



LONG TERM MANAGEMENT STRATEGY

Meeting Highlights, Decisions and Tasks LTMS Science Assessment and Data Gaps Work Group Meeting 4/23/10

FUTURE MEETING DATES

- Thursday, May 13, from 9:30 to 12:00 at BCDC
- Thursday, June 24, from 1:00 to 3:30 at BCDC
- Thursday, July 29, from 1:00 to 3:30 at BCDC

MEETING ATTENDEES

Carolynn Box – BCDC

Bill Brostoff – USACE

Jessie Burton Evans – USACE

Katie Chamberlin – Anchor QEA, L.P.

Mark D'Avignon – USACE

Ben Greenfield – SFEI

Marques Humpel – AA Rich and Associates

George Isaac – CDFG

Debra O'Leary – USACE

David Woodbury – NOAA Fisheries

POTENTIAL 2010 STUDIES

- David noted that the Science Work Group could be asked to complete new study topics with a research and development and/or monitoring component as a result of the updates to the LTMS Biological Opinion (BO), potentially including the following:
 - Conducting a green sturgeon tracking study
 - Conducting a pilot study evaluating the effects of dredging on native benthic species and subsequent impacts on green sturgeon
 - Assessing of the effectiveness of a drag head guard in protecting green sturgeon
Doug Clarke on his knowledge of the guards to see if a pilot study is warranted.
 - Adding to BOs a requirement to monitor take from large pipeline and hopper dredges and develop green sturgeon entrainment monitoring plans
- *Fish Behavior During Dredging Operations Study*. Debra noted that she would attend the Long Term Solutions Work Group meeting on April 23 to help Bill present this study concept, and that the option to conduct trawling has been left in the study concept, but it is still something being considered.
- *Longfin Smelt Study*. Debra noted that the next step for this study is to get the necessary approvals and begin drafting the RFP.
- *Update to the LTMS Framework Document*. Jessie noted that updating the Framework Document could give the Science Work Group a stronger nexus to conduct studies that are not so specific to work windows but more geared towards general science. She added that the next step for this study is to get the necessary approvals and begin drafting the RFP.
- *Next Steps in Salmon Tracking Study*. Bill noted that the decision to fund an additional year of salmon tracking is dependent on the results from the 2010 study
- *Herring/Dredging Risk Analysis Study*. The meeting participants agreed that this study concept needs to be better defined prior to the next Long Term Solutions Work Group meeting.

UPDATES ON CURRENTLY FUNDED STUDIES

- *Fish Tracking Study.* Bill noted that UC Davis has been busy collecting data, which he hopes can be presented at the Science Symposium. In terms of future salmon tracking studies, Bill added that the first three years of the study were dry years and that this upcoming year is the first wet year of the study, so it could be beneficial to have the different data to compare between years. With regard to 2010 funding timing constraints, Bill noted that there should still be time to review the 2009 report prior to the June 30, 2010, RFP release deadline.
- *Least Tern Study.* Debra noted that the recommended studies/next steps section is still being developed by the contractor, but that a GIS mapping system may be recommended to track where least tern breeding is occurring as a next step.

ACTION ITEMS FROM THIS MEETING

1. Pete to send Allison's comments on the 2009 fish tracking study report to UC Davis.
2. Jessie to try to contact Joe Dillon in regards to the Water Quality Study.
3. Katie to remove the text indicating the herring/dredging risk analysis study was proposed by CDFG.