

Cachuma Project Water Rights Hearing

November 2003

Rebuttal Testimony

Presenter:

Jean Baldrige

Senior Fisheries Consultant

Entrix, Inc.



Trout Stocking Upstream of Bradbury Dam



Trout Stocking Above Bradbury Dam

- Earliest records are from 1930
- Sources of trout stocked:
 - Coleman
 - Whitney
 - Hot Creek
 - Kamloops
 - Wyoming
 - Various Crosses
- 50,000 to 100,000 trout per year



Potential Impacts of Stocking

- Stocked into:
 - Lake Cachuma
 - Santa Cruz Creek
 - Santa Ynez River
 - Gibraltar Reservoir
- Genetic Introgression
 - Mixing of northern, non-anadromous strains with Southern California steelhead strains



Flow Study Method Selection
Consideration and Rejection of
PHABSIM



IFIM and PHABSIM

- Instream Incremental Flow Method (IFIM)
 - Collaborative
 - Identify issues and impacts
 - Study selection, design, and implementation
 - Alternatives analysis

- PHABSIM
 - Hydraulic modeling
 - Physical habitat index



SYRTAC IFIM Process

- SYRTAC collaboration/scoping meetings
 - Identify issues and impacts
 - Evaluate existing SYR information
 - Evaluate DWR PHABSIM model (1989)
- Key SYRTAC instream flow experts:
 - Bill Snider (CDFG)
 - Rob Titus (CDFG)
 - Kris Vyverberg (CDFG)
 - Jeff Thomas (FWS)
 - Jean Baldrige (CCRB)
 - Tom Payne (SYRWCD)



SYRTAC IFIM Process

- SYRTAC rejected PHABSIM because of:
 - Dynamic nature of the SYR channel structure
 - Water temperature limiting rearing
 - No access to important habitat
 - No suitable habitat criteria
- Selected wetted width study method



Clarification of Biological Opinion
CCWA Mixing
Fish Passage Releases



State Water Mixing

- CDFG Requirement
 - No more than 50% of any release would be State Water Project water
- Biological Opinion T&C No. 5
 - “CCWA water will not be mixed ... during the months of December through June unless flow is discontinuous in the mainstem”
 - WR 89-18 releases only occur when flow is discontinuous in the mainstem



Fish Passage Protocol

- Minimum passage flow is 25 cfs at Alisal
- Fish passage protocol ramps from 150 cfs to 25 for at least 14 days

“NMFS believes that the supplemental migration flows proposed likely appreciably increase steelhead survival ... improving the Santa Ynez steelhead population’s long term viability.” BO page 65



Adaptive Management Committee

Oversight of FMP & BO Implementation



Adaptive Management Committee

- Authorized by both BO and FMP
- Scope and responsibilities established by the FMP, BO and MOU
- Consensus Committee: policy oversight and fiscal management
- SYRTAC: stakeholder input



Adaptive Management Committee

Agency

Representative

Reclamation

David Young (Chair)

NOAA Fisheries

Matt McGoogan

USFWS

Bridget Fahey

CDFG

Mary Larson

CCRB

Jean Baldrige

ID#1

Chuck Hanson

SYRWCD

Bruce Wales

City of Lompoc

Paul Bratovich



Adaptive Management Committee

- Adaptively manages ongoing releases
- Designs and oversees additional investigations
- Oversees implementation of monitoring plan
- Guides implementation of BO and FMP
- Conducts Long-term evaluation



End

Cachuma Project Water Rights Hearing

main menu

