/S	
State ITPs				
• Receive Construction ITP	Sep-20	Mar-23	●	Application submitted Jan-22
• Submit Operations ITP Application to CDFW	Sep-20	Aug-22	●	
• Receive Operations ITP	Aug-22	Mar-23	N/S	

N/S = Not Started; Green = On track; Yellow = Area of Potential Concern; Red = Delayed; Blue = Completed

Dashboard Update

Deliverable	Start	Finish	Status	Notes, New or Potential Issues
Section 106 – Cultural Resources				
• Final Programmatic Agreement	Sep-20	Jan-23	●	
• Programmatic Historic Properties Management Plan	Dec-21	Sept-22	●	
Clean Water Act 404/401				
• Submit Final Permit Applications	Sep-20	Feb-23	●	Timed just post release of the Final EIR/EIS
• Receive 404 and 401 Permits	Oct-22	Oct-23	●	Will come after Final EIR/EIS
Streambed Alteration Agreement				
• Prepare and Submit Application	Jan-22	Dec-22	●	
• Receive Master Agreement	Jan-23	May-23	●	Will come after Final EIR/EIS
Eagle Permit				
• Short-Term and Nest Take Permits Issued	Oct-20	Mar-23	●	Jan and April 2022 surveys completed
• Long-Term Permit Issued	Oct-20	Mar-24	●	

N/S = Not Started; Green = On track; Yellow = Area of Potential Concern; Red = Delayed; Blue = Completed

Dashboard Update

Deliverable	Start	Finish	Status	Notes, New or Potential Issues
Final EIR/EIS				
• Complete Final EIR/EIS	Dec-21	Jan-23	●	
• Certify Final EIR/EIS and approve preferred project and MMRP		Jan-23	●	

N/S = Not Started; **Green** = On track; **Yellow** = Area of Potential Concern; **Red** = Delayed; **Blue** = Completed

Next Work Group Meeting

- Next Meeting – June 9, 2022; 1-2:30pm
- Anticipated Topics –
 - Permitting
 - Biological Assessment and Operations ITP Application
 - Aquatic species effects
 - Financial assurances

Upcoming Meetings

Reservoir Committee

Friday, May 20, 2022 (9:00 am – 12:00 pm)

Authority Board

Wednesday, May 25, 2022 (1:30 – 4:00 pm)

Environmental Planning and Permitting Workgroup

Thursday, June 9, 2022 (1:00 – 2:30 pm)

Thank you!

