

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 05/03/2022

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Suzanne Manugian, Ian Smith, Randi Field, Erika Kegel, Mike Beakes, Kristin Arend
- USFWS: *Not in attendance*
- NMFS: *Not in attendance*
- CDFW: Gabe Singer
- DWR: Farida Islam, Mike Ford, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Chandra Chilmakuri, Darcy Austin (SWC); Joes Rangel, David Vang (WWD); Shawn Acuña (MWD); Yuan Liu (CCWD); Heidi William (Valley Water);

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 (Randi Field, USBR)

- Goodwin Dam, on the Stanislaus River, is releasing 500 cfs to 1,250 cfs. The fluctuation is a result of the spring pulse flow, which will be ending soon.
- Freeport flows are ranging from 6,000 cfs to 7,000 cfs. Vernalis flows are ranging from 700 cfs to 1,700 cfs.
- The Delta conditions are currently moving out of a neap cycle and moving into a spring tide towards the middle of the month.

Questions/Comments

N/A

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

- There has been a loss of salmonids related to Delta performance measures since 5/26/2022.
- The expected OMR index values are -1,000 cfs to -1,600 cfs.
- Turbidity daily average at OBI was 2.47 FNU on 5/02/2022.
- X2 is estimated to be 86 km.
- In April, DS have been detected in the Lower San Joaquin River Stratum at stations 815 and 902; the Lower Sacramento stations 706 and 707; the North Delta stations 711, 716, 718, 719, 726, and 724. Most of the distribution is in the North Delta.

- Since last week, 3 larval DS have been collected all in the North Delta.
- The updated DS catch table shows that 4 of the fish that were originally thought to be DS were identified as Wagasaki Smelt after QA/QC.
- A total of 122 DS have been detected this water year.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (Brian Schreier, DWR)

- SMT continues to advise an OMR index of -1,250 cfs based on the condition of approval 8.4.2 criteria.
- 20mm Survey 4 is out and will determine whether 8.4.2 continues to be triggered and whether 8.12 will be triggered.
- 2,300 larval and juvenile LFS were detected in the Lower Sacramento River and 2,000 in Suisun Marsh.
- 792 LFS were salvaged over the last week. Over 6,000 LFS have been salvaged throughout the season.
- There have not been any larval LFS detected this week at either Skinner or Tracy fish facilities. Lack of detection, coupled with increasing water temperatures and larger sized LFS signal that spawning throughout the Delta has likely ceased.

Questions/Comments:

Additional Questions or Comments

- *No additional discussion.*

Acronyms

- 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