

## Delta Smelt Working Group Meeting/Conference Call Minutes

December 9, 2005

Participating: Gonzalo Castillo (USFWS), Mike Chotkowski (USBR), Kevin Fleming (CDFG), Lenny Grimaldo (CDWR), Bruce Herbold (USEPA), Tracy Hinojosa (CDWR), Peter Johnsen (USFWS), Ann Lubas-Williams (USBR), Ryan Olah (USFWS, convener), Kevin Sun (CDWR), Jim White (CDFG) and Victoria Poage (USFWS, scribe)

### For Discussion:

1. Discuss potential winter fish action scenarios.
2. Schedule another in-person meeting for next week.

### Handouts:

1. Winter salvage slides (Mike Chotkowski)
2. Winter salvage slides (Kevin Fleming)

### Recommendations for WOMT:

None at this time.

The group began with a discussion of the increment and duration of potential export curtailments, and whether to use all assets for protection of spawners or reserve some assets for the protection of juveniles later in the water year. At the EWA Workshop, Kenny Rose had asked with regard to Bruce Herbold's observations on winter salvage whether he had looked at raw salvage over the previous FMWT; Victoria sent a spreadsheet via e-mail to the DSWG that included this calculation. The graph appears remarkably similar to the result of salvage density over FMWT, as presented by Herbold, but did not provide enough additional insight for the group to recommend a specific winter action.

Kevin Fleming noted that the Fall Mid-Water Trawl had sampled about half of the stations for the December leg of the survey. He will bring preliminary results to the next group meeting.

Because Project and other reservoirs are relatively full, there is a potential to see fairly rapid rises in streamflow as a result of winter storms. In the event that fish movement begins with increases in streamflow, it may be appropriate to begin a winter action coincident with the forecast of a substantial storm event. Export pumping would need to be reduced in advance of an upswing in the hydrograph. The DSWG (particularly the operators) will monitor long-range weather forecasts as an additional indicator of delta smelt movement into their spawning areas.

### Action Items:

1. Kevin Fleming will provide a summary of FMWT results by station.
2. Bruce Herbold and Victoria Poage will write up "Plan A" for review and comment by Friday, December 16.

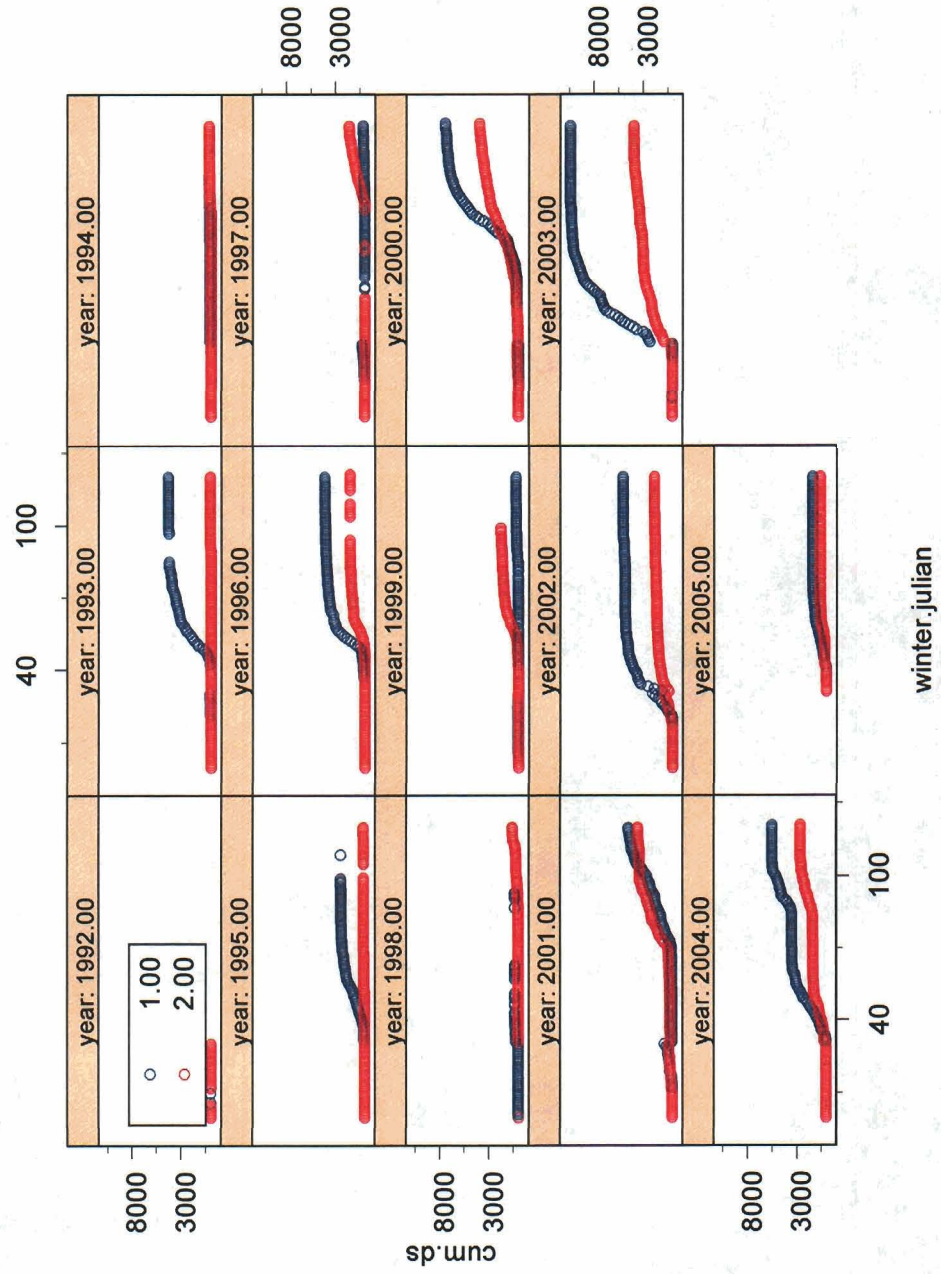
3. Kevin Fleming and Jim White will write up "Plan B" for review and comment by Friday, December 16.

Next Meeting: Friday, December 16, 9:00 am in Conference Room A at the Cottage Way federal building.

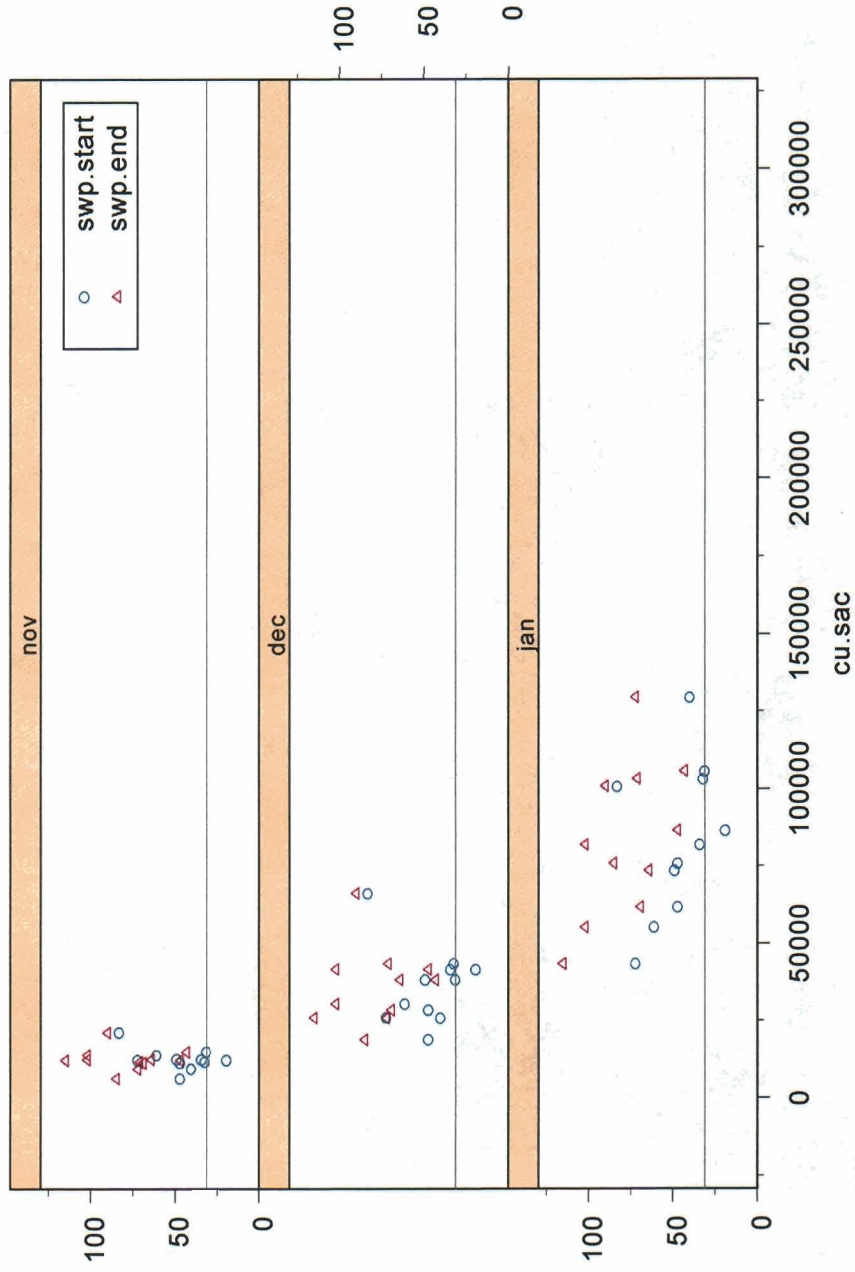
Attachments: 3

Submitted:  
VLP

Attachment 1: Mike Chotkowski handout #1



Mike Chotkowski handout #2



Attachment 2. Kevin Fleming handout

