

Draft Individual Review Form

Proposal number: 2001-K210-3

Short Proposal Title: **Health Monitoring of Hatchery and Natural Fall-run Chinook Juveniles**

1a) Are the objectives and hypotheses clearly stated?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. The objectives and data needed to meet the objectives are clearly outlined in the proposal.

1b1) Does the conceptual model clearly explain the underlying basis for the proposed work?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. The Executive Summary and Ecological/Biological Objectives are clearly presented to support the need for continued evaluation of the health of natural and hatchery chinook populations. Methods of sampling to meet statistically valid sample sizes are appropriate. Connections to system unknowns, such as natural fish health and hatchery/natural fish interaction are discussed.

1b2) Is the approach well designed and appropriate for meeting the objectives of the project?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. The sample collection methodology and assay suite will provide a good characterization of the health and physiology status of the fish. Field completion of certain assays and collection of tissue samples is well planned.

1c1) Has the applicant justified the selection of research, pilot or demonstration project, or a full-scale implementation project?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Unclear. The project is described as a monitoring project.

1c2) Is the project likely to generate information that can be used to inform future decision making?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. Information gained from the proposed project should assist managers in evaluating the health status of the natural fall chinook population. Additionally, the project may help assist managers in determining the influences that hatchery and natural fish have on one another. The connection of fish health and physiology with water quality will also provide information to managers for decisions on maintaining or improving water quality in relationship to the salmonid resources.

2a) Are the monitoring and information assessment plans adequate to assess the outcome of the project?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. The scope of the project is focussed on monitoring and documentation of pathogen presence and physiological status of the two populations, the proposed sampling and assays will meet this goal. Protocols for sample size determination and assays appear to be appropriate.

2b) Are data collection, data management, data analysis, and reporting plans well-described, scientifically sound and adequate to meet the proposed objectives?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. Data to be collected is concisely detailed in tabular format. Data handling and storage procedures are discussed and appear adequate with the development of a database to track

laboratory and environmental data collected. Expected reports are well defined with quarterly, final and an oral presentation identified.

3) Is the proposed work likely to be technically feasible?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. The proposed work is technically feasible. Acknowledgment of the potential for weather related delays in the completion of the fieldwork has been presented. Completion of laboratory assays and data analysis should be feasible with the requested staffing level.

4) Is the proposed project team qualified to efficiently and effectively implement the proposed project?

Provide detailed comments in support of your conclusion [Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Yes. The qualifications and experience of the project applicant should allow the project to be implemented and completed efficiently and effectively. Use of the California-Nevada Fish Health Center for laboratory tests is appropriate.

Miscellaneous comments

[Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

Multi-year data collection efforts are need to determine the health of natural salmonid populations. The suite of assays proposed should provided considerable knowledge to health status of the natural population. Information gained could be very beneficial to managers concerned with natural and hatchery fish populations, and environmental quality and fish health. Caution should be used in drawing conclusions from the data generated by this proposal to support or refute the issue concerning the spread of pathogens from hatchery to natural fish. Presence of a pathogen does not determine origin of that pathogen.

**Overall Evaluation
Summary Rating**

- Excellent
- X Very Good
- Good
- Fair
- Poor

Provide a brief explanation of your summary rating

[Note: in the electronic version, this will be an expandable field]

The proposed project is well described and thought out. The proposed project is building on previous work and incorporating information learned from that effort. The proposed project should benefit the fisheries resources of the San Joaquin River System and potentially other river systems.
