



Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 03/18/2025

Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Chase Ehlo, Thuy Washburn, Lillian McCormick, Cat Pien, Grace Easterbrook, Alexander Vaisvil
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Brian Schreier, Farida Islam, Katherine Osborn
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Bobby Phillips (WWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Alma Antuna (WWD), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Sarah Piramoon (Valley Water), Steve Micko (MWD), Ian Buck-Macleod (FWA), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Pablo Arroyave (SLDMWA), Scott Peterson (SLDMWA)
- Kearns & West: Marlys Jeane, Briana Moseley

Review Operations Outlook

- At Keswick Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are 15,000 cfs.
- At Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek, releases are 300 cfs.
- At Nimbus Dam on the American River, releases are 2,000 cfs.
- At Goodwin Dam on the Stanislaus River, releases are 200 cfs.
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are 10,000 cfs and will increase to about 15,000 cfs for the next few days for storage management.
- Federal storage at San Luis Reservoir is 758,000 acre-feet; total storage is 1.76 million acre-feet.
- CCF exports are currently at 2,700 cfs today (3/19) and will increase to 3,100 cfs due to high inflows from Vernalis. Flows at Vernalis will peak in about four days, and at Freepoint in about one week.

- DCC Gates are closed for the season.
- Tides are transitioning from Spring to Neap; the Quarter moon is on 3/22.

Additional Questions or Comments

- There were no questions or comments.

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.

The March 17, 2025 Assessment for CVP and SWP Delta Operations on ESA and CESA-listed Species was reviewed. USBR provided the following verbal DS updates:

- No larval DS have been observed in fish monitoring surveys. Adult DS have been observed broadly across the Delta, but there is no new salvage to report.
- The latest Secchi Disk depth reading for 20mm Survey #1 (3/17 - 3/18) was 106 cm; the Larval and Juvenile DS Protection Action is not triggered.
- There are currently no triggers for DS, but as flows are anticipated to increase, Rio Vista will continue to be monitored and an update on Secchi Disk depth will be available in two weeks.

Review Longfin Smelt (LFS) 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.

DWR provided the following verbal LFS updates:

- During this report-out, no LFS data from 20mm #1 at stations 809 and 812 is available, but data could be available on March 19. QWest is positive and increasing, and last week 5 larvae were detected in SLS #6 at 809 and 812.
- One YOY was salvaged (24 mm) at the Federal Fish Facilities on March 13.

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