

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 04/11/2023

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Erika Kegel, Nick Bertrand, Randi Field, Cat Pien, Kristin Arend, Mike Beakes
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Nicole Kwan, Brian Schreier, Katherine Osborn
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Shawn Acuña (MWD), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC), Jose Rangel (WWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Darcy Austin (SWC), Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Ian Buck-Macleod (FWA)

Review Operations Outlook (USBR, DWR)

- Experiencing some unsettled weather during the transition to spring; expecting warmer weather during the middle of this week with some chance of precipitation later this week, but no measurable amounts in the Sacramento or San Joaquin Valleys.
- Whiskeytown Dam is currently releasing base flows of 200 cfs into Clear Creek.
- Keswick Dam is currently releasing minimum flows of 3,250 cfs into the Sacramento River with no anticipated changes.
- Recently crossed the four million-acre-foot mark at Shasta Reservoir, indicating storage recovery there.
- Nimbus Dam is currently releasing 7,000 cfs into the American River with no anticipated changes; currently monitoring inflows from increased snowmelt in the system due to changing weather conditions.
- In the San Joaquin system, Goodwin Dam is currently releasing 1,500 cfs into the Stanislaus River. There is planned fishery egg basket retrieval on 4/17/2023 and 4/18/2023 which will cause flows to reduce to 300 cfs for a short duration before rising back to 1,500 cfs.
- In the Delta, there are diminishing flows from both the San Joaquin and Sacramento Rivers.
- Daily average flows at Freeport for yesterday was approximately 41,000 cfs.
- Daily average flows at Vernalis for yesterday was approximately 32,000 cfs.

- There are no regulatory constraints controlling operations during high flows; currently seeing a net Delta outflow index of 71,500 as of yesterday (04/10/2023).
- Daily OMRI is greater than +12,500 cfs.
- JPP is currently exporting 1,600 cfs with some anticipated variability.
- Operations at San Luis Reservoir have filled for CVP and SWP and managing for direct conversions; adjustments will be made accordingly depending on variability.
- DCC Gates are closed and will remain closed for seasonal operations.
- Oroville releases are at 10,500 cfs today (04/11/2023); there is a 25,000 acre-foot pulse flow as a result of the amended ITP from CDFW on temporary urgency change communications that were filed by DWR; these releases will stay up for about a week before dropping back to 7,500 cfs.
- Article 21 demands are starting to drop, with exports dropping to 4,000 cfs at Clifton Court during the week of 4/2/2023; exports are at 3,500 cfs today (04/11/2023) and likely holding.
- 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 (DWR)

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

Additional Questions or Comments

- No questions or comments.

Acronyms

- CVP – Central Valley Project
- DCC – Delta Cross Channel
- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- DCI – Delta Mendota Canal – California Aqueduct Intertie
- DS – Delta Smelt
- FNU – Formazin Nephelometric Unit
- IOP – Interim Operations Plan
- 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
- PA – Proposed Action (Federal)
- PTM – Particle Tracking Model
- SaMT – Salmon Monitoring Team
- SLS – Smelt Larval Survey
- SMT – Smelt Monitoring Team
- SWP – State Water Project
- SWRCB – State Water Resources Control Board
- TFCF – Tracy Fish Collection Facility
- TUCP – Temporary Urgency Change Petition
- TUCO – Temporary Urgency Change Order
- USBR – United States Bureau of Reclamation
- WCS – Winter Run Chinook Salmon
- WOMT – Water Operations Management Team
- WQ – Water Quality
- YOY – Young of Year