



Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 03/04/2025

Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Grace Easterbrook, Chase Ehlo, Thuy Washburn
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Farida Islam
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Darcy Austin (SWC), Bobby Phillips (WWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Sarah Piramoon (Valley Water), Steve Micko (MWD)
- Kearns & West: Nora De Cuir, Marlys Jeane, Trisha Madayag

Review Operations Outlook

- At Keswick Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are 6,000 cfs.
- At Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek, releases are 300 cfs.
- At Nimbus Dam on the American River, releases are 4,500 cfs.
- At Goodwin Dam on the Stanislaus River, releases are 200 cfs.
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are 7,900 cfs and steadily decreasing for flood management.
- San Luis storage is 1.67 million acre-feet; Federal storage is 708,000 acre-feet.
- JPP exports are currently at 4,200 cfs.
- CCF exports are currently 1,700 cfs.
- CVP and SWP are currently coordinating exports to achieve an OMRI no more negative than -5,000 cfs because ITP COA 8.4.1 (and Proposed Action 3.7.4.5) are "offramped (i.e. daily average flow at Rio Vista is greater than 40,000 cfs); however, if daily flow on the

Sacramento River at Rio Vista drop below 40,000 cfs in the next few days and if the average Secchi disk depth (per SLS methodology) is less than 1 meter, then the Larval/Juvenile Delta smelt Protection Action would be triggered (per ITP COA 8.4.1 and Proposed Action 3.7.4.5.2).

- Transitioning from Spring to Neap tide; the First Quarter moon on 3/6.

Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: If the Protection Action is triggered, how many days would operations have to be at -3,500 cfs?
 - Answer: The ITP states a 7-day average of operating at -3,500 cfs if COA 8.4.1 is triggered or until the Secchi disk depth is measured to be greater than 1 meter.
- Question: The last Secchi disk depth measure was 92 cm. When will the next Secchi disk depth be measured again?
 - Answer: On Friday (2/28) the depth was about 82 cm, and yesterday (3/3) it was still around 82 cm, indicating not much change in depth between measurements.
- Question: Was there a risk assessment submitted to WOMT this week?
 - Answer: Yes, Reclamation did submit a risk assessment for DS to SMT and WOMT members and also included discussion on particle tracking models under different scenarios.
- Question: Will the risk assessment become available to DMW members?
 - Answer: *The facilitation team will coordinate with Reclamation and DWR staff to provide updates and materials when available and will share decisions that may come out of WOMT as appropriate.*

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