

Winter-Run IMF Brief

Key Developments in the Integrated Modeling Framework

January 22, Brief No. 1

The New Winter-run Chinook IMF Website is On-line!

In response to your requests, we have launched a website where you can access and download up-to-date files for the Winter-run Chinook Integrated Modeling Framework (Winter-run IMF) Project. Posted information will include the current version of the model, Technical Memorandums, meeting notes, PowerPoint presentations, Briefs, and an event calendar. Other documents will be posted as they are prepared.

How can the website and other information be accessed?

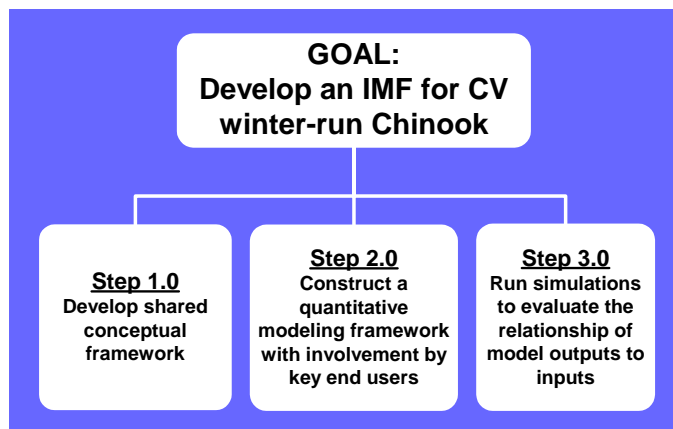
The Winter-run IMF website is located at www.spcramer.com/imf.htm. All of the currently operating pages can be accessed by anyone with the exception of the page where the IMF model is located, which requires a password. We are limiting access to the IMF download page during these initial stages of development to only those individuals prepared to contribute technical review. As the IMF is closer to completion and there is broader agreement to its application and validity, we will consider offering unrestricted access to all pages. If you are interested in providing technical review for some portion of the Winter-run IMF, please send an email to demko@spcramer.com to obtain a password. If you have any problems, let us know immediately. We will use Briefs to notify you of significant updates to the website.

Where are we in the IMF development process?

Since spring 2003, much has been accomplished towards development of the Winter-run IMF, Version 1.0. We refer to the initial model as Version 1.0 to emphasize that the IMF will be systematically upgraded over time to include what we learn from new data and analyses. Upgrades will be identified as Version 2.0, 3.0 and etc. At this time, during this initial development stage, we have completed draft products for steps 1 and 2 of a three step process.

Step 1: We have developed a shared conceptual framework which was completed in August 2003. The Step 1 Report; *Conceptual Framework for an Integrated Life Cycle Model of Winter-run Chinook Salmon in the Sacramento River*, is posted on our website.

Step 2: We constructed a draft quantitative modeling framework currently available for review. Two technical memorandums have been completed to describe model input values for historical conditions, and are posted on the website. Two additional technical memorandums should be completed within the coming week; one on prediction of smolt survival through the Delta, and the other on assumptions regarding carrying capacity for winter-run Chinook in the Sacramento Basin. Finally, a fully updated documentation of the IMF formulation and input values should be distributed to reviewers and posted on the website within the next week.



How will technical review proceed?

At our January 8, 2004 meeting, the fish agency representatives indicated that technical review of the model should be completed by those who are technically qualified and specifically familiar with winter-run Chinook. In response to that request, we are assembling separate technical teams to review four major components of the IMF:

- (1) spawner escapement and egg survival,**
- (2) juvenile production,**
- (3) Delta survival of smolts, and**
- (4) ocean survival and harvest.**

Each team will consist of two to four scientists, and each will be a recognized expert. We are in the process of forming those teams now, and will report progress in future Briefs. If you would like to participate, or would like to suggest someone, please let us know.

What is the purpose of this document?

This Brief represents the first in a series of e-mail synopses (called Briefs) that update interested parties on components and new developments in the Winter-run IMF. Ultimately, the IMF is intended as a tool for comparing marginal and cumulative benefits to fish that would be achieved by actions proposed to recover fish population in the Central Valley. Initially, Briefs will be distributed every 5-7 days to highlight key points in the first three Technical Memorandums pertaining to IMF components. Once we review key points, Briefs will be distributed every few weeks, whenever there is something notable to report. Concurrent with the Briefs, we are also launching a website (www.spcramer.com/imf.htm) to serve as an E-library where the most up-to-date versions of our documents and analyses are available for download.

These Briefs will serve several communication purposes. First, the Briefs will present a concise synopsis of our detailed Technical Memorandums. This will enable participants that only want an overview to efficiently track IMF development. Second, we hope they will stimulate feedback and technical review of our work products. It is critical to future application of the Winter-run IMF model that it is built on a shared vision and a solid technical foundation. Third, they will allow collaborators to quickly prepare for meetings by serving as an accurate summary. Finally, the Briefs will also document the Winter-run IMF development process and serve as an administrative record.

Would you like to be removed from the distribution list?

You received the first version of our new update based on your past involvement with the Winter-run IMF project, or your involvement with related work groups in the Central Valley (e.g. winter-run workgroup). If you would like to be removed from the distribution list, please e-mail me (demko@spcramer.com). Additionally, please do not use the "reply all" button to comment on or inquire about related issues.

**The Next CUWA IMF Meeting is
February 20, 2004**

**Find this Brief and more at
www.spcramer.com/imf.htm**

