



Water Operations Management Team Notes

September 8, 2021

Members Attending

Kristin White, Tom Patton, Molly White, Jana Affonso, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Erik Ekdahl, Matt Holland

Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 9/1/2021 Meeting Notes: Approved, subject to updating SWRCB Board Date.
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly): September 2021
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (currently meeting weekly on Thursdays): 9/9 (ad hoc meeting also occurred on 9/8)
 - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team (currently meeting weekly on Wednesdays): 9/15
 - Feather River Operations Group (meets first and third Thursdays): 9/16
 - 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 peaked at 2650, flows coming down, about 1,000 cfs now, ramping down to 450 tomorrow. Whiskeytown (Clear Creek) releases are 150 cfs. Keswick (Sacramento River) releases are 6,800 cfs and holding. Nimbus (American River) releases are 600 cfs; cutting back tomorrow to 550 cfs. Goodwin (Stanislaus River) releases are 350 cfs. Reclamation's Delta pumping minor adjustments at 1,800 cfs, two units, small increase to 1,900 cfs on Saturday, still 2-unit operation. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 21 TAF. DCC gates are moving to a weekend opening operations to help with Rio Vista flows.



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

SWP: Oroville-Thermalito Complex (Feather River) releases are 1,250 cfs. DWR is exporting ~200 cfs through Clifton Court Forebay since 9/3, going to 300 cfs on Friday. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 240 TAF.

- Relevant Assessments
 - 20210907 fish and water operations outlook



— BUREAU OF — RECLAMATION

- Upcoming Actions
 - Reclamation: No actions.
 - FWS: No actions.
 - CDFW: No actions.
 - NMFS: Working on Section 7 consultation for Reclamation's request to release 30,000 acre-feet from New Melones.
 - DWR: No actions.
 - SWRCB: No actions.

- 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.

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

- Discussion Items:
 - Shasta Power Bypass: CVO developed some options for the group to evaluate, but there are a lot of assumptions and unknowns for the team to evaluate. Currently more qualitative than quantitative analysis. For Reclamation to consider a power bypass, we would need a recommendation from an agency. Reclamation would need at least 5-6 days before implementing, if approved, to include decision making and coordinating power scheduling timeframes.
 - Return Flows: Measured 375 cfs last Thursday, 264 cfs yesterday at Knights Landing, Sutter Bypass more challenging, somewhere around 100 cfs, rating quality is poor. CalSim 3 identified the aggregate return flows as 5,000 cfs in the Sacramento River watershed. SACWAM shows 500 cfs in the Colusa Drain. Actual Return Flows appear to show measured flows lower than expected in the CalSim 3 modeling.
 - August Addendum to Drought Contingency Plan: CDFW sent comments to DWR/Reclamation on 9/3 with proposed edits to DCP on language related to Shasta releases to clarify the USST provided technical input on shaping releases of 200 TAF of transfer water. No process/requirement in ITP for CDFW to review a draft, but CDFW



— BUREAU OF — RECLAMATION

- is asking for that language to be added and DCP reposted. DWR isn't currently planning to repost, prefer updating in the next September Addendum. NMFS and CDFW received questions from NGOs on why releases in September were being held at 6,800 cfs. Perhaps include disclaimer language that makes it clear the words reflect the best information at that time and subject to updates.
- Shasta Releases: Discussions about transfers potentially going through December, would require further evaluation for consistency with the Proposed Action.
 - 9/21-22: SWRCB meeting
 - Reclamation and DWR starting to plan for a presentation (SWRCB to confirm which day, likely 9/22) 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. FWS can provide an overview of actions at a high level.
 - WOMT facilitation for WY 2022: DWR willing to take on facilitation for the next year, naming the lucky candidate next week.
- Elevation Items
 - No elevation items for directors from WOMT.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, September 15, 1 pm – 2 pm.