

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 10/11/2022

Working Group Members in Attendance

- USBR: Kristin Arend, Nick Bertrand, Randi Field, Brian Mahardja, Elissa Buttermore, Erika Kegel
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Crystal Rigby, Taiga Yamaguchi
- DWR: Farida Islam, Mike Ford, Nicole Kwan, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Darcy Austin (SWC), Tom Boardman (WWD), Jose Rangel (WWD), David Vang (WWD), Shawn Acuna (Met), Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant WA), Scott Petersen (SLDMWA), Heidi Williams (Valley Water), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC)

Additional Notes on Discussion Items

For detailed information on the outlook or assessment document overviews presented during the meeting, please refer to those documents.

Review Operations Outlook (Randi Field, USBR and Mike Ford, DWR)

- Releasing 1,500 cfs downstream from Nimbus Dam to the American River; the range of weekly releases indicates potential for storage conservation opportunities.
- Goodwin Dam releases on the Stanislaus River are at 200 cfs; the fall pulse will begin on 10/12/2022 and flows will range from 200 to 1,300 cfs.
- Oroville Dam releases on the Feather River are currently 2,500 cfs and need to be below 2,500 cfs by October 15th; cuts to reach 2,450 or 2,400 cfs have been scheduled for later in the week.
- In the Delta, salinity is being monitored in and around the interior stations into the Old and Middle River corridor and Franks Tract.
- The Delta Cross Channel (DCC) Gates were closed yesterday, 10/10/2022; will be opened on weekends starting again on Friday, 10/13/2022, and closed on weekdays to protect water quality.
- DCC gate closures support the Rio Vista flow regulatory requirement; currently, overall conditions at Rio Vista are good and water quality is the primary driver for operations.

Additional Questions or Comments

- *No additional questions.*

Review PA Assessment (Nick Bertrand, USBR)

- The PA Assessment is currently focused on the Delta Cross Channel Gate operations as opposed to the OMR Assessment that is done later this season.
- 0% of juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon are estimated to be in the Delta.
- The most notable change from last week is some observations of winter-run at GCID and Tisdale.
- The Salmon Monitoring Team did not provide distribution estimates for Spring-run and Central Valley steelhead due to seasonal timing.
- Some rotary screw traps have been put in this week 10/10/2022 and will provide more data in the coming weeks.

Review ITP Risk Assessment

- No ITP discussion this week.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No additional discussion.

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