**Geographic Review Panel 2 - Sacramento River/Butte Basin**

**Proposal number:** 2001-E204 **Short Proposal Title:** Butte Ck/Sanborn Slough Bifurcation Upgrade Project

1. **Applicability to CALFED ERP Goals and Implementation Plan and CVPIA priorities, and relevance to ERP and CVPIA priorities for your region.** Geographically, this project is a high priority and has high applicability to restoration goals in Region 2, specifically the Butte Basin. It is directly applicable to supporting CALFED ERP Goals 1- 4, and specifically, ERPP fish passage objective, a high priority Stage 1 Action for Butte Creek. It's directly applicable to CVPIA goals under the Revised Draft Restoration Plan for the AFRP, Butte Creek Action 22, and Evaluation 5.

2. **Linkages/coordination with previously funded projects or other restoration activities in your region.** This project directly links to other fish passage improvement projects downstream and is considered a key structure for managing downstream anadromous fish passage flows in the many other diversion structures currently being upgraded for salmonid passage and protection under the Lower Butte Creek Project. This linkage is clearly explained in the proposal. This project will complete the final phase of and complement the $1,055,500 CVPIA investment already spent on construction in Phase Ib.

3. **Feasibility, especially the project's ability to move forward in a timely and successful manner.** The planned project has been designed by and approved by registered civil engineers with a record of successful projects on Butte Creek. Also, the primary structure has been completed and is functioning as designed. This project is ready to move forward to completion of the final phase of construction.

4. **Qualifications of the applicants and others involved in implementing the proposed project.** The project applicant and the project engineering contractor are experienced and have successfully completed the first construction phase of this project as well as other similar projects on Butte Creek. A contractor will be designated at a later date to carry out the biological aspects of the monitoring plan. The monitoring plan is sound and practical.

5. **Local involvement (including environmental compliance).** This project is widely supported by the local irrigation districts, farmers, duck clubs and agencies. The only outstanding issues are the operations agreements that need to be signed by all parties (landowners, duck clubs, farmers and irrigation districts) involved in the operations and maintenance of the improved facilities. No major problems are anticipated in this process. All environmental reviews and necessary permits are in place.

6. **Cost.**

7. **Cost sharing.** Substantial cost share, operation and maintenance costs covered by the parties signing the operations agreement.

8. **Additional comments.** One Science reviewer concluded that this was an expertly conceived and potentially very effective restoration project, and said that it would be rated as excellent if it included some information on what the Sanborn Slough Bifurcation Structure is and why it exists and a technical description of the proposed passage structure and operation. As a geographic reviewer and having a full understanding of the importance of this structure to the Lower Butte Creek Project, an excellent overall rating is recommended.

   One scientific reviewer rated the proposal as Very Good. The TARP rated it as Good.

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**Regional Ranking**

**Panel Ranking: High**

**Provide a brief explanation of your ranking:** Completes an ongoing project that is essential to manage water on Butte Creek and the Butte Sink, multiple ecosystem benefits. Compliments 2001-A207.