

# Delta Monitoring Workgroup

## Meeting Record 11/07/2023

### Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Nick Bertrand, Elissa Buttermore, Cat Pien, Chase Ehlo, Randi Field, Alex Jensen, Erika Kegel
- USFWS: Leif Goude
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Erica Meyers, Crystal Rigby
- DWR: Mike Ford, Katherine Osborn, Farida Islam, Nicole Kwan, Kevin Reece
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Tom Boardman (WWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), Darcy Austin (SWC), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Scott Peterson (SLDMWA), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Shawn Acuna (Met), Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Sarah Piramoon (Valley Water), Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant WA), Jennie Buckman (ARSC)

### Review Operations Outlook (DWR)

- For more information, please refer to the Operations Outlook documents.
- Freeport flows have slowly decreased due to drier conditions to the 7,500-9,500 cfs range.
- Vernalis flows have slowly decreased due to drier conditions to the 1,500-2,000 cfs range.
- The recent storm events and precipitation have not generated any significant runoff or caused any changes in the main stem river systems.
- Due to maintenance activities, JPP exports will drop to 900 cfs on Thursday, 11/9/23 and will return to 2,700 cfs.
- To balance concerns to meet Rio Vista regulatory requirements, a change order for DCC Gates was sent for its closure on Wednesday, 11/8/23, to open again in time for the holiday weekend on Friday, 11/10/23.
- X2 Fall Operations for September and October have concluded.
- The operating range for Clifton Court exports is approximately 1,000 to 3,000 cfs this week.
- DWR continues to manage exports with USBR to maintain the 4,500 cfs monthly average Delta outflow requirement for November.

## Additional Questions or Comments

- No questions or comments.

## Review PA Assessment (USBR)

Reclamation provided the PA Assessment update. For more information, please refer to the PA Assessment document.

## Review ITP Risk Assessment (DWR)

DWR provided the LFS update. For more information, please refer to the ITP Risk Assessment document.

## Additional Questions or Comments

- **Comment** (*DWR*): Loss for Winter-run Chinook Salmon is currently 0. However, it is possible that salmonids may be observed in salvage soon as more fish move into the Delta. Storm events are cueing fish outmigration. DCC gates are still cycling open, which may also contribute to increase the potential for salmonid loss to the Delta operations. There is no concern that this will pose a significant risk to Winter-run at the population level.

## Acronyms

- CVP – Central Valley Project
- DCC – Delta Cross Channel
- DOI – Delta Outflow Index
- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- DCI – Delta Mendota Canal – California Aqueduct Intertie
- DS – Delta Smelt
- FNU – Formazin Nephelometric Unit
- I:E – Inflow to Export
- IOP – Interim Operations Plan
- ITP – Incidental Take Permit
- JPE – Juvenile Production Estimate
- LFS – Longfin Smelt
- NTU – Nephelometric Turbidity Unit
- OBI – Old River Bacon Island Station
- OMR – Old and Middle River Tidally Averaged Flow
- PA – Proposed Action (Federal)
- PTM – Particle Tracking Model
- SaMT – Salmon Monitoring Team
- SLS – Smelt Larval Survey
- SMT – Smelt Monitoring Team
- SWP – State Water Project
- SWRCB – State Water Resources Control Board
- TFCF – Tracy Fish Collection Facility

- TUCP – Temporary Urgency Change Petition
- TUCO – Temporary Urgency Change Order
- USBR – United States Bureau of Reclamation
- WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon
- WOMT – Water Operations Management Team
- WQ – Water Quality
- YOY – Young of Year