



# Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 02/18/2025

## Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Thuy Washburn, Chase Ehlo, Cat Pien, Alex Vaisvil
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Farida Islam, Brian Schreier, Kevin Reece
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Tom Boardman (WWD), Alma Antuna (WWD), Bobby Phillips (WWD), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Ian Buck-Macleod (FWA), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)
- Kearns & West: Rafi Silberblatt, Marlys Jeane

## Review Operations Outlook

- At Keswick Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are 30,000 cfs and will decrease to 10,000 cfs by Tuesday (2/25).
- At Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek, releases are 300 cfs.
- At Nimbus Dam on the American River, releases are 5,000 cfs and will increase to 7,500 cfs by Wednesday (2/19).
- At Goodwin Dam on the Stanislaus River, releases are 200 cfs.
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are 14,000 cfs.
- Federal storage at San Luis Reservoir is 684,000 acre-feet; total storage is 1.62 million acre-feet.
- Freeport flows are approximately 74,000 cfs.
- Vernalis flows are approximately 2,700 cfs.

- JPP exports are currently at 3,400 cfs and are expected to stay at this level for the next few days. They will increase to 4,200 cfs once the unit that experienced an outage on 2/17 is repaired.
- CCF exports are at 3,100 cfs due to the current outage at JPP. If JPP exports return to 4,200 cfs , CCF exports will drop to approximately 2,400 cfs. If JPP exports remain at 3,400 cfs, CCF exports will remain between 3,100 cfs and 3,200 cfs.
- Daily average turbidity is still above 12 FNU at Station OSJ even though it is below 12 FNU at the other two stations. As a result, no "storm flex" action is anticipated at this time and turbidity will continue to be monitored.
- DCC Gates closed on 11/18 and will remain closed for the season.
- Tides are transitioning from Spring to Neap; the Third-Quarter Moon is on Thursday (2/20).

### **Additional Questions or Comments**

- Question: Why did JPP exports drop from 4,200 cfs to 3,400 cfs?
  - Answer: A unit experienced a power outage last night, and we are currently diagnosing the issue. Once the cause is identified, we will work on getting the unit back online. The situation is still under analysis.
- Question: Is there an extra unit at JPP?
  - Answer: 3,440 cfs is the most we can pump right now.
- Question: Considering the amount of water received and the current trajectory of Delta inflow, could we potentially see a full month's Chipps requirement for X2 in March?
  - Answer: It's too soon to predict for the month of March.
- Question: Is CCF able to increase exports to make up the difference in the drop at JPP to meet OMR requirements?
  - Answer: Yes, CCF exports were increased to 3,100 cfs today due to JPP's decrease to 3,400 cfs. When JPP is able to return to 4,200 cfs, CCF exports will be adjusted downward accordingly.
- Question: Was there any take in the last week, and are there any fisheries triggers this week?
  - Answer: There was some steelhead take last week, but no operational adjustments to implement special fisheries protections were "triggered".

## **Review PA Assessment and Assessment Triggers (Reclamation)**

*Facilitator's note: Due to the new PA, DMW will only review the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook. A review of the PA Assessment may occur if a real-time trigger occurs.*

## Review Longfin Smelt Distribution and ITP Triggers (DWR)

*Facilitator's note: Due to the new ITP, DMW will only review the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook. A review of the Risk Assessment may occur if a real-time trigger occurs.*

### 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
- EDSM – Enhanced Delta Smelt Monitoring Program
- 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