

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 04/25/2023

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Erika Kegel, Nick Bertrand, Elissa Buttermore, Kristin Arend, Randi Field, Mike Beakes, Brian Mahardja
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Katherine Osborn, Farida Islam, Nicole Kwan, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Darcy Austin (SWC), Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)

Review Operations Outlook (USBR, DWR)

- Experiencing a dry pattern this week with increasing temperatures; some cooling may begin late in the weekend. The dynamic weather patterns and snowmelt are influencing upcoming changes in operation.
- Whiskeytown Dam is currently releasing 200 cfs into Clear Creek with no anticipated changes.
- Keswick Dam is currently releasing 8,500 cfs into the Sacramento River; the range indicates the likelihood for variable releases as a result of increases in snowmelt.
- At Shasta Reservoir, Spring pulse and storage management will result in variability of releases.
- Nimbus Dam is currently releasing 7,000 cfs into the American River. A change was ordered earlier today (04/25/2023) to have releases increase on Thursday (04/27/2023) to 7,500 cfs and Saturday (04/29/2023) to 8,000 cfs as a result of storage management and anticipation of increasing flows in the system due to warming temperatures and subsequent increase in snowmelt.
- In the San Joaquin system, Goodwin Dam is currently releasing 1,500 cfs on the Stanislaus River tomorrow with no anticipated changes.
- Generally expecting some variability based on upstream releases all up and down the system as a result of increasing inflows from snowmelt.

- In the Delta, Freeport and Vernalis will likely be influenced by modifications to upstream releases to increase flows. Ranges are high because operations are influenced by OMRI positive flow. Facility limitations and direct demand are controlling the system.
- San Luis Reservoir is still full.
- JPP is currently exporting 2,700 cfs; there may be some variability as opportunities arise.
- DCC Gates are closed and will remain closed for seasonal operations.
- Oroville releases are at 15,000 cfs and will increase to 18,000 cfs tomorrow (04/26/2023) due to increased inflow of snowmelt into the reservoir.
- Clifton Court exports are at 3,500 cfs today (04/25/2023) and tomorrow (04/26/2023) and will increase to 4,000 cfs Thursday (04/27/2023) and Friday (04/28/2023). Operations are primarily in response to direct demand.
- 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