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September 6, 2001

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

**Task 1101 – Kick-off Meeting Transcripts**

One edit was requested to the Draft Kick-off meeting notes. That edit has been made, and a hard copy of the notes is enclosed.

**Task 1108 - Final Site Location Map and Report**

Some edits to the draft report text have been made, and comments on the maps were received from the USACE. At your request, the map base is being changed back to the non-georeferenced version published earlier. No other comments have been received.

**Task 1201 - Database**

The Database Proposal was accepted by the USACE on June 11, 2001. Database personnel continued work on the Database. Data from the July and August surveys have been entered. The data are currently being checked. Field data forms were revised following their use for the July/August sampling, and these changes were implemented in the data entry forms and database structure. July data are available on the web site, and August data will follow once the Q/C procedures are complete and several other database refinements are completed in the next week or so.

**Task 1203 - Internet Site**

The internet site has been established, and access granted via password to project team members. Public access will be granted and links to the IEP site published following uploading of the August data.

**Task 1305 – Status report for August 2001**

This August 2001 status report was prepared on September 6, and will be included on the September invoice.

**Task 1404 –Field sampling for August**

Field sampling for August occurred from August 14-15, 2001. A tidal gage installation was completed on the dock at JFK County Park. The elevation of the tide gauge needs to be verified. Otter trawls, purse seines, and fyke nets were deployed. Methods for sampling were refined. The purse seine was successfully used at the SWOA levee breach site (1A-9) and at the First Street Bridge site (3-1). The purse seine was successful at capturing fish (inland silversides) during the August effort.

The otter trawl collected splittail, striped bass, yellowfin and shimofuri gobies, starry flounder, long-jawed mudsuckers, tule perch, northern anchovy, and a set of lovely automobile tires including spare. The number of fish collected by gear type is listed in Table 1. The otter trawl was not used at Site 3-1 where the purse seine was used.

The fyke nets were again successful at capturing fish in several locations. Fish species captured included inland silversides and yellowfin gobies (Table 1). Several problems with effectively fishing fyke nets were encountered at several sites. An abbreviated time period for setting and retrieval of fykes was encountered in several locations (sites 1A-6 and 1A-10) due to difficult access caused by shoals and tides. Fyke nets at sites 1A-6 and 1A-10 may need to be fished for a 24 hour period (several tide cycles) in order to give a more representative indication of fish presence. Fyke net site 1A-3 is barely submerged and has been totally exposed at the time of retrieval in July and August sampling. The August survey crew thought that a beach seine at Site 1A-3 might be more effective at capturing fish. Fyke net site 1A-5 was repositioned slightly deeper but was ineffective at capturing fish. This fyke was previously positioned into deeper water, and may need to be repositioned even deeper.

The beach seine was effectively fished at the head of the main slough channel in the SWOA marsh. The beach seine captured inland silversides, yellowfin gobies, and mudsuckers (Table 1).

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

#### **Task 1405 –Field Sampling for September**

Preparations are being made for the September sampling. Data sheets were finalized, rental equipment reserved, schedules established, and logistics discussed. Sampling dates are September 11-12.

#### **Task 1504 – Data Analysis for August 2001**

Data collected during the August field trip was entered into the database, and analysis has begun.

#### **Task 1603 - Larval Sample Processing July/March 2001**

All larval subsamples have been processed. We have begun to count fish from the remaining samples, in order to more accurately extrapolate the results for endangered species take. Final counts can be completed after a contract modification is received from the USACE. The most recently processed CDFG 20mm tow contained 2,995 fish.

#### **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 be checked, then uploaded to the web site.

Respectfully submitted,

Scott Wilcox  
Project Manager

c: Steve Kramer  
Stephanie Theis

Enclosures: August sampling data sheets (on original letter only)  
Final Kick-off meeting notes

Table 1. Sampling Results for August 2001.

Site	Splittail	Shimofuri goby	Yellowfin goby	Long-jawed mudsucker	Inland silverside	Starry Flounder	Striped bass	Tule Perch	Northern Anchovy	Tires
1A-1 Otter						3	16	1	1	
1A-2 Otter			8				2	1		3
1A-3 Fyke	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1A-4 B.S.		1		3	72					
1A-5 Fyke	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1A-6 Fyke					21					
1A-7 Fyke			1		1					
1A-8 Fyke					33					
1A-9 Purse					146					
1A-10 Fyke	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
1B-1 Otter		1	1			3	41	2		
2-1 Otter	1		1	4			19	1	1	
3-1 Purse					8					