Daily Hydrology and Fish Tracking Methods in the Central Valley and Bay-Delta Recommendations for the SWRCB Bay-Delta Workshop 3-Analytical Tools Russ Brown, ICF International November 13, 2012

Daily flows and habitat conditions are needed to track daily effects on fish life-stages

- Water Accounting
- Runoff
- Storage
- Flood control
- Releases
- Temperatures
- Diversions
- Outflow
- Salinity

- <u>Fish Tracking</u>
- Spawning
- Egg incubation
- Rearing
- Movement
- Distribution
- Growth
- Predation
- Food

Basic relationships between flow and fish

- Delta outflow controls Delta salinity (EC)
- Entrainment = exports (taf) x fish density (fish/taf)
- Fish movement at Delta channel splits follows flow
- SJR flood flows lead to high splittail abundance
- River hydraulic habitat: flow = depth x width x velocity
- Delta outflow influences longfin smelt abundance
- Temperature warming= f (-K/flow)
- Pulse flows trigger adult and juvenile fish movement
- Channel flows control eggs and larvae movement

Examples of daily flow, water quality and fish evaluation methods (patterns)

- CVP and SWP Delta smelt salvage in WY 1999
- Delta daily inflows, outflow, salinity, exports and OMR adjustments in WY 2008
- Comparison of SJR Mossdale with CVP and SWP salvage in WY 2005 for Chinook and splittail
- Estimates of Stockton DWSC dissolved oxygen concentrations from daily flows, algae, and BOD









Historical Outflow and Calculated EC at Collinsville and Jersey Point





Adjusted and Baseline Exports -- Baseline





-E/I Objectives -Baseline E/I -Adjusted E/I











Reasons to Compile, Organize and Evaluate Daily Historical Data

1) Provide an official organized inventory of flows, habitat conditions and fish data to identify flow-fish relationships and patterns.

2) Allow the comparison of daily flow, temperature and salinity data with daily reservoir and Delta objectives to identify effective changes in operations (rules).

3) Estimate adjustments in daily historical flow, habitat, and fish data to identify and evaluate likely benefits.

4) Provide a basis for SWRCB water accounting and fish tracking to achieve a reasonable balance of multiple beneficial uses and public trust values (documentation).