

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 12/28/2021

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Nick Bertrand, Ian Smith, Suzanne Manugian, Elissa Buttermore
- USFWS: Leif Goude
- NMFS: *Not in attendance*
- CDFW: Ken Kundargi, Felipe La Luz, Crystal Rigby, April Hennessey
- DWR: Mike Ford
- SWRCB: *Not in attendance*
- Water Contractors: Yuan Liu (CCWD); Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC); Frances Brewster (Valley Water), Tom Boardman (WWD), Jerry Robbins (SLDMA), Alexandra Biering (Friant Water Authority)

Action Items

From 11/9/21 - Should more information about the WR JPE release date become available, share back with the group. (Addressed)

- 12/14 update - USBR shared that the JPE project team has been meeting and expects the letter to be ready early next year.

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 (Mike Ford, DWR)

- Note that total releases from the Folsom/Nimbus complex and New Melones/Tulloch complex have increased. Folsom is maintaining required flood storage capacity, while Tulloch is releasing side flows from Tulloch Dam.

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

- Note that loss for natural winter-run Chinook Salmon is now provisionally 6.12 fish for WY 2022.
- SaMT observed that, given historic trends, fewer winter-run are being seen in the monitoring locations than would be expected.
- Note that Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection is in place until 1/2/2022.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (Felipe La Luz, CDFW)

- Note that SMT discussed this group's (DMW) feedback from the 12/21 meeting and made a slight adjustment to the SMT agenda in an effort to resolve the discrepancies that were identified. For example, the reporting of fish where catch dates and meeting dates do not align. This has also been noted in the ITP Risk Assessment text to improve clarity.
- SMT observed that there are a lot of very large LFS (100 mm or greater) present, spawning fish returning to the estuary.
- Note that the 2021 Fall Midwater Trawl annual fish abundance and distribution summary has been released and has been distributed to DMW today via email from Crystal Rigby, CDFW.

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