

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 04/09/2024

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Randi Field, Nick Bertrand, Erika Kegel, Cat Pien, Brian Mahardja, Elissa Buttermore, Chase Ehlo, Cat Pien
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Brian Schreier, Farida Islam
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Shawn Acuña (MWD), Darcy Ausin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Tom Boardman (WWD), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA)

Review Operations Outlook (USBR, DWR)

- Effective 4/1-4/3, CVP and SWP operations limited to a 14-day average OMRI flow of no more negative than -2,500 cfs per the 3/29 Director's meeting.
- I/E ratio export constraints per Section 8.17 of the ITP were temporarily suspended 4/8 and 4/9 due to the three-day average Delta outflow exceeding 44,500 cfs; beginning tomorrow (4/10), State ITP will follow the 4:1 ratio and USBR will follow implementation of Interim Operations Plan as specified in that document because this week the San Joaquin River Water Year Classification changed to "Above Normal."
- On the Sacramento River, a change order is scheduled to increase releases to 8,000 cfs later this week from Keswick Dam due to completion of ACID activity.
- On the American River, Nimbus releases this week are at 4,000 cfs and likely holding but may decrease for storage conservation.
- On the Stanislaus River, Goodwin releases were 400 cfs early in the day and 300 cfs at the end of the day. Flows are anticipated to fluctuate for spring pulse flows through April and into May.
- Freeport daily average flows yesterday were estimated to be 36,300 cfs.
- Vernalis daily average flows yesterday were approximately 4,850 cfs.
- USBR is targeting JPP exports at 900 cfs for the remainder of the week; possibility to move to a 2-unit operation but still waiting for interpretation on direction from the IOP.
- On the Feather River, releases from Oroville Dam have been dropping the past few days from 10,000 cfs to 7,000 cfs at approximately 1,000 cfs a day. Operations may change pending possible inflows from a small storm forecasted for this weekend.

- Salinity conditions across the Delta are favorable; X2 requirements in April are 19 days for Port Chicago (4 carryover days and 15 days of action) and 30 days for both Chipps Island and Collinsville.
- The projects expected to complete March X2 at Port Chicago in about a week.
- The high flow offramp of 44,500 cfs for three-day average ends today (4/9); SWP exports are 2,200 cfs today (4/9) and will drop to 600 cfs for the remainder of the week.
- Refer to the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook for more information.

Additional Questions or Comments

- **Question:** When will operational decisions be made now that the water year classification is Above Normal under the IOP?
 - **Answer:** There will be a WOMT meeting tomorrow (4/10) to start the discussion on changes to current operations. It is not clear whether there will be a resolution tomorrow or not.
- **Question:** When are WOMT notes posted after the meeting?
 - **Answer:** In the past, operational decisions from WOMT meetings have been passed to the Facilitation Team and then distributed to DMW. WOMT notes are posted online but need additional time for accessibility checks.
- **Question:** Where are CVP San Luis shares and what is being projected for next week?
 - **Answer:** The current volume of the Federal share is 955,000 acre-feet; we continue to do regularly scheduled transfers to pay down our exchange to the State.

Review PA Assessment (USBR)

USBR then provided the PA Assessment update. For more information, please refer to the PA Assessment document.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No additional questions.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (DWR)

DWR provided the LFS update. For more information, please refer to the ITP Risk Assessment document.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No additional questions.

Acronyms

- CVP – Central Valley Project
- DCC – Delta Cross Channel

- DOI – Delta Outflow Index
- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- DCI – Delta Mendota Canal – California Aqueduct Intertie
- DS – Delta Smelt
- FNU – Formazin Nephelometric Unit
- I:E – Inflow to Export
- IOP – Interim Operations Plan
- ITP – Incidental Take Permit
- ITL – Incidental Take Limit
- JPE – Juvenile Production Estimate
- LFS – Longfin Smelt
- NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
- OBI – Old River Bacon Island Station
- OMR – Old and Middle River Tidally Averaged Flow
- PA – Proposed Action (Federal)
- PTM – Particle Tracking Model
- SaMT – Salmon Monitoring Team
- SLS – Smelt Larval Survey
- SMT – Smelt Monitoring Team
- SWP – State Water Project
- SWRCB – State Water Resources Control Board
- TFCF – Tracy Fish Collection Facility
- TUCP – Temporary Urgency Change Petition
- TUCO – Temporary Urgency Change Order
- USBR – United States Bureau of Reclamation
- WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon
- WOMT – Water Operations Management Team
- WQ – Water Quality
- YOY – Young of Year