



Delta Monitoring Workgroup

Meeting Record 06/11/2024

Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Randi Field, Nick Bertrand, Erika Kegel, Elissa Buttermore, Grace Easterbrook, Cat Pien
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Brian Schreier, Katie Osborn
- SWRCB: Matt Holland
- Water Contractors: Shawn Acuña (MWD), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Darcy Austin (SWC), Ian Buck Macleod (Friant WA), Deanna Sereno (CCWD), Tom Boardman (WWD), Heidi Williams (Valley Water)

Review Operations Outlook (Reclamation, DWR)

- On the Sacramento River, there was a change order today for release of 9,000 cfs from Keswick Dam to support Delta requirements.
- On the American River, a change order is out to increase flows up to 3,500 cfs on Thursday (6/13) to support Delta requirements.
- In the Delta, Freeport and Vernalis exports are generally declining.
- Freeport average daily flow yesterday was about 15,050 cfs.
- Vernalis average daily flow yesterday was about 2,600 cfs.
- Joint exports are controlled by -5,000 cfs OMRI; these requirements may end in the coming week depending on temperatures. Following operations will operate to meet water quality requirements.
- DCC Gates are currently closed and will open on Friday (6/14) and will remain open for the season.
- There are 20 days of X2 requirements at Chipps Island in June, and there are 9 days remaining. Water quality requirements are currently being met, but exports may need to decrease to get outflows in the range of 11,400 cfs to fulfill X2 requirements.
- Refer to the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook for more information.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No additional questions.

Review PA Assessment (Reclamation)

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

Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: Last week, there was a recommendation made by NMFS and CDFW to target -3,500 cfs for protection of steelhead. However, Reclamation is elevating changes from the OMR range of -3,500 cfs to -5,000 cfs. This seems to conflict. How was that decision made?
 - Answer: SaMT technical representatives are asked to elevate alternative proposals to WOMT. The operational range chosen was based on the outlook last week (-3,500 cfs to -5,000 cfs) which is the default response.

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