Model Technical Committee for the Central Valley Project Water Temperature Modeling Platform Project

The Central Valley Project (CVP) Water Temperature Modeling Platform (WTMP) Project is a project initiated by US Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) to modernize analytical tools that support activities and decision making for water temperature management in CVP reservoirs in Sacramento, American, and Stanislaus River watersheds for fishery species protection in downstream river reaches. The geographic scope for the CVP WTMP Project includes the northern system – Shasta Lake, Keswick Reservoir, Trinity Lake, Lewiston Reservoir, Upper Trinity River, Upper Sacramento River, Whiskeytown Reservoir, and Clear Creek; the American River system – Folsom Lake, Lake Natoma, and Lower American River; and the Stanislaus River system – New Melones, Tulloch, and Goodwin Reservoirs, and Stanislaus River. The WTMP is expected to provide seasonal and long-term water temperature predictions to assist Reclamation and resource managers to balance downstream temperature management needs with other authorized purposes of the CVP. Scheduled to complete in Fall 2023, the WTMP Project consists of data collection and management system, model selection and implementation, modeling framework selection and implementation, and characterization of uncertainty for water temperature forecast.

Model Technical Committee

Reclamation implemented a collaborative process for WTMP development with the following principles: (1) focusing on technical improvement to advance water temperature modeling tools and analytical methods; (2) using a collaborative model development approach with stakeholders and interested parties; and (3) maintaining an open and transparent environment for information sharing and cooperation.

Model Technical Committee (MTC) is the primary venue established by Reclamation to implement the collaborative process for WTMP development, supplemented by other public outreach and stakeholder engagement activities. Although referred to as a committee, the MTC was implemented as an open forum for collaboration on WTMP development and progress through active participation and constructive contribution by professionals, stakeholders and interested parties. To achieve the intent of an open forum, the MTC is not chartered or conformed to any specific structure for its functions.

The topics for MTC discussions will cover model selection, preparation, calibration, and application throughout the project period. Discussion topics will also include proper inferences of modeling

results and associated uncertainty, as well as their use in decision making for water temperature management.

Through the MTC discussion, topic-specific and basin-specific subgroups may be formed as needed for more focused discussions. These subgroups would be executed in between MTC meetings with voluntary participants for short-term purposes, and the outcome of subgroup discussions will be reported back to the MTC in subsequent meetings.

All information and materials used for MTC meetings and subgroup meetings will be posted on Reclamation's project website afterward for reference. Subject to further considerations and conversation with stakeholders, Reclamation considered that the MTC could be a foundation for a potential user group for water temperature modeling if there is an interest after the project completion.

How to Participate

Reclamation has pre-scheduled quarterly meetings with the MTC on first Thursday of the first month of each calendar quarter till the end of 2023, from 1 to 4 pm, with the first MTC meeting on July 1, 2021. MTC meetings can be in-person meetings, virtual web meetings, or a combination of the two. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, MTC meetings to date were conducted virtually. Future meetings may include in-person option; however, remote participation will be always accommodated.

All quarterly MTC meetings require registration by each participant. The following provides the remaining meeting dates and links for registration.

- [MTC04 (4/7/2022)](#),
- [MTC05 (7/7/2022)](#),
- [MTC06 (10/6/2022)](#),
- [MTC07 (1/5/2023)](#),
- [MTC08 (4/6/2023)](#),
- [MTC09 (7/6/2023)](#), and
- [MTC10 (10/5/2023)](#).

For any questions or feedback for MTC meetings, please contact [the project team](#).

More Information

For more information about the WTMP Project, please contact us at mppublicaffairs@usbr.gov, or visit our [project website](#).