



Water Operations Management Team Notes

October 7, 2020

Members Attending

Kristin White, Liz Kiteck, Molly White, Mike Ford, Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga, Howard Brown, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Diane Riddle

Members Not Attending

Josh Grover, Erik Ekdahl

Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 9/30/2020 WOMT Meeting Notes: approved.
- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Trinity 450 cfs and temperatures look good; Keswick will reduce releases from 6,600 cfs to 6,000 cfs this Friday in 4 steps and temperatures look good, expecting a cooler weekend with Redding temperatures in the low 70s as highs and 50s for lows with a slight chance of showers Friday and a 50% chance Saturday; Folsom decreased yesterday to 1,500 cfs targeting 68°F at Watt Ave through mid-October with discussions for targets thereafter; Stanislaus at 200 cfs with pulse flows on the 13th or 14th of 3 separate pulses, up to 1,400 cfs each, for short periods; Clear Creek at 225 cfs with a temperature download tomorrow, planning on a reduction to 200 cfs if measured data show low temperatures given cooler weather; Delta exports reduced a unit to target outflow of 4,000 cfs. Note: The scheduled flow reduction at Keswick is approximately 1 day later than alternative 6a due to power scheduling.
 - SWP: Oroville at 2,600 cfs and will continue to hold then reduce around the 14th to around 2,500 cfs, temperatures are looking good, but operations are down to one shutter and may require the river valve, which will be ready for use if needed; Delta exports at 300 cfs targeting a daily outflow of ~4,000, therefore exports will vary, but likely remain under 1,000 cfs. 592 TAF San Luis.
- Relevant Assessments
 - Revised Operational Outlook
 - Clear Creek Technical Team: monitoring temperatures and assessing current releases.
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group: Next meeting Thurs. 10/22
 - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team: Next meeting Tuesday, 10/13
 - Feather River Operations Group: Next meeting 10/15

- American River Group: Next meeting 10/15; Power bypass request anticipated.
- Stanislaus River Watershed Team: Next Meeting Wed. 10/21
- Delta Summer/Fall Habitat Tracking: no updates, setting up meetings
- Upcoming Actions
 - Reclamation:
 - Award of temperature modeling contract and on target.
 - Delta Cross Channel Gates: Support for Mokelumne River pulse flows changes by the minute; First proposal showed exceedances throughout water quality stations; Updated conditions and operation under a single gate closure action timed within the multiple pulse flows shows potential promise, but requires checking assumptions. The Lower Mokelumne Flow action doesn't have a specific technical home, but could maybe be addressed in the SaMT schedule and agenda items. EBMUD has a forum for discussion, but Reclamation has not participated in that committee and may need to engage there for future actions. Topic added to Nov. 5 LTO meeting; Internally talking about the Mokelumne Pulse this year and anticipate a decision this week, targeting Friday.
 - Drought Toolkit meeting scheduled for October 21st at 2 pm.
 - Monitoring in what will likely be continued COVID conditions
 - DWR:
 - Documentation of herbicide application in Clifton Court Forebay is forthcoming for November, tentatively scheduled for Nov. 3 during the planned 5-day outage of exports.
 - Timeline for processing is best if NMFS has 30 days to respond to the request, DWR is targeting next week, Tuesday.
 - Clarification that a Section 7 consultation requires Reclamation as the federal agency. We need to consider whether this is a separate action or part of the CVP/SWP operations consultation. This may be a change in action that may not change effects previously analyzed in the CVP/SWP operations biological opinion.
 - Early draft to NMFS before submittal could accelerate the process.
 - Need to include FWS in the transmittal of the early draft.
 - Barker Slough site visit on Wed. Oct. 14.
 - FWS: none
 - NMFS: none
 - CDFW: none
 - SWRCB: none
- Discussion Items:
 - Nimbus Fish Hatchery: Losses of steelhead over the weekend from high temperatures and low DO. Concerns over ability to perform a power bypass at Nimbus due to in-river work. Medicated feed and aerators in ponds are being used to manage situation. Reclamation went through the power bypass process and obtained approval, but ongoing construction is immediately in front of the gate that would be used for the bypass. This problem with the hatchery occurred last year. The issue is related to temperature management but exacerbated by the location of the hatchery

intake within a stagnant pool downstream of Nimbus. Discussion occurs between Hatchery and Folsom staff under the contract between CDFW and Reclamation. Consider venues for interagency discussion. CDFW staff to consider indicators that would help identify when concerns might occur. CDFW and Reclamation staff to consider a brainstorming interagency group.

- Technical Working Session for SWRCB includes topics that may be of interest to WOMT agencies; Developed a 2 hour power 101 session and will extend an invite to WOMT member agencies, including facilities, operations, and Commissioner's Power Initiative; Next is a forecasting discussion that works well with a small group but is less beneficial as a large group data dump, considering how to be inclusive, but meet SWRCB questions, considering a Part 1 with SWRCB staff plus 1 to 2 representatives from WOMT agencies for information and then a follow-up Part 2 process to walk through example years as an interactive mock exercise. If helpful, Reclamation can repeat for additional audiences; Reclamation intends to have technical session on temperature modeling and temperature dependent modeling. Reclamation would like the NMFS science center to make at least one presentation. Goal is to understand the information behind when a TDM value is shared and how we use. Power discussion in late Oct.; forecasting discussion before Thanksgiving; remaining discussions before Feb.
- Elevation Items
 - Elevation Issues: None
 - Director Meeting Topics: None

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, Oct. 14, 1 pm, Teams "Call" Only