



# Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 12/10/2024

## Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Thuy Washburn, Alexander Vaisvil, Lillian McCormick, Grace Easterbrook, Cat Pien, Chase Ehlo, Erika Kegel, Elissa Buttermore, Tony Yang
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Farida Islam, Katie Osborn
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Darcy Austin (SWC), Tom Boardman (WWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), Steve Micko (MWD), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Sarah Piramoon (Valley Water), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Yuan Liu (CCWD)
- Kearns & West: Brittani Bohlke, Marlys Jeane

## Review Operations Outlook

- At Keswick Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are at 4,000 cfs.
- At Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek, releases are at 200 cfs.
- At Goodwin Dam on the Stanislaus River, releases are at 200 cfs.
- At Nimbus Dam on the American River, releases are at 2,000 cfs.
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are at 1,750 cfs.
- Federal storage at San Luis Reservoir is about 452,000 acre-feet.
- DCC Gates were closed on 11/18 and will remain closed through December.
- JPP is exporting 4,200 cfs Tuesday (12/10) and USBR expects to hold there unless there are any triggers.
- CCF is exporting 6,680 cfs Tuesday (12/10) and DWR expects to hold there for the rest of the week.

- Light rain is forecasted this week and weekend, but mainly in coastal mountain areas; it is not anticipated to substantially impact flows into the Delta. Flows at Freeport have been steadily declining since the last round of storms. If flows into the Delta continue to decline, water quality in the Delta could degrade.
- Both CVP and SWP are operating at maximum allowable amounts for this time of year with resultant highly negative OMRs. The E/I ratio could also control exports ( $E/I \leq 0.65$ ) if Delta flows continue to decline.

### Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: At JPP, is there enough water in the system to be able to hold exports at that level until the next expected storm?
  - Answer: It's hard to say, but the next constraint for exports might be COA 8.6.2 in the current ROD and 8.17 in the new ITP. If estimated daily loss of older juveniles exceeds 26 fish then permittees shall restrict south Delta exports for five consecutive days to achieve a five-day average OMRI no more negative than -5000.

## Review PA Assessment (Reclamation)

Reclamation provided a brief update on the current monitoring conditions. For more information, please refer to the PA Assessment document.

### Additional Questions or Comments

No additional questions or comments.

## Review ITP Risk Assessment (DWR)

*Facilitator's note: Due to a new ITP, no Risk Assessment document was presented. DWR provided a verbal update.*

- Adult LFS entrainment protection is active but not triggered, and its not expected to be triggered within the next 7 days.
- LFS catch was down compared to recent weeks, but 15 LFS were caught by Enhanced Delta Smelt Monitoring (EDSM) in Suisun Bay and Marsh.
- Thirteen larval and one juvenile LFS were caught by SLS in their first survey of the season last week. The juvenile was at Carquinez, and the rest were caught between Carquinez and the Central and South Delta. Distribution and spawning seem to have occurred mostly downstream of the X2 location.
- Due the presence of three larvae in the Central and South Delta, entrainment risk is high for larval LFS. The entrainment risk outside of that region and life stage remains low.

## 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
- SRDWSC – Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel
- 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