

**Proposed Panel Questions Form
(Due 12 Noon, Wednesday, December 22, 2010)**

**January 6 and 7, 2011 Public Workshop on Draft Technical Report
on the Scientific Basis for Alternative San Joaquin River Flow and
Southern Delta Salinity Objectives**

US Environmental Protection Agency requests that the following prioritized questions be addressed in the above workshop. We have a broader question that we would like to present not only to this panel but to the board process generally “How can management across the entire watershed ensure that all needs are met for the various life stages of species of concern?”

PRIORITY	QUESTION DIRECTED TO:	PROPOSED QUESTIONS FOR PANEL ON THE SCIENTIFIC BASIS FOR DEVELOPING ALTERNATIVE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER FLOW OBJECTIVES
1		What functions of flow should be targeted for management? What functions are likely to include thresholds (e.g. magnitude or duration) to achieve the target? What models link biological processes to physical processes in the San Joaquin Basin?
2		How can assessment of flow requirements support management goals for temperature, dissolved oxygen, sediment, Selenium, Boron and salt
3		What new or coordinated monitoring efforts are needed to support new water management requirements for ecosystem needs, within years, across years and in the periodic reassessment of needs?
4		Since some functions operate on different time scales than others, how can all functions be assured to be met over the long haul? What implications do varying time scales have for monitoring and assessing results?
5		Are there functions which are required due to the changed geometry, limited channel capacity, changed habitats and species composition that do not respond to natural hydrographs?
6		If flows that perform physical functions occur at times that do not coincide with some targeted biological functions how can all functions be supported?
7		If a percentage of the hydrograph in a given year would fail to achieve a desired function (due to threshold, or other limiting parameter) what should the management response be? I.e. should a shorter duration or should more water be provided?
8		What scientific basis can be used to prioritize among conflicting beneficial uses in a given year? Are there any beneficial uses that could be sustained over the long term without being supported under all hydrological conditions?
9		Should explicit management goals vary in different years or is designating a percentage of the natural hydrograph adequate to protect uses? How active should management be?