**CA WaterFix Aquatic Science Peer Review Phase 2B**

**About the Document**

Title: California WaterFix Aquatic Science Peer Review Phase 2B

Subject and Purpose: The purpose of the California WaterFix (WaterFix) Aquatic Science Peer Review Phase 2B is to provide the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) with an independent scientific evaluation of draft sections of the NMFS’ and FWS’ Biological Opinions (BiOps) on WaterFix for all federal Endangered Species Act-listed aquatic species and their critical habitat. NMFS and FWS requested the review to evaluate the methods and approaches to the analysis of effects of WaterFix.

**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 (DSP) 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 phase 2b announcement is posted online at: <http://cms.capitoltechsolutions.com/ClientData/CaliforniaWaterFix/uploads/CWF_AquaticSciencePeerReview2B_1.2324.17.pdf>

The charge for the panel and reviewers findings will be posted on http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/central\_valley/WaterFix/2016CaliforniaWaterFixAquaticSciencePeerReview.html . USFWS will take the peer review panel’s findings and incorporate into the final Biological Opinion, which is expected to be finalized by the Spring of 2017.

**Contact:** Jana Affonso, USFWS, Bay-Delta FWO, jana\_affonso@fws.gov