

Comments on the Science Advisor's Draft Report on BDCP Goals and Objectives

Focus on technical and methods comments

Winter-run Chinook

Juvenile growth

-it should specify right off that this objective to increase growth to 85% of their temp-adjusted max is only expected for fish rearing in the Yolo Bypass, not for those that remain in the Sac River

-There are other possible explanations for the "anomaly" that fish arriving at the pumps tend to be larger than fish arriving at Chipps, which are that they may not be winter-run Chinook; or that they have actually taken longer to get there even though the distance is shorter, and that they are growing along the way. And I would say growth rate in the estuary (mean of 0.2 mm per day) is very slow, but not "insignificant"

-I would suggest using the baseline maximum from Jeffres' study instead of a lab study (though in this case they both give the same result)

Juvenile Survival

-pg 11, I think this explanation of drivers of survival in the river vs. Delta is overly simplistic

-pg 11, why is survival from Sac R to Chipps Island approx 50% when Perry found it to be 50%?

-on pg 12, it should say "increasing survival to twice the current level" instead of referring to reducing predators by 50%; the two are not necessarily the same thing

-there is a very important fourth category of how survival can be increased: "Increasing flows to reduce travel time and predator efficiency"