

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 06/08/2021

Attendees	Organization
Nick Bertrand	USBR
Josh Israel	USBR
Ian Smith	USBR
Suzanne Manugian	USBR
Randi Field	USBR
Elissa Buttermore	USBR
Rafael Lopez Gonzalez	USBR
Katherine Sun	USFWS
Ken Kundargi	CDFW
April Hennessy	CDFW
Felipe La Luz	CDFW
Farida Islam	DWR
Mike Ford	DWR
Jeff Onsted	DWR
Deanna Sereno	Water Contractors
Shawn Acuña	Water Contractors
Yuan Liu (CCWD)	Water Contractors
Chandra Chilmakuri	Water Contractors
Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)	Waters Contractors
Absentees	Organization
Mario Manzo	USBR
Liz Kiteck	USBR
Jana Affonso	USFWS
Kristal Davis-Fadtke	CDFW
Kevin Reece	DWR
Brett Harvey	DWR
Jeff Stuart	NMFS
Matt Holland	State Board
Heidi Williams (Valley Water)	Water Contractors
Frances Brewster	Water Contractors
Sheila Greene	Water Contractors
Shelby Rinehart (WWD)	Water Contractors
Deanna Sereno	Water Contractors
Alison Collins	Water Contractors
Corey Phillips (MWD)	Water Contractors
Scott Peterson (SLDMWA)	Water Contractors
Lenny Grimaldo (DWR)	Observers
Darcy Austin (SWC)	Water Contractors

Action Items

None

Additional Notes on Discussion Items

- Introduction
- Review Fish and Water Operation Outlook
 - Whiskeytown releasing 125 cfs, some variability with a pulse. The peak of the pulse will be about 600 cfs.
 - Keswick releasing 7,100 cfs.
 - Nimbus releasing 1,850 cfs, with recent changes to support increased Delta outflow.
 - Goodwin releasing 1,500 cfs, with recent changes to support increased Delta outflow.
 - Recent changes are a result of challenging D1641 requirements around delta outflow and salinity. Recent changes have been made to move to higher releases on the Feather, American, and Stanislaus systems have been made to increase delta outflow.
 - Daily Delta outflows are currently around 2,500 cfs. Salinity is creeping up at Jersey Point and Three Mile Slough.
 - The DCC was operated last weekend from Friday the 4th to Monday the 7th. With growing concern about salinity and drawing in salts on the lower Sacramento River, we have decided to keep the DCC gates closed. We remain hopeful that the additional flows provided from upstream reservoir releases will ameliorate this situation.
 - Jones will reduce to zero beginning Thursday at noon and CVP export water will be included in the total Banks exports going forward, until further notice.
 - Banks will export 850 cfs beginning on Friday as the total of combined SWP and CVP exports from the Delta, and half this amount on Thursday when Jones PP goes to zero export at noon.
 - Question: Looking at the data, there is some cushion on water quality. Jersey Point is threatening, but wouldn't opening DCC gates be better for Jersey Point? Could you explain that decision further?
 - Response: Staff has discussed this, and the fear is not having enough flow from the Sacramento side to help control that and as a result pulling salts in the opposite direction if we don't have the backstop.
 - Comment: Opening the DCC tends to help Jersey Point, but it might go up Three Mile Slough.

- Response: The rate of salinity increases we are seeing also factored into the DCC ops decisions.
- 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.
 - Salmonids largely exited the delta.
 - No performance measures triggered for salmonid or sturgeon.
 - One criteria for end of OMR flow management has been triggered (7 days of daily average at Mossdale above 71.6 degrees F)
 - We have met those criteria to offramp OMR flow management for the PA for salmonids.
 - SMT
 - No issues for WOMT.
 - No non consensus issues.
 - No abundance estimates this week.
 - No DS salvage this water year.
 - OMR criteria may control until June 30 or until the following off ramp – daily mean at Clifton Court Forebay reaches 77 degrees F for 3 consecutive days. We have not seen a day at 77 degrees yet.
 - Sampling:
 - 20 mm #6 in field today, June 1-4. Currently processing 8 of 12 stations. No DS.
 - 2 mm #7 in field 14-17 of June.
 - Bay Study ongoing. No DS.
 - EDSM – Currently having boat issues. No DS. May not be on water until later this week, with one boat.
 - Chipps Island Trawl – Ongoing. 3 days per week, no DS.
 - Mossdale trawl – CDFW sampling 3 days per week, no DS. Started May 10.
 - June 7 starts Summer Towner – first of the summer.
 - ITP Assessment –
 - No advice to WOMT for LFS or DS
 - Condition 8.12 for Barker Slough not triggered by recent sampling.

- For LFS – similar to recent weeks. Exports projected to be even lower. 8.4.2 not triggered.
- 20 mm survey sampled last week. We had data for 8 of the 12 criteria stations for 8.4.2 and no LFS at those stations.
- No catch table since it would have all said no smelt detected or sampling not complete.
- EDSM – reported 25 LFS in May – collected in Suisun Marsh. No LFS collected last week.
- Chipps Island Trawl – no LFS this week. 2 adults last week and none this week, not expecting more adults in the system. Juveniles continuing to move out of the delta. Risk of entrainment is low. Water temperatures continuing to rise.
- No LFS salvaged at either facility last week.
- There was a pause when Banks was offline.
- Salvage totals are the same as last week: 677 at the state facility and 188 at the federal facility.
- Survey updates:
 - Some lower priority stations from 20mm Survey #5 and #4 still pending completion.
- 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
 TUCP – Temporary Urgency Change Petition
 WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon
 WQ – Water Quality
 YOY – Young of Year