



Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 10/07/2025

Working Group Members in Attendance

- DWR: Mike Ford, Farida Islam, Brian Schreier
- USBR: Erika Kegel, Alexander Vaisvil, Chase Ehlo,
- SWRCB: Matthew Holland
- Water Contractors: Tom Boardman (CVP SOD Ag Districts), Scott Peterson (SLDMWA), Ron Milligan (SLDMWA), Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Steve Micko, Shawn Acuña (MWD), Ian Buck-Macleod (FWA), Tom Boardman (WWD), Yuan Liu (CCWD)
- NGOs: Greg Reis (Friends of the River)
- Kearns & West: Marlys Jeane, Michael Ding

Review Operations Outlook

- At Shasta Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are 7,200 cfs and will reduce at the end of October.
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are 8,000 cfs and will be significantly reduced to reach 2,450 cfs by October 15 to meet flow levels in the agreement with CDFW.
- JPP exports are limited to under 2,700 cfs due to maintenance at O'Neill Pumping and Generating Plant.
- CFF exports have decreased from 6,680 cfs over the past weekend to 3,000 cfs today and tomorrow to address poorer water quality in Franks Tract.

Additional Questions or Comments

Water Contractor Steve Micko thanked DWR for the presentation and asked for the current X2.

- X2 is greater than 81 km , but it does not become an operating standard until February

- Greg Reis with Friends of the River asked if the government shutdown affects any of the operations, specifically monitoring and salvage, or if they are considered as essential and will continue uninterrupted.
- DWR mentioned that it's typical for projects and operations to proceed this way from October to December, focusing on rice decomposition, observing WCS trends in the Sacramento River, and observing weather conditions.
- Nothing in the near term indicates that there will be a significant change in hydrology. DWR is not anticipating any changes in SWP operations due to the Federal government shutdown.

Yuan Liu with Contra Costa Water District asked about the Delta outflow for CFF after increasing exports later this week.

- When CFF exports increase, Delta outflow could decrease to 7,000 to 8,000 cfs, which is contingent on a return to more favorable water quality conditions at Franks Tract. If that does not happen, exports will remain low to provide an adequate buffer.

Review PA Assessment (USBR)

Facilitator's note: Due to the new PA, DMW will only review the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook. Moving forward, Reclamation will potentially produce assessments for relevant salmon and smelt triggers weekly. A review of the PA Assessment may occur if a real-time trigger occurs.

Additional Questions or Comments

Green sturgeon take was exceeded last week (before the start of WY26). If DMW members have any questions or want more information about this, they can contact Chase Ehlo from Reclamation.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (DWR)

Facilitator's note: Due to the new ITP, DMW will only review the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook. A review of the Risk Assessment may occur if a real-time trigger occurs.

Additional Questions or Comments

No additional questions

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
- ITL – Incidental Take Limit
- 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