

July 8, 2025

David M. Mooney Manager, Bay Delta Office U.S. Bureau of Reclamation 801 I Street, Sacramento, CA 95814 715 P Street, 15-300 Sacramento, CA 95814

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RE: Request for Independent Peer Review for Water Year 2024 and 2025 Winter-run Chinook Salmon Annual Loss

Dear Dr. Mooney,

The Delta Stewardship Council's (Council) Delta Science Program is pleased to respond to the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation)'s and California Department of Water Resources (DWR)'s request to convene an independent review panel (Panel) to review the Water Year 2024 and 2025 Winter-run Chinook Salmon Annual Loss.

The mission of the Delta Science Program is to provide the best possible unbiased scientific information to inform management and decision-making in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. One of the ways that the Delta Science Program continues to advance that mission is by convening independent peer reviews and advisory panels to evaluate scientific and technical processes, programs, plans, and products.

This review will follow the Delta Science Program's policies and procedures for convening independent scientific reviews, as outlined in Appendices H and I of the Delta Science Plan (https://deltascienceplan.deltacouncil.ca.gov/).

We look forward to working with Reclamation and DWR staff to convene this independent review panel. If there are questions about this response to your

request for peer review, please contact Elizabeth Brusati, Senior Environmental Scientist, at reviewadvice@deltacouncil.ca.gov.

Sincerely,

Lisamarie Windham-Myers, Ph.D. Lead Scientist, Delta Science Program

Delta Stewardship Council

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