



American River Group

1:30 PM – 3:30 PM

Conference Line: +1 (321) 209-6143; Access Code: 780 506 355#

Webinar: [Join Microsoft Teams Meeting](#)

Thursday, June 23, 2022

Notes

1. Action Items
 - a. K&W – add Reza Ghasemizadeh to distribution list.
 - b. Thuy – distribute “Folsom Dam Temperature Control Device” presentation
2. Introductions:
 - a. USBR: Thuy Washburn, Brad Hubbard, Melissa Vignau, Spencer Marshall, Liz Kiteck, Drew Loney
 - b. NMFS: Barb Byrne, Katrina Poremba
 - c. USFWS: Paul Cadrett, Craig Anderson
 - d. CDFW: Crystal Rigby, Gary Novak, Erica Meyers, Chris McKibben, Duane Linander, Emily Fisher, Tracy Grimes, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Nick Bauer
 - e. SWRCB: Michael Macon, Lauren Beaudin, Reza Ghasemizadeh
 - f. PCWA: Darin Reintjes
 - g. EBMUD: I-Pei Hsiu
 - h. SMUD: Ansel Lundberg
 - i. City of Folsom:
 - j. City of Sacramento: Brian Sanders, Anne Sanger

- k. San Juan Water District: Paul Helliker,
 - l. Westlands: Tom Boardman
 - m. City of Roseville: Sean Bigley
 - n. DWR: Mike Ford, Kevin Reece
 - o. WAPA:
 - p. FishBio:
 - q. Water Forum: Jessica Law, Ashlee Casey, Erica Bishop, Chris Hammersmark,
 - r. CFS: Kirsten Sellheim
 - s. PSMFC: Logan Day, Austin Galinat
 - t. Shingle Springs Miwok Band:
 - u. Kearns & West: Rafael Silberblatt, Mia Schiappi, Karis Johnston
 - v. CSUS: Dede Birch
 - w. Other: Rod Hall, Jennifer Buckman
3. Folsom Dam Temperature Control Device Presentation
- a. USBR provided a presentation on the Folsom Dam Temperature Shutter Operation that included an explanation of how USBR crews degang and regang the temperature shutters. USBR will share the presentation once it is finalized.
 - b. Questions
 - i. Are there other issues besides the number of stems that might impact the operations of the existing temperature shutters?
 - Cranes have limited availability, custom-made bolts take time to manufacture, and weather constraints affect the ability for work to get done.
 - Infrastructure integrity could be directly impacted by manipulating a component that is not meant to be adjusted on a routine basis. If compromised the ability to adjust incrementally for temperature changes would be lost.

4. Fisheries Update

- a. Nimbus Hatchery: CDFW's current effort to tag steelhead should be completed by 6/24/2022. The last raceway of fall-run Chinook was released on 6/16/2022 at Conoco-Phillips which brings the total Nimbus Hatchery release to approximately 6 million fall-run Chinook fish.
- b. CDFW observed 1 Steelhead at Rossmoor on 6/22/2022.
- c. CDFW reported that the 2022 salmonid distribution is similar to 2021. In June of 2021 and 2022 salmonids have only been observed in the upper reach which extends from Nimbus Basin to Rossmoor. Last year in the month of June all salmonids were monitored within Nimbus Basin. They have only observed one steelhead, more downstream of Rossmoor but still in the upper reach.
- d. PSMFC reported that due to the high volume of algae and low number of Chinook caught, they raised cones on 6/1/2022 and concluded sampling for the 2022 season. 404 unmarked *O. mykiss* were sampled in 2022. During the final week of sampling there was an average of 2 *O. mykiss* and 2 Chinook per day from both locations.
- e. PSMFC will send adipose fin clipped fish for SNP genetic analysis to determine final run assignments. When final assignments are complete a report will be provided to ARG members.

5. Operations Forecast

- a. SMUD provided an update on its operations. See handout for details.
 - i. The rain in early June melted the remainder of the snowpack.
 - ii. Loon Lake, Ice House Lake, and Union Valley combined are 98% full, which is just above the historic average.
 - iii. Chili Bar releases during May were 1,700 cfs with a released total of approximately 100 TAF. June releases are an average of 1,000 cfs with a total release of 41 TAF so far.
 - iv. Starting at the end of June, SMUD will start lowering reservoir levels throughout the remainder of the summer.

6. Central Valley Project (CVP) Operations

- a. Current storage in Folsom Reservoir is 850 TAF. Peak storage was 865 TAF which was based on unexpected rain and higher than anticipated inflows from upstream reservoirs.
- b. Folsom Dam releases are at 2,500 cfs and will increase throughout the next week.

- c. Temperatures in May and June have been mostly below 60 °F at Fair Oaks, with slightly higher temperatures in the last week.
- d. The temperature of water currently being released from Folsom Dam is 58° F.
- e. With the changes occurring throughout the rest of the month, it is likely that an upper shutter may need to be pulled during the next 14 days.
- f. The cold-water pool storage is much better than WY 2021 and temperature at Hazel Avenue through the rest of June should remain below 65°F.
- g. The minimum release requirement (MRR) for June (based on the May ARI at a 50% exceedance) is 1,269 cfs. Releases are currently above the MRR.

Questions/Comments:

- NMFS requested that USBR include the full range of temperature modeling that was discussed in the final Temperature Management Plan (TMP). NMFS commented that they plan to send USBR a high-level comment regarding the TMP based on those modeling runs.
 - USBR noted it would add NMFS consolidated comment as an attachment once received.
- CDFW asked USBR whether the TMP's temperature compliance point will remain at Hazel or move to Watt.
 - USBR noted that it will remain at Hazel.
- NMFS asked whether USBR intends to track temperature projections based on the latest reservoir profile.
 - USBR will do a temperature model run for the July ARG meeting. The TMP is a fluid document and will be re-evaluated routinely based on hydrologic changes.
 - Shutters may need to be pulled eventually, and a power bypass may be considered.

The next regularly scheduled meeting is on **Thursday, July 20, 1:30pm-3:30pm.**