

Staff Communication

TO: Advisory Steering Committee Chair and Members

FROM: Maria Wong
Executive Director

DATE: July 23, 2007

SUBJECT: **DRAFT COVERED SPECIES LIST**

Recommended Action: That the Steering Advisory Committee approve the draft list of species proposed for coverage as presented.

Background

The Yolo Natural Heritage Program will provide regulatory and conservation benefits within the framework of the federal Habitat Conservation Plan and the California Natural Community Conservation Plan processes. Before the next stage of work is undertaken it is desirable to have concurrence on the species that will receive regulatory coverage under the Plan, with the understanding that the list may continue to expand and contract as the planning process continues.

Analysis

Table 1 (attached) consists of the expanded list of species known or expected to occur in Yolo County that might come under the purview of the HCP/NCCP (compartmentalized into taxon groups for ease of viewing). The list was compiled using several data sources as well as input from local species experts. The consultant team has made recommendations regarding inclusion of each of these species in the Plan based on the Species Selection Guidelines previewed by the Steering Committee in June (i.e., include; do not include; additional study needed). The pink column contains the current recommendations. Notes regarding the decision process have been provided where appropriate. Table 2 depicts the native fish species known or potentially occurring in Yolo County.

The updated draft species list recommends that 69 of the known species be included as covered species in the conservation plan. At this time staff recommends that the native pollinator guild be addressed as conservation target as a whole, but not as individual covered species. As discussed in February, this concept could also apply to the fish guild. 69 species is 11 species beyond what has been budgeted for in current contracts with CDFG and the consultant team. Contract amendments to cover work related to the additional species would need to be approved by the JPA Board if all 69 species are forwarded with recommendations to include them in the Plan.

Attachments

Table 1: Draft recommended list of species proposed for regulatory coverage
Table 2: Native Fish Species Known or Potentially Occurring in Yolo County

**Table 2.
Native Fish Species Known or Potentially Occurring in Yolo County**

Common Name	Scientific Name	Listing Status
Green sturgeon	<i>Acipenser medirostris</i>	FSC, PT/CSC/-
Delta smelt	<i>Hypomesus transpacificus</i>	FT/ST/-
Central Valley steelhead	<i>Oncorhynchus mykiss irideus</i>	FT/-/-
Chinook Salmon - Spring run	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	FT/ST/-
Chinook Salmon - Winter run	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	FE/SE/-
River lamprey	<i>Lampetra ayresi</i>	FSC/CSC/-
Pacific lamprey	<i>Lampetra tridentata</i>	FSC/-/-
Chinook Salmon - Central Valley fall/late fall run	<i>Oncorhynchus tshawytscha</i>	FC/CSC/FSS
Sacramento splittail	<i>Pogonichthys macrolepidotus</i>	DL/CSC/-
Hardhead	<i>Mylopharodon conocephalus</i> <i>Hesperoleucus symmetricus</i> or <i>Lavinia symmetricus</i>	-/CSC/FSS -/-/-
California roach	<i>Lavinia exilicauda exilicauda</i>	-/-/-
Central Valley Hitch	<i>Rhinichthys osculus</i>	-/CSC/FSS
Speckled dace	<i>Acipenser transmontanus</i>	-/-/-
White sturgeon	<i>Ptychocheilus grandis</i>	-/-/-
Sacramento Pikeminnow	<i>Archoplites interruptus</i>	-/CSC/-

STATUS LEGEND:

Federal

FE = Federally listed as Endangered
 FT = Federally listed as Threatened
 FPD = Federally proposed for delisting
 FPE = Federally proposed for listing as Endangered
 FPT = Federally proposed for listing as Threatened
 FC = Federal candidate species (former Category 1 candidates)
 FS = U.S. Forest Service sensitive
 FSC = Federal Special Concern species
 (Former Category 2 candidate species, or concern to Service and other federal, state and private conservation agencies and organizations)
 FSLC = Federal Species of Local Concern
 FSS = Forest Service Sensitive

State

CSC = California Special Concern species
 SE = State listed as Endangered
 ST = State listed as Threatened
 SFP = State fully Protected
 SC = State of California Candidate