

## Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 05/11/2021

### Working Group Members & Observers

<b>Attendees</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Nick Bertrand	USBR
Josh Israel	USBR
Ian Smith	USBR
Suzanne Manugian	USBR
Randi Field	USBR
Elissa Buttermore	USBR
Katherine Sun	USFWS
Jeff Stuart	NMFS
Ken Kundargi	CDFW
April Hennessy	CDFW
Felipe La Luz	CDFW
Mike Ford	DWR
Farida Islam	DWR
Yuan Liu (CCWD)	Water Contractors
Heidi Williams (Valley Water)	Water Contractors
Shawn Acuña	Water Contractors
Chandra Chilmakuri	Water Contractors

<b>Absentees</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Mario Manzo	USBR
Rafael Lopez Gonzalez	USBR
Liz Kiteck	USBR
Jana Affonso	USFWS
Kristal Davis-Fadtke	CDFW
Brett Harvey	DWR
Kevin Reece	DWR
Matt Holland	State Board
Frances Brewster	Water Contractors
Deanna Sereno	Water Contractors
Shelby Rinehart (WWD)	Water Contractors
Alison Collins	Water Contractors
Corey Phillips (MWD)	Water Contractors
Sheila Greene	Water Contractors
Scott Peterson (SLDMWA)	Water Contractors
Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant Water Authority)	Water Contractors
Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)	Water Contractors
Darcy Austin (SWC)	Water Contractors
Lenny Grimaldo (DWR)	Observers

### **Action Items**

None

### **Additional Notes on Discussion Items**

- Introduction
- Review Fish and Water Operation Outlook
  - Dry conditions persisting, tapering of north winds. Cool down towards weekend but remaining dry.
  - Clear creek – At the end of the spring pulse. Releases will be variable.
  - Sacramento – releasing 9,000 cfs downstream from Keswick, will see changes in system down to 8,800 cfs.
  - American – releasing 1,000 cfs currently, reducing to 900 on Thursday.
  - San Joaquin – downstream from Goodwin, currently at 1,500 cfs – reducing to 1,300 on Thursday.
  - Delta – Changes in system to accommodate 14 day net delta outflow requirement. Currently, Jones is at 800 cfs.
  - DCC gates – tested; construction has concluded. Fully operational for normal use in the future. Reclamation will be considering and monitoring the salinity conditions. Had previously opened gates on the weekend for recreation but will be monitoring and making a final decision closer to May 21.
  - Oroville—increased to 2,500 cfs to provide more operational flexibility to meet the delta outflow requirement of 4000 cfs which took effect May 1. Water is starting to show up in the delta now. Going down to 2,400 cfs

today.

- CC diversions continuing at health and safety levels – 300 cfs. Will have a few days where we will be at zero due to maintenance outage.
- Review PA Assessment and ITP Assessment from Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT) and Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT)
  - Reviewed executive summary from PA assessment.
  - SaMT
    - No issues for WOMT.
    - No PA performance measures triggered.
    - A few unmarked steelhead salvaged in the past week.
    - Still under 4% of our most conservative single loss threshold for natural steelhead. We do not expect any triggers in the next week. OMR flows are more positive than triggers would require.
    - We are seeing a large proportion of hatchery Chinook salvaged. Their adipose fin is clipped, but no wire tag.
  - SMT
    - No issues for WOMT.
    - No non-consensus issues.
    - New abundance estimates by life stage. Zero – 1,739; One year - 2,685; no DS salvage this water year.
    - SKT complete; no DS.
    - 20mm # 3 – 97% processing complete; no DS.
    - 20mm #4 – Station 919 not sampled due to algae; no DS.
    - 20mm # 5 – will sample next week.
    - Bay Study complete for April, no DS.
    - Bay Study on water May 5-17.
    - EDSM – 3 DS detected in the Deep Water Ship Channel on May 4.
    - 24.8 mm DS in Lower Sacramento River on May 6.
    - EDSM on water Monday - Thursday this week.
    - Chipps Island Trawl -- 4 days per week; no DS
    - Mossdale Trawl – 3 days per week; no DS.
  - ITP Assessment –
    - No SMT advice under ITP warranted with current operations. No triggers.
    - Condition of Approval 8.1.2 for Barker Slough – we are in the time period relevant for DS. No smelt detected at station 716 during 20 mm #4 so that condition of approval not triggered.
    - For LFS, 20 mm #4 - only one LFS detected at the station reported – at 809 near Jersey Point – so condition of approval not triggered.
    - YOY LFS in the Lower Sacramento River, Suisun Bay and Suisun

Marsh. There has been a detection in the Deep Water Ship Channel by 20 mm survey, but outside of area we associate with risk. SMT has been discussing water temperature. Refers to Jefferies, et. al. (2016) – range of temperature where LFS have been detected, rare above 22 degrees C. YOY LFS may seek out areas of lower temperature – so we may see a slight uptick in salvage as water temperatures increase – but a recommendation to restrict OMR would not change the trajectory that we are seeing.

- Salvage update last week – 82 juvenile LFS salvaged at Skinner. 8 salvaged at Tracy – brings total to 531 at state and 184 for federal facility this year.
- LFS survey update:
- 22mm #4 – sample processing ongoing. 1 detection so far. 1 DS at 719 in Deep Water Ship Channel.
- 20 mm #3, catch table attached.
- LFS detected in Lower San Joaquin.
- SKT last week there were some non-enumerated YOY LFS taken back to lab to measure and count. 60 LFS 19-43 mm in fork length.
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- EDSM – collected 41 LFS last week. 14.6-31.5 mm fork lengths.
- Chipps Island Trawl – 3 LFS, some older fish in the system.
- No PTM runs as operations are not varying much.
- Provide information in DMW notes for consideration by DWR and Reclamation.
  - None

#### *Acronyms*

DCC – Delta Cross Channel  
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  
WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon  
WQ – Water Quality