

## **2017 Long-term Operations Biological Opinions (LOBO) Biennial Science Review**

### **About the Document:**

Title: Review of the “Summary of Enhanced Delta Smelt Monitoring (EDSM) for LOBO Independent Review Panel”

Subject and Purpose: The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) use this Biennial Science Review to review the prior years’ water operations and regulatory actions prescribed by their respective Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) actions, with the goal of developing lessons learned, incorporating new science, and making appropriate, scientifically justified adjustments to the implementation of the RPA actions to support future water year’s operations. The Independent Review Panel’s (IRP) findings and recommendations provide objective feedback to agency staff to inform rapid decision-making. This year, USFWS is asking the panel to review and provide feedback on the EDSM program.

### **About the Peer Review Process:**

Type of review: Panel

Number of Reviewers: Six

Panel expertise: Expert qualifications included academic, agency, and advisory work in relevant fields including aquatic and fisheries science, population dynamics, ecology, and modeling.

Selection of Peer Reviewers: Reviewers were selected by the Delta Stewardship Council Delta Science Program based on their qualifications and recommendations from the agencies.

Management of Peer Review: The peer review is being managed by the DSP. Part of DSP’s mission is to provide best possible scientific information to inform decision-making in the Bay-Delta system.

### **About Public Participation**

Opportunities for the Public: The meeting is open to the public and will be held December 5-7, 2017 in Sacramento. The public will have the opportunity to provide comments to the panel. The meeting notice, charge, and review materials are posted at: <http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/event-detail/15127>. USFWS will take the peer review panel’s findings and incorporate into future water operations and EDSM implementation.

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