

Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 4/27/2021 – 5/3/2021

Some lingering showers in the mountains, on Monday, as last weekend’s storm moves out. Dry and warm weather returns on Tuesday through the weekend, with a persistent high pressure ridge being the dominant synoptic feature.

Tributary/ Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Clear Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Release: 225 cfs • Anticipated weekly range: 200 - 225 cfs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring-run Chinook salmon juveniles are rearing. Majority of juveniles are migrating downstream. Early spring-run adults may be present in the system • All fall-run Chinook salmon eggs have hatched, fry have emerged. Most fry/ juveniles are migrating downstream. • Steelhead juveniles are rearing and migrating downstream. Adults are in Clear Creek, adult spawning occurs through April. Kelts moving back downstream (April/May).
Sacramento River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shasta Storage: 2.321 MAF • Current Release: 7,500 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases to Sacramento: 7,500 – 8,500 cfs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon passage at Red Bluff Diversion Dam (RBDD; BY20 total through 4/22/2021: 2,096,090 fish; average historic passage (2011 – 2019) as of 04/25 100.0%) • Juvenile spring-run Chinook salmon passage at RBDD (BY20 total through 4/22/2021: 1,389,508 fish; average historic passage (2011 – 2019) as of 04/25 90.4%). Spring-run numbers reflect large hatchery releases of fall-run Chinook salmon from CNFH. • Fall-run Chinook salmon eggs have hatched, fry have emerged from the gravel. Fry/juveniles are migrating downstream. Juvenile fall-run Chinook salmon passage (BY20) at RBDD ~9.5 million through 4/22/2021. • Majority of adult winter-run adults have migrated to spawning areas (>80%) based on historical timing. Early spawning may be occurring based on historical information with eggs in the gravel. • Adult spring-run Chinook salmon are entering the Sacramento River and moving upstream into tributaries and the upper mainstem of the river. • Late fall-run adults have finished spawning in the Upper Sacramento River; spawning is over by mid-April and eggs are in the gravel based on historical timing. Early hatching will occur by late-April and fry will start emerging. • Steelhead juveniles are rearing and migrating downstream. Adults may spend a few months holding in river late spawning may still be occurring. Kelts moving back downstream. • Green sturgeon adults are migrating upstream and holding prior to spawning and juveniles present. Based on historical timing, the peak of spawning behavior occurs from mid-April to mid-June.
Feather River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oroville Storage: 1.497 MAF • Current Release: 1,100 cfs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spring-run Chinook juveniles are rearing in river. Majority of juveniles initiating downstream migration. Some early adults may be entering the system and holding.

Tributary/ Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases to Feather: 800 - 1,100 cfs (decrease to 800 cfs by April 29th) • Daily average temperature compliance targets: 55°F at Fish Hatchery gage 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All fall-run Chinook salmon eggs have hatched, fry have emerged from the gravel. Fry/ juveniles are migrating downstream. • Juvenile steelhead rearing and migrating downriver. Adults currently in the river, with late spawning occurring through April. Kelts moving back downstream. • Green sturgeon adults moving into the river and holding prior to spawning. Based on historical timing, mid-April to mid-June is the peak of green sturgeon spawning activity. • Very early green sturgeon spawning may be occurring (none detected yet).
American River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folsom Storage: 0.355 MAF • Current Release: 1,000 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases to American: 800 – 1,500 cfs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile steelhead rearing. Adults in the river, some late spawning is still occurring. Kelts moving back downstream. • Fall-run Chinook salmon eggs have hatched, fry have emerged from the gravel. Fry/ juveniles are migrating downstream.
Stanislaus River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Melones Storage: 1.476 MAF • Current Release to Stanislaus: 1,200 cfs • Anticipated Range of Weekly Releases to Stanislaus: 325 cfs to 1,200 cfs (spring pulse flow) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile steelhead rearing. Adults in the river, some spawning is occurring. • 8 <i>O. mykiss</i> passed the weir this water year. 1 of those 8 fish was clipped. Weir was pulled mid-January. • Numbers of returning adult fall-run Chinook salmon are lower than historically observed and similar to last year. • Fall-run Chinook salmon eggs have hatched, fry have emerged from the gravel. Fry/ juveniles are migrating downstream. Outmigration numbers appear to be lower than last year for juveniles migrating downstream. • Rotary screw traps have not shown a strong young of year migration signal yet.
Delta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freeport: 5,000 to 7,000 cfs • Vernalis: 600 to 1,400 cfs • Delta Outflow index: 4,000 to 6,000 cfs • Combined Exports: 1,200 - 1,400 cfs • JPP: 800 – 1,000 cfs • CCF: 400 cfs • Expected OMR Index Values: -500 to -1,500 cfs • DCC Gates: Closed and anticipated to remain closed 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0-2% winter-run Chinook salmon juveniles yet to enter the Delta and 10-25% in Delta. 73-90% exited the Delta past Chipps Island. • 5% YOY spring-run Chinook salmon juveniles yet to enter the Delta and 55-65% in Delta. 30-40% exited the Delta past Chipps Island. • 5-10% steelhead juveniles yet to enter the Delta and 35-50% in Delta. 45-55% exited the Delta past Chipps Island. • Almost all adult winter-run Chinook salmon have moved through the Delta towards their spawning grounds. • Adult spring-run Chinook salmon are entering the Delta and migrating upstream. • Green sturgeon adults and juveniles present. Adult green sturgeon are moving upriver to spawning grounds. • Based on our understanding of life history and limited distribution data, Delta Smelt adults are present in Suisun Marsh and in the Sacramento River and north Delta. Temperature conditions are conducive for Delta Smelt spawning and historical data suggest larvae may be present. Delta Smelt larvae have been detected in the Deep

Tributary/ Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
		<p>Water Ship Channel. No Delta Smelt larvae were detected at 716 for 20mm #2, so condition 8.12 was not triggered.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Adult and age-1 Longfin Smelt have been detected downstream of the confluence and in the Sacramento River. Larval Longfin Smelt are still being detected in the Sacramento River and San Joaquin River. Age-0 Longfin have been detected in Franks Tract and in salvage at both salvage facilities. ITP condition 8.4.2 was not triggered by 20mm #2.

Table 2a-b: WY 2021 relevant Fish and Environmental Criteria and Status in 2019 Reclamation LTO Action Cumulative loss for the duration of 2019 Biological Opinion began upon signature of ROD, 2/19/2020.

Table 2a: WY 2021 Salmonid Current Loss and Delta Smelt abiotic conditions. Relevant action(s): Additional Real-Time OMR Restrictions and Performance Objectives (4.10.5.10.2) and Onset of OMR Management (4.10.5.10.1).

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Salvage Trend	Updated
Green sturgeon	WY 2021 salvage = 74	WY 2021 salvage = 0 (0%)	No change expected	4/25/2021
Natural winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2021 loss = 1,931 (50% of 3,862)	WY 2021 loss = 8.2 (0.43%)	No change expected	4/25/2021
Sacramento River Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2021 loss = 59 (50% of 117)	WY 2021 loss = 0 (0%)	No change expected	4/25/2021
Battle Creek Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2021 loss = 298 (3-yr avg) & 372 (1-yr)	WY 2021 loss = 0 (0%)	No change expected	4/25/2021
Hatchery yearling spring-run Chinook salmon surrogates	<p>> 0.5% of each release group:</p> <p>1) 1/8/2021: 66,912 = 334.6</p> <p>2) 1/22/2021: 57,357 = 286.8</p> <p>3) 3) 1/29/2021: 64,807 = 324.0</p>	<p>1) 0 (0%)</p> <p>2) 6.4 (2.2%)</p> <p>3) 0 (0%)</p>	No change expected	4/25/2021
Natural steelhead	<p>Dec 1 – Mar 31 = 707 (50% of 1,414)</p> <p>Apr 1 – June 15 = 776 (50% of 1,552)</p>	<p>Dec 1 – Mar 31 = 41.2 (5.83%)</p> <p>Apr 1 – June 15 = 14.1 (1.82%)</p>	Expected to increase	4/25/2021

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Salvage Trend	Updated
Delta smelt	Daily Average turbidity at Old River at Bacon Island >12 NTU	Turbidity = 2.95 FNU	No change expected	4/27/2021

Table 2b: 10-Year Salmonid Cumulative Loss

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Updated
Natural winter-run Chinook salmon	Loss = 8,738	Cumulative loss = 191.2 (2.19%)	4/25/2021
Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	Loss = 5,356	Cumulative loss = 0 (0%)	4/25/2021
Natural steelhead	Loss = 6,038 (Dec 1 – Mar 31) Loss = 5,826 (Apr 1 – June 15)	Cumulative loss = 443.19 (7.34%, Dec 1 – Mar 31) 339.1 (5.82%, Apr 1 – June 15)	4/25/2021

Table 3a-c: Relevant Water Year 2021 Fish Criteria and Status for Listed Fish under the SWP Long-Term Incidental Take Permit.

Table 3a: Chinook Salmon

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
OMR Mgmt. triggered (8.3.2)	Jan. 1 - Jun. 30 <i>(when ≥ 5% of spring-run or winter-run in Delta)</i>	In effect	- 5% of the Winter-run or Spring-run population in Delta	20-30% of the Winter Juveniles are in the Delta	no change expected; Threshold previously met	4/26/21	Based on Action Assessment from 4/20/21 SaMT call
Winter-run yearly loss (8.6.1)	Nov. 1 - Jun. 30	In effect (Based on JPE Value)	- cum. loss of unclipped (natural) Winter-run [1.17% of JPE] = 3,862 - cum. loss of clipped (hatchery) Winter-run Sacramento release [0.12% of JPE] = 117 - Winter run Battle Creek release [0.12% of JPE] = 45	Current yearly loss = 8.2; 0 hatchery	There is potential for additional salvage to be observed this week	4/26/21	Based on 4/25/21 salvage data
Winter-run discrete daily loss (8.6.2)	Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Not in effect	11/1-11/30: loss of 6/day unclipped older juv. Winter-run 12/1-12/31: loss of 26/day unclipped older juv. Winter-run	max single daily loss from previous week = 0.00 fish (no WR observed yet)	NA	NA	Action 8.6.2 ended on 12/31/20 per ITP
Winter-run relative daily loss (8.6.3)	Jan. 1 - May 31	In effect (Based on JPE Value)	4/1 - 4/30: 0.00507% = 16.74 Upcoming Loss Threshold: 5/1 -5/31: 0.0077%= 25.42	max single daily loss from previous week = 0 fish	There is potential for similar salvage to be observed this week	4/26/21	Based on 4/25/21 salvage data
Spring-run surrogate protection (8.6.4)	Feb. 1 - Jun. 30	In effect: Coleman spring-run surrogate release = Group 1 of 322,538 CWT ad-clip fall-run on 3/10/2021;	- Coleman Group 1 of 322,538 ad-clip x 0.25% = 806.35 fish - Coleman Group 2 of 372,072 ad-clip x 0.25% = 930.18 fish - Coleman Group 3 of 1,347,465 ad-clip x 0.25% = 3368.66 fish	Cumulative loss Coleman fallrun = 0.00 fish Feather river spring –run = 0.00 fish	There is potential for the first Coleman fall-run surrogate salvage to be	4/26/21	Based on 4/25/21 salvage data

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
		Group 2 of a total of 372,072 CWT ad-clip fall-run were released separately (185,395 on 3/24/21 and 186,677 on 3/26/21) Group 3 of a total of 1,347,465 on 4/8/21; Feather river hatchery spring run surrogate release = approximately Group 1 of 514,027 coded wire tagged ad clipped Spring-run on 3/19/21 Group 2 of 500,312 coded wire tagged ad clipped Spring-run on 4/1/2021	<u>OR</u> - Feather 514,027 ad-clip x 0.25 % = 1285.07 fish - Feather 500,312 ad-clip x 0.25 % = 1250.78 fish		observed this week		

Table 3b: Delta Smelt

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection ('First Flush') (8.3.1)	Dec. 1 - Jan. 31	Not in effect, off-ramped	- three-day Freeport daily flow running avg \geq 25,000 <u>AND</u> [three-day Freeport turbidity running avg \geq 50 FNU <u>OR</u> Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation]	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Turbidity Bridge Avoidance (8.5.1)	Dec. 15 - Apr. 1	Not in effect	Occurs after the Integrated Early Winter Pulse protection or February 1, whichever comes first - avg. OBI turbidity > 12 NTU	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Larval and/Juvenile Delta smelt Protection (8.5.2)	ongoing	In effect	- 5-day cum. salvage of juv. DS >= 1 [average 3-yr FMWT index + 1] OR, 3-day cum. Salvage of juv. DS > 11	current 5-day salvage = 0	No change from last week	4/26/21	Based on salvage data from 4/25/21

Table 3c: Longfin Smelt

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
Early Adult Protection (8.3.3)	Dec. 1 - Feb. 28	Not in effect	- Cum. salvage >[most recent FMWT/10] = 3 fish OR - Smelt Monitoring Team determines high likelihood of LFS movement into high-risk areas	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
OMR Mgt. for Adults (8.4.1)	Dec. 1 -Feb. 28	Not in effect, off-ramped	- Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Larval and Juvenile longfin smelt Entrainment Protection (8.4.2)	Jan 1 – Jun 30	In effect	- LFS larvae or juveniles in >=4 SLS or 20 mm stations in central and south Delta, OR - LFS catch/tow >5 larvae or juveniles in >=2 stations	20mm#2 detected LFS at 809 and 901, but did not trigger 8.4.2. No detections at 716 either. YOY LFS salvage continued at facilities last week.	20mm#3 in the field last week, of six south and central delta stations processed there were no LFS detected	4/26/21	SLS triggered 8.4.2 on 1/26, 2/2, 2/23, 3/9, 3/16 8.4.2 and 8.12 not currently triggered

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
High Flow OMR OffRamp for longfin smelt (8.4.3)	Based on the status of 8.3.3, 8.4.1, & 8.4.2	In effect	- Sac. R. at Rio Vista >55,000, <u>OR</u> SJR at Vernalis >8,000	Rio Vista = 4,500 to 5,500 cfs SJ = 6,00 to 1,400 cfs		4/26/21	

Table 3d: OMR

<u>Action</u>	<u>Timeframe</u>	<u>Current Action Status</u>	<u>Threshold(s)</u>	<u>Current Relevant Data</u>	<u>Weekly Trend</u>	<u>Last Updated</u>	<u>Comments</u>
OMR Mgmt. Offramp (8.3.2)	Jun. 1 – Jun. 30	Not in effect	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - >95% of the Winter-run and Spring-run populations have migrated past Chipps Island <u>AND</u> - Current daily average water temperature at Mossdale exceeds 22.2°C for 7 nonconsecutive days in June <u>AND</u> - Current daily average water temperature at Prisoners Point exceeds 22.2°C for 7 non-consecutive days in June. - Current daily mean water temperature at CCF is greater than 25°C for three consecutive days 	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.

Table 4. Fish monitoring gear efficiency and disruptions: COVID-19 impacts.

Monitoring Survey	Status (as of 4/27/2021)
Delta	
SWP regular counts, CWT reading, and larval sampling	Ongoing (possible delay in processing CWT fish)
CVP regular counts, CWT reading, and larval sampling	Ongoing (possible delay in processing CWT fish)
Smelt Larval Survey	Ended 3/17/2021
20mm Survey	Began 3/22/21
Spring Kodiak Trawl	Ends 4/29/2021
Bay Study	Back on the water as of 2/4/2021
DJFMP- Chipps and Sacramento Trawls	Ongoing (returned to normal operations)
DJFMP- Seines	Ongoing (except Bay Seines) San Joaquin Seines resumes 5/1/2021
EDSM	Ongoing: Phase II begins 3/29/2021.
EMP	December-February discrete survey canceled. Began again in March.
Mosssdale	USFWS will begin sampling on 5/1 (three days/week)
USGS Flow monitoring	Continuous monitoring continues
Sacramento River	
Red Bluff Diversion Dam screw trap	Ongoing
Knights Landing screw trap	Ongoing through modified staffing
Tisdale screw trap	Ongoing through modified staffing
Redd dewatering and stranding surveys	Ongoing
Sacramento Carcass and Redd Surveys	Continuing
Feather River	
Feather River screw trap	Suspended indefinitely
San Joaquin River	
SJRRP CDFW Field Monitoring	Suspended indefinitely
SJRRP USFWS and USBR Field Monitoring	Ongoing since 8/31