

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 12/20/2022

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Nick Bertrand, Elissa Buttermore, Kristen Arend, Erika Kegel, Randi Field, Brian Mahardja
- USFWS: Leif Goude
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Shawn Acuña (MWD), Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Ian-Buck Macleod (FWA), David Vang (WWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Deanna Sereno (CCWD)

Review Operations Outlook (USBR, DWR)

- Expecting a slight chance of precipitation in the Sacramento Valley, and greater chances in Northern California in the 6-day forecast; monitoring a chance of more significant precipitation next week.
- No anticipated changes for Clear Creek, Sacramento River, Feather River, American River or Stanislaus River releases.
- In the Delta, seeing a response from recent precipitation and runoff into the system; water quality has significantly improved over the past two weeks; water quality continues to be monitored.
- The flows at Freeport are starting to fall, with the daily average on 12/19/2022 around 8,000 cfs.
- Jones Pumping Plant is exporting 1,800 cfs with a change order to drop to 900 cfs on 12/23/2022; looking to preserve water quality through the end of the week.
- At Vernalis, flows have fallen to around 1,200 cfs.
- Clifton Court exports were at 1,000 cfs and are scheduled to be at 500 cfs and holding.
- The Delta Cross Channel (DCC) Gates closed at the end of November and are expected to remain closed.
- Flows in the Delta are anticipated to change as a result of a strong tidal influence with the New Moon on 12/23/2022, with further changes pending if there is more significant precipitation next week.

- See the Operations Outlook for more information.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No questions or comments.

Review PA Assessment (USBR)

Reclamation provided the PA Assessment update. For more information, please refer to the PA Assessment document.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (CDFW)

DWR provided the LFS update. For more information, please refer to the ITP Risk Assessment document.

Additional Questions or Comments

- **Question:** I have a question about parentage and whether you are looking to see if the Delta Smelt (DS) sampled this year might be offspring of last year's releases? Has anything been done to study this yet?
 - **Answer:** Genetic analysis is underway, and we are expecting results in early January.

Acronyms

- DCC – Delta Cross Channel
- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- DS – Delta Smelt
- FNU -- Formazin Nephelometric Unit
- GCID – Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District
- 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