

**A MODEL FOR ESTIMATING MORTALITY AND SURVIVAL
OF FALL-RUN CHINOOK SALMON SMOLTS IN THE
SACRAMENTO RIVER DELTA BETWEEN SACRAMENTO
AND CHIPPS ISLAND**

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ABSTRACT

A multiple regression model is described that predicts fall-run chinook salmon smolt survival through the Sacramento River Delta between Sacramento and Chipps Island (near Pittsburg, CA). The model uses water temperature at Freeport, CA, the fraction of water diverted from the Sacramento River at Walnut Grove, CA, and total exports of the State Water and Central Valley Projects in the south delta. Each of these three factors is negatively related to smolt survival. Survival indices were based on coded wire tagged (CWT) smolts released at several delta sites and subsequently recovered at Chipps Island. CWT smolts were released under various environmental conditions. Correlation and regression analyses were used to choose those factors that explained a significant part ($p=0.95$) of the variation in smolt mortality. The model predicts the survival of smolts migrating from Sacramento to Chipps Island via the Sacramento River, and through the central delta via the Mokelumne and lower San Joaquin River systems. The greatest mortality was observed for smolts diverted into the central delta, indicating that keeping smolts out of that region would be highly beneficial to salmon production. Simulations of survival under varying temperature, fractions diverted and exports are provided to quantify the benefits of alternative salmon protective measures.

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Fall-Run Chinook Salmon Smolts in the Sacramento
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by M. Kjelson, S. Greene and P. Brandes

INTRODUCTION

During Phase I of the California State Water Resources Control Board (CSWRCB) Bay/Delta Proceedings of 1987, the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) presented testimony which described the relationships between survival of salmon smolts and streamflow, diversions and water temperature as smolts migrate downstream from Sacramento to Chipps Island (Figure 1). The relationship between survival and flow was used to represent the response of smolts to changes in flow, water temperature and diversion.

The USFWS noted that they had been unable to separate the independent effects of these three factors, but noted that smolt survival increased with increased river flows, decreases in the fraction diverted off the Sacramento River at Walnut Grove, and decreased water temperatures.

The inability to separate the effects of these physical factors was due to the fact that experimental coded wire tagged (CWT) smolts had most frequently been released at high water temperatures, high diversion fractions and low flows, or at low water temperatures, low diversion fractions and high flows. These two sets of conditions reflect how the State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) have operated in recent years, and the fact

SACRAMENTO RIVER DELTA

- REACH 1
- REACH 2
- - - REACH 3

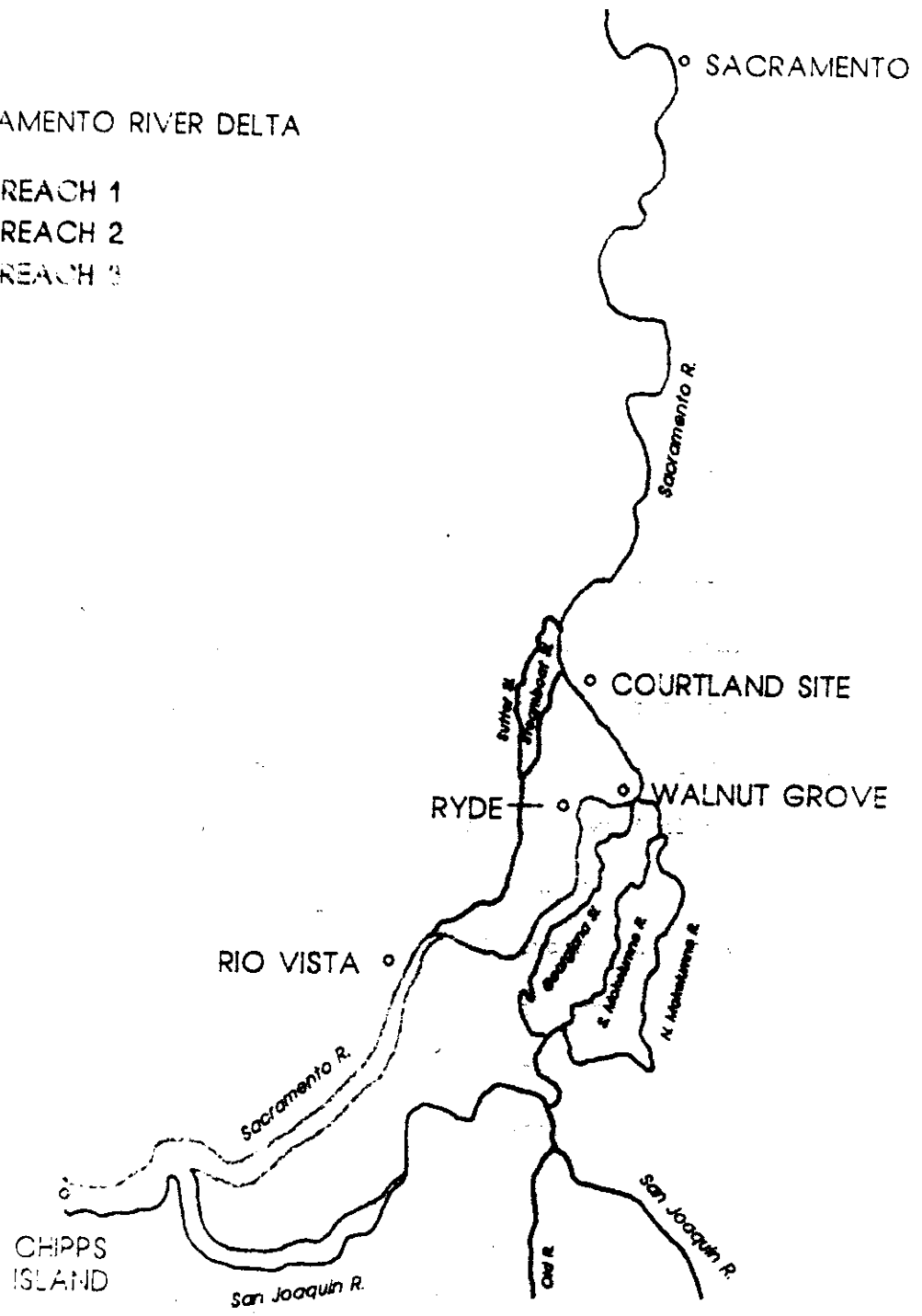


Figure 1. Reach diagram for Delta Survival Model.

that water temperatures naturally increase as flows decrease as the spring progresses. Survival was not measured when both flows and temperatures were low, when lower temperatures could have increased survival. The above conditions resulted in the three physical factors being intercorrelated (termed colinearity). Hence, as noted in our 1987 testimony, survival may have been underestimated during cooler, low flow periods using the flow: survival relationship.

During the spring of 1988 and 1989, management of the delta and upstream reservoir system allowed us to estimate the effects of the three factors independently. In these years CWT smolts were released in early May at relatively low flows and low temperatures and in June at low flows and higher temperatures. Diversion fractions were both high and low during both the May and June releases in 1988. These additional data enabled us to better separate the effects of flow, diversion and water temperature, and to develop a model that quantifies the smolt survival response to changes in several environmental parameters in the Sacramento River Delta.

The data used to develop the model has some limitations. (1) Survival measurements were not made over a broad range of conditions, (2) sample variability or potential error is present in both sample and environmental measurements, (3) some colinearity remains between factors, (4) there is a lack of survival measurements for specific reaches in the delta.

We have developed a multiple regression model that relies on the use of those environmental variables that account for a statistically significant fraction of the variation in survival. The model is conservative in that the environmental variables chosen were individually significant in each equation at the 95% level, and each regression equation was significant at 95%. This

approach, along with the data limitations described, may have prevented us from including certain factors at this time in the model that influence smolt survival. Further analysis with additional data may allow us to improve the model in the future.

Our goal was to develop a model that explains a large degree of the variation in observed survival, that uses factors which are statistically significant in the equation, and appears ecologically sound. The model will be used to help quantify the benefits of varied salmon protective measures in the Sacramento River portion of the delta.

The purpose of this report is to summarize the methods used to develop the smolt survival model, describe the model, present model simulations that help quantify the relative benefits of decreased water temperature and varied operational measures.

This report reflects efforts and review comments by members, staff and consultants of the Delta Salmon Team under the Five Agency Salmon Management Group. The Five Agency Group was established to evaluate relative benefits and costs of both operational and structural protective measures to improve salmon production in the Central Valley and Bay/Delta Estuary. Primary support and guidance is through the Fisheries/Water Quality Committee of the Interagency Ecological Study Program.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

We would like to thank Dave Dattman, who initiated this modeling effort and developed the first version; and Steve Cramer, who reviewed the model and suggested important physical restructuring of the model. We are grateful to Randy Brown, Pat Coulston, Chuck Hanson, Don Kelley, Wim Kimmerer, William Mitchell, and Don Stevens for reviewing the model and offering important criticism and advise. Appreciation is also extended to the SWP and CVP operations staffs for their assistance in helping provide experimental hydraulic conditions, to the many field personnel that assisted in tagging, sampling and CWT reading, and to the personnel at Feather River Hatchery for providing smolts for our studies.

METHODS

Sources of Smolt Survival and Mortality Indices

Survival indices were based entirely on trawl recoveries at Chipps Island from the years 1978 through 1989 (USFWS, 1987). All indices were adjusted by dividing by 1.8 to bring those indices greater than 1 into the range of 0 to 1, in order to maintain biologically meaningful survival rates. This adjustment procedure assumes consistent, not skewed, error in the raw survival rates. To support the adjustment an examination of the frequency distribution plot of the survival indices indicated an approximately normal distribution with a median near 1.0 and a maximum near 1.8. Adjusted survivals were converted to adjusted mortalities by subtracting from 1.0.

Sources of Environmental and Physical Data

Flow estimates, delta exports for the SWP and CVP were obtained from the California Department of Water Resources (CDWR) - Central District DAYFLOW model. Temperature data were obtained from the United States Geological Survey (USGS) or CDWR continuous recorders, and CDFG and USFWS grab-samples taken at the time of CWT releases. Fish sizes, defined as the number smolts per pound smolts (smaller values indicate a larger mean size of individual smolts), were obtained from CDFG and USFWS hatchery truck planting receipts. Tide phase at Martinez was estimated using a USGS tide predictor program, modified by CDWR, and National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) records. The effect of tide velocity at Walnut Grove was estimated by lagging the tide phase at Martinez three hours. The tide velocity effect was assigned a value between 1 (estimated strongest ebb) to 8 (estimated strongest flood) to facilitate regression analysis.

Estimating Mortality in each of Three Reaches

The Sacramento River portion of the delta was divided into three reaches. Reach 1 extended from Sacramento to Walnut Grove; Reach 2, from Walnut Grove to Chipps Island, via the Mokelumne and lower San Joaquin River systems (the central delta); Reach 3, from Walnut Grove to Chipps Island, via the Sacramento River system below Walnut Grove (Figure 1).

Using equations described below, mortality in each reach was estimated from mortality indices of CWT smolts released at Sacramento, just below the mouth of Steamboat Slough ("Courtland" site), and at Ryde (Figure 1). The mortality indices of CWT smolts released at Sacramento represent M_T , the total mortality from Sacramento to Chipps Island. The mortality indices of CWT

smolts released at the "Courtland" site represent M_{23} , the combined mortality in Reaches 2 and 3; and the mortality indices of CWT smolts released at Ryde represent M_3 , mortality in Reach 3.

Mortality in Reach 1 was treated sequentially with the mortality below Reach 1, the combined mortality in Reaches 2 and 3. In our model, smolts which survived in Reach 1 were subsequently subjected to mortality in either Reaches 2 or 3, depending in their migration route.

Ricker (1975) developed an approach to describe the combined effect of two independent sources of mortality (e.g. fishing and natural). We adapted Ricker's approach to mortality occurring sequentially over two distinct time periods in order to apply it to the population of smolts migrating first through Reach 1 and second through Reaches 2 or 3. Ricker's equation states that the combined mortality due to two separate sources equals the sums of the mortalities minus the product of the mortalities, or

$$M_T = M_a + M_b - (M_a * M_b).$$

Applying this equation to the Sacramento River portion of the delta, we get,

$$M_T = M_1 + M_{23} - (M_1 * M_{23}), \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

where M_T = total mortality from Sacramento to Chipps Island, M_1 = mortality from Sacramento to Walnut Grove, and M_{23} = combined mortality in Reaches 2 and 3, the central delta and the Sacramento River below Walnut Grove to Chipps Island. Since M_T and M_{23} were measured, we solved Eq. 1 for M_1 to get

$$M_T = M_{23} + [(M_1 * (1 - M_{23}))]$$

$$M_T - M_{23} = M_1 * (1 - M_{23})$$

$$M_1 = (M_T - M_{23}) / (1 - M_{23}) \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

We assumed negligible mortality from the "Courtland" site to Walnut Grove, a distance of about 3.5 miles.

Mortality in Reach 2, the central delta, was treated in parallel, and isolated from mortality in Reach 3, the Sacramento River below Walnut Grove to Chipps Island. At the downstream boundary of Reach 1, the proportion of the smolts entering Reach 2 was defined by the fraction of the Sacramento River flow diverted into the central delta via the Delta Cross Channel and Georgiana Slough. The proportion of smolts entering Reach 3 is defined by the fraction of Sacramento River flow remaining in the Sacramento River below Walnut Grove. The fraction diverted was not included as an independent variable in the regression analyses, because it entered the model mechanistically, but still influenced the predicted survival through the delta by determining the porportion of smolts diverted into the central delta. In previous versions of the model, the fraction diverted was the most highly correlated parameter with the mortality, $M_{2,3}$, of CWT smolts released at the "Courtland" site ($r = 0.54$).

Applying a proportionality equation to the Sacramento River portion of the delta below Walnut Grove, we get

$$M_{2,3} = M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3, \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

where M_2 = mortality from Walnut Grove to Chipps Island via the central delta, P_2 = proportion of Sacramento River flow diverted in the central delta, M_3 = mortality from Walnut Grove to Chipps Island via the Sacramento River, and P_3 = proportion of Sacramento River flow remaining in the Sacramento River below Walnut Grove. Since $M_{2,3}$ and M_3 were measured, we solved Equation 3 for M_2 to get

$$M_2 * P_2 = M_{2,3} - M_3 * P_3$$

$$M_2 = (M_{2,3} - M_3 * P_3) / P_2 \quad \text{Eq. 4}$$

Mortality in Reach 3, the Sacramento River below Walnut Grove to Chipps Island, was treated in parallel, and isolated from, mortality in Reach 2. M_3 was measured directly, therefore no computations were involved.

We assumed negligible mortality between Walnut Grove and Ryde, a distance of about 3 miles.

In cases where the application of our equations to isolate the estimated mortality in Reaches 1 and 2 produced mortality values less than 0 or greater than 1, mortality was truncated to 0.0 and 1.0 respectively. We truncated estimated mortalities to maintain biologically meaningful mortality values, and to remain consistent with the subsequent use of this model in a Salmon Population Model (Mitchell, 1989). We were aware that truncating reduced the variation in the non-truncated data.

Migration Rate/Time Intervals

We estimated the migration rates and time intervals, in days, of CWT smolts as they emigrated through each of the three reaches. The migration rates enabled us to calculate how long the smolts were exposed to the environmental conditions in a specific reach during a specific time interval. The minimum and maximum migration rates of CWT smolts released at Ryde were estimated by dividing the total distance of Reach 3 by the time interval between smolt release at Ryde and recapture at Chipps Island. Assuming smolts migrated at the same rate throughout Reach 3, the minimum and maximum migration time intervals in several subsections of Reach 3 were calculated by multiplying the minimum and maximum migration rates by the subsection distance.

The minimum and maximum migration time intervals in Reach 2 using CWT smolts released at the "Courtland" site were determined by the time intervals between smolt release at the "Courtland" site and recapture at Chipps Island. We realized this approach may have underestimated the minimum migration time interval in Reach 2 because some of the smolts released at the "Courtland" site migrated via the Sacramento River, considered a shorter migration route.

The migration time intervals in Reach 1 using CWT smolts released at Sacramento from 1978 to 1982 were based on existing information on smolt migration and estimated water velocity through Reach 1. For detailed discussion, refer to Dettman, 1989.

By estimating the migration time interval and dates of smolts in a given reach we estimated the environmental conditions to which they were exposed (Appendix 2). To provide the reader with a general knowledge of migration time intervals for smolts passing from Sacramento to Chipps Island, we developed the following :

<u>REACH</u>	<u>TIME PERIOD</u>
Sacramento to Walnut Grove	Two days
Walnut Grove to Chipps Island	
via the central delta	Ten days
Walnut Grove to Chipps Island	
via the Sacramento River	Seven days
Sacramento to Chipps Island	Twelve days

Correlation and Regression

We compared our mortality estimates to the environmental conditions at the time the fish were migrating using correlation and interactive multiple linear regression techniques to determine how the varied environmental parameters affected mortality by reach (Snedecor and Cochran, 1980). These analyses justified our selection of the environmental parameters used in the model.

We analyzed correlations between smolt mortality and several flow parameters, export rates and water temperatures as marked smolts pass through the Sacramento River portion of the delta. We also evaluated the potential influence of smolt size and tide phase at the time of release to assess how variation in these experimental conditions might effect survival. Neither size nor tide phase were considered as a model parameter since they were not factors that could be managed for increased smolt survival.

We performed multiple linear regression analyses between estimated smolt mortality and the individual factors described above for each of the three reaches. Whereas correlation analysis allowed us to examine the relationships between mortality and individual parameters, multiple regression analysis enabled us to evaluate the effects of multiple factors in combination with each other on mortality. F-test values were used to determine the order in which factors were incorporated into the regression equation. An additional factor was incorporated only if the combination of parameters yielded a better r-squared value and a significant F-test value, and all factors were individually significant in the regression equation at 95% based on their t-statistic. Only those parameters whose t-test values were significant at 95% or greater were included in the regression equation.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Estimated Mortality in Reach 3 (Walnut Grove to Chipps Island)

We used our survival indices from smolts releases at Ryde to estimate the mortality in Reach 3. These data were obtained from 1983 through 1989 (Table 1, Appendix 1). Releases were made with the Delta Cross Channel gates both open and closed. Adjusted mortalities averaged 0.56 and ranged from 0.29 to 0.91.

Environmental Influences in Reach 3

We correlated estimated mortality in Reach 3 to a variety of factors that appeared to have an ecological basis to influence smolt mortality in that reach (Table 2).

A significant positive correlation was found between mortality and both instantaneous water temperature at release site and average daily water temperature at Freeport (Table 2). Water temperature affects smolts both directly through acute (lethal) effects and indirectly through chronic (sublethal) effects. Laboratory experiments have demonstrated that juvenile chinook salmon all die at about 78°F (Brett, 1952). Chronic temperature effects are more difficult to quantify, but are those related to physiological stress, predator and smolt metabolic demands, disease, growth, and other factors whose effects on smolt survival have been shown to increase with a rise in temperature (Hanson, 1989).

There has been some concern that the linear nature of the temperature:mortality relationship depicted in Figure 2 may be unrealistic due

Table 1. Trawl survival indexes, mortality indexes (M₂) and environmental data for CWT chinook salmon smolts released at Ryde from 1983 through 1989.

CWT Number	Release Year	Trawl Surv Index	Adjusted Mort. M ₂	Inst Water Temp °F @ Release Site (Ryde)	Average	-----Mean Daily Flows (CFS) at:-----				Daily SWP+CVP Exports cfs ⁵	Size, No Smolts per Pound Smolts	Tide Phase Index
					Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport On Release Date	Freeport (QSAC) ¹	Rio Vista (QRIO) ²	Jersey Pt (QWEST) ³	Chippa Is (DOOT) ⁴			
66223	1983	1.18	0.34	81	82.5	52400	42889	35026	77042	4150	77	5
66229	1984	1.05	0.42	68	66.8	13900	8395	1108	8083	5497	88	3
66235	1985	0.77	0.57	68	81.3	14000	7051	-147	8898	8690	78	5
66248	1986	0.68	0.62	74	72.0	13700	6870	8984	13439	5812	85	5
66255	1987	0.85	0.53	67	87.4	11600	8451	1048	5819	5524	78	3
66258	1987	0.88	0.51	84	87.5	10900	5048	511	4387	5147	73	1
63101	1988	0.94	0.48	63	83.9	7970	8029	285	8032	7025	54	3
63102	1988	1.28	0.29	61	59.9	12100	7322	-271	8148	7959	53	1
66263	1988	0.40	0.78	75	73.4	11100	7357	-2589	3117	8500	55	8
63103	1988	0.34	0.81	74	72.9	13400	5588	-1738	2491	8253	52	8
63112	1989	1.19	0.34	82	82.1	11178	4280	-247	7584	3842	84.8	3
63107	1989	0.48	0.73	67	88.7	13151	7847	-1563	7673	5373	48	3
H6114102	1989	0.16	0.91	73	70.0	14038	7709	-1243	5702	4709	57.9	8

¹ - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Freeport on the day(s) smolts were released at Ryde.

² - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Rio Vista on the day(s) smolts passed Rio Vista.

³ - Mean of the mean daily San Joaquin River flows at Jersey Point on the day(s) smolts passed Chipps Island.

⁴ - Mean of the mean daily Net Delta Outflows on the day(s) smolts passed Chipps Island.

⁵ - Mean of the daily SWP plus CVP exports during the period smolts passed from release point to Chipps Island.

Table 2. Correlation coefficients between estimated mortality using CWY chinook salmon smolts released in the Sacramento River at Ryde and recovered at Chipps Island (N₃), and selected environmental variables. Symbols: **, correlation significant at the 0.01 level.

Correlation Coefficients (r)	Inst Water Temp °F @ Release Site (Ryde)	Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport on Release Date	-----Mean Daily Flow (CFS) at:-----				Daily SMP+CYP Exports cfs	No Smalts per Pound Smolts	Tide Phase Index
			Freeport (OSAC) ¹	Rio Vista (ORIO) ²	Jersey Pt (JWEST) ³	Chipps Is (COUT) ⁴			
0.87**		0.81**	-0.28	-0.30	-0.39	-0.39	0.00	-0.37	0.74**

- 1 - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Freeport on the day(s) smolts were released at Ryde.
- 2 - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Rio Vista on the day(s) smolts passed Rio Vista.
- 3 - Mean of the mean daily San Joaquin River flows at Jersey Point on the day(s) smolts passed Chipps Island.
- 4 - Mean of the mean daily Met Delta Outflow on the day(s) smolts passed Chipps Island.
- 5 - Mean of the daily SMP plus CYP exports on the day(s) smolts pass from release point to Chipps Island.

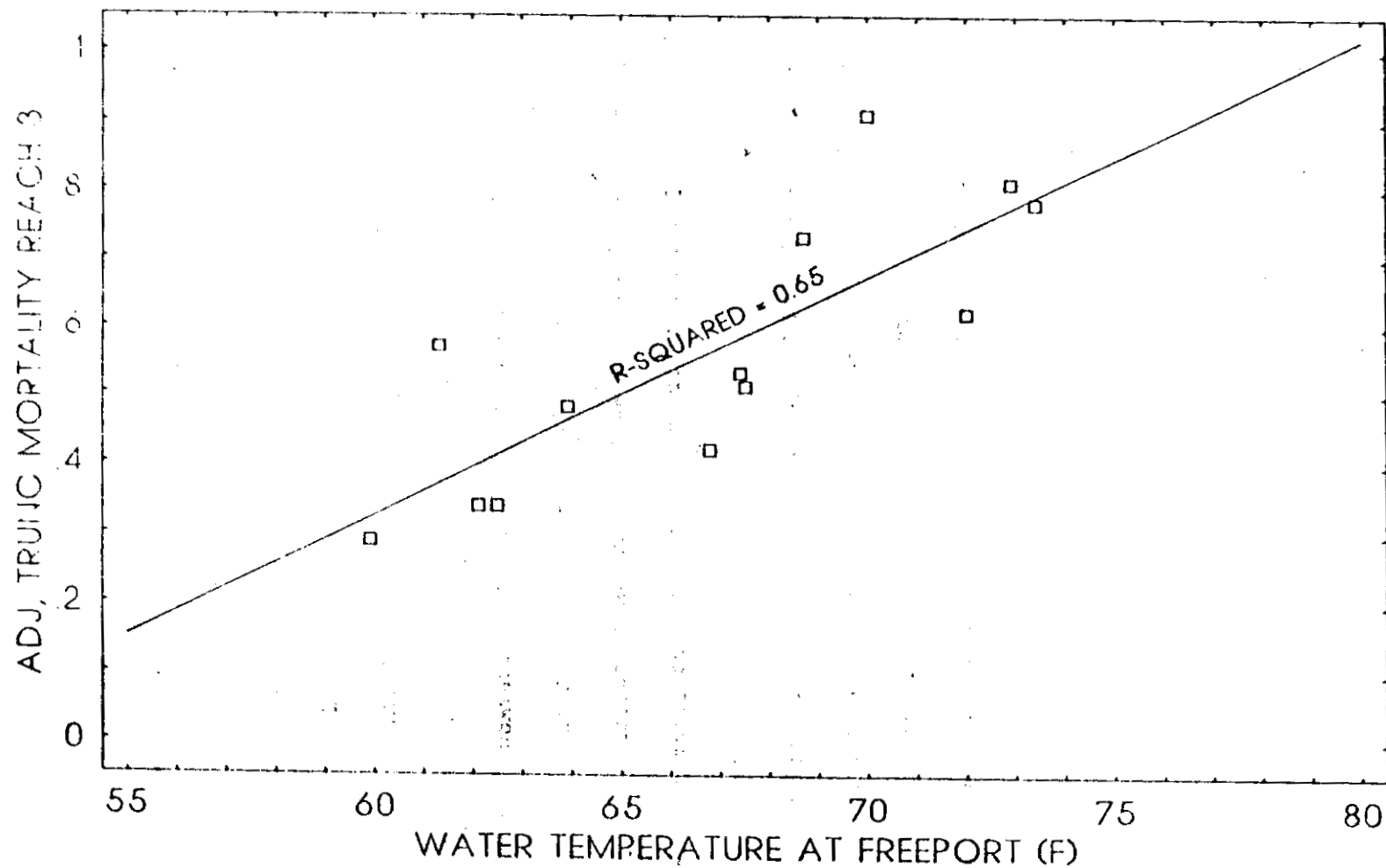


FIGURE 2. ESTIMATED CHINOOK SALMON SMOLT MORTALITY VERSUS AVERAGE DAILY WATER TEMPERATURE AT FREEPORT ON RELEASE DAY, REACH 3

to potential biases associated with the use of CWT hatchery smolts, and the belief that the chronic (sublethal) temperature effects described above are unlikely to have much influence on survival at the lower temperatures (-60 to 63°F). We have not answered these concerns fully and uncertainty remains. For instance, there is limited data to suggest that the survival of naturally produced smolts also is negatively correlated with temperature in a linear manner, and there is also other CWT data not used in modeling that indicates survival can be relatively high at high temperatures. Refer to discussion in Hanson, 1989 and USFWS, 1989.

The only other significant correlation was between estimated mortality in Reach 3 and the tide phase index (Table 2.). Smolts released at Ryde on a flood tide may be carried upstream and into the Delta Cross Channel and Georgiana Slough and therefore exposed to mortality in Reach 2. This suggests that our estimate of mortality in Reach 3 may be biased high for releases made when the tide was flooding.

There was no significant correlation between mortality and flow. It has been hypothesized that increased flows would reduce smolt mortality through increased migration rate, and thus lessened exposure times to any adverse conditions. We have not, however, demonstrated a correlation between smolt migration rate and flow in the delta presumably due to the complexity of smolt migration behavior in tidal waters. Higher flow could provide dilution of contaminants, and is typically accompanied by higher turbidity which may reduce smolt mortalities caused by sight feeding predators.

The lack of a significant correlation with exports is not unexpected since smolts released at Ryde, while vulnerable to diversion into the lower

San Joaquin via Threemile Slough, are less likely to be carried into the southern delta than, for instance, smolts released at the "Courtland" site.

The negative correlation between estimated smolt mortality and the number of smolts per pound was opposite to what we expected and suggests mortality decreases as smolt size decreases. It is counter to population biology and data from fry, smolt and yearling CWT releases that indicate mortality typically increases as size decreases. It has been hypothesized that net avoidance by the larger CWT smolts may have caused the above relationship between size and mortality. However, for the relatively narrow range of smolt sizes we used and the high turbidity seen at Chipps Island which should hinder avoidance by smolts of all sizes, we doubt that the net avoidance hypothesis is supportable. Thus, we believe the correlation is spurious.

Our interactive multiple regression analysis indicated that average daily temperature at Freeport on release day by itself accounted for 65% of the variation in smolt mortality in Reach 3 (Table 3). We chose water temperature at Freeport, rather than at the release site, since we have an historic record of water temperature at Freeport and it is highly correlated with the temperature at Ryde ($r = 0.94$).

Tide phase index was the only other parameter individually significant at 95%. By itself, it explained 54% of the variation, however, incorporating it into the equation with water temperature severely reduced the significance of both coefficients in the equation based on the t-statistic. In other words, tide phase did not account for a significant portion of the residual variation in mortality after the mortality due to water temperature was removed. Our tide phase index was crude and it is not surprising that it

Table 3. Linear regression between estimated mortality using CWT chinook salmon smolts released in the Sacramento River at Ryde and recovered at Chipps Island (M₁) and average daily water temperature at Freeport on release day.

Variable	Regression Coefficient	Standard Error	T-Statistic	Partial Correlation	Cumulative Percent Variation Explained
Intercept	-1.766	0.5136	-3.440	---	---
Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport on Release Day	0.03489	0.007672	4.547	0.81	65.3

R-Squared = 0.6527

F-test: F ratio = 20.68

Standard error of regression = 0.1211

reduced significance in the equation. We are still interested in designing a better estimate of tide influence at release site.

The equation predicting smolt mortality through Reach 3 is as follows :

$$M_3 = -1.766 + (0.03489 * \text{ave water temperature } ^\circ\text{F at Freeport, CA})$$

Mortality in Reach 2 (Walnut Grove to Chipps Island via the central delta)

Table 4 lists estimates of M_2 for each release made at the "Courtland" site since 1983. Adjusted mortalities in Reach 2 are the highest of all three reaches, averaging 0.85 and ranging from 0.63 to 1.00 (Table 4, Appendix 1).

Environmental Influences in Reach 2

We correlated the estimated mortality in Reach 2 to the factors listed in Table 4. The environmental factors chosen for Reach 2 analyses were those believed most applicable to that reach, hence flow in the Sacramento River, used on Reach 3 analysis, was omitted.

Our water temperature parameter used in Reach 2 was, again, measured at Freeport due to the availability of historic data and the fact that there was a reasonable correlation between water temperature at Freeport and the "Courtland" site ($r = 0.97$), and between water temperature at Freeport and in the Mokelumne River system ($r = 0.92$). Temperature data for the delta portion of the Mokelumne River were only available for the spring of 1989.

Results of our correlation analysis (Table 5) indicated mortality in Reach 2 was positively correlated to water temperature at Freeport ($r = 0.73$, $p = 0.99$) and water temperature at the release site. Weaker negative correlations were seen between mortality and net delta outflow (QOUT) at Chipps Island ($r = -0.53$, $p = 0.90$) and flow at Jersey Point (QWEST) ($r =$

TABLE 4. Trawl mortality indexes (M₁) and environmental data using CWF chinook salmon smolts released at the "Courtland" site from 1984 through 1989.

CWF Number	Release Year	Trawl Surv Index	Adjusted Truncated Mort. M ₁	Inst Water Temp °F @ Release Site (Walnut Grove)	Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freepoint on Release Date	Mean Daily Flows (CFS) at:		Daily SWP+CYP Exports per Pound cfs ³	Size, No Smolts per Pound Smolts	Tide Phase Index
						Jersey Pt (QWEST)	Chippis Is (QOUT)			
65224	1983	1.08	0.85	60	60.1	35241	77531	3730	87	1
66237	1984	0.81	0.81	68	65.5	1085	8051	5598	74	8
66238/41	1985	0.34	0.84	64	61.3	-60	6727	6517	78	1
66243	1986	0.35	0.82	73	71.8	6923	13401	5281	80	1
66253/4	1987	0.67	0.77	86.5	67.3	889	5898	5818	74	3
66256/7	1987	0.40	1.00	88.5	67.5	558	4816	5436	71	1
661402/3	1988	0.70	0.81	62	63.5	-2361	6384	7497	81	3
661404/5	1988	0.76	0.82	61	62.1	-2857	5854	8020	64.5	1
66259/60	1988	0.17	1.00	73	72.0	-2589	3117	8454	57	5
66250	1988	0.02	1.00	76	74.3	-1477	2423	6094	59	8
63111	1989	0.84	0.83	80.5	60.8	-298	7578	4224	60.7	8
63108	1989	0.35	0.84	69	88.7	-2581	8140	4919	44	3
65805/3	1989	0.21	0.87	71	70.8	-1262	8698	4568	54.1	8

1 - Mean of the mean daily San Joaquin River flows at Jersey Point on the days(s) smolts passed Chippis Island.
 2 - Mean of the mean daily Net Delta Outflows on the days(s) smolts passed Chippis Island.
 3 - Mean of the daily SWP plus CYP exports on the days(s) smolts passed from release point to Chippis Island.

Table 5. Correlation coefficients between estimated mortality using CWT chinook salmon smolts released at "Courtland" site and recovered at Chipps Island and Reach 2, Walnut Grove to Chipps Island via the central delta. (M₂) and selected environmental variables. Symbols: **, correlation significant at 98% level, correlation significant at 95% level.

Correlation Coefficients (r)	Inst Water Temp °F @ Release Site (Walnut Grove)	Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freepart On Release Date	Mean Daily Flow (CFS) at:		Daily SWP+CVP Exports cfs ³	No Smolts per Pound Smolts	Tide Phase Index
			Jersey Pt (QWEST)1	Chipps Is (QOUT)2			
0.73**		0.89**	-0.47	-0.53*	0.41	-0.19	-0.07

1 - Mean of the mean daily San Joaquin River flows at Jersey Point on the day(s) smolts passed Chipps Island.
 2 - Mean of the mean daily Net Delta Outflow on the day(s) smolts passed Chipps Island.
 3 - Mean of the SWP plus CVP exports on the day(s) smolts passed from release point to Chipps Island.

-0.47, $p = 0.90$). The net delta outflow correlation probably reflects collinearity with water temperature. As outflow increases we typically see a decrease in water temperature at the same time. We believe reverse (negative) flows at Jersey Point in the lower San Joaquin (QWEST) may increase smolt mortality, again, by increasing exposure times, or causing the smolts to migrate toward the southern delta pumping plants rather than toward the ocean. It is probable that the DAYFLOW estimates of net flow at Jersey Point in the western San Joaquin River are somewhat inaccurate due to the lack of appropriate tidal influence in the calculation of that flow parameter which could lessen our ability to demonstrate a correlation between mortality and QWEST should one exist.

Multiple regression analysis indicated that the combination of water temperature at Freeport and total SWP plus CVP exports explained 66% of the variation in mortality in Reach 2 (Table 6). Temperature alone explained 48% of the variation, and exports alone explained 17% of the variation. Combining water temperature and exports increased the significance of both water temperature and exports regression coefficients (t-statistic) to 99.5% and 95%, respectively and increased r-squared to 66% (Appendix 3). The mortality as related to water temperature is shown in Figure 3, and the residual mortality (that remaining after the mortality explained by water temperature alone is removed) as related to total exports is shown in Figure 4.

Total exports is considered an index parameter to reflect the influence of drawing water and smolts toward the southern delta pumping plants from the central delta. Mortalities were greater for CWT smolts released in the lower portion of Old River in the southern delta when compared to those released in the central and northern delta (USFWS, 1987). Higher smolt mortality in the

Table 6. Stepwise multiple linear regression between estimated mortality using CWT chinook salmon smolts released at "Courtland" site and recovered at Chipps Island for Reach 2, Walnut Grove to Chipps Island via the central delta, (M₂) and average daily water temperature at Freeport on the day of release, daily State Water Project plus Central Valley Project exports during the period smolts passed from release point to Chipps Island.

Variable	Regression Coefficient	Standard Error	T-Statistic	Partial Correlation	Cumulative Percent Variation Explained
Intercept	-0.5808532	0.3343113	-1.737462		
Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport on Release Day	0.0179269	0.0047439	3.778932	0.77	48.71
SV2 plus CVR Exports	0.0000418	0.0000184	2.279014	0.58	66.43

R-Squared = 0.6589

F-test = 9.658

Standard error of regression = 0.07834

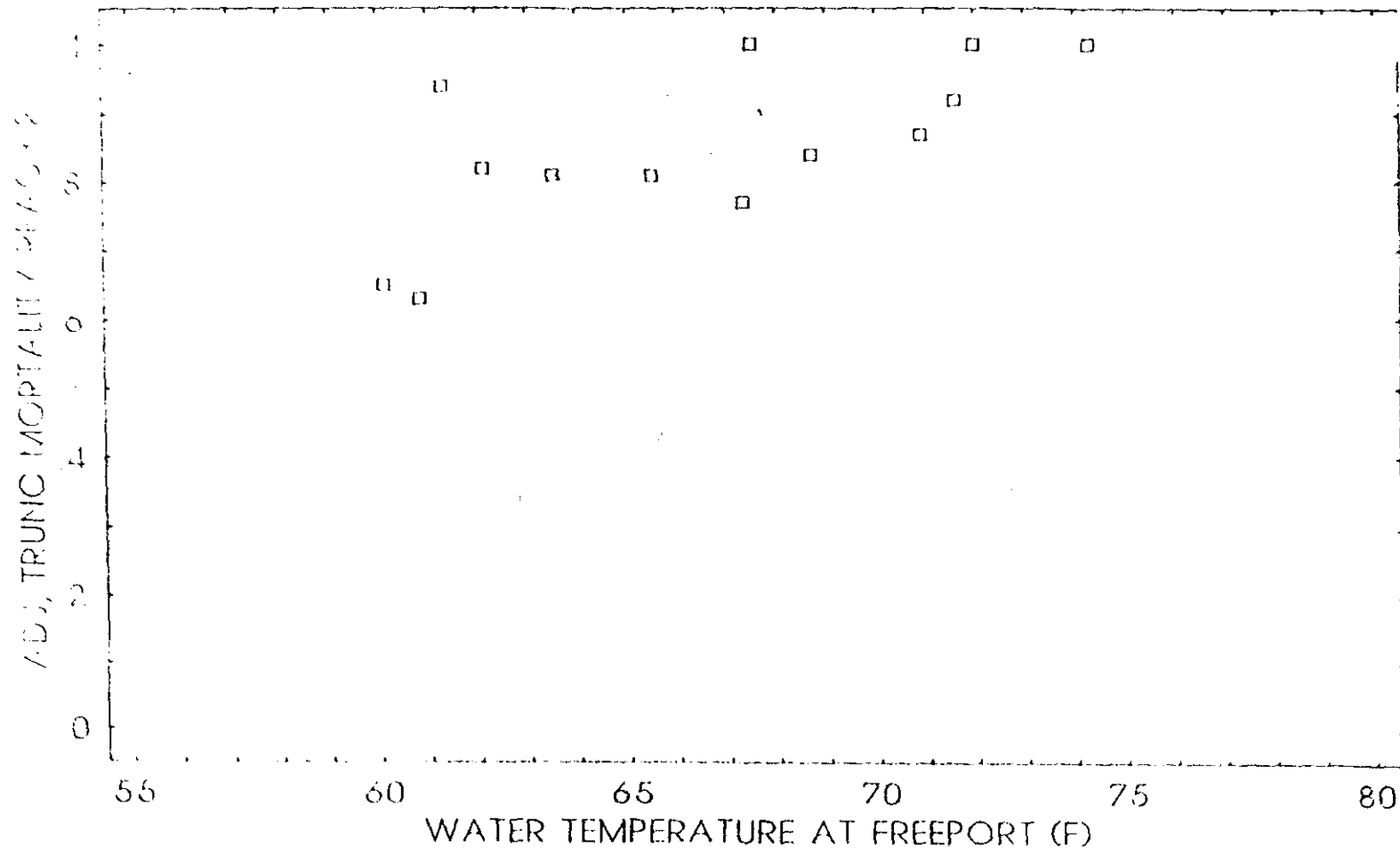


FIGURE 3. ESTIMATED CHINOOK SALMON SMOLT MORTALITY
VERSUS AVERAGE DAILY WATER TEMPERATURE
AT FREEPORT ON RELEASE DAY, REACH 2

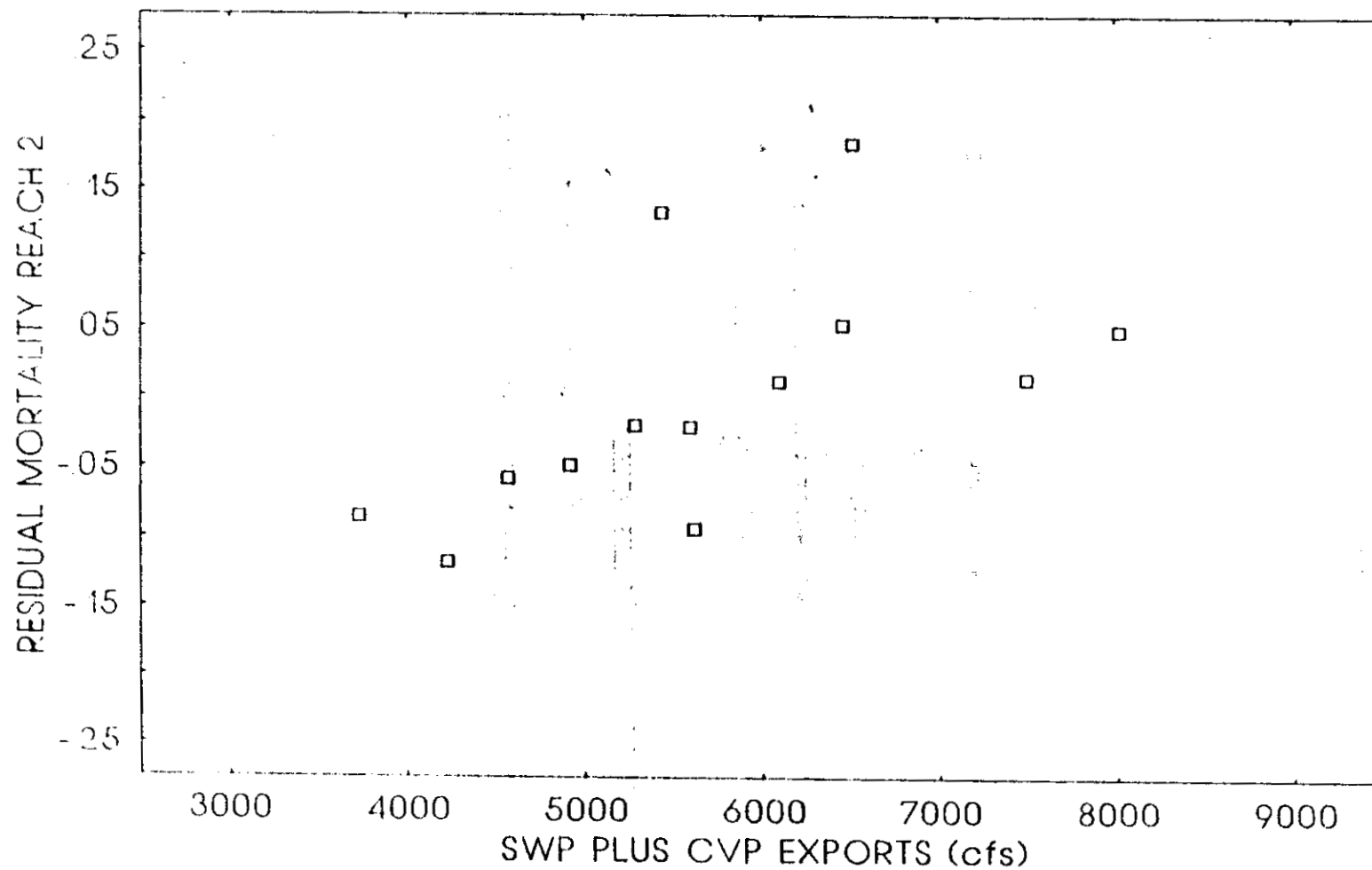


FIGURE 4. RESIDUAL CHINOOK SALMON SMOLT MORTALITY
 VERSUS AVERAGE DAILY WATER TEMPERATURE
 AT FREEPORT ON RELEASE DAY, REACH 2

southern delta may reflect the warmer water there than in the Sacramento River, losses of smolts exposed to the intakes of the CVP and SWP, and a longer travel route which increases the chance of loss to predation and other negative factors, such as contaminants.

The combination of water temperature and total exports explained the greatest portion of smolt mortality in Reach 2. It is important to realize that while water temperature and exports explained 66% of the variation in mortality there is still a great deal of mortality at the low temperature of 60°F and relatively low export (~3000 cfs). This indicates that while low temperatures and exports will lessen smolt mortality there are other factors that are not included in the model that influence smolt survival. Further efforts will be made to better define these factors.

The equation used to predict mortality in Reach 2 is :

$$M_2 = -0.5809 + (0.01793 * \text{ave water temp } ^\circ\text{F at Freeport}) + \\ (0.0000418 * \text{mean SWP plus CVP export pumping rate})$$

Mortality in Reach 1 (Sacramento to Walnut Grove)

One objective of the 1988 and 1989 experiments was to estimate the mortality in Reach 1, using mortality indices from concurrent releases at Sacramento and the "Courtland" site. Equation 2 was used to isolate the mortality in Reach 1,

$$M_1 = (M_T - M_{2,3}) / (1 - M_{2,3}) \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

This is important because we wanted to know how much of the overall mortality between Sacramento and Chipps Island was due to conditions in Reach 1 alone. Unfortunately, while we did estimate mortality in Reach 1 in 1988 and 1989, there were no concurrent releases below Courtland from 1978 through 1982 from

which to estimate mortality in Reach 1. Hence, while mortality estimates based on mortality indices from concurrent releases would have been preferable, reconstructed mortality estimates for Reach 1 were used as described in the next section.

Reconstruction of Mortality Estimates for Reach 1

We reconstructed mortality estimates during years when total survival was measured between Sacramento and Chipps Island. To do this we reconstructed estimated mortality in Reaches 2 and 3 based on the respective regression equations for those two reaches discussed earlier. Then we applied the Ricker's and proportionality equations (Eq. 2 and Eq. 3, respectively) to reconstruct estimated mortality in Reach 1. Beginning with Eq. 2,

$$M_1 = (M_T - M_{23}) / (1 - M_{23}), \quad \text{Eq. 2}$$

and substituting Eq. 3 for M_{23} ,

$$M_{23} = M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3, \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

we get,

$$M_1 = [M_T - (M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3)] / [1 - (M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3)]$$

$$M_1 = (M_T - M_2 * P_2 - M_3 * P_3) / (1 - M_2 * P_2 - M_3 * P_3) \quad \text{Eq. 5}$$

The data set used to estimate mortality in Reach 1 is provided in Table

7. It is based on:

M_2 as a function of water temperature at Freeport (Table 3).

M_3 as a function of water temperature at Freeport and total

SWP and CVP export pumping rates (Table 6).

M_T based on trawl mortality indices, 1978-82 plus 1988 and 1989 (Table

7).

TABLE 7. Trawl survival indexes, mortality indexes and environmental data using CWT chinook salmon smolts released at Sacramento from 1978 through 1982, 1988 and 1989.

CWT Number	Release Year	Trawl Surv Index	Reconst Mort Index (M _r) ¹	Inst Water Temp °F @ Release Site (Sacramento)	Average	--Mean Daily Flow(CFS) at:--		Size No Smolts per Pound Smolts
					Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport On Release Date	Freeport on Release Date (QSAC) ²	Freeport - (Sac to Court) (QSAC) ³	
66202	1978	0.00	1.00	73	69.8	13200	13400	55
66205	1979	0.42	0.00	88	68.8	11980	12650	93
66208	1980	0.32	0.49	82	68.9	13400	13367	51
66211	1980	0.35	0.37	82	68.2	13350	13800	57
66214	1981	0.018	0.94	78	72.4	10650	10170	52
66217	1981	0.00	1.00	78	74.3	9690	9485	55
66220	1982	1.48	0.00	59.5	59.5	45200	44500	95
66218	1982	1.54	0.00	59.4	59.3	43800	42650	71
66221	1982	0.84	0.29	88	82.7	32400	31800	93
661406/7	1988	0.85	0.00	82	83.5	9670	11123	68
66261/2	1988	0.09	0.17	74	74.3	12000	12800	55
63110	1989	0.18	0.84	87	87.5	13604	13318	54
63115/7	1989	0.21	0.40	89.5	70.0	12748	12748	61.9

¹ - Reconstructed mortality reflects adjusted, truncated mortality.

² - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Sacramento on the day(s) smolts were released.

³ - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Freeport on the day(s) smolts passed from Sacramento to "Courtland".

Our reconstructed mortalities for Reach 1 ranged from 0.00 to 1.00 and averaged 0.41 (Table 7, Appendix 1). With the exception of 1978 and 1981, estimated mortalities for Reach 1 are quite low.

Structural Limitations in Reach 1

It is important to clarify that our estimates of mortality in Reach 1 were not restricted to the stretch of Sacramento River between Sacramento and Chipps Island. Smolts passing the city of Sacramento can follow not only the Sacramento River but also travel via Sutter and Steamboat Sloughs (Figure 1). The latter sloughs divert about 20 to 30% of the Sacramento River flow which reenters the Sacramento just above Rio Vista. Hence our reconstructed estimates of mortality in Reach 1 are actually the net results of mortality through several potential routes and we assume they represent mortality between Sacramento and Chipps Island not attributable to Reaches 2 and 3. Ideally, Reach 1 should be replaced by several new reaches of the Sacramento River and separate reaches for the two sloughs. We do not have sufficient data to construct such a model. CWT smolts were only released in Steamboat Slough in 1988 and 1989. The raw survival index was 0.38 in 1988 and 0.91 in 1989. The only release made in Sutter Slough was in 1989 the raw survival index was very high (1.11). The sparse data from Steamboat and Sutter Sloughs suggest that survival in these sloughs can be relatively high which could explain the relatively low mortalities we often see in Reach 1 (Table 7).

Environmental Influences in Reach 1

We examined relationships between the reconstructed estimates of mortality in Reach 1 and the factors shown in Table 7.

Water temperature at release site and at Freeport were the only significant environmental factors with a correlation coefficient of 0.69 and 0.63 (Table 8, Figure 5). The correlation coefficient for size of smolts was significant, but the sign indicated, again, that mortality increased as size increased which is contrary to population biology. Streamflows were not significantly correlated with mortality (Table 8).

We used multiple regression analysis to determine whether combinations of the environmental factors account for more variation than temperature, and to make sure that the temperature correlation was not masking the importance of streamflow. After the temperature factor was incorporated into the regression equation, streamflow did not account for any significant variation in the residual mortalities.

Water temperature at Freeport on release day accounted for 40% of the variation in mortality in Reach 1 (Table 9, Figure 5). The equation used to predict mortality through Reach 1 is :

$$M_1 = -2.858 + (0.04851 * \text{ave water temperature } ^\circ\text{F at Freeport, CA}).$$

Table 3. Correlation coefficients between estimated mortality using CWF chinook salmon smolts released at Sacramento and recovered at Chipps Island for Reach 1, Sacramento to Walnut Grove, (M₁), and selected environmental variables. Symbols: *, correlation significant at 0.05 level; **, correlation significant at the 0.01 level.

Correlation Coefficients (r)	Mean Daily Flow(CFS) at:			
	Inst Water Temp °F @ Release Site (Sacramento)	Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport on Release Date	Freeport on Release Date (QSAC)†	Freeport - (Sac to Court) (QSAC)†
0.89**	0.83*	-0.49	-0.51	-0.66*

† - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Sacramento on the day(s) smolts were released at Sacramento.
 ‡ - Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flows at Freeport on the day(s) smolts passed from Sacramento to Courtland.

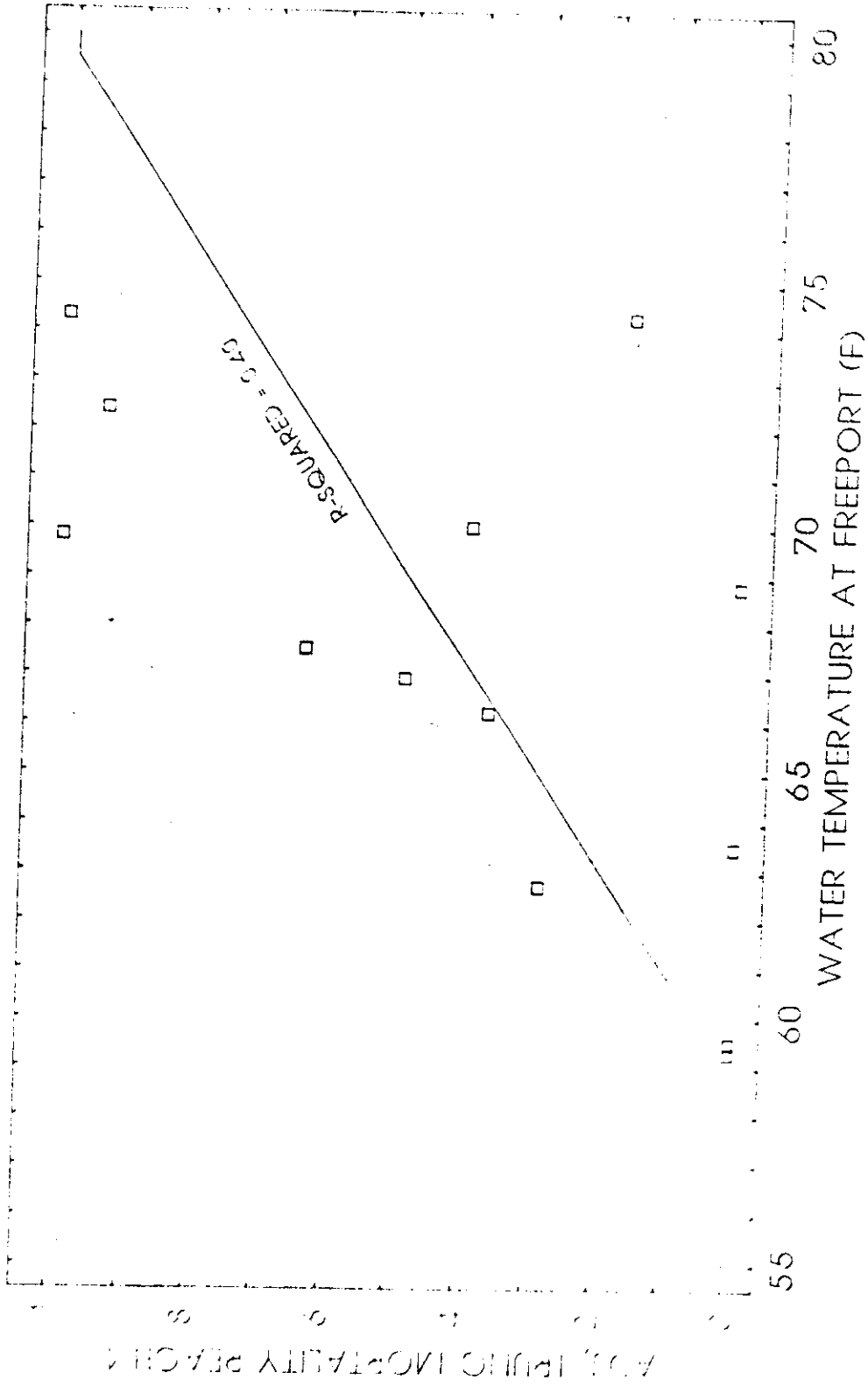


FIGURE 5. ESTIMATED CHINOOK SALMON SMOLT MORTALITY VERSUS AVERAGE DAILY WATER TEMPERATURE AT FREEPORT ON RELEASE DAY, REACH 1

Table 9. Linear regression between estimated mortality using CWT chinook salmon smolts released at Sacramento and recovered at Chipps Island for Reach 1, Sacramento To Walnut Grove, (M₁) and the average daily water temperature at the Freeport on release day.

Variable	Regression Coefficient	Standard Error	T-Statistic	Partial Correlation	Percent Variation Explained
Intercept	-2.858	1.211	-2.355		
Average Daily Water Temp °F @ Freeport on Release Day	0.04851	0.01798	2.698	0.63	39.8

R-Squared = 0.3982
 F-test: F ratio = 7.280
 Standard error of regression = 0.3123

SIMULATIONS OF SURVIVAL BETWEEN SACRAMENTO AND CHIPPS ISLAND

Figures 6 and 7, and Table 10 illustrate simulations of overall predicted survival at varied water temperatures at Freeport, fractions diverted at Walnut Grove, and SWP plus SVP export pumping rates in the southern delta. Total mortality was calculated using Equations 1 and 3,

$$M_T = M_1 + M_{2,3} - (M_1 * M_{2,3}) \text{ and} \quad \text{Eq. 1}$$

$$M_{2,3} = M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3. \quad \text{Eq. 3}$$

Substituting Equation 3 into Equation 1 gives,

$$M_T = M_1 + (M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3) - [M_1 * (M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3)]$$

$$M_T = M_1 + M_2 * P_2 + M_3 * P_3 - M_1 * M_2 * P_2 - M_1 * M_3 * P_3 \quad \text{Eq. 6}$$

Total survival was calculated using the equation,

$$S_T = (1 - M_T) \quad \text{Eq. 7}$$

Survival values for environmental conditions not shown here can be calculated using Equations 6 and 7 and the three regression equations (Table 11).

The examples provided in the text below are meant to reflect some of the survival changes predicted by the model as the three parameters vary through conditions often seen in the delta.

The reader is cautioned in use of this model output. While specific values of survival are given, by necessity, for each environmental condition, it is wise to emphasize general trends and the relative magnitude of change in survival as conditions change. While changes in the absolute magnitude of survival often appear small with a given change in an environmental parameter, the relative magnitude of change is often great and will be reflected directly by increases in adult production. Since we used all available mortality indices in the regression analyses, we had no means to develop meaningful

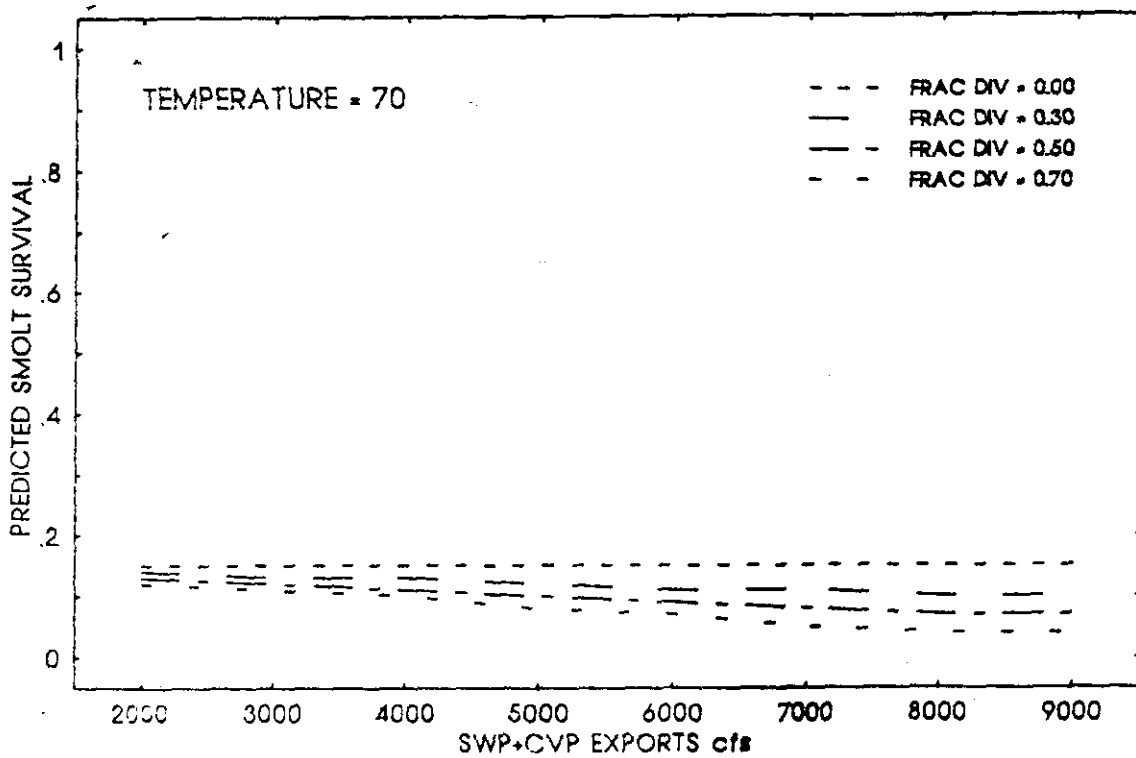
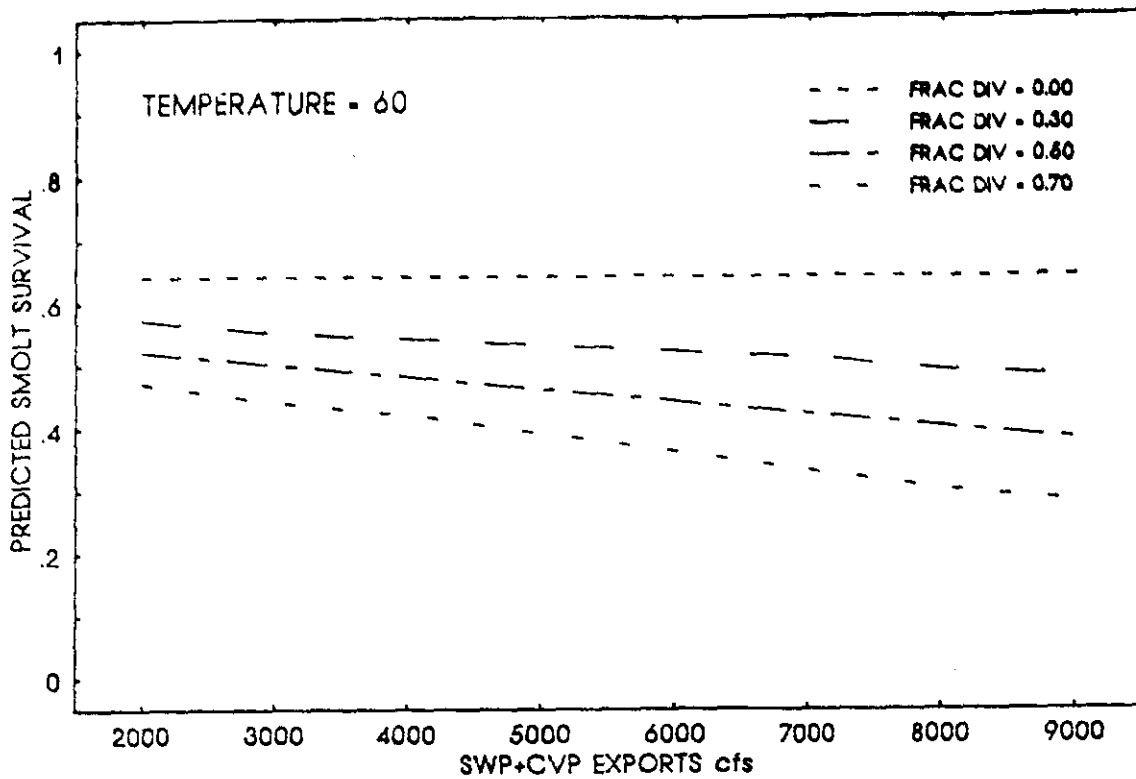


FIGURE 6. PREDICTED SMOLT SURVIVAL AT A SERIES OF WATER TEMPERATURES AND FRACTIONS DIVERTED AND SWP PLUS CVP EXPORT RATES

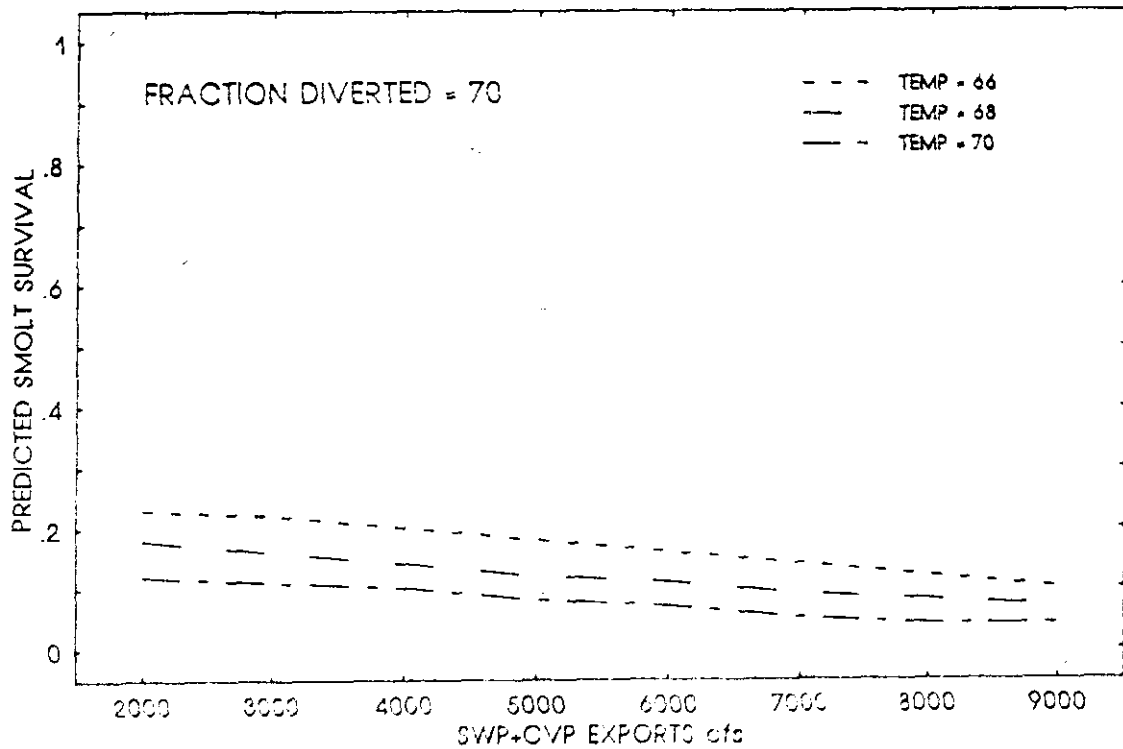
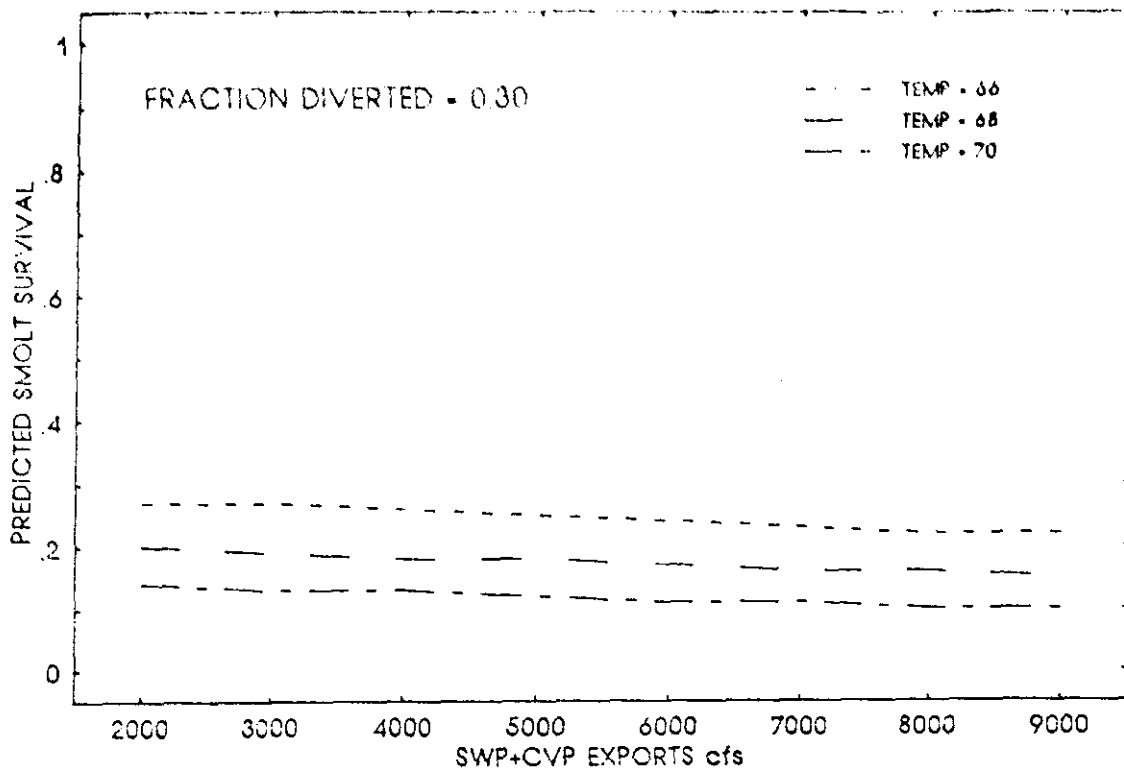


FIGURE 7 PREDICTED SMOLT SURVIVAL AT A SERIES OF WATER TEMPERATURES AND FRACTIONS DIVERTED AND SWP PLUS CVP EXPORT RATES 37

Table 10. Environmental parameters of the Sacramento River delta and corresponding total smolt survival through the three reaches, TFREE = water temperature at Freeport, °F; DIV = Fraction of water diverted at Walnut Grove; EXPORTS = total SWP and CVP exports from the southern delta; SURV123 = total survival of chinook salmon smolts between Sacramento and Chipps Island.

TFREE	DIV	EXPORTS	SURV123	TFREE	DIV	EXPORTS	SURV123
60.	0.	2000.	0.64	70.	0.	2000.	0.15
60.	0.	3000.	0.64	70.	0.	3000.	0.15
60.	0.	4000.	0.64	70.	0.	4000.	0.15
60.	0.	5000.	0.64	70.	0.	5000.	0.15
60.	0.	6000.	0.64	70.	0.	6000.	0.15
60.	0.	7000.	0.64	70.	0.	7000.	0.15
60.	0.	8000.	0.64	70.	0.	8000.	0.15
60.	0.	9000.	0.64	70.	0.	9000.	0.15
60.	0.3	2000.	0.57	70.	0.3	2000.	0.14
60.	0.3	3000.	0.55	70.	0.3	3000.	0.13
60.	0.3	4000.	0.54	70.	0.3	4000.	0.13
60.	0.3	5000.	0.53	70.	0.3	5000.	0.12
60.	0.3	6000.	0.52	70.	0.3	6000.	0.11
60.	0.3	7000.	0.51	70.	0.3	7000.	0.11
60.	0.3	8000.	0.49	70.	0.3	8000.	0.1
60.	0.3	9000.	0.48	70.	0.3	9000.	0.1
60.	0.5	2000.	0.52	70.	0.5	2000.	0.13
60.	0.5	3000.	0.5	70.	0.5	3000.	0.12
60.	0.5	4000.	0.48	70.	0.5	4000.	0.11
60.	0.5	5000.	0.46	70.	0.5	5000.	0.1
60.	0.5	6000.	0.44	70.	0.5	6000.	0.09
60.	0.5	7000.	0.42	70.	0.5	7000.	0.08
60.	0.5	8000.	0.4	70.	0.5	8000.	0.07
60.	0.5	9000.	0.38	70.	0.5	9000.	0.07
60.	0.7	2000.	0.47	70.	0.7	2000.	0.12
60.	0.7	3000.	0.44	70.	0.7	3000.	0.11
60.	0.7	4000.	0.42	70.	0.7	4000.	0.1
60.	0.7	5000.	0.39	70.	0.7	5000.	0.08
60.	0.7	6000.	0.36	70.	0.7	6000.	0.07
60.	0.7	7000.	0.33	70.	0.7	7000.	0.05
60.	0.7	8000.	0.3	70.	0.7	8000.	0.04
60.	0.7	9000.	0.28	70.	0.7	9000.	0.04

(Table 10 cont)

DIV	TFREX	EXPORTS	SURV123	DIV	TFREX	EXPORTS	SURV123
0.	66.	2000.	0.3	0.3	68.	6000.	0.17
0.	66.	3000.	0.3	0.3	68.	7000.	0.16
0.	66.	4000.	0.3	0.3	68.	8000.	0.16
0.	66.	5000.	0.3	0.3	68.	9000.	0.15
0.	66.	6000.	0.3	0.3	70.	2000.	0.14
0.	66.	7000.	0.3	0.3	70.	3000.	0.13
0.	66.	8000.	0.3	0.3	70.	4000.	0.13
0.	66.	9000.	0.3	0.3	70.	5000.	0.12
0.	68.	2000.	0.22	0.3	70.	6000.	0.11
0.	68.	3000.	0.22	0.3	70.	7000.	0.11
0.	68.	4000.	0.22	0.3	70.	8000.	0.1
0.	68.	5000.	0.22	0.3	70.	9000.	0.1
0.	68.	6000.	0.22	0.7	66.	2000.	0.23
0.	68.	7000.	0.22	0.7	66.	3000.	0.22
0.	68.	8000.	0.22	0.7	66.	4000.	0.2
0.	68.	9000.	0.22	0.7	66.	5000.	0.18
0.	70.	2000.	0.15	0.7	66.	6000.	0.16
0.	70.	3000.	0.15	0.7	66.	7000.	0.14
0.	70.	4000.	0.15	0.7	66.	8000.	0.12
0.	70.	5000.	0.15	0.7	66.	9000.	0.1
0.	70.	6000.	0.15	0.7	68.	2000.	0.18
0.	70.	7000.	0.15	0.7	68.	3000.	0.16
0.	70.	8000.	0.15	0.7	68.	4000.	0.14
0.	70.	9000.	0.15	0.7	68.	5000.	0.12
.3	66.	2000.	0.27	0.7	68.	6000.	0.11
.3	66.	3000.	0.27	0.7	68.	7000.	0.09
.3	66.	4000.	0.26	0.7	68.	8000.	0.08
.3	66.	5000.	0.25	0.7	68.	9000.	0.07
.3	66.	6000.	0.24	0.7	70.	2000.	0.12
.3	66.	7000.	0.23	0.7	70.	3000.	0.11
.3	66.	8000.	0.22	0.7	70.	4000.	0.1
.3	66.	9000.	0.22	0.7	70.	5000.	0.08
.3	68.	2000.	0.2	0.7	70.	6000.	0.07
.3	68.	3000.	0.19	0.7	70.	7000.	0.05
.3	68.	4000.	0.18	0.7	70.	8000.	0.04
.3	68.	5000.	0.18	0.7	70.	9000.	0.04

Table 11. Summary of equations and factors used to construct the models for simulating the survival of chinook salmon smolts between Sacramento and Chipps Island.

Reach	Factors Used To Estimate Mortality	Equation Used To Estimate Mortality For Reach
Sacramento to Walnut Grove	Average Daily Water Temp °F at Freeport on Release Day	$M_1 = [(-2.858) + (0.04851 * \text{Ave Water Temp, } ^\circ\text{F, at Freeport, CA})]$
Walnut Grove to Chipps Is via Mokelumne River System	Average Daily Water Temp °F at Freeport on Release Day	$M_2 = [(-0.5809) + (0.01793 * \text{Ave Water Temp, } ^\circ\text{F, at Freeport, CA}) + (0.0000418 * \text{SWP+CVP Exports})]$
Walnut Grove to Chipps Is via Sacramento River System	Average Daily Water Temp °F at Freeport on Release Day	$M_3 = [(-1.766) + (0.03489 * \text{Ave Water Temp, } ^\circ\text{F, at Freeport, CA})]$

error estimates beyond considering the standard error of the regressions (Tables 3, 6 and 9).

Effects of Fraction Diverted

We chose a range of diversion fractions that closely represented conditions with the Delta Cross Channel gates open (0.70) versus closed (0.30).

Survivals increased as the fraction of water diverted at Walnut Grove decreased (Figure 7). The greatest survival benefit from a decrease in fraction diverted into the central delta (from about 0.3 to 0.5 survival) is at low water temperatures (60°F). At water temperatures of about 70°F, however, even a major reduction in the fraction diverted, from 0.70 to 0.30, results in a rather minor effect on survival.

Although there is no present means to eliminate diversions into the central delta, we also estimated the survival when the fraction diverted was zero. This eliminated any mortality in Reach 2 and the model predicted total survival between Sacramento and Chipps Island to be 0.64 at a temperature of 60°F. This can be compared to a model prediction of survival of 0.47 at 60°F when the fraction diverted was 0.70 and exports were low at 2000 cfs. When no water is diverted at Walnut Grove and the temperature is 70°F, the model predicted a survival of 0.15. This, in turn, could be compared to a model survival of 0.12 at 70°F, again, with exports at 2000 cfs and fraction diverted at 0.70. The above example infers that a relatively large increase in survival can be gained at lower water temperatures by eliminating high levels of diversion at Walnut Grove, but relatively very little can be gained at higher water temperatures.

Effect of Water Temperature

Survival increases as water temperature decreases and model results indicate rather large increases in survival over a 10°F decrease in temperature when the other two factors are held constant (Figure 7). Managing for such a large drop in temperature, however, is not practical. A lowering of temperature of from two to four degrees at 66°F to 70°F provides a measurable increase in survival (from about 0.05 to 0.10 survival units) (Figure 8). The survival benefits of a temperature decrease appear slightly better when the fraction diverted at Walnut Grove is less.

Effect of Exports

Survival increases as total SWP and CVP export pumping rate decreases. The greatest relative survival benefits of reduced exports are seen at lower temperatures of 60°F and at high fraction diverted (0.70) (Figure 5). A decrease in exports from 9000 down to 2000 cfs yielded an improvement in survival from about 0.3 to 0.5.

A major question remains relative to the survival benefit of eliminating exports. We have not measured survival with a total pump curtailment and the model can not be expected to predict it under those conditions.

CONCLUSIONS

We have developed a smolt survival model based on multiple regression analyses using three environmental parameters. These factors were justified for inclusion by their statistically significant relationships with survival, and appear biologically sound. As is true with all modeling of complex systems, other factors that also influence smolt survival could have been omitted due to data limitations or the fact that we restricted our choice to environmental parameters that had a potential to be changed through management actions.

Our modeling has been successful in helping us to gain a better understanding of the potential factors influencing survival and to identify critical assumptions and data gaps in need of further research. There is a need :

- 1) to test further the assumption that smolts are diverted in proportion to the amount of flow diverted at selected sites,
- 2) to gain further estimates of smolt survival in Steamboat and Sutter Sloughs, and then add these sloughs to the model,
- 3) to estimate survival from CWT smolt releases in the central delta (Reach 2) under low export rates and with positive flow in the western San Joaquin River, and
- 4) to evaluate further the reasons for the high unexplained mortality in the central delta.

We believe the model is a reasonable representation of several key factors influencing smolt survival in the Sacramento River portion of the delta, and while uncertainties remain in our understanding, it is a useful

tool to assess the benefits of decreasing the fraction of Sacramento River that is diverted at Walnut Grove, the water temperature in the Sacramento River at Freeport, and the total exports of the SWP and CVP during the fall-run smolt downstream emigration period. The lessening of these three factors and their impacts on smolt survival can be achieved through a variety of potential structural and operational measures such as fish screens, Delta Cross Channel closures, fish guidance facilities and traps, tidal gates, increased flows, increased riparian vegetation, and decreased spring exports.

While survival benefits can potentially be achieved by each of the above measures, we believe that the most effective ones are those that keep smolts out of the central and southern portions of the delta where mortality is highest.

We expect that the model will be used for a diversity of activities in addition to our own Delta Salmon Team evaluations and subsequent testimony in the CSWRCB Bay/Delta Proceedings. Some of these other activities include environmental impact analyses of proposed projects in the delta; evaluations relative to the Article Seven Negotiations between CDWR, USBR and CDFG; and the CDWR and CDFG Four Pumps Agreement. We caution that the model represents survival under existing delta conditions and suggest that when the model is used to predict smolt survival under an altered delta environment that this concern be addressed.

The model is a definite improvement over the earlier, more general, smolt survival model which used the magnitude of flow as an index parameter to reflect the influence of flow, temperature and fraction diverted at Walnut Grove on survival. The flow-only model under-estimated survival under low temperature and low flow conditions which can occur in April and early May in

low runoff years. As noted earlier, this was because we had not measured survival at low flows and low temperatures.

We have not been able to measure survival when flows were increased and temperatures remained constant. This has prevented us from thoroughly evaluating the independent effects of flow. While we desire to define these effects, in practice this appears infeasible. We believe that as flows increase, smolt survival is greater due to both lessening water temperatures and fraction diverted and possibly flow itself.

It is important to remember, that of the simulations of survival we provided, the largest benefits in survival are seen for a 10°F decrease in temperature, in practice temperature decreases of several degrees are difficult to achieve through management changes. This limitation is due to the large influence of air temperature on water temperature. Further evaluation by the Delta Salmon Team will quantify the cost of lowering temperatures by various means.

We encourage suggestions for improvement of the smolt survival model and plan to refine it as additional data becomes available.

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APPENDIX 1 Data set including survival/mortality indices and environmental parameters from which regression analyses were performed. Expanded description of column heading abbreviations follow data set.

REACH 1																		
CWT	RELDATE	SURV_T	SURVADJ	MORT123A	MORT3RCS	MORT2RCS	MORT23RC	MORT1RCS	SIZE#	LENGTH	TREL	TFREEMAX	TFREEAVE	QSAC_R	QSAC_9_C			
66102	05/05/78	0.	0.	1.	0.67	0.97	0.88	1.	58.	81.	73.	71.1	69.8	13200.	13400.			
66205	06/24/79	0.47	0.23	0.77	0.63	0.91	0.82	0.	98.	75.	68.	69.7	68.8	11020.	12850.			
66208	06/02/80	0.32	0.18	0.82	0.57	0.85	0.65	0.49	81.	98.	62.	67.3	68.9	13400.	13267.			
66211	06/04/80	0.35	0.19	0.81	0.54	0.84	0.7	0.37	57.	96.	62.	68.6	68.2	13350.	13850.			
66214	06/02/81	0.02	0.01	0.99	0.78	0.86	0.83	0.94	52.	90.	78.	72.9	72.4	10850.	10170.			
66217	06/04/81	0.	0.	1.	0.83	0.9	0.88	1.	55.	90.	78.	75.2	74.3	9890.	9485.			
66220	05/11/82	1.48	0.82	0.18	0.31	0.73	0.41	0.	95.	78.	59.5	59.7	59.5	45200.	44500.			
66218	05/12/82	1.54	0.88	0.14	0.3	0.7	0.39	0.	71.	78.	59.4	59.5	59.3	43800.	42650.			
66221	06/04/82	0.84	0.36	0.64	0.42	0.72	0.49	0.29	93.	76.	68.	62.8	62.7	32400.	31600.			
661406/7	05/05/88	0.65	0.38	0.64	0.45	0.89	0.74	0.	88.	77.5	82.	63.5	63.5	9870.	11123.			
66261/2	06/23/88	0.09	0.05	0.95	0.83	1.	0.94	0.17	55.	88.8	74.	75.2	74.3	12000.	12800.			
63110	06/01/89	0.18	0.09	0.91	0.59	0.83	0.75	0.64	54.	*	87.	88.7	87.5	13604.	13319.			
63115/7	06/14/89	0.21	0.12	0.88	0.68	0.88	0.8	0.4	61.9	*	89.5	71.2	70.	12748.	12748.			
REACH 2																		
CWT	RELDATE	SURV_T	SURVADJ	MORT23AJ	MORT3ADJ	MORT2ADJ	SIZE#	LENGTH	TREL	TFREEMAX	TFREEAVE	QSAC_R	DIV_WO	QWEST_CI	QOUT_CI	EXPORTS	TIDE	CCO
66224	05/18/83	1.08	0.59	0.41	0.34	0.65	87.	79.	60.	60.3	60.1	69400.	0.227	35241.	77531.	3730.	1	close
66227	06/11/84	0.61	0.34	0.68	0.42	0.81	74.	82.	88.	68.2	65.5	16200.	0.616	1085.	8051.	5595.	8	open
65235/41	05/10/85	0.34	0.19	0.81	0.57	0.94	78.	78.	64.	61.7	61.3	13500.	0.643	-60.	6727.	6517.	1	open
65243	05/28/85	0.35	0.19	0.81	0.62	0.92	80.	81.	73.	72.5	71.6	14000.	0.637	6923.	13401.	5281.	1	open
66253/4	04/28/87	0.67	0.37	0.63	0.53	0.77	74.	81.	88.5	68.	67.3	11800.	0.412	889.	5898.	5518.	2	close
65255/7	05/01/87	0.4	0.22	0.78	0.51	1.	71.	79.	66.5	68.2	67.5	11200.	0.548	558.	4919.	5438.	1	open
661402/3	05/03/88	0.7	0.39	0.61	0.48	0.81	61.	78.	62.	64.4	63.5	7870.	0.387	-2381.	6294.	7497.	3	close
661404/5	05/06/88	0.76	0.42	0.58	0.29	0.82	64.5	78.	61.	63.5	62.1	11600.	0.547	-2957.	5854.	8020.	1	open
66259/60	06/21/88	0.17	0.09	0.91	0.78	1.	57.	90.	73.	72.5	72.	11400.	0.412	-2569.	3117.	6454.	5	close
66250	05/24/88	0.02	0.01	0.99	0.81	1.	59.	89.	78.	75.2	74.3	13000.	0.535	-1477.	2423.	8094.	2	open
63111	05/02/89	0.84	0.47	0.53	0.34	0.63	60.7	*	60.5	81.5	60.8	12578.	0.654	-299.	7578.	4224.	8	open
63106	06/02/89	0.35	0.2	0.8	0.73	0.84	44.	*	89.	89.8	88.7	13151.	0.847	-2581.	8140.	4911.	3	open
65805/3	06/15/89	0.21	0.12	0.88	0.91	0.87	54.1	*	71.	71.8	70.9	11461.	0.871	-1262.	6898.	4561.	8	open
REACH 3																		
CWT	RELDATE	SURV_T	SURVADJ	MORT3ADJ	SIZE#	LENGTH	TREL	TFREEMAX	TFREEAVE	QSAC_R	DRIO_RV	QWEST_CI	QOUT_CI	EXPORTS	TIDE	CCO		
66223	05/20/83	1.18	0.66	0.34	77.	81.	61.	63.	62.5	52400.	42988.	35026.	77042.	4150.	5	close		
66228	06/13/84	1.05	0.58	0.42	88.	77.	68.	67.3	66.8	13900.	8395.	1108.	8082.	5497.	3	open		
66235	05/11/85	0.77	0.43	0.57	78.	78.	66.	61.7	61.3	14000.	7051.	-147.	6898.	6890.	5	open		
66248	05/30/86	0.68	0.38	0.62	85.	81.	74.	72.5	72.	13700.	6870.	6884.	13439.	5612.	5	open		
66255	04/29/87	0.85	0.47	0.53	76.	79.	67.	68.2	67.4	11800.	6451.	1046.	5819.	5524.	3	close		
66258	05/02/87	0.88	0.49	0.51	73.	80.3	64.	64.4	67.5	10900.	5046.	511.	4367.	5147.	1	open		
63101	05/04/88	0.94	0.52	0.48	54.	88.	63.	64.4	63.9	7970.	6029.	285.	8032.	7025.	3	close		
63102	05/07/88	1.28	0.71	0.29	53.	87.	61.	60.8	59.9	12100.	7322.	-271.	8146.	7959.	1	open		
66263	06/22/88	0.4	0.22	0.78	55.	90.	75.	74.3	73.4	11100.	7357.	-2589.	3117.	8500.	6	close		
63103	06/25/88	0.34	0.19	0.81	52.	84.	74.	73.4	72.9	13400.	5586.	-1738.	2491.	8253.	8	open		
63112	05/03/89	1.18	0.66	0.34	64.8	*	82.	63.1	62.1	11178.	4280.	-247.	7594.	3942.	3	open		
63107	06/02/89	0.48	0.27	0.73	48.	*	67.	69.8	68.7	13151.	7847.	-1583.	7873.	5373.	3	open		
66114102	06/16/89	0.18	0.09	0.91	57.9	*	73.	70.5	70.	14038.	7708.	-1243.	5702.	4709.	8	open		

Column Heading Descriptions

Abbreviations Expanded descriptions

Column Heading	Expanded description
RELDATE	Coded wire tag identification
SURT 1	Beginning date of CRT smolt release
SURT 2	Survival index based on travel recovery
SURT 3	Adjusted mortality index based on travel recovery
MOA123A	Adjusted mortality index of smolts released at Sacramento and recovered at Chipps Island
MOA123B	Adjusted mortality index of smolts released at "Courtland" and recovered at Chipps Island
MOA123C	Adjusted mortality index of smolts released at Ryde and recovered at Chipps Island
MOA123D	Adjusted mortality index of smolts traveling through Reach 2
MOA123E	Reconstructed mortality of smolts traveling through Reach 3
MOA123F	Reconstructed mortality of smolts traveling through Reach 2
MOA123G	Reconstructed mortality of smolts traveling through Reaches 2 and 3
MOA123H	Reconstructed mortality of smolts traveling through Reach 1
SIZEW	Mean size of CRT smolts in units of number of smolts per pound of smolts
LENGTH	Mean length of CRT smolts in millimeters
TAREL	Instantaneous water temperature at release site, °F
TRFEMAX	Maximum daily water temperature at release site, °F
TRFEAVE	Average daily water temperature at release site, °F
OSAC_N	Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flow on release day(s), cfs
OSAC_S	Mean of the mean daily Sacramento River flow on the day(s) smolts emigrated from Sacramento to "Courtland", mm
DIV_WO	Mean daily fraction diverted at Walnut Grove on the day(s) smolts were at Walnut Grove
ORIO_RV	Mean daily Rio Vista flow on the day(s) smolts were emigrating past Rio Vista, cfs
QUEST_C1	Mean daily flow past Jersey Point on the day(s) smolts were emigrating past Chipps Island, cfs
QOUT_C1	Mean daily net delta outflow on the day(s) smolts emigrated past Chipps Island, cfs
EXPORTS	Mean of the mean daily CVP plus SWP export pumping rate on the day(s) smolts emigrated from Walnut Grove to Chipps Island via the central delta, cfs
TIDE	Tide phase index at release site
COB	Status of the Delta Cross Channel gates on the day(s) smolts emigrated past Walnut Grove

Appendix 2. Estimates of periods to which CWF juvenile salmon were exposed to different reaches of the Sacramento River following release at Discovery or Miller Parks, "Courtland" site, or Ryde (Isleton, 1983). Based on capture of fish off Chipps Island and estimates of migration speed.

CWF Number	Release Site	Release Location: RMA Reach Miles	Release Date:		"Courtland" site		Date at Rio Vista:		Date at Chipps Island:		Status Of Cross Channel Gates
			Begin	End	Begin	End	Begin	End	Begin	End	
66202	DISCPARK	410	82.9	08/05/78	08/05/78	08/08/78	08/07/78	06/08/78	08/10/78	08/17/78	open
66205	DISCPARK	410	82.9	08/04/78	08/08/78	08/05/78	08/05/78	08/08/78	08/14/78	08/18/78	open
66208	DISCPARK	410	82.9	08/02/80	08/03/80	08/04/80	08/04/80	08/05/80	08/18/80	08/20/80	open
66211	DISCPARK	410	82.9	08/04/80	08/05/80	08/08/80	08/08/80	08/09/80	08/18/80	08/20/80	close
66214	DISCPARK	410	82.9	08/02/81	08/03/81	08/04/81	08/05/81	08/05/81	08/15/81	08/18/80	open
66217	DISCPARK	410	82.9	08/04/81	08/05/81	08/08/81	08/07/81	08/08/81	08/11/81	08/17/81	open
66220	DISCPARK	410	82.9	05/11/82	05/11/82	05/12/82	05/12/82	05/14/82	05/27/82	05/15/82	open
66218	DISCPARK	410	82.9	05/12/82	05/12/82	05/13/82	05/13/82	05/14/82	05/18/82	05/15/82	open
66221	DISCPARK	410	82.9	06/04/82	08/04/82	08/05/82	08/05/82	08/07/82	08/12/82	08/09/82	close
861408/7	MILLERPARK	410	82.9	05/05/88	05/05/88	05/07/88	05/07/88	05/08/88	05/14/88	05/09/88	open
86261/2	MILLERPARK	410	82.9	08/23/88	08/23/88	08/24/88	08/25/88	08/25/88	07/02/88	08/15/88	open
83110	MILLERPARK	410	82.9	06/01/89	08/01/89	08/02/89	08/03/89	08/04/89	08/10/89	08/05/89	open
83115/7	MILLERPARK	410	82.9	08/14/89	08/14/89	08/15/89	08/18/89	08/17/89	08/24/89	08/17/89	open
86224	COURTLAND	420	33.8	05/16/83	05/16/83	05/16/83	05/16/83	05/18/83	05/23/83	05/20/83	close
86227	COURTLAND	420	33.8	08/11/84	06/11/84	08/11/84	08/12/84	08/14/84	08/17/84	08/16/84	open
86238/41	COURTLAND	420	33.8	05/10/85	05/10/85	05/10/85	05/10/85	05/12/85	05/18/85	05/14/85	open
86243	COURTLAND	420	33.8	05/28/86	05/28/86	05/28/86	05/28/86	05/30/86	08/03/86	08/01/86	open
86253/4	COURTLAND	420	33.8	04/28/87	04/28/87	04/28/87	04/28/87	04/30/87	05/04/87	05/01/87	close
86256/7	COURTLAND	420	33.8	05/01/87	05/01/87	05/01/87	05/01/87	05/03/87	05/08/87	05/04/87	open
861402/3	COURTLAND	420	33.8	05/03/88	05/03/88	05/03/88	05/03/88	05/08/88	05/12/88	05/08/88	close
861404/5	COURTLAND	420	33.8	05/06/88	05/06/88	05/08/88	05/08/88	05/08/88	05/14/88	05/09/88	open
86259/60	COURTLAND	420	33.8	08/21/88	08/21/88	08/21/88	08/21/88	08/22/88	08/25/88	08/23/88	close
86250	COURTLAND	420	33.8	08/24/88	08/24/88	08/24/88	08/24/88	08/24/88	08/29/88	08/27/88	open
83111	COURTLAND	420	38.3	05/02/89	05/02/89	05/02/89	05/02/89	05/04/89	05/09/89	05/05/89	open
83108	COURTLAND	420	38.3	06/02/89	06/02/89	06/02/89	06/02/89	06/04/89	06/07/89	06/05/89	open
85805/3	COURTLAND	420	38.3	08/15/89	08/15/89	08/15/89	08/15/89	08/17/89	08/22/89	08/17/89	open
86223	ISLETON	428	20.4	05/20/83	05/20/83	NA	NA	05/20/83	05/23/83	05/22/83	close
86229	RYDE	424	27.0	06/13/84	06/13/84	NA	NA	06/14/84	08/18/84	08/16/84	open
86235	RYDE	424	27.0	05/11/85	05/11/85	NA	NA	05/12/85	05/15/85	05/14/85	open
86248	RYDE	424	27.0	05/30/86	05/30/86	NA	NA	05/31/86	08/04/86	08/02/86	open
86255	RYDE	424	27.0	04/29/87	04/29/87	NA	NA	04/30/87	05/03/87	05/02/87	close
86258	RYDE	424	27.0	05/02/87	05/02/87	NA	NA	05/03/87	05/08/87	05/05/87	open
83101	RYDE	424	27.0	05/04/88	05/04/88	NA	NA	05/03/88	05/07/88	05/07/88	close
83102	RYDE	424	27.0	05/07/88	05/07/88	NA	NA	05/08/88	05/09/88	05/09/88	open
86293	RYDE	424	27.0	08/22/88	08/22/88	NA	NA	08/22/88	08/25/88	08/23/88	close
83103	RYDE	424	27.0	08/25/88	08/25/88	NA	NA	08/25/88	08/27/88	08/26/88	open
83112	RYDE	424	27.0	05/03/89	05/03/89	NA	NA	05/03/89	05/07/89	05/06/89	open
83107	RYDE	424	27.0	08/02/89	08/02/89	NA	NA	08/02/89	08/08/89	08/05/89	open
86114102	RYDE	424	27.0	08/16/89	08/16/89	NA	NA	08/16/89	08/20/89	08/18/89	open

† - DWR/RMA Delta Hydrodynamic Model.

Appendix 3. Statistical information on which environmental parameters were chosen.

TERM	COEFFICIENT	t-STAT	R-SQUARED	F-TEST
I. Reach 1				
A. Water temperature only				
Intercept	-2.858	-2.355		
Temp Freeport	0.0485	2.698		
			0.398	7.280
B. Number smolts per pound smolts only				
Intercept	1.420	3.924		
Size no/#	-0.015	-2.876		
			0.429	8.272
C. Water temperature and number smolts per pound smolts				
Intercept	-0.857	-0.504		
Temp Freeport	0.029	1.370		
Size no/#	-0.00991	-1.588		
			0.519	5.403
II. Reach 2				
A. Water temperature only				
Intercept	-0.336	-0.903		
Temp Freeport	0.018	3.197		
			0.482	10.224
B. SWP+CVP exports only				
Intercept	0.616	3.891		
Exports	0.0000412	1.510		
			0.172	2.281
C. Intercept				
Intercept	-0.581	-1.737		
Temp Freeport	0.01793	3.779		
Exports	0.0000418	2.279		
			0.659	9.658
III. Reach 3				
A. Water Temperature at Freeport only				
Intercept	-1.767	-3.440		
Temp Freeport	0.035	4.547		
			0.653	20.677
B. Tide Phase Index only				
Intercept	0.298	3.591		
Tide	0.064	3.607		
			0.542	13.011
C. Water temperature at Freeport and Tide Phase Index				
Intercept	-1.248	-2.520		
Temp Freeport	0.025	3.147		
Tide	0.036	2.255		
			0.770	16.723