BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook

11/4/2025 – 11/10/2025

Water Project Operational Intent for Week

Current Central Valley Project (CVP) and State Water Project (SWP) operations are primarily governed by D-1641 standards such as required minimum Delta Outflow, the Rock Slough daily maximum salinity standard (250 Chlorides) and the maximum allowable Export/Inflow ratio of 0.65

Biological Context

Migrating LAD winter-run Chinook salmon catch at Knight's Landing and Sacramento seine sites continue to trigger Delta Cross Channel gate closure actions. Previously, the DCC gates were kept open due to water quality exceedances at Rock Slough, but the DCC gates were closed on Thursday, October 30.

Forecasted Weather

Dry and warm through Monday. Unsettled weather for the remainder of the week with showers/isolated thunderstorms, winds, high elevation snow and cooler temperatures.

Tables

Table 1: Anticipated weekly operational ranges by tributary. Environmental and fish conditions are updated by respective watershed groups at varying intervals that may not coincide with the weekly range of Water Operations shown.

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Clear Creek	• Current Release: 225 cfs	Spring-run Chinook Salmon eggs are incubating. Adult fall-run Chinook Salmon are spawning and their eggs are incubating. O. mykiss/steelhead are entering the creek and migrating upstream. (Updated 10/20/2025)
Sacramento River	Shasta Storage: 2.541 MAF Current Release: 5,400 cfs Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 4,000 cfs to 5,400 cfs	Peak emigration period for Winter-run Chinook Salmon fry past RBDD (1000's/day). Sacramento River juveniles, length-at-date field identified spring-run Chinook salmon are being caught in increasing numbers. Genetic tissue sampling being conducted to confirm run as these are likely winter Chinook until about mid-November (in most years) Spring-run Chinook Salmon adults have completed spawning and eggs in the gravel. About 25% of winter-run Chinook Salmon juveniles are in the gravel and 75% of juveniles have emerged and will be migrating downstream past RBDD. Fall-run Chinook Salmon adults are actively holding and spawning currently. Eggs are in the gravel. Peak spawning is currently ongoing and will continue for the next 2-3 weeks. Late fall-run Chinook Salmon are migrating upstream from ocean. (Updated 10/28/2025)

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Feather River	Oroville Storage: 1.818 MAF Current Release: 2,450 cfs Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 2,400 cfs to 2,495 cfs Daily temperature maximum: 51 +/- 4°F at Fish Hatchery	Fall-run Chinook Salmon are currently holding and spawning. Spring-run Chinook Salmon are currently spawning. Green Sturgeon holding at the outlet and Shanghai Bend. (Updated 10/14/2025)
American River	Folsom Storage: 420 TAF Current Release: 1,000 cfs Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 1,000 cfs	Fall-run Chinook Salmon adults are spawning. (Updated 10/28/2025)
Stanislaus River	New Melones Storage: 1.616 MAF Current Release: 400 cfs Anticipated Range of Weekly Releases: 200 cfs to 400 cfs (Fall Pulse Flow)	Adult fall-run Chinook Salmon are spawning. (Updated 10/28/2025)
Delta	Freeport: 10,500 cfs to 13,000 cfs Vernalis: 1,100 cfs to 1,700 cfs Delta Outflow index: 5,500 to 7,300 cfs Combined Exports: 5,200 to 6,200 cfs JPP: 4,200 cfs CCF: 1,000 cfs to 2,000 cfs Expected Daily OMR Index Values: -4,200 to –4,800 cfs Rio Vista Flows: 8,000 cfs to 10,000 cfs DCC Gates: Closed X2 > 81 km Qwest daily: -1700 cfs Qwest 7-day: +300 cfs Tides: Transition from Spring to Neap; Full Moon on November 5.	• Winter-run Chinook salmon juveniles are migrating into the Delta. • Delta smelt observed in the confluence and Suisun Marsh on 10/6, 10/9, and 10/17. • Juvenile Green Sturgeon observed in salvage between 08/14/25 – 09/30/25. • (Updated 10/28/2025)

Table 2a: WY 2025 Salmonid Current Loss and Delta Smelt Abiotic Conditions. Genetic identification of salmon is not used in calculating loss, but results are included in the Assessment as they become available. *Real-time data of dissolved chloride at Rock Slough is greater than 250 mg/L based on regression of chloride and electrical conductivity. Data from follow up lab analysis of dissolved chlorides shows measurements at 250 mg/L on October 26 indicating that measurements are at or below the threshold as real-time readings decrease.

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Trend	Updated
Green sturgeon	Annual = 14 3-year rolling average = 5	WY 2026 salvage = 0	Occasional salvage possible	10/27/25
Natural winter-run Chinook Salmon (JPE= TBD)	Incidental Take Limit= TBD Annual thresholds 50%= TBD 75%= TBD 100%= TBD	WY 2026 Loss= 0	Salvage is unlikely in the upcoming week.	10/27/25
DCC Gate Catch Index Closure	Knights Landing Catch Index OR Sacramento Catch Index ≥ 3 AND D-1641 Criteria are met	KLCI (21.2) and SCI (13) was most recently exceeded on 11/3/25. KLCI and/or SCI have exceeded daily since October 29. *D-1641 criteria met.	Catch at delta entry monitoring locations are expected to continue at elevated rates.	11/3/25
Natural Steelhead	100% threshold = 3,000	WY 2026 loss = 0	Salvage is unlikely in the upcoming week.	10/27/25
Steelhead Weekly Loss Threshold	7-day rolling sum of steelhead salvage exceeds loss of 120 fish	7 day rolling sum as of 6/16/25 = 0	Salvage is unlikely in the upcoming week.	10/27/25
Sacramento River Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	TBD	TBD	None released yet	10/27/25
Battle Creek Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	TBD	TBD	None released yet	10/27/25

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Trend	Updated
Proposed Action Hatchery yearling spring-run Chinook salmon surrogates	TBD	TBD	None released yet	10/27/25
Delta Smelt	See Table 3b	See Table 3b	See Table 3b	10/27/25
Longfin Smelt	See Table 3c	See Table 3c	See Table 3c	10/27/25

Table 3a-e: Relevant Water Year 2026 Fish Criteria and Status for Listed Fish under the SWP Long-Term Incidental Take Permit.

Table 3a: Chinook Salmon

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Onset of OMR Management (8.3)	Jan. 1 - Jun. 30	Not in Effect	Begins January 1 or earlier if COA 8.3.1, COA 8.3.2, or COA 8.3.3 are in effect (see Table 3b)	N/A	N/A	11/03/25	N/A
Winter-run Annual Loss (8.4.3)	July 1 - Jun. 30	In Effect	Natural-origin Winter-run Loss Threshold: TBD -Hatchery-origin Winter-run Loss Threshold: TBD -Battle Creek Loss threshold: TBD	Confirmed Genetic WR Annual Loss = 0 Hatchery origin Winter-run Loss = 0 Battle Creek Winter-run Loss = 0	Unlikely to observe salvage of natural winter-run based on historical salvage.	11/03/25	N/A

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Natural-origin Winter-run Early Season Weekly Loss Thresholds (8.2.1)	Nov. 1- Dec. 31	In Effect	Nov. = 98.10 per week.	N/A	N/A	11/03/25	N/A
Natural-origin Winter-run Weekly Loss (8.4.4)	Jan 1 – June 30	Not in Effect	Thresholds based on Table 4, Column E of 2024 SWP ITP: [Annual Loss Threshold (based on JPE surrogate) x 50% of Annual Loss Threshold x Winter-run in Delta (based on Column E)]	N/A	N/A	11/03/25	N/A
Spring-run Protection Action and Surrogate Annual Loss (8.4.5)	Natural-origin: Oct. – June 30 Hatchery-origin: Nov. 1 – June 30	Natural-origin: In effect Hatchery-origin: Not in effect	N/A	N/A	Yearling natural spring-run salvage possible in next week	10/14/25	No scheduled spring-run surrogate group releases

Table 3b: Delta Smelt

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
First Flush Action (8.3.1)	Dec. 1 – last day of February	Not active	three-day Freeport (FPT) daily flow running avg>= 25,000 AND [three-day Freeport turbidity running avg >=50 NTU OR Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation]	N/A	N/A	10/14/25	N/A
Adult Delta Smelt Entrainment Protection (“Turbidity Bridge Avoidance”) (8.3.2)	After IEWPP or Dec. 20 until 3-day average temperatures at Jersey Point (SJJ) or Rio Vista (RVB) exceed 12 °C (53.6 °F)	Not active	Occurs after the Integrated Early Winter Pulse protection or December 20 (whichever comes first) until 3-day average temperature offramp at Jersey Point (SJJ) or Rio Vista (RVB) > 12 °C (53.6 °F) OBI, OSJ, and HOL turbidity>12 FNU Vernalis flow >10,000 cfs (temporary offramp); <8,000 cfs (reinstated)	N/A	N/A	10/14/25	N/A
Larval and Juvenile Delta smelt Protection (8.4.1)	After Adult Delta smelt Entrainment Protection ends	Not active	SLS/20mm Secchi depth for 12 south delta stations <= 1m Rio Vista flows >55,0000 cfs or Vernalis flows >8,000 cfs (temporary offramp); <40,000 cfs (Rio Vista) or <5,000 (Vernalis) action reinstated	N/A	N/A	10/14/25	N/A

Table 3c: Longfin Smelt

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Adult LFS Protection (8.3.3)	Dec. 1 - end of February	Not active	Cum. salvage > (Age 1+ LFS Index/20) +1 = 181 fish	N/A	N/A	10/14/25	N/A
Larval and Juvenile Longfin Smelt Entrainment Protection (8.4.2)	Jan. 1 – Jun. 30	Not active	7-day average QWEST < +1,500 cfs, AND LFS larvae or juveniles in most recent SLS or 20 mm survey at 809 & 812 > 50; OR cumulative salvage > 50 or 75% avg annual salvage 2009-present Rio Vista flows >55,0000 cfs or Vernalis flows >8,000 cfs (temporary offramp); <40,000 cfs (Rio Vista) or <5,000 (Vernalis) reinstated	N/A	N/A	10/14/25	N/A

Table 3d: White Sturgeon

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
White Sturgeon Entrainment Protection Action (8.4.7)	Year-round	Active; not triggered Flow Conditions: Not met Survey Conditions: Not Met	YOY WS detected in one of the listed north or central Delta survey stations in the last 90 days Mean total exports for the last 90 days ≥ 14,296.76 + (-0.41)*(90-day average Vernalis flow	YOY WS detections= None in last 90 days 90-Day Avg Vernalis flows = 872cfs 90-Day Avg Exports = 9,744cfs	YOY detections possible Flow/ Exports conditions unlikely to meet criterion	10/28/25	Survey and Conditions not met WY 2026 salvage = 0

Table 3e: OMR

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
OMR Storm Flex (8.5)	Start of OMR – Onramp of Larval and Juvenile DS Protection Action (8.4.1) or last day of February (whichever occurs first)	Not in effect	• Delta is in excess • QWEST is > +1,500 cfs • X2 is < 81 km • Daily average turbidity at OSJ, HOL, and OBI are <12 FNU • Higher level of outflow available for diversion due to storm flows • Measurable amount of precipitation has occurred • None of COA's are controlling operations (8.2.1, 8.3.2, 8.3.3,, 8.4.2, 8.4.3, 8.4.4, 8.4.5, 8.4.7) • Cumulative loss at CVP and SWP of yearling CNFH LFR Chinook salmon (as yearling CHNSR surrogates) is < 0.5% with any of the release groups	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
End of OMR Management (8.6)	Jun. 1 – Jun. 30	Not in effect	Smelt: Daily mean water temperature at Clifton Court Forebay (CLC) is > or equal to 25°C for 3 consecutive days Salmonids: Daily mean water temperature is > 22.2 C at Mossdale and Prisoners Point for 7 days (can be non-consecutive)	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Spring Outflow (COA 8.12.1)	April 1 – May 31	Not in effect	Critical year: ratio of Vernalis flow to SWP and CVP combined exports shall be 1 to 1. Dry year: ratio of Vernalis flow to SWP and CVP combined exports shall be 2 to 1. Below Normal year: ratio of Vernalis flow to SWP and CVP combined exports shall be 3 to 1. Above Normal/Wet year: ratio of Vernalis flow to SWP and CVP combined exports shall be 4 to 1	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

Table 4: Fish monitoring gear efficiency and disruptions. Status Categories: [1] Active (ongoing sampling), [2] Partial Interruption (some sampling interruptions), [3] Interrupted (sampling fully suspended), [4] Not Active (sampling not scheduled), [5] Unknown (information unconfirmed)

Monitoring survey	Region	Notes (as of 11/4/2025)	Status
SWP regular counts, CWT reading	Delta	Active	1
CVP regular counts, CWT reading	Delta	Active	1
Smelt Larval Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
LES	Delta	Not Active	4
20mm Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
Fall Mid-water Trawl	Delta	Active	1
Summer Townet Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
Bay Study	Delta	Active	1
DJFMP- Chipps and Sacramento Trawls	Delta	Active	1
DJFMP- Seines	Delta	Active	1
EDSM	Delta	Active	1
EMP	Delta	Active	1
Mossdale Trawls	Delta	Active (USFWS)	1
USGS Flow monitoring	Delta	Active	1
Red Bluff Diversion Dam Rotary Screw Trap (RST)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Knights Landing RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Tisdale RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
GCID RST	Sacramento River	Not Active	4
Mill Creek RST	Mill Creek	Not Active	4
Deer Creek RST	Deer Creek	Not Active	5
Yuba River (Hallwood) RST	Yuba River	Active	1
Butte Creek Carcass Surveys	Butte Creek	Active	1
Butte Creek RST	Butte Creek	Active	1
Yolo Bypass Rotary Screw Trap	Yolo Bypass	Not Active	4

Monitoring survey	Region	Notes (as of 11/4/2025)	Status
Yolo Bypass Beach Seine	Yolo Bypass	Active	1
Yolo Bypass Fyke Trap	Yolo Bypass	Active	1
Redd dewatering and stranding surveys	Sacramento River	Active	1
Sacramento Carcass and Redd Surveys (fall-run Chinook Salmon)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Lower Sacramento RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Feather River (upper DWR) RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Feather River (lower CDFW) RST	Sacramento River	Not Active	4
Feather River Carcass Survey (fall-run Chinook Salmon)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Sonar, telemetry (sturgeon)	Feather River	Active	1
Egg mats (sturgeon)	Feather River	Active	1
SJRRP CDFW Field Monitoring	San Joaquin River	Active	1
SJRRP USFWS and USBR Field Monitoring	San Joaquin River	Active	1
Stanislaus Fish Weir	San Joaquin River	Active	1
Stanislaus River Carcass Survey (steelhead)	San Joaquin River	Active	1
American River Carcass Survey	Sacramento River	Active	1

* Qualitative larval sampling efforts for both the CVP and SWP have concluded and have been removed from the list as of 10/7/25.