

Interagency Ecological Program 2020 Work Plan Element: Status, Trends and Distribution of Cypriniform Fishes Native to the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, California

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Photo: Sacramento Pikeminnow. Photo credit: Naoaki Ikemiyagi

Description

We will conduct analysis using data from existing Interagency Monitoring Program (IEP) monitoring programs (USFWS DJFMP, etc.) to better understand the status of the various native cypriniform species in the Delta and their associations with environmental factors (water quality, flow, etc.). Results from this study will also allow us to identify knowledge gaps for each of the cypriniform species and how we can improve our monitoring efforts to include these lesser known species.

Need

Aside from the previously listed Sacramento Splittail (*Pogonichthys macrolepidotus*), little is known about the current status, trends, and distribution of the native cypriniform fish species in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The historical distributions of Sacramento Pikeminnow (*Ptychocheilus grandis*), Hitch (*Lavinia exilicauda*), and Sacramento Sucker (*Catostomus occidentalis*) cover a fairly broad geographic area in the San Francisco Estuary. However, there has been no systematic investigation of the

abundance and distribution trends for these cypriniform species and there is some evidence suggesting that these native species today exist only in scattered, small populations around the Delta. This effort will address knowledge gaps associated with these species.

Objectives

- Examine long term trends in population and distribution of native cypriniform species with respect to estuary conditions.
- Assess existing datasets and summarize available data for each species.
- Make recommendations as to which IEP long-term monitoring projects are suitable for assessing population and distribution trends of native cypriniform fish species.

Schedule of Milestones

Fall-Winter 2020: Draft manuscript available for review