

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 04/19/2022

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Suzanne Manugian, Ian Smith, Randi Field, Erika Kegel, Nick Bertrand
- USFWS: *Not in attendance*
- NMFS: *Not in attendance*
- CDFW: April Hennessey, Virginia Afentoulis, Crystal Rigby, Gabe Singer
- DWR: Farida Islam, Mike Ford, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Chandra Chilmakuri, Darcy Austin (SWC), Joes Rangel, David Vang (WWD); Shawn Acuña (MWD), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC); Heidi Williams (Valley Water); Yuan Liu, Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Ian Buck – Macleod (FWA); Scott Petersen (SLDMWA)

Additional Notes on Discussion Items

For detailed information on the outlook or assessment document overviews presented during the meeting, please refer to those documents.

Review Operations Outlook (Randi Field, USBR)

- Inflows from the Sacramento River and the San Joaquin River into the Delta are strong from the precipitation.
- Stanislaus River – current variability downstream from Goodwin Dam as water is released for the spring pulse flow which will run through 5/18/22. There will be three peaks during the pulse flow with a high expected to exceed 1,000 cfs.
- Delta exports at Jones Pumping Plant are 900 cfs. Clifton Court Forebay exports are currently 600 cfs.
- The IOP court order issued on 4/11/22 requires a uniform export condition. The D-1641 Delta outflow conditions include a combined total export limit of 1,500 cfs from 4/14/22 through 5/14/22. This requirement is different than the TUCO.

Questions/Comments

- *No discussion*

Review PA Assessment (Suzanne Manugian and Ian Smith, USBR)

- The expected OMR index values are -1,200 cfs to -1,550 cfs.

- Turbidity daily average at OBI was 6.88 FNU on 4/18/22. Turbidity will be monitored as precipitation moves through the Central Valley.
- In the last week, 7 larval DS have been collected. Larval DS have been detected in the Lower San Joaquin River stratum at Station 815 and 902, the Lower Sacramento River Station 706, and North Delta Stations 711, 716, 718, 719, 726, and 724.
- A total of 117 DS have been detected this water year. The most recent detection of DS occurred on 4/13 by the EDSM in the Lower Sacramento River stratum.

Questions/Comments

- Q: Of the larval DS that are being collected, is there any plan to do any genetics to find out whether their parentage was part of the experimental release?
- R: Generally, no. The methods of collecting those samples preserve all the fish in formalin. However, the FRP fish were preserved in ethanol. Those will be genetically sampled for parentage analysis.
- C: It was mentioned that genetic analysis could occur on formalin fish given enough time.
- R: Yes, it is possible to do a species identification, but not a parentage analysis.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (Brian Schreier, DWR)

- SMT continues to advise an OMR index of -1,250 cfs based on the condition of approval 8.4.2 criteria for the next week.
- Some changes to detection data following quality control for the 20-mm survey 2: observation at Station 902 was originally categorized as a LFS larvae, but is now identified as DS; Station 812 was originally categorized as Wakasagi, now identified as DS larvae.
- Adult LFS continue to be observed at Chipps Island.
- The weekly salvage total for LFS was 627. Total salvage for LFS for WY22 is 3,259 fish.
- Larval LFS less than 20mm continue to be observed at the CVP.

Questions/Comments:

- *No discussion*

Additional Questions or Comments

- *No additional discussion.*

Acronyms

- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- DS – Delta Smelt
- 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
- TUCP – Temporary Urgency Change Petition
- WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon
- WQ – Water Quality
- YOY – Young of Year