



Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook

1/17/2023 – 1/23/2023

Forecasted Weather: Cool and showery conditions continue on Monday. Dry weather on Tuesday, before another quick shot of precipitation and wind Wednesday. On Thursday, prolonged dry conditions are expected to continue into next week.

Table 1: Anticipated weekly operational ranges by tributary. Environmental and fish conditions updated by respective watershed groups at varying intervals that may not coincide with the weekly range of Water Operations

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Clear Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Current Release: 200 cfs plus spillway releases• Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 200 cfs or greater	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Spring-run Chinook Salmon fry are emerging from redds and are rearing/emigrating.• Fall-run Chinook Salmon eggs are incubating in the gravel, and fry are emerging from redds and are rearing/emigrating. Late fall-run Chinook Salmon are entering and beginning to spawn. Eggs are incubating in the gravel.• O. mykiss adults are entering and are beginning to spawn. Eggs are incubating in the gravel. <p><i>(Updated 1/9/2023)</i></p>

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Sacramento River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shasta Storage: 2.309 MAF • Current Release: 4,050 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 3,250 to 4,050 cfs. Flows above 3,250 cfs due to side-flow management at Keswick. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring-run Chinook salmon fry have completed final redd emergence and are rearing or migrating downstream. Winter-run Chinook juvenile salmon have mostly migrated downstream. Winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon (length-at-date) juveniles are being caught in low numbers and genetics being taken to confirm run assignment. • Fall-run Chinook salmon spawning is complete. Carcass surveys for fall-run are underway. Some Eggs/fry are incubating in gravel. First emergence was around mid-Dec. • Late fall-run Chinook salmon are spawning and eggs in gravel. Late-fall spawning can occur up to late March but majority over by end of January. • Fall-run juveniles, according to length-at-date-criteria, are being caught at increasing numbers at the RBDD rotary traps. <p><i>(Updated 1/9/23)</i></p>
Feather River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oroville Storage: 1.979 MAF • Current Release: 950 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 950 cfs • Daily temperature maximum: 55 F at Fish Hatchery 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall-run Chinook salmon eggs are incubating in gravel and fry are beginning to emerge and move downstream. Spring-run Chinook salmon fry are emerging and juveniles are moving downstream • Approximately 15-20 green sturgeon present from Sunset Pumps to Boyd's Pump. • Adult and juvenile O. mykiss present. <p><i>(Updated 1/9/2023)</i></p>
American River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folsom Storage: 502 TAF • Current Release: 10,000 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 8,000 to 10,000 cfs due to flood control and side-flow management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult fall-run Chinook Salmon have completed spawning Eggs are incubating in gravel and fry are beginning to emerge from redds. Redd and carcass surveys have ended. Juvenile and adult O. mykiss are present. <p><i>(Updated 1/10/23)</i></p>
Stanislaus River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Melones Storage: 883 TAF • Current Release: 1,950 cfs • Anticipated Range of Weekly Releases: 200 cfs to 3,150 cfs due to Tulloch side-flow management. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile and adult O. mykiss are present. • Adult fall-run Chinook salmon are present and spawning. Eggs are incubating in gravel. Fry should begin emerging from redds beginning mid-January. <p><i>(Updated 1/3/23)</i></p>

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Delta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freeport: 60,000 to 80,000 cfs • Vernalis: 15,000 to 23,000 cfs • Delta Outflow index: 80,000 to 170,000 cfs • Combined Exports: 7,500 to 13,700 cfs • JPP: 3,500 cfs to 4,200 cfs • CCF: 4,000 cfs to 9,500 cfs • Expected Daily OMR Index Values: -1,600 to -5,500 cfs • DCC Gates: Closed as of 11/28 and expected to remain closed for seasonal operation. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult <i>O. mykiss</i> present. • Young-of-year spring-run and winter-run Chinook salmon juveniles are moving downstream. • Adult and juvenile Green Sturgeon present • An unmarked Delta Smelt adult was preliminarily reported by EDSM as caught in the South Delta on 1/17/23. The salvage of a cultured DS adult at CVP occurred on 1/7/23. Experimental release of hatchery Delta Smelt at Rio Vista occurred 11/30/22. • Longfin Smelt sub-adults and adults have recently been detected in the lower San Joaquin River, Chipps, as well as Suisun Marsh and Suisun Bay. Spawning is ongoing and LFS larvae have recently been detected in the lower Sacramento River, confluence, and downstream to San Pablo Bay. Three adult LFS have been salvaged at the CVP this WY for an expanded total of 12. <p>(Updated 1/17/2023)</p>

Table 2a-b: WY 2023 relevant Fish and Environmental Criteria and Status in 2019 Reclamation LTO Action Cumulative loss for the duration of 2019 Biological Opinion began upon signature of ROD, 2/19/2020.

Table 2a: WY 2023 Salmonid Current Loss and Delta Smelt Abiotic Conditions. Additional Real-Time OMR Restrictions and Performance Objectives (4.10.5.10.2, 4.10.5.10.3) and Onset of OMR Management (4.10.5.10.1). Genetic identification of salmon is not used in calculating loss, but results are included in the Assessment as they become available.

* Draft WR JPE for BY2022 is 44,690. Final JPE letter is expected in January.

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Trend	Updated
Green sturgeon	WY 2023 salvage = 74	WY 2023 salvage = 0 (0%)	No change expected	1/16/2023
Natural winter-run Chinook Salmon	WY 2023 loss = TBD * (50% of 1.17% of JPE)	WY 2023 loss = 41.98	Possible salvage	1/13/2023
Natural Steelhead	Dec 1 – Mar 31 = 707 (50% of 1,414) Apr 1 – June 15 = 776 (50% of 1,552)	WY 2023 loss = 22.76 Dec 1 – Mar 31 = 25.48 (3.6%) Apr 1 – June 15 = 0 (0%)	Possible salvage	1/13/2023

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Trend	Updated
Sacramento River Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2023 loss = TBD* (50% of 0.12% of JPE)	WY 2023 loss = 0 (0%)	No change expected	1/16/2023
Battle Creek Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2023 loss = TBD * (50% of 0.12% of JPE)	WY 2023 loss = 0 (0%)	No change expected	1/16/2023
Proposed Action Hatchery yearling spring-run Chinook salmon surrogates	> 0.5% of each release group	WY 2023 loss = 0 (0%)*	No change expected	1/16/2023
Delta Smelt	After Dec. 1: Running 3-day avg. flows at Freeport >25,000 cfs Running 3-day avg. turbidity at Freeport => 50 FNU	Freeport 3-day avg. Flow = 75,692 cfs Turbidity = 128.2 FNU	Triggered 12/31/22, will last through 01/16/2023 Flow: remain elevated and dynamic Turbidity: remain elevated	1/9/2023 Data from 1/8/2023
Delta Smelt	Daily avg. Turbidity at OBI=>12 FNU	OBI daily Avg Turbidity = 17.83 FNU	Remain elevated	1/16/2023
Delta Smelt	Daily avg. Temperature at CCF > 25°C for three consecutive days	CCF daily avg. Temperature = Not relevant	Not relevant	12/20/2022

Table 2b. 10-Year Salmonid Cumulative Loss

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Updated
Natural winter-run Chinook salmon	Loss = 8,738	Cumulative loss = 306.16 (3.5%)	1/17/2023
Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	Loss = 5,356	Cumulative loss = 6.71 (0.13%)	1/17/2023
Natural steelhead	Loss = 6,038 (Dec 1 – Mar 31) Loss = 5,826 (Apr 1 – June 15)	Cumulative loss = 555.68 (9.20%, Dec 1 – Mar 31) 474.5 (8.1%, Apr 1 – June 15)	1/17/2023

Table 3a-d: Relevant Water Year 2023 Fish Criteria and Status for Listed Fish under the SWP Long-Term Incidental Take Permit.

Table 3a: Chinook Salmon

* Draft WR JPE for BY2022 is 44,690. Final JPE letter is expected in January.

** Based on the lab results received (up to sample date 1/2/23), there was no natural WR identified through genetic verification process.

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
OMR Mgmt. triggered (8.3.2)	Jan. 1 - Jun. 30 <i>(when ≥ 5% of spring-run or winter-run in Delta)</i>	Not in effect	-5% of the Winter-run or Spring-run population in Delta	N/A	N/A	12/18/22	N/A
Winter-run yearly loss (8.6.1)	Nov. 1 - Jun. 30	In effect	TBD (based on JPE)*	WR loss: 41.98**	Possible salvage	1/17/23	Based on salvage data from 1/16/23
Winter-run discrete daily loss (8.6.2)	Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Not in effect	12/1-12/31: loss of 26/day unclipped older juv. Winter-run	Daily loss from 12/18 unclipped WR salvage: 17.54 fish/TAF < 26 fish/TAF	Possible salvage	1/3/23	Based on salvage data from 12/18/22
Mid and late season Winter-run daily loss threshold (8.6.3)	Jan 1 – May 31	In effect	1/1/23 - 1/31/23 Daily loss of older juvenile greater than 2.84	Salvage of older juvenile with loss of 2.72 on 1/13/23 and 2.60 on 1/14/23	Possible salvage	1/17/23	Based on salvage data from 1/16/23
Spring-run surrogate protection (8.6.4)	Feb. 1 - Jun. 30	Not in effect	TBD (based on the number of fish released)	N/A	N/A	10/31/22	N/A

Table 3b: Delta Smelt

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection ('First Flush') (8.3.1)	Dec. 1 - Jan. 31	Triggered 12/31/2022, -2000 OMR action will last through 1/16/2023	- three-day Freeport daily flow running avg >= 25,000 AND [three-day Freeport turbidity running avg >=50 NTU OR Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation]	FPT flow: 75,692 cfs FPT turbidity: 128.2 FNU	Dynamic and elevated	1/9/23	Data from 1/8/23
Turbidity Bridge Avoidance (8.5.1)	Dec. 15 - Apr. 1	In effect, triggered	Occurs after the Integrated Early Winter Pulse protection or February 1 (whichever comes first) until April 1 -avg. OBI turbidity > 12 FNU	OBI = 17.83 FNU	Elevated	1/17/23	Data from 1/16/23
Larval and/Juvenile Delta smelt Protection (8.5.2)	ongoing	In effect, not triggered	- If 5-day cum. salvage of juv.DS >= 1[average 3-yrFMWT index + 1], then -5000 OMR - If DS in SLS/20mm or 3-d temp at Jersey Point >= 12C, and SLS/20mm Secchi for 12 south delta stations <= 1m, then -3500 OMR	Current 5-day salvage = 0 3-day SJJ temp = 10.74 SLS 1 avg Secchi = 26 cm	No change expected	1/17/23	Data from 1/16/23

Table 3c: Longfin Smelt

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Early Adult Protection (8.3.3)	Dec. 1 - Feb. 28	Off-ramped	-Cum. salvage > [most recent FMWT/10] =40 fish (Sept.-Dec. Index) OR -Smelt Monitoring Team determines high likelihood of LFS movement into high-risk areas	Cum salvage total = 12	No change expected	1/17/23	Salvage at CVP on 1/1/23 and 1/14/23 and 1/15/23
OMR Mgt. for Adults (8.4.1)	Dec. 1 -Feb. 28	Off-ramped	-Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation	N/A	N/A	12/27/22	N/A
Larval and Juvenile Longfin Smelt Entrainment Protection (8.4.2)	Jan 1 – Jun 30	In effect, not triggered	-LFS larvae or juveniles in >=4 SLS or 20 mm stations in central and south Delta, OR -LFS catch/tow >5 larvae or juveniles in >=2stations	SLS #1: 0 larvae in central and south Delta	None expected	1/17/23	SLS 1 was in the field 1/3 - 1/6
High Flow OMR Off-Ramp for Longfin Smelt (8.4.3)	Based on the status of 8.3.3, 8.4.1, & 8.4.2	Triggered, not controlling	-Sac. R. at Rio Vista>55,000, OR SJR at Vernalis >8,000	Rio Vista = 70,000 – 130,000 cfs SJ = 15,000 to 23,000 cfs	N/A	1/17/23	N/A

Table 3d: OMR

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
OMR Storm Flexibility (8.7)	Jan 1 – Jun 30	Not in Effect	-Delta is in excess -QWEST is > 0 -Measurable amount of precipitation has occurred -None of COA's are controlling operations (8.3.1, 8.3.3, 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.6.2, 8.6.3, 8.6.4) -Cumulative salvage at CVP and SWP of yearling CNFH LFR Chinook salmon (as yearling CHNSR surrogates) is < 0.5% with any of the release groups -Risk Assessments conducted by the SaMT/SMT determines no changes in spawning, rearing, foraging, sheltering, or migration behavior as a result of OMR Flex operations beyond those are likely to occur.	N/A	N/A	1/3/23	Based on storm conditions
OMR Mgmt. Offramp (8.8)	Jun. 1 – Jun. 30	Not in effect	->95% of the Winter-run and Spring run populations have migrated past Chipps Island AND -Current daily average water temperature at Mosssdale and Prisoners Point. • Days exceeded: Criteria met as of 6/16/2022	N/A	N/A	10/10/22	N/A

Table 4: Fish monitoring gear efficiency and disruptions. Status Categories: [1] Active (ongoing sampling), [2] Partial Interruption (some sampling interruptions), [3] Interrupted (sampling fully suspended), [4] Not Active (sampling not scheduled)

Monitoring survey	Region	Notes (as of 1/17/2023)	Status
SWP regular counts, CWT reading	Delta	Active; delay in CWT reading as DWR staff was unable to reach Skinner fish facility before 1/17 morning due to road closure for flooding.	1
SWP larval sampling	Delta	Not Active	4
CVP regular counts, CWT reading	Delta	Active	1

Monitoring survey	Region	Notes (as of 1/17/2023)	Status
CVP larval sampling	Delta	Not Active	4
Smelt Larval Survey	Delta	Active	1
LEPS	Delta	Active	1
20mm Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
Spring Kodiak Trawl	Delta	Active	1
Fall Mid-water Trawl	Delta	Not Active	4
Summer Townet Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
Bay Study	Delta	Active	1
DJFMP- Chipps and Sacramento Trawls	Delta	Active (sampling three days a week starting in May)	1
DJFMP- Seines	Delta	Active	1
EDSM	Delta	Active	1
EMP	Delta	Active	1
Mossdale	Delta	Active	1
USGS Flow monitoring	Delta	Active	1
Red Bluff Diversion Dam Rotary Screw Trap (RST)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Knights Landing RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Tisdale RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
GCID RST	Sacramento River	Not Active (Traps pulled out of river due to high flows on 12/27)	4
Yuba River (Hallwood) RST	Yuba River	Active – weekdays only	1
Redd dewatering and stranding surveys	Sacramento River	Not Active	4
Sacramento Carcass and Redd Surveys	Sacramento River	Active	1
Lower Sacramento RST	Sacramento River	Not Active as of 12/29	4
Feather River (upper DWR) RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Feather River (lower CDFW) RST	Sacramento River	Active (inactive on 1/4-1/10)	2
SJRRP CDFW Field Monitoring	San Joaquin River	Active	1
SJRRP USFWS and USBR Field Monitoring	San Joaquin River	Not Active	4
Stanislaus Fish Weir	San Joaquin River	Active	1