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SUBJECT: NOVEMBER 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 November 2001. An invoice for the level of task completion through November 2001 is being sent under separate cover.

Task 1108 –Final Site Location Report

The Final Site Location Report was transmitted on November 7, 2001, based on recent confirmation of “no additional comments” from the USACE.

Task 1109 –Periodic Status Meetings

A status meeting should probably be scheduled for mid-December, to review field efforts to date, and possibly discuss comments on any draft reports.

Task 1201 - Database

Data for the July, August, September, and sampling is available on the website. October and November data will be available on the website following the completion of Q/C procedures.

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 1308 – Status report for November 2001

This November 2001 status report was completed on November 5, and will be included on the November invoice.

Task 1407 –Field sampling for November

Field sampling for November occurred on November 8-9, 2001. Beach seines, purse seines, otter trawls, and fyke nets were deployed.

The purse seine was effectively fished at Site 1A-9 and Site 3-1. The purse seine captured inland silversides and American shad.

The otter trawl collected striped bass, tule perch, staghorn sculpin, American shad, threadfin shad, and wakasagi. Due to the debris previously caught during the otter trawl at Site 1A-2, an alternate site north of the levee breach in the SWOA was sampled, capturing a few fish. In addition to the previously designated sampled sites, the deep-water channel near marsh plain Site 1A-3 was sampled with the otter trawl. However, the debris in the channel near Site 1A-3 prevented the otter trawl from fishing the full sampling time, and it was ineffective in capturing fish.

The beach seine was effectively fished at Site 1A-3 (marsh plain terrace) and at multiple sites in the SWOA during flood, high, and ebb tide. The beach seine collected inland silversides and a mosquito fish.

Fyke nets were fished at all pre-existing fyke net locations. In an effort to catch a higher diversity of fish at Site 1A-10 and Site 1A-6, fyke nets were set overnight between November 7th and November 8th. At Site 1A-6, a larger number of inland silversides were captured than in previous months, but many of these fish were mangled due to the high velocity of water in the channel. Boat maneuverability at this site is compromised due to the high velocity of water during the ebb tide. A possible alternative sampling location at this site would be to place the net along the bank.

The fyke set at Site 1A-3, marsh plain terrace, has been ineffective in capturing fish thus far. As noted earlier, sampling at this site was supplemented with an otter trawl in mid-channel. In addition, a beach seine was pulled across the marsh plane terrace north of the fyke net, capturing over 600 inland silversides.

Overall, fyke nets collected inland silversides, shimofuri goby, and American shad. The number of fish collected is listed in Table 1.

At Site 1A-3 Sharon Kramer documented a salmon, approximately two feet long, off the side of the boat.

Field data sheets are attached to the original hard copy of this report.

Task 1408 –Field Sampling for December

Preparations are being made for the December sampling. Rental equipment has been reserved, schedules established, and logistics discussed. The sampling dates are December 10th and 11th, 2001. We will switch to a 21-foot aluminum boat for sampling, instead of the 17-foot Boston Whaler.

Task 1506 – Data Analysis for October 2001

Data collected during the October field trip has been entered into the database and is currently in the Q/C process.

Task 1507 – Data Analysis for November 2001

Data collected during the November field trip has been entered into the database and is currently in the Q/C process.

Task 1700 –Table of Contents for Annual Report

The Table of Contents for the Administrative Draft of the Annual Report was transmitted on November 1, 2001. Comments were received from the USACE on November 15, 2001.

Task 1701 –Administrative Draft Annual Report

The Administrative Draft Report was transmitted on November 20, 2001. The report does not include a full set of data analyses, as data have only been collected through October. Comments on the Administrative Draft Report should be received prior to production of the next draft report. We request that the current schedule for the draft and final reports be modified so that the field data from November and December can be incorporated, and so that the USACE has sufficient time to comment on the previous Administrative Draft before the next draft is due.

Upcoming Activities

Further development of the web site and database will continue. Field sampling began in July and will continue monthly. Data in the database will continue to be checked, then uploaded to the web site.

A contract modification needs to be drafted to authorize work for the 2002 option year.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wilcox
Project Manager

c: Sharon Kramer
Steve Kramer
Stephanie Theis
Susan Davis

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