

Water Operations Management Team Notes

Water Year 2025 – April 30, 2025

Members Attending

- Reclamation: Present
- USFWS: Present
- CDFW: Present
- NMFS: Present
- DWR: Present
- SWRCB: Present

Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from last week: Approved, (SWRCB Abstain)
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Salmonid Monitoring Team (SaMT, meets weekly on Tuesdays): 05/06
 - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT, meets as needed on Tuesdays): met on 01/28
 - Feather River Operations Group (meets monthly first and third Thursdays): 05/01
 - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): Ad hoc meeting 05/01
 - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 05/21
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday): 06/18
 - Sacramento River Group (meets monthly on the fourth Thursday or more often as needed): 05/22
 - Shasta Operations Team (SHOT, meets weekly): 05/05
 - Winter-run JPE Sub-Team (as needed): met on 12/20
- Relevant Assessments
 - 20250429 Fish and Water Operations Outlook
 - Spring-run Weekly Assessment 04292025
 - LTO Briefing Paper on 3.7.4.5.6 Steelhead Weekly Distributed Loss Threshold

- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Lewiston releases at 2,750 cfs, heading towards a long ramp down through the end of June. Whiskeytown releases at 225 cfs, Keswick release is 11,000 cfs, spring pulse – ramp down beginning 5/3. Nimbus release is at 3,700 cfs with cuts during the week of 4/28 – spring pulse accommodated later this week with flood space management. Stanislaus is at 1,000 cfs with a Stepped Release Plan spring pulse increasing through to 5/2. Jones Pumping Plant is exporting 900 cfs, proportional share of Vernalis 1:1 – 3 day average with a possible increase in exports when conditions are amenable. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 821 TAF. Delta Cross Channel Gates remain closed through late May unless water quality issue.
 - SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are at 2,300 cfs and holding. SWP is exporting 600 cfs and holding. State share of San Luis Reservoir 872 TAF.
- Hydrology Update
 - Storm system moving through towards the weekend. Not a lot of precipitation, colder temperatures during that period.

Upcoming Actions, Updates or Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- USFWS:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- CDFW:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- NMFS:
 - LTO Briefing Paper on 3.7.4.5.6 Steelhead Weekly Distributed Loss Threshold
- DWR:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
 - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.

Discussion Items

- NMFS:
 - From the LTO Briefing Paper on 3.7.4.5.6 Steelhead Weekly Distributed Loss Threshold, SaMT recommended “for WOMT to amend the PA language so it clearly states the action is triggered when the rolling sum of steelhead loss exceeds the weekly threshold of 120 fish. Replace the word ‘salvage’ with the word ‘loss.’” in Proposed Action section 3.7.4.5.6.
 - NMFS: Raises two questions to the group.
 - Does WOMT agree with SaMT’s recommendation to change the word “salvage” to “loss”?
 - How to document that change within the Proposed Action.
 - Reclamation: Suggestion to move discussion to next week.

Action Items

- WOMT to discuss SaMT’s recommendation to change the word “salvage” to “loss” and how to document the change for next week’s meeting (05/07/2025)

Elevation Items

- No elevation items.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 7th, 2025, 1-1:50 p.m.