



Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 11/18/2025

Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Erika Kegel, Thuy Washburn, Cat Pien, Grace Eastbrook, Tony Yang, Alexander Vaisvil
- NMFS: Paula Higginson
- DWR: Mike Ford, Steven Garcia, Farida Islam
- SWRCB: Matthew Holland
- Water Contractors: Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Ron Milligan (SLDMWA), Scott Petersen (SLDMWA), Darcy Austin (SWC), Jose Rangel (WWD), Brad Cavallo (WWD), Steve Micko (MWD), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Tom Boardman (CVP SOD), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Jennifer Buckman (ARSC), Heidi Williams (VW)
- NGOs: Greg Reis (Friends of the River), Jon Rosenfield (Baykeeper), Ashley Overhouse (Defenders of Wildlife)
- Kearns & West: Nora De Cuir, Michael Ding

Review Operations Outlook

- Clear Creek releases at Whiskeytown Dam are currently 225 cfs.
- Sacramento River releases at Keswick Dam are currently 4,000 cfs.
- Feather River releases at Oroville Dam are currently 2,450 cfs.
- American River releases at Nimbus Dam are 1,000 cfs.
- Stanislaus River releases at Goodwin Dam are 200 cfs.
- CCF exports are at 5,500 cfs.
 - Due to the weekend storm, runoff is increasing Delta outflows, and CCF exports are expected to remain near 5,500 cfs over the next couple of days.
- JPP exports are at 3,500 cfs.
- DCC gates are closed.

Additional Questions or Comments

- DWR noted that the gates for the Big Notch Project opened today for the first time and are set to pass up to 600 cfs. Current projections indicate a peak of about 120 cfs, with current flow around 50 cfs.

Review PA Assessment (Reclamation)

- Reclamation provided an update on winter-run Chinook salmon. Key points included:
 - Recent monitoring at Knights Landing recorded 187 winter-run and 76 spring-run Chinook salmon at the rotary screw traps to date.
 - The DCC gates remain closed, and recent rainfall is contributing to significant downstream migration.

Additional Questions or Comments

- Baykeeper asked whether an action assessment is being developed to prevent additional take, as current green sturgeon salvage is at six of the annual 14-fish limit.
- An action item to follow up on this question was assigned to K&W and Reclamation, with a goal of following up at the next DMW meeting if not sooner.

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
- TUO – 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