

# Delta Monitoring Workgroup

## Meeting Record 05/23/2023

### Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Randi Field, Nick Bertrand, Erika Kegel, Kristin Arend, Elissa Buttermore
- USFWS: Leif Goude
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Katie Osborn, Farida Islam, Mike Ford
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Yuan Liu (CCWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Deanna Sereno (CCWD)

### Review Operations Outlook (USBR, DWR)

- Experiencing warm weather on Monday (5/22/2023), then cooling through the week with a possibility of thunderstorms and trace amounts to a quarter of an inch of precipitation in the Sierra Nevada over the next six days.
- Whiskeytown Dam is currently releasing 200 cfs into Clear Creek with no anticipated changes. Potential for some pulse flows later in June.
- Keswick Dam is currently releasing 11,000 cfs on the Sacramento River; the range indicates variation for storage management and possibility for reductions.
- Nimbus Dam is currently releasing 15,000 cfs and anticipated to hold there; the range indicates potential variability as a result of inflows to the system.
- In the San Joaquin system, Goodwin Dam is currently releasing 1,500 cfs into the Stanislas River with no anticipated changes.
- The daily average at Freeport yesterday (05/22/2023) was about 50,500 cfs.
- The daily average at Vernalis yesterday (05/15/2023) was about 26,100 cfs.
- Positive DOIs around 68,800 cfs, and positive OMRI.
- JPP is currently exporting 4,200 cfs; the export rate increased so USBR can fill shares of San Luis Reservoir, to level off in response to direct demands in the system.
- DCC gates are closed and will remain closed for infrastructure protection in the foreseeable future due to high flows.
- Operations are controlled by facilities limitations and demand; all fisheries restraints have off-ramped.

- Oroville releases are currently 12,500 cfs on the Feather River; the releases will decrease to 8,000 – 9,000 cfs this week depending on decreased inflows from snowmelt due to forecasted cooler temperatures.
- Exports today at Clifton Court are at 6,680 cfs. Recovering from reduced exports last week due to maintenance activities.
- In the Delta, while there is some variability, the system is generally experiencing high flows. The I:E ratio in the ITP has not controlled because outflows would need to drop below 44,500 cfs for that condition to apply and outflows are still above 68,000 cfs.
- 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** (*Facilitator*): Will genetic results be made available to this group next Tuesday?
  - **Answer:** Yes, anytime a new update is made, it gets added to the PA Assessment. The results will be available in next week's notes and at the DMW meeting.

### Acronyms

- CVP – Central Valley Project
- DCC – Delta Cross Channel
- DOI – Delta Outflow Index
- DWR – California Department of Water Resources
- DCI – Delta Mendota Canal – California Aqueduct Intertie
- DS – Delta Smelt
- FNU – Formazin Nephelometric Unit
- I:E – Inflow to Export
- 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