

Fish and Water Operations Group Notes

Water Year 2026 – January 14, 2026

Members Attending

- Reclamation – Randi Field, Levi Johnson
- DWR – ~~Tracy Hinojosa~~, Bryant Giorgi
- USFWS – Jana Affonso, ~~Matt Noriga~~
- NMFS – Stephan Murano, ~~Darren Howe~~
- CDFW – ~~Kristal Davis-Fadtke~~,
- SWRCB – Matthew Holland, ~~Diane Riddle~~
- NGO – ~~Ashley Overhouse~~, Devon Pearse
- PWA – Deanna Sereno, Scott Petersen

Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from last week: Approved
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Delta Action Team (DAT, meets weekly on Tuesdays): 01/20
 - Drought Response Year (DRY) Team:
 - American River Group (ARG meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed):
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (CCT meets quarterly on third Thursday):
 - Sacramento River Group (SRG) (meets monthly on the fourth Thursday or more often as needed):
 - Stanislaus Watershed Team (SWT meets monthly on third Wednesday):
 - Annual Report Team
- Relevant Assessments
 - 20260113 Combined Assessment
 - 20260112 Fish and Water Operations
 - 1.13.26 DAT Notes
- Operational Updates

- CVP: Lewiston Dam releases at 3,000 cfs (storage management). Whiskeytown Dam releases at 300 cfs (25 cfs spill occurred previous week). Keswick Dam releases at 15,000 cfs (operating for flood management). Nimbus Dam releases at 5,650 cfs, decreasing to 5,000 cfs on 1/14, with incremental decreases occurring through 1/18 holding at 3,500 cfs. Goodwin Dam releases at 300 cfs, Jones Pumping Plant at 3,500 cfs (proportional share of export controlled by OMRI - 5,000 cfs). Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 525 TAF. Delta Cross Channel is closed (closed on 10/31/25).
- SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases at 5,100 cfs. Clifton Court Forebay is exporting 2,000 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 976 TAF.
- Hydrology Update: System conditions are continuing to see effects from recent weather events but is beginning to trend towards a dry period.

Upcoming Actions, Updates or Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
 - No upcoming actions or discussion items.
 - Update: Spring-run
- DWR:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- USFWS:
 - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- NMFS:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or updates items.
- CDFW:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- NGO:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- PWA
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- FAWOG
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.

Discussion Items

- Spring-run Update

Last week coded wire tagged late fall Chinook from the production releases were captured, somewhere between 30% - 50% of 1% of the JPE. Reclamation is tracking surrogate late fall Chinook salmon Coleman Hatchery production to evaluate spring-run annual loss to operate to the LTO's real-time assessment thresholds. We anticipate that the DAT assessment next week will have more insight to evaluate if the annual salvage loss is on a trajectory to exceed 1%. DWR sees Reclamation currently at 37% of the 1%.

DWR provided an update on the ITP related to spring-run. From January 9th, reported on January 10th, it exceeded .25% of the spring-run surrogate #2 release. The loss threshold was 152, which was exceeded based on salvage for January 9th. DWR implemented a one-time action on January 13th, reduction to OMR -3,500 for 7 days based on the 7-day average.

Action Items

- No Action Items.

Elevation Items

- No Elevation Items.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, January 21, 2026, 2-2:50 p.m.