

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 05/18/2021

Working Group Members & Observers

Attendees	Organization
Nick Bertrand	USBR
Josh Israel	USBR
Ian Smith	USBR
Suzanne Manugian	USBR
Randi Field	USBR
Rafael Lopez Gonzalez	USBR
Elissa Buttermore	USBR
Katherine Sun	USFWS
Jeff Stuart	NMFS
Ken Kundargi	CDFW
April Hennessy	CDFW
Mike Ford	DWR
Shawn Acuña	Water Contractors
Chandra Chilmakuri	Water Contractors

Absentees	Organization
Mario Manzo	USBR
Rafael Lopez Gonzalez	USBR
Liz Kiteck	USBR
Jana Affonso	USFWS
Kristal Davis-Fadtke	CDFW
Felipe La Luz	CDFW
Brett Harvey	DWR
Farida Islam	DWR
Kevin Reece	DWR
Matt Holland	State Board
Frances Brewster	Water Contractors
Sheila Greene	Water Contractors
Deanna Sereno	Water Contractors
Heidi Williams (Valley Water)	Water Contractors
Yuan Liu (CCWD)	Water Contractors
Shelby Rinehart (WWD)	Water Contractors
Alison Collins	Water Contractors
Corey Phillips (MWD)	Water Contractors
Scott Peterson (SLDMWA)	Water Contractors
Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant Water Authority)	Water Contractors
Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)	Water Contractors
Lenny Grimaldo (DWR)	Observers

Action Items

None

Additional Notes on Discussion Items

- Introduction
- Review Fish and Water Operation Outlook
 - Dry pattern persisting. Unsettled, slightly cooler conditions, may receive insignificant precipitation.
 - Clear Creek - Downstream from Whiskeytown, finishing the spring pulse, 300 cfs releases.
 - Sacramento – Downstream from Keswick, at 800 cfs with some uncertainty.
 - American – Releasing 900 cfs from Nimbus, we have a change order out for tomorrow to go to 1000 cfs to offer more flow into the Sacramento side of the system to meet D1641 WQ requirements.
 - San Joaquin- Downstream from Goodwin, releasing 900 cfs and expect to drop to 700 cfs on Thursday for D1641.
 - Delta - Exporting 800 cfs from Jones, and not expecting any modification there.

- DCC Gates - Reclamation decided, due to poor salinity conditions in the delta, to close the gates until further notice and continue monitoring salinity conditions as we move forward into the future.
- Oroville – Releasing 2,500 cfs, increased 200 cfs. Daily average is 2,400. Still at 300 cfs at Clifton Court – concerned about water quality in the Sacramento. Outflow was good. Exports are low. Concern about carryover storage given dry conditions.
- 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.
 - Still juvenile salmonids in the delta, not many upstream.
 - A few natural steelhead observed in salvage.
 - No performance measures expected to be triggered.
 - OMR flows are more positive than triggers would require.
 - SMT
 - No issues for WOMT.
 - Most recent detections of DS in the Deep Water Ship Channel (8) and in the Lower Sacramento River (1).
 - Most recent abundance estimate for DS – Age Zero is 14,442 fish.
 - Sampling updates:
 - 20 mm #4 – May 3-6; still processing, 1DS.
 - 20 mm #5—sampling through May 20.
 - Bay Study – sampling May 5-17.
 - EDSM – No DS sampled last week. On the water Monday – Thursdays.
 - Chipps Island Trawl – sampling 5 days per week. No DS.
 - Mossdale Trawl – sampling 3 days per week. No DS.
 - ITP Assessment –
 - No advice to WOMT for LFS.
 - 20 mm #5 began yesterday. No LFS at the one station processed (902, at beginning of OMR corridor).
 - 20 mm #4 – processing is ongoing and 78% complete. The full catch table is in the summary. 11 of 12 stations for condition of approval 8.4.2 were sampled. One LFS at station 809 in the lower San Joaquin. No LFS at 716 in Barker Slough.
 - LFS detected in lower Sacramento River, Suisun bay and Deep Water Ship Channel. Quite a few fish near the confluence.
 - EDSM sampled May 10 – 13th. 14 LFS ranging from 16.2 – 26.5 mm

in fork length.

- Chipps Island Trawl – One 80 mm LFS, no expression.
- 74 juvenile LFS salvaged at Skinner Fish Facility, May 11 -17. 4 salvaged at the Tracy Fish Collection Facility. State total is now 605 and federal is 188 juvenile LFS. Those are expanded based on sampling.
- LFS concentrated in the lower Sacramento and the confluence. Also, some in Suisun Marsh and Bay – but have not shifted downstream more.
- Exports are at a minimum and salvage tapering. Water has cooled down a bit with cooler weather, but no change in risk. Risk low for fish outside the corridor and moderate for fish inside the corridor.
- 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