

Fish and Water Operations Group Notes

Water Year 2026 – February 18, 2026

Members Attending

- Reclamation – Randi Field, ~~Levi Johnson~~
- DWR – ~~Tracy Hinojosa~~, Bryant Giorgi
- USFWS – ~~Matt Nobriga~~, Leif Goude
- NMFS – ~~Stephan Murano~~, Darren Howe
- CDFW – ~~Kristal Davis-Fadtke~~,
- SWRCB – ~~Matthew Holland~~, Diane Riddle
- NGO – ~~Ashley Overhouse~~, ~~Devon Pearse~~, Jon Rosenfield
- PWA – ~~Deanna Sereno~~, Scott Petersen,
- PWA - ~~Chandra Chilmakuri~~

Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from last week: Approved
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Delta Action Team (DAT, meets weekly on Tuesdays): 02/24/2026
 - Drought Response Year (DRY) Team:
 - American River Group (ARG meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed):
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (CCT meets quarterly on third Thursday):
 - Sacramento River Group (SRG) (meets monthly on the fourth Thursday or more often as needed):
 - Stanislaus Watershed Team (SWT meets monthly on third Wednesday):
 - Annual Report Team
 - Shasta Operations Team (SHOT): 02/23/2026
- Relevant Assessments
 - 260217 Combined Salmon and Smelt Assessment
 - 20260216 Fish and Water Operations Outlook
 - 02.17.26 DAT Notes

- StormFlex Assessment 02-17 through 02-23
- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Lewiston Dam releases at 300 cfs. Whiskeytown Dam releases at 300 cfs. Keswick Dam releases at 5,800 cfs. Nimbus Dam releases at 2,500 cfs. Goodwin Dam releases at 500 cfs (increase to 1,000 cfs on 2/18; Winter Instability Flow between 2/18 through 2/24 with a peak flow of 1,200 cfs). Jones Pumping Plant exporting 4,200 cfs (OMRI -5,000 cfs controlling). Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 633 TAF. Delta Cross Channel is closed (closed on 10/30/25).
 - SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases at 4,000 cfs. Clifton Court Forebay exporting 3,000 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 1019 TAF.
 - Hydrology Update: Small system tonight moving through tomorrow. Another possible system into the coming weekend.

Upcoming Actions, Updates or Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
 - No upcoming actions or discussion items.
 - Storm Flex Updates
- DWR:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- USFWS:
 - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- NMFS:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- CDFW:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- NGO:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- PWA
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- FAWOG
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.

Discussion Items

- Storm Flex Update

Reclamation distributed a Storm Flex Assessment on 2/17 and a follow up email on 2/18 discussing their Storm Flex Operation. The Projects continue to coordinate operations at -5,000 cfs OMRI. There is no immediate change to federal exports at this time.

Reclamation provided an appendix to the Weekly Assessment that includes a summary of new methods related to Delta Real-time Forecasts. In this additional 50 pages, there is a description of assumptions, forecasted operations, a real-time zone of influence analysis, PTM modeling including neutrally buoyant and surface oriented particles, ECO-PTM analysis, and a longfin smelt larvae population and entrainment analysis. These will be reviewed as part of the upcoming meetings on the DAT guidance document.

Action Items

- No Action Items.

Elevation Items

- No Elevation Items.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 25, 2026, 2-2:50 p.m.