

## **Use of the Delta Conceptual Models**

The ERP agencies rely on the DRERIP conceptual models as the underpinning for the revised ERP Conservation Strategy, and other ongoing planning processes in the Delta including the Bay Delta Conservation Plan and Delta Vision.

The information contained within these baseline models will serve as the functional vehicle through which science shall inform sound public policy.

Their importance to Delta recovery and natural resources management is therefore of major significance. The models will be used to:

1. Evaluate proposed restoration actions and targets in the Delta as they influence the species;
2. Identify and develop new actions to meet habitat restoration goals and objectives including reduction of stressors;
3. Identify indicators or performance measures to measure success toward meeting ERP goals and objectives;
4. Identify research needed to fill critical knowledge gaps;
5. Represent the basic (expert consensus) understanding of the ecology of the given species;
6. Help identify monitoring needs for these species and their associated driver indicators;
7. Form the foundation for risk assessment for protection and recovery planning associated with these species; and
8. Form the conceptual framework to serve as the foundation for the ERP adaptive management process.