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SUBJECT: MARCH STATUS REPORT FOR NAPA RIVER FISH MONITORING

Dear Mike:

The following Monthly Status Report summarizes work conducted for the USACE by the Stillwater Sciences Team in March 2002. Invoices for the level of task completion through March 2002 are being sent under separate cover (one for the 2001 contract, one for the 2002 contract).

Task 1105 – Final Work Plan

The 2002 Work Plan was delivered to Mike Dietl on 25 March 2002.

Task 1106 --Final QA/QC Plan

The 2002 QA/QC Plan was delivered to Mike Dietl on 25 March 2002.

Task 1201 - Database

Data for March sampling will be available on the website following QA/QC.

Task 1203 - Internet Site

The internet site has been established, and access granted to the public. A variety of data queries are available on the web site. These data queries continue to be updated and refined.

Task 1303 – Status report for March 2002

This March 2002 status report will be included on the March invoice.

Task 1403 – Field sampling for March

Field sampling for March occurred on March 25-26, 2002. Sampling consisted of beach seining, purse seining, fyke nets, and otter trawling.

The otter trawl effectively fished at Site 1A-1, 1A-2, 2-1, and 1B-1, collecting striped bass, long-jawed mudsucker, shimofuri goby, tule perch, black crappie, staghorn sculpin, and a channel catfish. As no fish were captured at ebb tide on 25 March at Site 1A-1, this site was resampled on 26 March during high tide and fish were captured.

The beach seine was effectively fished at Site 1A-3 (marsh plain terrace), and at the north end and the south end of the SWOA during flood and ebb tide. The beach seine collected staghorn sculpin, common carp, threespine stickleback, Pacific herring, inland silversides, shimofuri goby, striped bass, and a threadfin shad.

The purse seine effectively fished at Site 3-1, catching over 50 Pacific herring. At Site 1A-9 the flow through the channel prevented the purse seine from effectively deploying. Instead, six replicate hauls

of the purse seine were made 50-100 feet east of the breached levee, collecting inland silversides, staghorn sculpin, threadfin shad, Pacific herring and a Sacramento splittail.

On March 25, 2002 fyke nets were effectively fished at sites 1A-8, 1A-7, and 1A-6. The fish species that were captured included long-jawed mudsucker, shimofuri goby, staghorn sculpin, threespine stickleback, Pacific herring, and one adult delta smelt. Fyke net sampling at the breached levee site 1A-6 proved to be impractical. The fast current through the breach prevented precise boat maneuvering and made net deployment and retrieval difficult. One net was ripped while trying to recover it. In addition the fast current caused higher fish mortality in the fyke net due to impingement and entrainment. Bent and missing fyke net posts due to boat traffic or vandalism also made fishing the site difficult. As a result, it was decided to move Site 1A-6 about 30 feet from its initial location in the main channel, up onto the terrace just east of the levee breach inside the SWOA. Fyke net site 1A-10 was effectively fished on March 26, 2002 and collected over 50 Pacific herring young of the year.

Field data sheets are attached to this report.

Task 1503 – Data Analysis for March 2002

Data collected during the March field trip has been checked for quality control (Q/C) and entered into the database.

Upcoming Activities

Field activities this month will occur on April 8-9 and 22-23, 2002.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wilcox
Project Manager

cc: Sharon Kramer
Steve Kramer
Stephanie Theis
Susan Davis
Lauren Dusek

Enclosures: March sampling data sheets (on original letter only)
Two extra copies of status report