



Memorandum

Date: 12/06/2016

To: Central Valley Angler Survey Files

From: Jason Azat
Environmental Scientist
Anadromous Resources Assessment / Fisheries Branch

Subject: **Central Valley Angler Survey Effort Distribution Model Pilot Study**

The purpose of this memo is to summarize the results of the Central Valley Angler Survey (CVAS) Effort Distribution Model (EDM) Pilot Study conducted at Thermalito Outlet on the Feather River during July 2015.

On 20 and 25 July, 2015, the Thermalito Outlet Hole on the Feather River was visually monitored from a vantage point that afforded 100% coverage, and angler effort was recorded every fifteen minutes, for the entirety of the days surveyed. Roving counts were conducted concurrently by boat. These observations were conducted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW), CVAS. The CVAS EDM expansion method was used to produce an estimate of angler effort based on roving counts.

Vantage point observation counted a total of 564 angler effort hours for the days surveyed. Roving counts were 31 anglers during the 08:00 hour on 7/20/15 and 16 anglers during the 15:00 hour on 7/25/15. Expanded roving counts using the EDM yielded a total estimate of 860 angler effort hours for the days surveyed. In this case the EDM produced an overestimate of 50%.

The CVAS strives to produce accurate and precise estimates of angler effort. Though this pilot study has a small sample size, it raises the question of whether the EDM model can be improved. The CVAS recommends additional studies and computer modeling to investigate the accuracy and precision of the EDM, and possible improvements to the model.

Any questions or concerns about the 2015 Central Valley Angler Survey Effort Distribution Model Pilot Survey can be addressed to me at (916) 204-7898 or Jason.Azat@wildlife.ca.gov.

cc: Dr. Rob Titus
Mr. James Lyons
Mrs. Erin Ferguson