

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 3/30/2021

Working Group Members & Observers

Attendees	Organization
Nick Bertrand	USBR
Josh Israel	USBR
Suzanne Manugian	USBR
Randi Field	USBR
Elissa Buttermore	USBR
Katherine Sun	USFWS
Jeff Stuart	NMFS
Ken Kundargi	CDFW
Farida Islam	DWR
Kevin Reece	DWR
Felipe La Luz	CDFW
Yuan Liu (CCWD)	Water Contractors
Heidi Williams (Valley Water)	Water Contractors
Shawn Acuña	Water Contractors
Sheila Greene	Water Contractors
Chandra Chilmakuri	Water Contractors
Scott Peterson (SLDMWA)	Water Contractors
Darcy Austin (SWC)	Water Contractors

Absentees	Organization
Rafael Lopez Gonzalez	USBR
Mario Manzo	USBR
Ian Smith	USBR
Liz Kiteck	USBR
Jana Affonso	USFWS
Kristal Davis-Fadtke	CDFW
April Hennessy	CDFW
Brett Harvey	DWR
Matt Holland	State Board
Deanna Sereno	Water Contractors
Frances Brewster	Water Contractors
Alison Collins	Water Contractors
Corey Phillips (MWD)	Water Contractors
Shelby Rinehart (WWD)	Water Contractors
Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant Water Authority)	Water Contractors
Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)	Water Contractors
Lenny Grimaldo (DWR)	Observers

Action Items

None at this time.

Additional Notes on Discussion Items

- Introduction
- Review Fish and Water Operation Outlook
 - Dry trend in coming week, breezy weather in Delta.
 - Clear Creek releases holding, Shasta and Folsom releases increases, Stanislaus releases increasing.
 - Oroville pulse flow on Thursday and Friday.
 - Managing exports for WQ compliance at Collinsville.
 - DCC gates closed.
 - Question about whether the pulse flow is a FERC requirement.
 - Response that the pulse flow is a voluntary action.
- Review PA Assessment and ITP Assessment from Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT) and Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT)
 - Reviewed executive summary from PA assessment.
 - SaMT
 - No thresholds are likely to be triggered this year.
 - CalFish acoustic telemetry website has more groups being released in April and May.
 - SMT
 - Similar to last week. No non-consensus issues.
 - Turbidity not likely to exceed trigger.

- No abundance estimate from EDSM, but abundance estimate from January has been updated. Reference last EDSM report for changes.
 - Question about what level of turbidity would trigger a lower OMR?
 - Response that SMT has discussed at length and relies on the daily turbidity report from DWR. The 12 FNU threshold is the best gauge at this point, based on existing research.
 - ITP Assessment
 - LFS – OMR range in assessment is more positive than most protective level SMT can recommend to DFW.
 - 8.1.2 no restrictions in place since no smelt detected in region.
 - Question about the offramp date for 8.1.2.
 - Response: April 1st.
 - Question about whether CDFW is planning to release spring run surrogates with the pulse flow.
 - Response that the second Feather River Hatchery release of spring run is planned, more information should be available in the final ITP risk assessment.
- Provide information in DMW notes for consideration by DWR and Reclamation.
 - Thanks for the inclusion of the monitoring results image in PA Assessment document this week. (Action items follow up from 03/23/2021 meeting)

Acronyms

DCC – Delta Cross Channel
 DWR – California Department of Water Resources
 FNU -- Formazin Nephelometric Unit
 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
 PTM – Particle Tracking Model
 SaMT – Salmon Monitoring Team
 SLS – Smelt Larval Survey
 SMT – Smelt Monitoring Team
 SWRCB – State Water Resources Control Board

TFCF – Tracy Fish Collection Facility
WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon
WQ – Water Quality