

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Recorded 06/22/2021

Working Group Members & Observers

Attendees:

- Nick Bertrand, USBR
- Josh Israel, USBR
- Ian Smith, USBR
- Suzanne Manugian, USBR
- Randi Field, USBR
- Ken Kundargi, CDFW
- April Hennessy, CDFW
- Felipe La Luz, CDFW
- Mike Ford, DWR
- Matt Holland, State Board
- Yuan Liu (CCWD), Water Contractors
- Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Water Contractors
- Chandra Chilmakuri, Water Contractors
- Shawn Acuna, Water Contractors
- Darcy Austin (SWC), Water Contractors
- Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant Water Authority), Water Contractors

Absetees:

- Mario Manzo, USBR
- Liz Kiteck, USBR
- Rafael Lopez-Gonzalez, USBR
- Elissa Buttermore, USBR
- Katherine Sun, USFWS
- Jana Affonso, USFWS
- Jeff Stuart, NMFS
- Kristal Davis-Fadtke, CDFW
- Brett Harvey, DWR
- Farida Islan, DRW
- Kevin Reece, DWR
- Deanna Sereno, Water Contractors
- Sheila Greene, Water Contractors
- Shelby Rinehart (WWD), Water Contractors
- Frances Brewster, Water Contractors
- Alison Collins, Water Contractors
- Corey Phillips (MWD), Water Contractors
- Scott Peterson (SLDMWA), Water Contractors
- Lenny Grimaldo (DWR), Observers
- Jennifer Buckman (ARSC), Water Contractors

Action Items

- Modified Agenda for upcoming June 29 DMW meeting
 - last meeting of this group before the summer break
 - will focus on feedback on the DMW process this year
 - feedback will be provided to the LTO coordination group

Additional Notes on Discussion Items

- Introduction
 - Review Fish and Water Operation Outlook
 - Heat wave returning, expecting triple digit temperatures this weekend.
 - Clear Creek –releasing 500 cfs, will drop to base of 125 cfs downstream from Whiskeytown.
 - Sacramento River – releasing 8,000 cfs
 - American River - holding at 1,850 cfs
 - Stanislaus River – releasing 1,500 from Goodwin.
 - Delta – seeing improvement at Freeport with releases increasing from upstream. On the San Joaquin, seeing improvements at Vernalis, hoping in hopes to push out some salinity. Controlling factors still delta outflow and salinity concerns.
 - The one-unit export operation is now pumping the lions share from Jones – 800 cfs.
 - DCC gates were opened on June 16 – monitoring closely for any concerns with salinity. May close them if issues with salinity emerge.
 - Feather River – releasing 2,750 cfs from Oroville. In good shape in terms of delta outflow – above the 3,000 cfs minimum for both dailies and the 14-day average. Concerns about salinity creeping up. High tide forecast at end of the month. If we increase releases now, that would put the end of year carryover on the table which is dangerous this early in the summer. Only at 100 cfs at CC – which is equal to the BBID diversions out of the forebay. We are getting some of the Jones water through the intertie – going to the South Bay primarily.
- Review PA Assessment and ITP Assessment from Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT)
[Note: no Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT) report]
 - OMR Management has off-ramped under the PA and ITP for salmonids for natural winter-run and spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead due to temperature. No Salmon Monitoring Team meeting this week.
 - 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.
- The daily mean water temp at CCF has reached 77 for 3 days. This trigger was met on June 21. It is now consistently above 77 degrees.
- Sampling:
 - 20 mm #6 in field June 1-4. Currently processing. No DS.
 - 2 mm #7 in field 15-18 of June. Currently processing. No DS.
 - Bay Study ongoing. No DS.
 - EDSM –No DS last week, this week on water with all boats.
 - Chipps Island Trawl – Ongoing. 3 days per week, no DS.
 - Mossdale trawl – CDFW sampling 3 days per week, no DS. Started May 10. No DS.
- Summer Towntet – Survey 1 being processed, no DS so far. Survey 2 is sampling through June 25.
- ITP Assessment
 - Have met the OMR offramp for DS under the ITP. It is the same offramp as the PA with exception that it is in degrees Celsius.
 - Condition 8.12 for Barker Slough not triggered by recent sampling. No advice under the ITP.
 - It is low risk through June 30. SMT will meet again if needed for this, meeting would be determined by email.
 - No LFS in the south and central delta. Assessment document circulated include a link for survey data.
 - No LFS sampled by Bay Study or Summer Towntet.
 - EDSM sampled 1 juvenile in Suisun Marsh on June 15. • 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