

Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 05/14/2024

Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Randi Field, Erika Kegel, Cat Pien, Brian Mahardja, Elissa Buttermore, Tony Yang
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Erica Meyers
- DWR: Mike Ford, Katie Osborn, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Shawn Acuña (MWD), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Darcy Austin (SWC), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Tom Boardman (WWD), Jose Rangel (WWD)

Review Operations Outlook (Reclamation, DWR)

- The 100 TAF IOP curtailment obligation for Reclamation will be fulfilled by the end of today (5/14/24).
- At Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek, there is a change order for 5/16-5/28 for releases to range between 200 and 800 cfs (attraction pulse).
- On the Sacramento River, a pulse is being considered and will be determined towards the end of the month.
- On the Stanislaus River, spring pulse flows will continue for the rest of May and into early June. Freeport daily average flows yesterday were 28,400 cfs.
- Vernalis daily average flows yesterday were just below 5,500 cfs. Conditions are dynamic, with real-time flows of 6,000 cfs this morning (5/14) and anticipated to increase and possibly reach about 9,000 cfs.
- JPP will have variable exports over the next week due to additional water available at Vernalis and due to planned maintenance. Tomorrow (5/15) moving to a 3-unit operation to target 2,700 cfs and on Thursday (5/16) moving to a 4-unit operation to target 3,500 cfs. Next week, flows will be variable 0 cfs to 3,500 cfs Monday 5/20 to Thursday 5/23, due to maintenance activities. Operations will resume a 4-unit, 3,500 cfs operation afterwards.
- Depending on Vernalis flows, Clifton Court exports might increase to 700-800 cfs this week. There will be a few days of no exports early next week (around 5/19 and 5/20) due to herbicide spraying activities.

- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are at 6,950 cfs. A minor pulse flow occurred earlier this week in coordination with CDFW. Flows are fairly steady and lake storage is full. These trends will likely persist until conditions dry out towards June.
- Refer to the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook for more information.

Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: Regarding JPP exports, will the outage be operated as a partial day off and then a partial day to pick up at the average daily pumping?
 - Answer: Yes, we plan to resume a 4-unit operation for half the day. The daily timestep will be about 12 hours at 0 cfs and 12 hours at the 4-unit at 3,500 cfs.
- Question: To clarify, that would basically be 2 units on a daily average? So JPP exports will be at 4 units later this week, and then the effective daily operation would be at 2 units during the four-day maintenance period?
 - Answer: Yes.

Review PA Assessment (USBR)

Reclamation then provided the PA Assessment update. For more information, please refer to the PA Assessment document.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No additional questions.

Review ITP Risk Assessment (DWR)

DWR provided the LFS update. For more information, please refer to the ITP Risk Assessment document.

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