



Delta Monitoring Workgroup Weekly Meeting

Meeting Record 05/20/2025

Working Group Members in Attendance

- Reclamation: Chase Ehlo, Lillian McCormick
- USFWS: Not in attendance
- NMFS: Not in attendance
- CDFW: Not in attendance
- DWR: Mike Ford, Katie Osborn, Farida Islam, Brian Schreier
- SWRCB: Not in attendance
- Water Contractors: Darcy Austin (SWC), Chandra Chilmakuri (SWC), Alma Antuna (WWD), Brad Cavallo (WWD), Cindy Meyer (SLDMWA), Ron Milligan (SLDMWA), Steve Micko (MWD), Tom Boardman (CVP SOD Ag Districts), Yuan Liu (CCWD), Ian Buck-Macleod (Friant Water)
- NGOs: Not in attendance
- Kearns & West: Marlys Jeane, Trisha Madayag

Review Operations Outlook

- At Whiskeytown Dam on Clear Creek, releases range from 200 cfs to 650 cfs due to a pulse flow.
- At Shasta Dam on the Sacramento River, releases are 9,000 cfs and will increase to 14,000 cfs tomorrow (5/21) and then ramp down.
- At Nimbus Dam on the American River, releases are steady at 3,500 cfs.
- At Goodwin Dam on the Stanislaus River, releases are 1,300 cfs, with releases ranging between 1,300 cfs to 2,500 cfs from the continuation of a pulse flow.
- At Oroville Dam on the Feather River, releases are 1,700 cfs today (5/20) and will hold for the next few days to allow the reservoir to top off, and then likely increase to hold the lake elevation steady.
- JPP exports are 3,500 cfs today (5/20) and will decrease to 3,200 cfs on Thursday (5/22).

- CCF exports are 600 cfs and will hold until the end of May.
- DCC Gates will open on Friday (5/23) for the Memorial Day weekend and will close on Tuesday (5/27).

Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: Will JPP exports be 3,500 cfs for the rest of the week or will exports go back and forth between two and three units?
 - Answer: Exports at JPP are 3,500 cfs today and tomorrow but will likely decrease with Vernalis flow diminishing. JPP is now operating to the CVP's respective share of the OMR -5,000 cfs threshold.

Review PA Assessment and Assessment Triggers (Reclamation)

Facilitator's note: Due to the new PA, DMW will only review the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook. Moving forward, Reclamation will potentially produce assessments for relevant salmon and smelt triggers weekly. A review of the PA Assessment may occur if a real-time trigger occurs.

- Reclamation shared that there has been no steelhead or winter-run loss in the last week. The entrainment risk should be low for the two species through the DCC gates once they open.

Additional Questions or Comments

- Question: Did the genetic results confirm if the fish salvaged on 5/11 week was a winter-run?
 - Answer: The fish was a steelhead.

Review Longfin Smelt (LFS) Distribution and ITP Triggers (DWR)

Facilitator's note: Due to the new ITP, DMW will only review the Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook. A review of the Risk Assessment may occur if a real-time trigger occurs.

Additional Questions or Comments

- No questions or comments.

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
- EDSM – Enhanced Delta Smelt Monitoring Program
- 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
- SRDWSC – Sacramento River Deep Water Ship Channel
- 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