



Water Operations Management Team Notes

December 9, 2020

Members Attending

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

Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 12/2/2020 Meeting Notes: approved.
- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Trinity winter release of 300 cfs; Clear Creek 200-215 cfs, no change; Sacramento at 3,500 cfs and holding due to dryness in the Delta and a need for rain; American at 1,250 cfs and holding through December; Stanislaus at 200 cfs until the SRP flow fluctuation in Jan.; Federal San Luis at 377 TAF; DCC Gates closed with the potential that we may have to open one gate next week due to a king tide, but no decision yet.
 - SWP: There is some rain forecasted in the Northern half of the state starting on the coast Friday and working inland, hitting the Feather River Basin Saturday and could be $\frac{3}{4}$ in. on Sunday with precipitation through Thurs.; five-day forecast does not show an uptick in flows; Oroville inflow may increase, but it has been too dry to expect a river response; the peak of high tide occurs early next week; Oroville releases at 1,650 cfs and holding through this week; river valve around 1,000 cfs; Hatchery at 51°F, Clifton at 800 cfs with OMR daily at -1,590 cfs, 5-day at -2,080 cfs, 14-day at 2,920 cfs; State San Luis at 550 TAF and holding.
- Relevant Assessments
 - Revised Operational Outlook
 - Clear Creek Technical Team: temperatures are set for the winter.
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group: TDM comparisons
 - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team: drafting a spring pulse study plan, next meeting 12/16

- Feather River Operations Group: Next meeting 12/17
- American River Group: Next meeting 12/17
- Stanislaus River Watershed Team: Next meeting Wed. 12/16, planning winter instability flows for Jan./Feb.
- Delta Cross Channel Operations: Closed for the season, evaluating next week.
- OMR: No elevation from SaMT nor SMT.
- Upcoming Actions
 - Reclamation:
 - Scheduled follow up forecasting session with the SWRCB for Tuesday next week.
 - Delta Monitoring Group starts next week.
 - DWR: December FMWT completed; According to CDFW, the annual index should be end of Dec./early Jan. and will rely on Nov. index until then. It is a cumulative index; therefore, it does not decrease. Requested preliminary results which are expected this week per CDFW.
 - FWS: Kaylee accepted ARD for Fisheries and Aquatic Conservation starting early January.
 - NMFS: Winter-run JPE sub-team last week with a follow-up tomorrow. Discussed the possibility of no recommendation but will provide recommendations to inform an interim JPE by Dec. 31.
 - CDFW: None
 - SWRCB: None
- Discussion Items:
 - WOMT Facilitator Rotation: NMFS tentative to facilitate in January, will confirm
 - December Directors Kickoff Meeting,
 - December 17
 - Agenda:
 - Reservoir Storage and Outlook (Reclamation and DWR)
 - OMR Flow Management for December and January (Reclamation)
 - Winter-Run (NMFS): Include JPE and Thiamine Considerations. Provide feedback to Garwin on slides provided last week.
 - Longfin Smelt and Daily Density Triggers (CDFW, Kristal): Provide feedback to Kristal.

- Delta Smelt Larval Actions (FWS): slides are drafted.
 - Dave agreed to compile slides into a presentation. Send to him by WOMT next week.
 - WY 2021 Directors Meeting Frequency: scheduled for weekly and cancellations if no topics arise.
- Monitoring during COVID:
 - DWR compiling a table of survey to track who is out or not.
 - FMWT and SLS are considered a critical function for CDFW and will have crews but may change upon a positive test result.
 - FWS is similar with Lodi prioritizing trawls, Sac seine, and EDSM, but may change if positive test results. Situation is dynamic and being assessed daily.
 - Mossdale Trawl is not considered critical and not planned to occur.
 - Note that assessment includes an attachment updated on a weekly basis
 - Redd Dewatering Update: Data collection in progress, targeting end of year/early January for assessment. Revisit the first week of January.
 - Delta Cross Channel Gate: reminder of proposed action, generally closed in Dec. and Jan. but allowable under limits to avoid water quality exceedance, must be driest 10%, and pumping at health and safety. We are trending 97-99% dry, but the effects of storm is not clear, but likely not significant enough to change conditions. King tide peaking from 14th to 16th; therefore, opening would be around that time. We do not anticipate an opening in the next 7 days, so this is to queue up the potential. It would be one gate only due to maintenance on the second gate. If an earlier opening is needed, we may call an ad hoc meeting.
 - FMWT Index Update: Addressed in updates
 - Thiamine Deficiency and the JPE: We don't typically address reasons for mortality upstream of Red Bluff. We don't know that the deficiency will impact juvenile winter-run Chinook salmon downstream of Red Bluff and play into JPE. Directors meeting would include an update on the additional source of upstream mortality.
- Elevation Items
 - Elevation Issues: None.

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, Dec. 16, 1 pm, Teams "Call" Only