

Delta Regional Ecosystem Restoration Implementation Plan

Peer Review

Scientific peer review is an essential component of the Delta Regional Ecosystem Restoration Implementation Plan (DRERIP) process to maintain scientific integrity and allow for science-based adaptive management. Both the conceptual models and the scientific evaluation underwent peer review.

Two different peer review processes were used for the conceptual models:

Species Models

The species models underwent a traditional anonymous peer review process where after the models were written, they were sent via e-mail to a previously identified expert on that particular species. The selection of the reviewers was completed by a 3rd party independent editor. The role of the editors continues throughout the process. The reviewer's comments were sent to the editor who then worked with the model author to address those comments.

Several species models were also subject to collegial review, where key stakeholders were invited their experts to offer comments on the models. All the comments from the collegial reviewers were sent to the Species Model Editors who categorized the comments based upon their technical merit. When relevant technical questions were raised, the model author was asked to address those questions in the species model.

Ecosystem Models

The peer review process for the ecosystem conceptual models was accomplished using two review panels convened by Dr. Denise Reed of the AMPT. The review panel convened on May 23-24, 2007 and on June 13-14, 2007 and included scientists from several respected universities as shown in the Table below. The panelists received all the models in advance and were assigned to act as primary or secondary reviewers for models oin their fields of expertise. Panel meetings included closed sessions where the panel considered their initial comments on the models, open sessions where panelists interacted with the model developer(s) to ensure complete understanding of the approach and content. The Panel then developed a consensus report for each model and the lead reviewer met with model developers to ensure that the the comments and recommendations were clear. Dr. Reed served as editor for the subsequent revisions, working with the developers to ensure that revisions met the intent of the panel's recommendations. If the revisions to a particular model were significant, a re-review with a subset of the original panel was initiated using an anonymous process similar to that described above for the species models.

(cont.)

Review Panel Members - Ecosystem Models	
May 23-25, 2007	
Dave Freyburg	Stanford University
Zach Hymanson	Tahoe Science Consortium
Michael Johnson	UC Davis
Peter Moyle	UC Davis
John Melack	UC Santa Barbara
Harry Ohlendorf	CH2MHill
Denise Reed	Univ of New Orleans
Jim Sickman	UC Riverside
June 12 – 14, 2007	
Dave Burdick	Univ of New Hampshire
Geoff Schladow	UC Davis
Dave Freyburg	Stanford University
Zach Hymanson	Tahoe Science Consortium
John Melack	UC Santa Barbara
Peter Moyle	UC Davis
Denise Reed	Univ of New Orleans
Jim Sickman	UC Riverside

The CALFED Bay-Delta Authority (CBDA)'s Independent Science Board and its ERP Science Board (currently disbanded) played a critical role in reviewing the overall DRERIP process and the scientific evaluation process. Ideas and comments received from these science boards were incorporated into the scientific evaluation worksheet template that is provided on this website.