



# Water Operations Management Team Notes

September 1, 2021

## Members Attending

Kristin White, Tom Patton, Molly White, Lenny Grimaldo, Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga, Howard Brown, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Josh Grover, Erik Ekdahl, Diane Riddle

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 8/25/2021 Meeting Notes: Approved.
  
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly): September 2021
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (currently meeting weekly on Thursdays): 9/2
  - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team (currently meeting weekly on Wednesdays): 9/8
  - Feather River Operations Group (meets first and third Thursdays): 9/2
  - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursdays, and as needed): 9/16
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 9/15
  
- Operational Updates
  - CVP: Lewiston (Trinity River) releases are 450 cfs; ramping flows up beginning 9/2 to 2,650 cfs by 9/5 for the Hoopa Valley Tribe's Boat Dance Ceremony on 9/7; flows will then ramp back down to 450 cfs (10,000 acre-feet total). Whiskeytown (Clear Creek) releases are 150 cfs. Keswick (Sacramento River) releases are 6,800 cfs and holding. Nimbus (American River) releases are 600 cfs; may cut back by 50 cfs next week and currently evaluating impacts to M&I intakes. Goodwin (Stanislaus River) releases are 350 cfs. Reclamation's Delta pumping ramped up from 1,000 cfs to 1,800 cfs, at two units; increase is for transfers linked to Shasta releases. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 26 TAF.

SWP: Oroville-Thermalito Complex (Feather River) releases are 1,250 cfs. DWR is exporting ~300 cfs through Clifton Court Forebay. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 252 TAF.

- Relevant Assessments
  - 20210831 fish and water operations outlook
  
- Upcoming Actions
  - Reclamation: Tested a power bypass at Shasta Dam which showed use of the river outlet gates is fairly promising if the intent is to use the cold water pool more directly. Discussions with agencies are ongoing. The recent Drought Contingency Plan update shows a 966 TAF end of September storage at Shasta but that could change based upon: 1) holding flows for winter-run Chinook salmon; 2) Trinity Division water temperatures.
  - FWS: No actions.
  - CDFW: No actions.
  - NMFS: No actions.

DWR: Drought Contingency Plan addendum went out 8/31, another addendum will occur this month.

SWRCB: Continuing to provide weekly updates on curtailments. Draft Mill and Deer Creek emergency regulation expected to be released today for public comment and planned for consideration at the 9/22 Board Meeting.

- TUCP/TUCO & Drought Updates:

The Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP), TUC Order (TUCO), and related documents (including information reported by Reclamation and DWR) are available online at [https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/drought/tucp/index.html](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/tucp/index.html).

- Condition 10 letter was sent 8/30, Condition 5 table has also been sent.

- Discussion Items:

- 9/21-22: SWRCB meeting
  - Reclamation and DWR starting to plan for a presentation (SWRCB to confirm which day) regarding planning for continued dry conditions; invite ideas and participation from the other WOMT member agencies. Reclamation and DWR prefer presenting in the morning.

- SWRCB staff will likely provide a drought update at that meeting as well; scope and scale TBD, but likely to include updates on curtailment orders and outcomes so far.
  - NMFS, FWS, and CDFW need time to consider potential contributions.
  - NMFS/CDFW agency presentation on status of species for Mill and Deer Creek is being requested.
  - WOMT facilitation for WY 2022: Group discussed the opportunity to be the WOMT facilitator for WY 2022. New facilitator will be invited to sit in on a few WOMT meetings in September for a smooth handoff.
  - Return Flows: Reclamation crew checking out the sites today and expect to have some measurements for the group next week. If further measurements are warranted, will need to identify resources to accomplish.
- Elevation Items
    - No elevation items for directors from WOMT.

## Next Meeting

- Wednesday, September 8, 1 pm – 2 pm.