



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Scientific Peer Reviews for the Central Valley Project Water Temperature Modeling Platform Project

The Central Valley Project (CVP) Water Temperature Modeling Platform (WTMP) 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 of the Sacramento, American, and Stanislaus River watersheds for fishery species protection in downstream river reaches.

Reclamation implemented a collaborative process for WTMP development which consists of data collection, a data management system, model selection and implementation, modeling framework selection and implementation, and characterization of uncertainty for water temperature forecast. The WTMP is expected to provide real-time, 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. The WTMP Project is scheduled to complete in Fall 2023 with a development period of about two years.

Scientific Peer Reviews for the WTMP

Scientific Peer reviews are a critical part of model development, providing an external, independent review of the critical assumptions, technical approach and resulting products of the WTMP Project. Reclamation has an rigorous product and quality control review for the WTMP Project; this scientific peer review will provide independent feedback to further improve the outcome and support the transparency of the project.

Reclamation is working with the Delta Stewardship Council (DSC) for scientific peer reviews for the WTMP Project. DSC's Delta Science Program (DSP) is a recognized leader in coordinating unbiased, independent scientific peer reviews and advice to inform water and environmental decision-making in

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 Project will modernize the analytical tools for water temperature management to support continued CVP operation and fishery protection.

the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. Throughout the peer review process, the DSP acts as the liaison between the requesting party and panel, to foster an open and transparent process. Upon completion of its review, the panel publishes a final report with findings and recommendations on the DSC's website. Please visit [DSC's scientific peer review](#) webpage for more information.

Reclamation has planned two rounds of independent scientific peer reviews for the WTMP Project:

- The Mid-Term Peer Review intended to constructively evaluate the development of the Shasta-Keswick-Sacramento River temperature models. This review includes: (1) model selection, (2) data development, (3) model structure, (4) testing, and treatment of selective withdrawal components, and (5) documentation. Feedback from the Mid-Term review will guide the continued WTMP development.
- The Final Peer Review will include the full representation of system features within the temperature models and framework design. This peer review will constructively evaluate the application of the models for the intended uses, including abilities to utilize real-time and seasonal planning tools in a forecast mode and to characterize uncertainty associated with water temperature forecast.

Reclamation and DSC tentatively scheduled the Mid-Term Peer Review in Spring/early Summer 2022, and the Final Peer Review in Summer 2023. The schedules may be updated depending on the progress of preparation activities including recruiting a panel of subject matter experts for peer reviews.

How to Participate

DSC's scientific review process is open to the public. Stakeholders and interested parties can listen to the panel discussions held in public meetings. The charges for the panel, materials used for peer reviews, and the final report will be published on DSC's website. Reclamation will inform the stakeholders and interested parties when the event information becomes available and provide updates on the project website.

More Information

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