



Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 10/15/2024

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Alexander Vaisvil, Chase Ehlo, Tony Yang
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Brian Schreier, Farida Islam
- Water Contractors: Scott Petersen (SLDMWA), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Tom Boardman (WWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)
- Kearns & West: Brittani Bohlke, Marlys Jeane

Review Operations Outlook

- At Keswick Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are at 6,800 cfs and holding until the end of October to minimize redd dewatering and for rice decomp. Then flows will decrease.
- At New Melones Dam on the Stanislaus River, releases are currently 300 cfs. The fall pulse flow started Monday (10/7) and will range from 200 cfs to 1,250 cfs through the week.
- At Nimbus Dam on the American River, releases are at 1,500 cfs and holding..
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are at 2,450 cfs to meet the less than 2,500 cfs requirement by 10/15, per the agreement with California Fish and Game.
- JPP exports are at 4,200 cfs today (10/15) and are scheduled to decrease to 2,700 cfs later this week.
- SWP exports are at 0 cfs from 10/14-10/16 at Clifton Court for weed/herbicide treatment and switchyard maintenance work. The exports will increase gradually up to a projected maximum of 3,600 cfs following this "outage" in accordance with the joint WQ and Delta Outflow (4,000 cfs monthly average) requirements in October.

Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: Can you comment on the DCC Gates and Cross Channel operations?
 - Answer: The DCC Gates were closed last week (10/7-10/11) to coincide with the Mokelumne River pulse flows to facilitate salmon migration. The gates were closed to minimize the chances of Mokelumne River salmon “straying” into the Sacramento River system. The pulse flows are now over and the DCC gates are back open. They are expected to remain open until or about December 1, when they will be closed per the Federal and State ESA requirements.

Review PA Assessment (USBR)

Reclamation provided a brief update on the current conditions and operations.

- The Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT) started convening again on 10/8 for the season.
- Most rotary screw traps have been installed on the Feather and Upper Sacramento Rivers; to-date, six winter-run salmon have been detected. No salmon have been detected in the Delta.

Additional Questions or Comments

No additional questions or comments.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (DWR)

DWR will provide ITP Risk Assessment updates in early November as smelt monitoring begins.

Additional Questions or Comments

No additional questions or comments.

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