



Delta Action Team (DAT) Weekly Meeting

Teams call: 5/19/26 at 10:00 a.m.

Participants

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

Action Items

- None

Welcome & Housekeeping

- None

Weekly Operations Update

Operational Intent

- Operations are being implemented under ITP 8.12.1 for this week.

Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook, Current Operations

DAT reviewed and updated the Fish and Water Operations Outlook document.

- Clear Creek releases at Whiskey Town are currently at 550 cfs and will range between 200 cfs and 550 cfs.
- Sacramento River releases at Keswick Dam are currently at 10,000 cfs and will range between 10,000 cfs and 11,000 cfs.
- Oroville storage was 3.382 MAF as of 5/18.
- Feather River releases are currently at 1,050 cfs and will remain at 1,050 cfs through the week.
- American River releases at Nimbus Dam are currently at 2,500 cfs and will range between 1,500 cfs and 2,500 cfs.
- Stanislaus River releases at Goodwin Dam are currently at 2,200 cfs and will range between 1,400 cfs and 2,200 cfs.
- Freeport flows are currently at 10,500 cfs and will range between 9,000 cfs and 11,000 cfs.
- Vernalis flows are currently at 2,200 cfs and will range between 1,800 cfs and 2,500 cfs.
- Delta outflow is currently at 7,400 cfs and will range between 7,000 cfs and 9,000 cfs.
- Clifton Court Forebay (CCF) is currently at 600 cfs and will remain at 600 cfs for the week.
- Rio Vista flows are currently at 8,400 cfs and will range between 7,000 cfs and 9,000 cfs.
- JPF will range between -1,000 cfs and 1,900 cfs.
- Jones Pumping Plant (JPP) exports are currently at 4,200 cfs and will range between 3,500 cfs and 4,200 cfs.
- San Luis total storage is approximately 1.6 MAF; SWP's share is 842 TAF and CVP's share is 763 TAF (79%).
- Daily QWEST is at -100 cfs; the seven-day average is 600 cfs; the forecasted seven-day range is between -1,400 cfs and 200 cfs.
- Expected Daily OMR Index is -3,300 cfs; the five-day average is -3,300 cfs; and the seven-day average is -2,800 cfs.

Questions/Discussions on Weekly Fish and Water Operations

- CCWD asked whether Jones Pumping Plant was back to full unit availability following last week's outage.

Reclamation confirmed that all JPP units are currently available.

- SWRCB asked whether Delta conditions are expected to become balanced in the next week.

Reclamation responded that it is possible, but is continuing to monitor salinity, tidal movement, and the water needed for Edmonton salinity compliance. Reclamation noted that excess water remains available but anticipates transition to balanced conditions soon.

Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook, Species Tables Updates

- DWR updated Table 3a and provided an overview to date.
- No listed unclipped species have been salvaged.
- LAD (length-at-date) spring-run Chinook salmon salvage occurred at CVP and was sent for genetic analysis; all recent LAD spring run have been confirmed as fall run.
- See the Weekly Operations reports for additional detail.

Questions/Discussions on Operations Outlook Species Tables Updates

- None

Proposed Action Assessments

Proposed Action Assessments Update

- Reclamation presented the weekly combined assessment.

Zone of Influence

- Current Delta hydrology and seven-day forecasted conditions fall in the low-medium (lo-med) category.

Salmonid Proposed Action Assessment

- As of 5/19, cumulative annual losses include 259 natural steelhead, representing 4.9% of the annual loss threshold; and 1,898 hatchery steelhead, representing 29.01% of the annual loss threshold.
- STARS estimated overall apparent survival probability is 0; interior Delta apparent survival probability is 0; Delta routing is 0.13.
- Overall evaluation shows low risk of exceeding loss thresholds in the upcoming week for all species.

ESA and CESA Osmerids

Proposed Action Assessment

- No actions are at risk of being triggered.

Delta Smelt

- No Delta smelt detections since 3/24 in surveys (pending genetic analysis of EDSM 20-mm survey results); only one salvage has occurred this water year.
- For larval and juvenile Delta smelt, conditions are not at risk of triggering.

Moderate to high turbidity has been observed at some south and central Delta stations over the past several days, but the spatial and temporal pattern is most consistent with short-term, wind-driven turbidity rather than sustained conditions associated with Delta smelt entrainment risk. Spikes at individual stations were short and the 11-station average turbidity in the south and central Delta was 3.6 FNU on 5/13 from the 20 mm survey, below the 12 FNU threshold.

12-station turbidity data were not available this week; the most recent available values were used for this assessment. Turbidity conditions will continue to be monitored.

Although JPF may fall below 0 cfs, PTM results for neutrally buoyant particles indicate very low entrainment risk.

Longfin Smelt

- No adult longfin smelt have been salvaged, and particle tracking modeling indicates low entrainment risk for larval and juvenile longfin smelt.

End of Entrainment Management for Smelts

- The end-of-smelt-entrainment-management season trigger has not been met.

The trigger requires CCF temperatures to reach greater than or equal to 25 °C for three consecutive days. Recent values are 22 °C, 22 °C, and 21 °C.

Monitoring will continue, and temperatures are expected to heat up over the week.

Questions/Discussions on Proposed Action Assessments

- None

Next DAT Meeting

- The next Delta Action Team Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, 5/26/26.