

# Water Operations Management Team Notes

Water Year 2025 – March 12, 2025

## Members Attending

- Reclamation: Present
- USFWS: Present
- CDFW: Present
- NMFS: Represented (no member attended)
- DWR: Present
- SWRCB: Represented (no member attended)

## Topics/Actions

- Approved 3/5/2025 Meeting Notes
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Salmonid Monitoring Team (SaMT, meets weekly on Tuesdays): 03/18
  - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT, meets as needed on Tuesdays, met on): 01/28
  - Feather River Operations Group (meets monthly first and third Thursdays): 03/20
  - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 03/20
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 03/19
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday): 03/20
  - Sacramento River Group (meets monthly on the fourth Thursday or more often as needed): 03/27
  - Shasta Operations Team (SHOT, meeting frequency and timing TBD)
  - Winter-run JPE Sub-Team (as needed): met on 12/20
- Relevant Assessments
  - 20250311 Fish and Water Operations Outlook
  - DWR Spring-run Weekly Assessment 2025-03-11 outline (still under development)
- Operational Updates

- CVP: Trinity River release is 3,500 cfs, reducing to 2,000 cfs on Saturday, March
- 15. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown Dam) release is 300 cfs. Sacramento River (Keswick) release is 6,000 cfs. American River (Nimbus) release is 4,500 cfs, reducing to 3,500 cfs on Saturday, March 15. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) release is 200 cfs, increasing to 600 cfs for Vernalis flow requirements. Jones PP Delta exports are at 4,200 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 733 TAF. Delta Cross Channel Gates are closed and will remain closed until May, unless there is a water quality issue.
- SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are at 7,600 cfs and may increase as the forecasted storms unfold. Clifton Court Forebay exports are at 2,100 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 999 TAF.
- Hydrology Update
  - An active weather pattern with rain, snow and winds resumes today after a dry pattern to start the week. Snow levels will gradually lower to 2500-3500 feet as the pattern evolves. Specific details about storm accretions in various hydrologic zones remains uncertain. Reservoir operators will adjust their releases accordingly in real time as the storm develops.

## Upcoming Actions, Updates, or Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
  - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- USFWS:
  - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- CDFW:
  - No upcoming actions, updates.
  - WOMT needs to discuss SaMT's recommendation re: 1st YOY spring-run chinook salmon surrogate group release for WOMT consideration and approval.
- NMFS:
  - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- DWR:
  - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
  - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.

### Discussion Items

- SaMT's proposal for 1st YOY spring-run chinook salmon surrogate group release on March 14, 2025 was approved with NMFS noting that 50% of the release group will be tagged and WOMT needs to discuss how this affects the spring-run surrogate "triggers" specified in the Bi Ops and ITP.
- SaMT clarified, via email, that the cumulative loss threshold is based on coded-wire tagged spring-run chinook salmon surrogate groups and therefore, there will be no change to the trigger.

### Action Items

- Mike Ford (acting as WOMT facilitator) will send out an email notifying SaMT of WOMT's approval of the YOY spring-run proposal with cc's to WOMT members.

### Elevation Items

- None

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 19, 2025, 1:00-1:50 p.m.