

# Delta Monitoring Workgroup

## Meeting Record 05/16/2023

### Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Randi Field, Nick Bertrand, Mike Beakes, Erika Kegel, Kat Osborn, Cat Pien
- USFWS: Leif Goude
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Brian Schreier, Farida Islam
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Yuan Liu (CCWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Shawn Acuña (MWD), Heidi Williams (Valley Water)

### Review Operations Outlook (USBR, DWR)

- Experiencing a dry, warm trend in weather conditions this week with a chance of thunderstorms and some precipitation this weekend.
- Whiskeytown Dam is currently releasing base flows of 200 cfs into Clear Creek with no anticipated changes; the spring attraction flow ended.
- Keswick Dam is currently releasing 13,000 cfs; the range indicates variation for storage management. There are no plans yet to make reductions.
- A change order released today will move Nimbus Dam exports from 10,000 cfs to 12,000 cfs. Upstream reservoirs are getting full. The wide range indicates potential variability as a result of storage management and snowmelt.
- In the San Joaquin system, Goodwin Dam is currently releasing 1,500 cfs into the Stanislas River with no anticipated changes. There is some storage space there to manage inflows.
- In the Delta, likely increases in the San Joaquin and Sacramento River systems.
- The daily average at Freeport yesterday (05/15/2023) was about 41,400 cfs.
- The daily average at Vernalis yesterday (05/15/2023) was about 25,200 cfs. Anticipating the recent lull in Vernalis flows to end and for flows to increase as Friant releases increase (about one week lag time).
- JPP is currently exporting 3,500 cfs; the ranges suggest anticipated lower flows next Monday (05/22/2023) because of some maintenance activities. Exports will return to 3,500 cfs after the maintenance activities end next week.

- DCC gates have been closed since November. Although the seasonal operations terminate towards the end of May, not anticipating opening the gates because of persisting high flows in the system; want to avoid infrastructure degradation that could result from high flows.
- Oroville releases are currently 15,000 cfs on the Feather River for storage management.
- Exports today at Clifton Court are at 0 cfs because of maintenance activities. Exports will increase to 1,000 cfs for a few days, then to 6,680 cfs, and then to more normal exports after that.
- 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

- **Question:** What is the offramp temperature for the end of OMR management at Mossdale?
  - **Answer:** 22 degrees C (71.6 degrees F) under the ITP.
- **Question:** Is there genetic verification if the fish are Spring-run or not?
  - **Answer:** There is a genetic protocol for all fish, but not a rapid protocol like for winter-run Chinook Salmon. The expectation is that they would be processed, but there is no expectation for a rapid turnaround. It was discussed that many of those fish are likely spring-run sized fall-run Chinook Salmon, but we do not yet have the data to confirm that.

### 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