

**1. Current status of non-IFIM studies**

- Fish Passage Study: Final Technical Review Committee (TRC) meeting to be held 9/26/2018. Final recommendations in October.
- Sediment transport study: next TRC discussion on 9/19. Possible end of transport modeling or may run “worst case” scenario. Draft report to follow in mid-November
- Watershed basin model (CRBHM): historic model fitted to data; simulation of no-dam and dredge with rubber dam begun. Need to have TRC meeting to discuss model.

**2. IFIM study**

- Final report completed in November 2017 after solicitation of comments from all agencies (NMFS, CDFW, Cal-Am, SWRCB)
- NMFS decided to conduct another review
- MPWMD received comments from NMFS in April 2018; addressed comments in June 2018 and held a teleconference among all parties
- NMFS sent more comments in August 2018

**NMFS Issues:**

- Don’t believe PHABSIM<sup>1</sup> is appropriate to use with LP Dam alternatives, given that Carmel River channel changes in response to changes in sediment load
- Highly critical of PHABSIM in general
- Requested information outside of the scope of LP Dam Alternatives Analysis includes:
  - (a) timing and duration of hydrologic events; *Note: this may be covered by CRBHM*
  - (b) dam operations which cause the estuary and mainstem to become disconnected from the ocean;
  - (c) poor water quality (which may be influenced by instream flow recommendations)
  - (d) loss of historic habitats that could be regained to some extent by removing LPD or modifying how it is operated;
  - (e) reduction or loss of access to cold headwater habitats above LPD to maintain a resident steelhead population

**Additional studies requested by NMFS:**

- 1) a geomorphic assessment of historic, existing, and predicted channel conditions within the watershed;

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<sup>1</sup> PHABSIM = physical habitat simulation model. PHABSIM is a tool that offers prediction capabilities associated with flow changes such as microhabitat, physical habitat and life stage changes.

- 2) a limiting conditions analysis (incorporating the results of any fish marking and recapture studies); and
- 3) a fish passage opportunity study demonstrating how much passage opportunity is being lost and/or gained compared to historic, existing, and any proposed actions being considered.