



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

CVP Water Temperature Modeling Platform, Modeling Technical Committee Habitat Data Subgroup – Meeting #2

Tuesday, March 8, 2022; 1 p.m.-3 p.m.

Meeting Objectives

- Provide an effective venue for topic-specific discussions under the MTC framework.
- Establish common understanding of the purpose and intended use of habitat data to support WTMP development and other related efforts.
- Develop shared knowledge through engaging subject matter experts for input and characterization for habitat data.

Attendees

See [20220308 WTMP_HabitatSubgroup02_Participants_Accessibility.pdf](#)

Handouts

See [20220209 WTMP_HabitatSubgroup02_Handout_Accessibility.pdf](#)

Summary

This second meeting for the Habitat Data Subgroup was to continue the unfinished discussion from the first meeting on February 9, 2022. The Subgroup was organized based on MTC03 discussion to establish common understanding of background and purpose of habitat data for the WTMP and facilitate the collaborative development of the habitat data for reference by the modeling team. The draft habitat data that was organized by river with information on locations that are important for fishery species. As a working meeting, the draft habitat data were edited and augmented based on input by members. The discussion focused on the Trinity River and Sacramento River. The group also had brief supplemental discussions for the Clear Creek and American River. This 2-hour online meeting was attended by about 13 participants. The Subgroup will review the revised habitat data after incorporation of all input and other data suggested by the Subgroup.

Meeting Logistics and Welcome Remark

Ms. Randi Field (Reclamation) went through the logistics and expectations of the meeting to continue the successful effort from Subgroup meeting 1. This meeting was to focus on the Trinity River and Sacramento River not covered in the previous meeting. Mr. Yung-Hsin Sun (Stantec) provided the background and purpose of the habitat, noting the contributors for the draft habitat data, and a brief summary of meeting 1 activities and suggestions for inviting additional experts for the Trinity River and Sacramento River to complete the habitat data discussion.

The charge for MTC Habitat Data Subgroup participants were to review and supplement, if necessary, important habitat locations, relevant seasons for different species and life stage. Knowledge of additional information that may benefit the model development (e.g., bathymetric data) was also welcome.

Featured Discussion: Review of Trinity River Data

The first discussion session focused on habitat data for Trinity River. The group contributed input and comments on a real-time basis to improve the completeness and description of habitat data.

Questions and Feedback:

- Comments on the Coho salmon temperature objective –
 - In addition to the LTO Biological Opinion, the team should review the 2000 Trinity Biological Opinion for relevant information.
 - The 2000 Trinity Biological Opinion reference 56-degree Fahrenheit water temperature objective, however this objective was originally developed for Central Valley Chinook salmon and was adapted for Coho salmon. In other words, the information may not be reliable, but it is what we have.
 - The Coho spawning/egg incubation occurs from below Lewiston Dam to North Fork Trinity Confluence.
 - Suggestion to update the data tables to include North Fork Trinity River confluence.
 - Suggestion to reference the Trinity River Restoration Program website for additional information
- Comments on the water paths out of Lewiston Dam.
 - There are two different paths, one is the river outlet, and the other is the fish hatchery. The water temperature though the hatchery could potentially be different from the river outlet temperature.
 - Suggestion to consider the water temperature probe at the dam outflow versus at the big weir and compare the difference in temperatures.
- Suggestion to include Big Bar location although it is outside of the modeling domain.
- A member asked if the Trinity River model tracks the temperature impacts due to diversions between Trinity Dam and Lewiston Dam. The team confirmed the modeling domain

includes Trinity Dam, diversion to Whiskeytown Lake, Lewiston Dam and downstream to the North Fork Trinity River confluence.

- The subgroup clarified the Hoopa location. There is a USGS gage at Hoopa, but the compliance point is not there. Hoopa was proposed in the Trinity EIR to be a compliance location, but resource agencies did not pursue that. Nonetheless, it was set as a target location and a measure for Reclamation to achieve in the ROD. Many thought the Trinity River BiOP may be outdated but there was no new information. Klamath River fall flow release criteria are based on Klamath River conditions, not Hoopa, and the compliance point is at Weitchpec.

Featured Discussion: Review of Sacramento River Data

The next discussion focused on habitat data for Sacramento River. The group contributed input and comments on a real-time basis to improve the completeness and description of habitat data.

Questions and Feedback:

- Suggestion to include columns for Winter Run holding, spawning/incubation/emergence, and rearing to the Sacramento River data table.
- Discussion that the Jelly Ferry (Rm 265) gage might be potentially moved to another location or discontinued due to construction of a new bridge. Confirm with Reclamation if this gage is still going to be in operation post bridge construction.
- Suggestion to add Sacramento River at HWY 44 (RM 297) and Sacramento River at Airport Road (RM 284) site locations in water temperature modeling.
- Suggestion to include Sacramento River at Wilkins Slough (RM 118) as a water temperature modeling location. From Red Bluff to Wilkins Slough there are no CDEC stations that measure temperature.
- Comment that the Livingston Stone Fish Hatchery near Shasta is of biological importance and temperature at Shasta is an important temperature measurement for analysis.

Other Feedback and Suggestions

There were many clarification questions exchanged throughout the meeting. The major ones are provided below.

- Reclamation and the team clarified with the Subgroup on the request for expanding modeling domain beyond the currently planned.
 - The team will capture the locations of significance that are outside of the current modeling domain for completeness. The information will serve a reference for Reclamation to consider future expansion and improvement of the WTMP. The current project will continue as planned.

- A member commented that FWS have 10 to 20 years of temperature data for Paige Boulder Creek and South Fork Creek in the Clear Creek basin. The team will verify with Mike Deas (Watercourse) who leads the data collection for model development purposes to verify next steps.

Wrap Up and Next Steps

The meeting was concluded with the following next steps.

- The team to follow up with some members for additional reference or data for the Trinity and Sacramento rivers.
- The team to extract information from 2019 LTO BiOp and 2000 Trinity BiOp.
- The team to incorporate all input and revise the habitat data for subgroup review.