

# **APPENDIX C**

Analysis of Water Quality Impacts to Antioch — Evaluation of DSM2 modeling performed in support of the BDCP Proposed Project



As detailed in **Appendix A** to the City of Antioch's comments on the BDCP and associated EIR/EIS, Flow Science has conducted a detailed review of hydrodynamic and water quality modeling performed by DWR to characterize the potential impacts of the BDCP Proposed Project on water quality at the City of Antioch's drinking water intake. This document (**Appendix C** to the City's comments) provides additional detail regarding Flow Science's technical analysis.

DSM2 model results were provided by DWR to Flow Science via hard drive in January 2012, April 2013, and May 2013. Flow Science analyzed these model results in order to assess the effects of the proposed BDCP project on salinity and usability of water at Antioch. The following analyses indicate that a technically inappropriate simulation was used for the baseline condition in the ADEIR, and that the proposed BDCP project is simulated to have significant impacts on the ability of Antioch to draw and use water from the San Joaquin River.

#### DATA SOURCES

The DSM2 simulation results used in the analyses are listed in **Table 1**. Each simulation used hydrology from WY1975-WY1991. Results for electrical conductivity (EC) at Antioch (RSAN007) were extracted on a 15-minute basis and used for Flow Science's evaluation. In addition to the model results, measured conductivity data were obtained for RSAN008, located approximately one mile from the Antioch intake.

Table 1: DSM2 Simulations

Name	Scenario	Sea Level Rise (SLR) (cm)	Fall X2	Notes
Existing Condition (EBC1) <sup>1</sup>	baseline	0	No	Referred to as EBC1 in April 2013 EIR/EIS.
EBC2 <sup>2</sup>	baseline	0	Yes	Not used in December 2013 EIR/EIS.
NAA <sup>2</sup>	No Action	15 <sup>4</sup> , 45	Yes	
Alt4-H1 <sup>3</sup>	Low Outflow	15 <sup>4</sup> , 45	No	Proposed project can
Alt4-H2 <sup>3</sup>	Spring High Outflow	15 <sup>4</sup> , 45	No	operate within (and beyond) the space
Alt4-H3 <sup>3</sup>	Evaluated Starting Ops.	15 <sup>4</sup> , 45	Yes	defined by these four
Alt4-H4 <sup>3</sup>	High Outflow	15 <sup>4</sup> , 45	Yes	scenarios.
1. Rece	eived from DWR on May 6, 20	13.		

http://www.water.ca.gov/iep/products/data/dssnotice.cfm (accessed 3/7/2012).



- 2. Received from DWR in January 2012.
- 3. Received from DWR in April 2013.
- 4. Results for SLR = 15 cm are not presented here.

### **ANALYSES**

## Baseline in EIR/EIS should incorporate Fall X2 provisions

The December 2013 EIR/EIS uses the "Existing Conditions" simulation for baseline purposes. As indicated in **Table 1**, the "Existing Conditions" simulation does <u>not</u> include Fall X2 provisions. By contrast, the "EBC2" simulation (a simulation used in the March 2013 Draft BDCP document, and received by Flow Science from DWR in January 2012) does include Fall X2.

The DSM2 modeling performed to evaluate water quality impacts of the proposed project simulated electrical conductivity (EC), which is a measure of salinity. **Figure 1** presents daily average simulated EC at Antioch for both Existing Conditions (Ex. Cond./EBC1) and EBC2, along with historical measured EC data. Simulation results were compared with historical measured EC. As shown in **Figure 1**, the exclusion of Fall X2 (i.e., the Ex. Cond./EBC1 simulation) results in EC at Antioch that is <u>not</u> representative of historical conditions. Specifically, salinity in the fall of 1974, 1975, 1978, 1980, 1984, and 1986 is substantially overestimated in simulation EBC1, when Fall X2 is excluded.

By contrast, the EBC2 simulation shows good agreement with measured EC at Antioch, indicating that the inclusion of Fall X2 into any baseline scenario is necessary in order to accurately represent current (pre-project) conditions at Antioch. In summary, the EBC2 scenario is the appropriate baseline model simulation for CEQA purposes, and EBC1 does not accurately represent current conditions and should not be used as the CEQA baseline for the BDCP project.



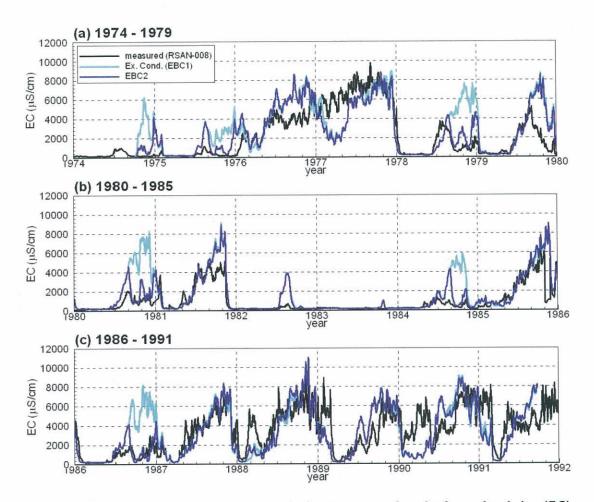


Figure 1. Measured and simulated daily average electrical conductivity (EC) at Antioch. Measured data are from station RSAN-008, located approximately one mile upstream from Antioch's intake. DSM2 simulations (EBC1 and EBC2) were provided by DWR.



## **BDCP Salinity Impacts at Antioch**

In the December 2013 EIR/EIS, the preferred project is represented by the four Alt4 simulation scenarios listed in **Table 1**, with each scenario representing different operating regimes as determined by a "decision-tree" process that has yet to be explicitly defined. The H1 and H2 scenarios do not include Fall X2, whereas the H3 and H4 scenarios do include Fall X2 (**Table 1**).

To evaluate the anticipated impacts of the Proposed Project on salinity at Antioch, Flow Science plotted model results for salinity at Antioch using the EBC2 scenario, the NAA scenario, and the four Alternative 4 (Alt4) scenarios that represent the BDCP Proposed Project. Flow Science's evaluation focused on the EBC2 scenario (the most accurate representation of current conditions because it includes Fall X2), the NAA scenario (which includes both Fall X2 and anticipated sea level rise), and the Alt4 scenarios. The NAA scenario can be compared to the EBC2 scenario to examine the impact of sea level rise (SLR) alone on salinity at Antioch (i.e., without the BDCP Proposed Project). The BDCP Alt4 scenarios can then be compared to the NAA scenario to tease out the difference between increased salinity due to SLR and increased salinity due to the BDCP Proposed Project.

As shown below, the inclusion or exclusion of Fall X2 in the operating rules to be followed by the Proposed Project will have a substantial impact on the salinity at Antioch. DWR's model results indicate that the BDCP project may result in a substantially lower usability of water at Antioch, particularly in the fall months.

**Figure 2** plots the percent of time that the salinity at Antioch is less than the usable threshold<sup>2</sup> in each month as computed from the DSM2 simulations for the simulation period 1975-1991<sup>3</sup>. Since the Ex. Cond. (EBC1) simulation is not an appropriate baseline (see above), the effect of sea level rise (SLR) was assessed by comparing the EBC2 and NAA simulations, and the effect of the proposed BDCP project (independent of SLR) was assessed by comparing the NAA and the four Alt4 scenario simulations.

**Impact of Sea Level Rise**. Comparison of the EBC2 simulation to the NAA simulation indicates that a SLR of 45 cm results in decreased usability in all months except July and October, when the usability under the NAA scenario is slightly higher than under the EBC2 scenario. As a long-term average over the simulation period, a SLR of 45 cm is predicted to result in a 15-day-per-year decrease in usability (i.e., Antioch

 $<sup>^2</sup>$  Consistent with Antioch's agreement with DWR (first signed in 1968 and extended on October 29, 2013,), the usable threshold is 250 ppm as chloride (Cl'), which corresponds to an EC of 976  $\mu$ S/cm. This conversion was made using the relationship between chloride concentration and EC for "normal" years in Guivetchi (1986).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> Computed using the 15-minute DSM2 output at Antioch (RSAN007).



will be able to use their intakes 15 days less on average each year, see **Table 2**); as **Figure 2** shows, the decrease in usability is spread relatively uniformly over the year. The impact of sea level rise is most significant during dry years, when it accounts for over 26 days of usability lost, or a 19% decrease in usability.

Table 2. Annual usability at Antioch under EBC2 and the No Action Alternative for the entire simulation period and for different year types within the simulation period

Year Type	# of Usable Days Per Year Under EBC2	# of Usable Days Per Year Under NAA	Usable Days Lost Per Year	Percent Decrease
All Years	163.7	148.5	15.2	9%
Critical Years	63.1	55.6	7.5	12%
Dry Years	144.6	117.9	26.7	19%
Above & Below Normal Years	188.1	177.7	10.4	6%
Wet Years	264.8	248.5	16.3	6%

Impact of BDCP. Figure 2 also shows that, relative to both EBC2 and NAA, BDCP Scenario Alt4-H1 is predicted to result in a significant decrease in usability, particularly during the fall months. The average decrease in usability during the fall months, relative to the NAA, for the entire 17-year simulation period is presented in **Table 3**. On average during the September-November timeframe, simulation results anticipate that usability will decrease by 15.3 days. Simulated usability is almost completely lost during September, which corresponds to an 85% decrease. The largest predicted number of days lost (6.6 days) in one month occurs in October. Note that these impacts of the proposed BDCP project are due entirely to the project, as the effect of SLR has been accounted for by comparing results from Scenario Alt4-H1 to the NAA scenario, which incorporates SLR.



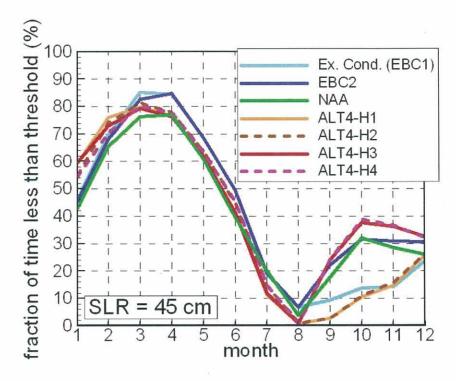


Figure 2. Percent of time water at Antioch's intake can be used for supply (i.e., when the simulated salinity is less than usable threshold at Antioch) by month as computed from DSM2 model results for the simulation period 1975-1991. SLR is zero for Ex. Cond. (EBC1) and EBC2, and 45 cm for all other simulations. Note that Fall X2 provisions are included in EBC2, NAA, Alt4-H3, and Alt4-H4.



Table 3. Decrease in usability at Antioch during the fall months simulated to occur as a result of implementation of the BDCP project (Scenario Alt4-H1)

Month	# of Usable Days/Year Under NAA	# of Usable Days/Year Under Alt4 (Operational Scenario H1)	Usable Days Lost/Year <sup>1</sup>	Percent Decrease <sup>1</sup>
September	5.3	0.8	4.5	85%
October	9.9	3.3	6.6	67%
November	8.5	4.4	4.1	48%
Sept-Nov	23.8	8.5	15.3	64%

Results reflect changes resulting from BDCP project only, and <u>not</u> changes due to SLR. That is, BDCP project simulations with SLR = 45 cm were compared with NAA simulation, which also includes SLR = 45 cm.

Breaking the results down by year type (instead of presenting results in aggregated fashion) reveals that usability is almost completely lost during fall months of all year types except wet years. Also, the predicted salinity impacts, as expressed in terms of the number of days lost, are greatest during dry and wet years. These results are presented graphically in **Figure 3** and numerically in **Table 4**.

**Figure 3** shows that usability under scenarios Alt4-H1 and Alt4-H2 during September through November is always less than 10%, and generally less than 5%, for all year types except for wet years. The number of usable days during the September-November simulation period (excluding wet years) ranges from 0.3 to 3 under Scenario Alt4-H1.

Figure 3 shows that the number of usable days during the fall months decreases significantly under Scenario Alt4-H1 compared the NAA, especially in dry and wet years. During dry and wet years, simulated usability decreases by 23 and 22.7 days in the fall, respectively. The largest percent decrease in usability occurs in critical and dry years, when usability decreases by 97% and 93%, respectively. These model results indicate that, in wet and dry year types, the City of Antioch would need to find alternative water supplies (because water at its intake would be unusable) for an additional 23 days in the fall months of each year, likely at significant cost.



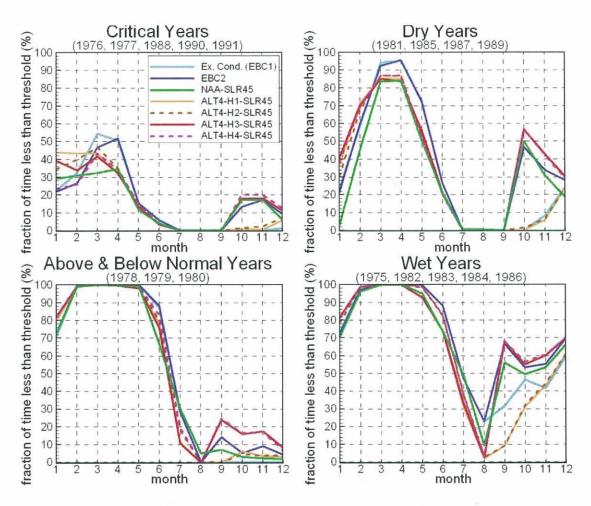


Figure 3. Percent of time water at Antioch's intake can be used for supply (i.e., when the simulated salinity is less than usable threshold at Antioch) by month and by year type as computed from DSM2 model results. SLR is zero for Ex. Cond. (EBC1) and EBC2, and 45 cm for all other simulations.



Table 4. Decrease in usability at Antioch in the Fall (September – November) predicted to occur as a result of the BDCP project scenario Alt4-H1 by year type

Year Type	# of Usable Days/Year Under NAA	# of Usable Days/Year Under Alt4 (Operational Scenario H1)	Usable Days Lost/Year <sup>1</sup>	Percent Decrease <sup>1</sup>
All Years	23.8	8.5	15.3	64%
Critical Years	10.6	0.3	10.3	97%
Dry Years	24.8	1.8	23.0	93%
Above & Below Normal Years	3.8	3.0	0.8	23%
Wet Years	48.1	25.4	22.7	47%

<sup>1</sup>Results reflect changes resulting from BDCP project only, and <u>not</u> changes due to SLR. That is, BDCP project simulations with SLR = 45 cm were compared with NAA simulation, which also has SLR = 45 cm.

Finally, the model results were used to compute the number of days of usable water over the entire simulation period, as an annual average. As **Table 5** indicates, model results show that the BDCP Proposed Project is simulated to cause a significant decrease in annual usability – 9.2 days per year – over all years. The loss is most significant during wet years, when more than 28 days of usability are lost; the highest percent decrease also occurs during wet years.

Table 5. Annual usability at Antioch under EBC2, No Action Alternative, and BDCP project scenario Alt4-H1 by year type

Year Type	# of Usable Days/Year Under NAA	# of Usable Days/Year Under Alt4 (Operational Scenario H1)	Usable Days Lost	Percent Decrease
All Years	148.5	139.3	9.2	6%
Critical Years	55.6	56.4	-0.8	-1%
Dry Years	117.9	115.6	2.2	2%
Above & Below Normal Years	177.7	175.0	2.7	2%
Wet Years	248.5	219.7	28.8	12%

<sup>1</sup>Results reflect changes resulting from BDCP project only, and <u>not</u> changes due to SLR. That is, BDCP project simulations with SLR = 45 cm were compared with NAA simulation, which also has SLR = 45 cm.