



Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook

5/21/2024 – 5/27/2024

Water Project Operational Intent for Week

- Effective beginning 4/1, CVP and SWP project operations are limited to a 14-day average OMRI flow no more negative than -2,500 cfs per the Director’s decision on 3/29.
- Reclamation proposes CVP operations are limited to a 14-day average OMRI flow no more negative than -3,500 cfs.
- I/E ratio export constraints per Section 8.17 of State ITP will control SWP exports for this week.

Forecasted Weather

- Warm and dry weather is expected for this week with temperatures close to average and occasional breezy winds.

Table 1: Anticipated weekly operational ranges by tributary. Note that all reservoir storage, flow, X2 position, etc. shown below are entered into the table as of 5/20. Environmental and fish conditions updated by respective watershed groups at varying intervals that may not coincide with the weekly range of Water Operations

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Clear Creek	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current Release: 625 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 250 cfs to 625 cfs, attraction pulse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile spring run, fall run, and late fall run Chinook salmon are rearing and out-migrating. • Adult O. mykiss eggs are incubating and hatching, and juveniles are rearing. • Adult spring run Chinook Salmon are migrating into Clear Creek. <p><i>(Updated 4/15/2024)</i></p>

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Sacramento River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shasta Storage: 4.393 MAF • Current Release: 6,500 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 6,500 cfs to 12,000 cfs, for spring pulse flow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Most Late-fall run Chinook eggs/alevins are finished residing in the gravel, some later February-March spawned fry remain in the gravel. Fry are actively migrating downstream. • Spring run smolts are actively migrating downstream. • Spring run adults are moving upstream in the Sac and into various tributaries where they will spend the summer before spawning in Sep-Oct. • Adult winter-run are arriving in the upper river and holding. Spawning for in-river winter-run is just now commencing. Juvenile steelhead are outmigrating in low numbers. • Larval Green Sturgeon are being captured in low numbers while adult spawning continues into June-July. <p><i>(Updated 5/14/2024)</i></p>
Feather River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Oroville Storage: 3.527 MAF • Current Release: 6,950 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 4,000 cfs to 8,000 cfs. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fall-run Chinook salmon fry are migrating downstream, majority have left the system. • O. mykiss juveniles are rearing or migrating downstream. • Majority of adult green sturgeon are still holding in the LFC near Fish Barrier Dam. • A majority of Spring-run Chinook salmon juveniles have left the system. • Adult spring-run Chinook salmon are migrating up into the system past the fish monitoring station. Some have entered the hatchery and have been tagged. <p><i>(Updated 5/21/2024)</i></p>
American River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Folsom Storage: 922 TAF • Current Release: 4,500 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: 3,500 cfs to 6,000 cfs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O. mykiss juveniles are rearing. • Fall-run Chinook salmon fry are migrating downstream. • O. mykiss Adults are present. <p><i>(Updated 5/14/2024)</i></p>

Tributary/Division	Anticipated Weekly Ranges	Related Environmental and Fish Conditions
Stanislaus River	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Melones Storage: 2.086 MAF • Current Release: 1,500 cfs • Anticipated Weekly Range of Releases: Possible 600 cfs to 2,500 cfs for spring pulse flow. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • O. mykiss Adult and juveniles are present. Spawning complete. Eggs are incubating and fry emerging. • Fall-run Chinook fry, parr, and smolts are rearing and migrating. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Updated 5/20/2024)</i></p>
Delta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Freeport: 18,000 to 25,000 cfs • Vernalis: 6,000 to 10,000 cfs • Delta Outflow index: 20,000 to 35,000 cfs • Combined Exports: 2,400 to 4,500 cfs • JPP: Current 1,800 cfs, Anticipated Weekly Range: 1,800 cfs to 3,500 cfs • CCF: Current 600 cfs, Anticipated Weekly Range = 600 cfs to 1,000 cfs • San Luis Storage: Total = 1.30 MAF; Fed share = 811 TAF; State share = 513 TAF • Expected OMR Index Values: +1,500 cfs to -1,200 cfs • DCC Gates: Closed on 11/27 for season • X2 = 63 km • Tides: Transitioning from Spring to Neap; Full Moon on 5/23 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Juvenile and adult O. mykiss present. • Juvenile Chinook Salmon present. • Adult winter-run Chinook Salmon are present. • Adult and juvenile Green Sturgeon are present. • Adult spring-run Chinook Salmon are present. • Adult DS spawning is ongoing. DS larvae have been detected in Suisun Marsh, Suisun Bay, the Lower Sacramento, and the Deep Water Shipping Channel since 4/8. One juvenile DS was detected in Salvage on 4/29 and one larval delta smelt was detected in the South Delta on 5/13 • Longfin Smelt sub-adults and adults have been detected downstream of the confluence and at Chipps Island. Longfin Smelt larvae have been detected in the Napa River, Carquinez Strait, San Pablo Bay, Suisun Bay and Marsh, the Confluence, lower Sacramento and San Joaquin rivers, and the Central and South Delta. A few juveniles have been detected in San Pablo Bay, Napa River, and Suisun Marsh. The centroid of distribution for all life-stages is west of the Confluence. LFS spawning is ongoing. Two juvenile LFS were salvaged on 4/10 and 4/26. <p style="text-align: right;"><i>(Updated 5/21/2024)</i></p>

Table 2a-b: WY 2024 relevant Fish and Environmental Criteria and Status in 2019 Reclamation LTO Action Cumulative loss for the duration of 2019 Biological Opinion began upon signature of ROD, 2/19/2020.

Table 2a: WY 2024 Salmonid Current Loss and Delta Smelt Abiotic Conditions. Additional Real-Time OMR Restrictions and Performance Objectives (4.10.5.10.2, 4.10.5.10.3) and Onset of OMR Management (4.10.5.10.1). Genetic identification of salmon is not used in calculating loss, but results are included in the Assessment as they become available. The Final WR JPE for BY 2023 is 234,896. The ITL and performance thresholds are TBD.

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Trend	Updated
Green sturgeon	WY 2024 salvage = 74	WY 2024 salvage = 0 (0%)	No change expected	5/20/2024
Natural winter-run Chinook Salmon	WY 2024 loss = 2748 (100% of 1.17% of JPE) Single-year ITL= 4698 (2% of JPE) Three-year rolling average ITL = 5,145 (number needed to achieve the average of 1.3% of JPE for the last 3 years: 1776)	WY 2024 loss = 4205.05 (89.5% of single-year ITL) 100% threshold exceeded 3/20/2024 75% threshold exceeded 3/7/2024 50% threshold exceeded 2/25/2024	No change expected	5/20/2024
Natural Steelhead	Dec 1 – Mar 31 = 1414; Incidental Take =3,040 Apr 1 – June 15 = 1552	WY 2024 loss = 5210.22 Dec 1 – Mar 31 = 3374.81 Incidental Take limit exceeded on 3/20/24 Apr 1 – June 15 = 1864.22 (61.3% of the Incidental Take Limit) 100% threshold exceeded on 4/26/2024 75% threshold exceeded 4/15/2024 50% threshold exceeded 4/9/2024	Increasing	5/20/2024
Sacramento River Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2024 loss = 140.93 (50% of 0.12% of JPE)	WY 2024 loss = 4.33 (3.07%)	No change expected	5/20/2024

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Weekly Trend	Updated
Battle Creek Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	WY 2024 loss = 234.90 (1% of JPE)	WY 2024 loss = 0 (0%)	No change expected	5/20/2024
Proposed Action Hatchery yearling spring-run Chinook salmon surrogates	> 0.5% of each release group 1) 12/22/2023 group 1: 60,764 = 303.82 2) 12/29/2023 group 2: 71,049 = 355.25 3) 1/11/2024 group 3: 67,018 = 335.09	WY 2024 loss = 1) 36.84 (12.12%) 2) 38.96 (11%) 3) 81.18 (24.2%)	No Change Expected	5/20/2024
Delta Smelt	After Dec. 1: Running 3-day avg. flows at Freeport >25,000 cfs AND Running 3-day avg. turbidity at Freeport =>50 FNU	Offramped. Implemented 1/23/2024-2/5/2024. Flow = N/A; Turbidity = N/A	Not relevant	2/12/2024
Delta Smelt	Daily avg. Turbidity at OBI=>12 FNU	Offramped. OBI Daily Average = N/A	Not relevant	4/1/2024
Delta Smelt	Daily avg. Temperature at CCF > 25°C for three consecutive days	In effect. Not triggered. CCF (CLC CDEC station) daily avg. Temperature = 19.2°C	Not relevant	5/19/2024

Table 2b. 10-Year Salmonid Cumulative Loss

Species/run	Threshold	Current Status	Updated
Natural winter-run Chinook salmon	Loss = 8,738	Cumulative loss = 4575.3 (52.36%)	5/20/2024
Hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon	Loss = 5,356	Cumulative loss = 11.04 (0.21%)	5/20/2024
Natural steelhead	Loss = 6,038 (Dec 1 – Mar 31) Loss = 5,826 (Apr 1 – June 15)	Cumulative loss = 4951.27 (82%, Dec 1 – Mar 31) 2876.72 (49.4%, Apr 1 – June 15)	5/20/2024

Table 3a-c: Relevant Water Year 2024 Fish Criteria and Status for Listed Fish under the SWP Long-Term Incidental Take Permit.

Table 3a: Chinook Salmon

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
OMR Mgmt. triggered (8.3.2)	Jan. 1 - Jun. 30 (when $\geq 5\%$ of spring-run or winter-run in Delta)	In effect	$\geq 5\%$ of the Winter-run or Spring-run population in Delta	N/A	N/A	2/26/2024	In effect as of January 1.
Winter-run yearly loss (8.6.1)	Nov. 1 - Jun. 30	In effect	2,748.28 (1.17% of Natural LAD WR of Final JPE) 232.30 (0.12% of LSNFH WR of Final JPE)	Loss of total LAD WR = 4205.05 Loss of total hatchery WR = 4.33 (1.86% of hatchery WR threshold)	Salvage may occur in the upcoming week	5/20/24	Natural-origin LAD winter-run Chinook salmon (WR) were not observed in salvage the previous week. The 100% Annual Loss Threshold was exceeded on 3/20/24.
Winter-run discrete daily loss (8.6.2)	Nov. 1 - Dec. 31	Not in effect	26 older juvenile/day	Max Older Juvenile discrete daily loss observed last week = N/A	N/A	1/22/2024	N/A

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Mid and late season Winter-run daily loss threshold (8.6.3)	Jan 1 – May 31	In effect	Loss threshold for May 5/1-5/31: 0 (0% of WR JPE)	No loss has occurred for older LAD in previous week.	Salvage of older juveniles may occur in the upcoming week.	5/20/2024	23 genetically confirmed WR have been observed in salvage so far this season.
Spring-run surrogate protection (8.6.4)	Feb. 1 - Jun. 30	In effect	Feather River Hatchery CWT (Group 1) loss threshold: 1,749.64 Feather River Hatchery CWT (Group 2) loss threshold: 1,751.57 Feather River Hatchery CWT (Group 3) loss threshold: 1,400.76 Coleman National Fish Hatchery CWT (Group 1) loss threshold: 1,792.94 Coleman National Fish Hatchery CWT (Group 2) loss threshold: 266.33 Nimbus Fish Hatchery CWT (Group 1) loss threshold: 525.88	None have been observed at the salvage facilities yet	Salvage may occur from any of these groups in the upcoming week	5/20/24	N/A

Table 3b: Delta Smelt

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Integrated Early Winter Pulse Protection ('First Flush') (8.3.1)	Dec. 1 - Jan. 31	Off-ramped	- three-day Freeport daily flow running avg >= 25,000 AND [three-day Freeport turbidity running avg >=50 FNU OR Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation]	Not relevant	Not relevant	2/12/24	N/A
Turbidity Bridge Avoidance (8.5.1)	Dec. 15 - Apr. 1	Off-ramped	Occurs after the Integrated Early Winter Pulse protection or February 1 whichever comes first until April 1 -avg. OBI turbidity > 12 FNU	Not relevant	Not relevant	4/1/2024	N/A
Larval and/Juvenile Delta smelt Protection (8.5.2)	Nov. 1 – Jun. 30	In effect; not triggered by 20mm 5	- If 5-day cum. salvage of juv.DS >= 1 [average 3-yr FMWT index + 1], then –5000 OMR - If DS in SLS/20mm or 3-d temp at Jersey Point >= 12C, and SLS/20mm Secchi for 12 south delta stations <= 1m, then –3500 OMR	Current 5-day salvage = 0 3-day average SJJ temp exceeded 12C on 1/31/2024 Average Secchi Depth = 168 cm (as of 5/13-5/16)	Secchi depth stable	5/20/24	N/A

Table 3c: Longfin Smelt

Action	Timeframe	Current Action Status	Threshold(s)	Current Relevant Data	Weekly Trend	Last Updated	Comments
Early Adult Protection (8.3.3)	Dec. 1 - Feb. 28	Off-ramped	-Cum. salvage > [most recent FMWT/10] = 46 fish (Sept.-Dec. Index) OR -Smelt Monitoring Team determines high likelihood of LFS movement into high-risk areas	Cumulative salvage = 0	N/A	12/26/23	N/A
OMR Mgt. for Adults (8.4.1)	Onset of OMR mgmt - Feb. 28	Off-ramped	-Smelt Monitoring Team recommendation	N/A	N/A	12/19/23	N/A
Larval and Juvenile Longfin Smelt Entrainment Protection (8.4.2)	Jan 1 – Jun 30	Not triggered by 20 mm 5	-LFS larvae or juveniles in >=4 SLS or 20 mm stations in central and south Delta, OR -LFS catch/tow >5 larvae or juveniles in >=2stations	20mm 5 did not detect any larvae in the South and Central Delta.	N/A	5/21/24	N/A
High Flow OMR Off-Ramp for Longfin Smelt (8.4.3)	Based on the status of 8.3.3, 8.4.1, & 8.4.2	Not triggered	-Sac. R. at Rio Vista>55,000, OR SJ at Vernalis >8,000	Rio Vista = 15,000 – 20,000 cfs SJ = 6,000 – 10,000 cfs	Flows are variable	5/20/24	N/A

Table 4: Fish monitoring gear efficiency and disruptions. Status Categories: [1] Active (ongoing sampling), [2] Partial Interruption (some sampling interruptions), [3] Interrupted (sampling fully suspended), [4] Not Active (sampling not scheduled)

Monitoring survey	Region	Notes (as of 5/21/2024)	Status
SWP regular counts, CWT reading	Delta	Active	1
SWP larval sampling	Delta	Active	1
CVP regular counts, CWT reading	Delta	Active	1
CVP larval sampling	Delta	Active	1
Smelt Larval Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
LEPS	Delta	Active	1
20mm Survey	Delta	Active	1
Fall Mid-water Trawl	Delta	Not Active	4
Summer Townet Survey	Delta	Not Active	4
Bay Study	Delta	Active	1
DJFMP- Chipps and Sacramento Trawls	Delta	Active	1
DJFMP- Seines	Delta	Active	1
EDSM	Delta	Active	1
Environmental Monitoring Program (EMP)	Delta	Active	1
Mossdale Trawl	Delta	Active	1
USGS Flow monitoring	Delta	Active	1
Red Bluff Diversion Dam Rotary Screw Trap (RST)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Knights Landing RST	Sacramento River	Not Active (stopped trapping on 5/16)	4
Tisdale RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Yuba River (Hallwood) RST	Yuba River	Active	1
Redd dewatering and stranding surveys	Sacramento River	Active	1
Sacramento Carcass and Redd Surveys (Late fall-run Chinook salmon)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Sacramento Carcass and Redd Surveys (Winter-run Chinook salmon)	Sacramento River	Active	1
Lower Sacramento RST	Sacramento River	Active	1
Feather River (upper DWR) RST	Feather River	Active	1
Feather River (lower CDFW) RST	Feather River	Active	1
Lower American River at Watt Ave RST	American River	Active	1
SJRRP CDFW Field Monitoring	San Joaquin River	Active	1

Monitoring survey	Region	Notes (as of 5/21/2024)	Status
SJRRP USBR Field Monitoring	San Joaquin River	Active	1
Stanislaus Fish Weir	Stanislaus River	Active	1
American River Carcass/Redd Surveys (Fall-run Chinook salmon)	American River	Not Active	4
Stanislaus Redd Survey (Steelhead)	Stanislaus River	Not Active	4
Caswell RST	Stanislaus River	Active	1
Wallace Weir	Cache Slough	Active	1
Butte Creek RST/Diversion Trap	Butte Creek	Active	1