



Delta Action Team (DAT) Weekly Meeting

Teams call: 4/21/26 at 10:00 a.m.

Participants

- Kearns & West
- California Department of Water Resources (DWR)
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR)
- California State Water Resources Control Board
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- State Water Contractors (SWC)
- Metropolitan Water District (MWD)
- San Luis & Delta-Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA)
- Contra Costa Water District (CCWD)
- Friant Water Authority (FWA)
- TABES Consulting LLC
- Westlands Water District (WWD)

Action Items

- None

Welcome & Housekeeping

- None

Weekly Operations Update

Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook, Current Operations

- DAT reviewed and updated the Fish and Water Operations Outlook document.
 - Sacramento River releases at Keswick Dam are currently at 6,000 cfs and will range between 6,000 cfs to 10,000 cfs.
 - Oroville storage was 3.269 TAF as of 4/20. Feather River releases are currently at 5,000 cfs. While releases could increase due to storm runoff entering the reservoir, expectations remain that flows will stay at 5,000 cfs.
 - American River releases at Nimbus Dam will be increased to 7,500 cfs on 4/21 and will range between 6,000 cfs to 9,000 cfs.
 - Stanislaus River releases at Goodwin Dam are currently at 500 cfs and will range between 500 cfs to 1,250 cfs. Releases will be increased to 1,250 cfs on 4/22 for the third pulse flow peak.
 - Freeport flows were at 26,000 cfs as of 4/20 and will range between 24,000 cfs and 34,000 cfs.
 - Clifton Court Forebay (CCF) exports are at 1,300 cfs and are expected to be reduced to 1,000 cfs. Exports will range between 600 cfs to 1,300 cfs.
 - Vernalis flows were at 2,500 cfs as of 4/20 and will range between 1,500 cfs to 3,100 cfs.
 - Delta outflow was at 27,000 cfs as of 4/20 and is expected to range between 24,000 to 37,000 cfs.
 - JPP exports are at 1,300 cfs and will range between 900 cfs to 2,700 cfs.
 - JPF will range between 4,300 cfs to 5,500 cfs.
 - San Luis total storage is currently 1.77 MAF, CVP's share is 780 TAF (81%).
 - Daily QWEST is at 5,900 cfs. Expected daily QWest range is between 2,800 cfs and 8,800 cfs.
 - Expected Daily OMR Index is -1,500 cfs. Expected range for the week is between -1,100 and -1,800.

Questions/Discussions on Weekly Fish and Water Operations

- TABES Consulting LLC asked whether the anticipated increase in San Joaquin River flows later this week could support a corresponding increase in Jones pumping.
 - Reclamation responded that an increase may be possible. Reclamation clarified that San Luis flows are being reviewed daily, and exports are currently maximized within their available share.

Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook, Species Tables Updates

- DWR updated Table 2a noting that sturgeon are currently in the Feather River spawning grounds and that 11 green sturgeon have been salvaged.
- DWR updated Table 3a and provided an overview of operations to date. No new operational changes were observed. See the Weekly Operations reports for additional detail.

Questions/Discussions on Operations Outlook Species Tables Updates

- None

Proposed Action Assessments

Proposed Action Assessments Update

- USBR presented the weekly combined assessment.

Zone of Influence (ZOI)

- Current delta hydrology falls in the 'himed' (high-medium) category, and 7-day forecasted conditions fall in the 'himed' (high-medium) category.

Salmonid Proposed Action Assessment

- As of 4/20, cumulative annual losses include 45 natural winter-run, accounting for 0.43% of annual loss threshold; 57.91 hatchery winter-run, accounting for 4.45% of annual loss threshold; 248 natural steelhead; and 1,820 hatchery steelhead, accounting for 28.73% of annual loss threshold.
- STARS estimated overall apparent survival probability is .33 as of 4/20.
- STARS estimated routing and survival probabilities are .1 to .14 and .12 to .31 respectively.
- Overall evaluation shows low risk of exceeding loss thresholds in the upcoming week for natural and hatchery winter-run Chinook salmon, steelhead, and spring-run Chinook salmon surrogates.

ESA and CESA Osmerids

Proposed Action Assessment

- No actions are at risk of being triggered.

Delta Smelt

- No delta smelt has been detected in the previous two weeks.
- Delta smelt count for WY26 is 74, including 44 adults and 30 juveniles.
- No Delta smelt has been salvaged to date, and cumulative seasonal salvage remains at 4.

- Adult Delta smelt entrainment action remains inactive, and no action was taken in WY2026.
- Larval and juvenile Delta smelt entrainment action was not met. JPF is projected to remain positive for the week. The most recent 11-station average turbidity in the South Delta was 3.4 FNU on 4/15.
- Delta smelt entrainment risk is low, as PTM results from Chipps Island showed 0% particle entrainment at both facilities.

Longfin Smelt

- Longfin smelt have been detected in the larval stages.
- Detections to date include 475 adults, 1,174 juveniles, and 5,623 larvae. Surveys are underway this week, and updated numbers are expected later in the week.
- No longfin smelt has been salvaged, and the cumulative seasonal salvage is 0.
- No entrainment action criteria are met for either adult, or juvenile and larval longfin smelt.
 - No adult longfin smelt salvage has been observed in WY2026 and JPF is projected to remain positive for the week.
 - PTM and zone of influence modeling indicate a low risk of entrainment for larval and juvenile longfin smelt population.

Questions/Discussions on Proposed Action Assessments

- Reclamation will not be conducting qualitative larval sampling at the Tracy Fish Collection facility for WY 2026. Reasons for discontinuing include:
 - sampling is qualitative, which limits how informatively the data can be used;
 - monitoring redesign of the SLS now provides quantitative volumetric expansion information; and
 - the sampling has not been used to inform real-time thresholds
- This decision was discussed with USFWS and they did not raise any concerns
- DWR has also discontinued comparable sampling at the State facilities for WY 2026.

Next DAT Meeting

- The next Delta Action Team Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 4/28/26.