



## Water Operations Management Team Notes

January 6, 2021

### Members Attending

Kristin White, Liz Kiteck, Molly White, Mike Ford, Matt Nobriga, Howard Brown, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Josh Grover, Erik Ekdahl, Diane Riddle

Member Update: FWS members are now Jana Affonso and Matt Nobriga. Kaylee Allen will not be listed as a WOMT member going forward.

### Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 12/30/2020 Meeting Notes: Approved.
- Operational Updates
  - CVP: Trinity at 300 cfs base flow for winter. Clear Creek at 215 cfs. Keswick at 3,250 cfs minimum flow release. Nimbus releases dropped to 1,185 cfs on 1/1/21 and further reduction may be considered depending on how the January forecast looks. Stanislaus River at 200 cfs; small winter instability flow scheduled for Thursday-Saturday after which flows will return to 200 cfs. CVP pumping at 1 unit targeting ~800 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 371 TAF. Precipitation forecast is for some snow; not much rain recently or expected.
  - SWP: Oroville release at 1,250 cfs. Some uptick in inflows into Oroville, but not a lot – the upcoming storm is expected to provide a peak inflow of just shy of 2,000 cfs at most. SWP exports are at 2,500 cfs, up from the recent 2,000 cfs due to a small bit of inflow. Delta outflow is running ~5,800 cfs. Delta water quality still controlling exports. Bethel is the area of concern for water quality. Yesterday, OMR was -2,400 cfs (daily), -2,160 cfs (5-day), and -2,500 cfs (14-day). Tides are forecasted to peak early-mid next week. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 589 TAF.
- Relevant Assessments
  - 20200105 Fish and Water Operations Outlook
  - 20200105 Proposed Action Assessment

- Decision: WOMT agreed to strike “unless implementing a storm flex action” from item 1.a. of the Proposed Action Assessment since there was no expectation for a storm flex for the week of Jan 5 – Jan 11.
    - Action Item: Reclamation will make the revision and send revised final to WOMT and the relevant technical teams.
  - Clear Creek Technical Team: next meeting 3/11
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group: WY21 first meeting not scheduled
  - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team: next meeting 1/16
  - Feather River Operations Group: next meeting 1/7
  - American River Group: 1/14 ad hoc meeting to discuss January releases, regular meeting 1/21.
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team: next meeting 1/20, planning winter instability flows for Feb.
  - Delta Monitoring Working group: Had meeting 1/5, no input; next meeting 1/12.
- **Upcoming Actions**
  - Reclamation: As mentioned in CVP ops update, winter instability flow on the Stanislaus River and a potential cut in American River flows. Reclamation is trying to schedule a drought toolkit meeting with WOMT members.
  - DWR: No actions.
  - FWS: No actions.
  - NMFS: FYI that there will be a late-fall-run Chinook salmon “spring-run surrogate” release later this week from Coleman National Fish Hatchery. The Winter-run JPE Subteam of the IEP Winter-run PWT issued interim recommendations for the winter-run JPE. CDFW sent an e-mail to DWR to use that interim JPE. NMFS didn’t jointly issue an interim JPE, but CDFW and NMFS will receive final recommendations from the Winter-run JPE Subteam and will jointly issue a final JPE letter to Reclamation and DWR within the next few weeks.
  - CDFW: Reported on fall midwater trawl indices. The index for Delta smelt is 0 for the third consecutive year. The index for Longfin smelt increased to 28. No action is triggered by these indices.
  - SWRCB: No actions.
- Discussion Items:
  - Hydrology update presented by DWR and Reclamation
    - Key takeaways are that precipitation has been, and is forecasted to be, below average for most of California. January precipitation is a key factor in this

year's Water Year type outcome which is likely to be critical (if January is very dry) up to just below average (if January is very wet).

- Forecast info expected on Monday 1/11 and operations forecasts will be updated accordingly
- DWR and Reclamation will provide weekly condition updates to WOMT through at least March.
- Directors meeting
  - **Decision:** Group agreed to (in general) limit Directors' meetings to weeks when issues were elevated for a decision, not for informational items. Since no issues were elevated this week, the meeting will be cancelled.
  - WOMT members confirmed that current participant list for Directors' **meeting is complete.**
- **Elevation Items**
  - Elevation Issues: No elevation issues for directors.

## Next Meeting

- Wednesday, Jan. 13, 1 pm, Teams "Call" Only