



# Water Operations Management Team Notes

September 15, 2021

## Members Attending

Kristin White, Liz Kiteck, Molly White, Lenny Grimaldo, Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga, Howard Brown, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Josh Grover, Erik Ekdahl, Diane Riddle

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 9/8/2021 Meeting Notes: Approved.
  
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly): 9/16
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (currently meeting weekly on Thursdays): 9/16
  - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team (currently meeting weekly on Wednesdays): 9/22
  - 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): 10/20
  
- Operational Updates

CVP: Lewiston (Trinity River) releases are 450 cfs. Whiskeytown (Clear Creek) releases are 150 cfs. Keswick (Sacramento River) releases are 6,800 cfs. Nimbus (American River) releases are 550 cfs. Goodwin (Stanislaus River) releases are 300 cfs. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at 3 units for an export target of ~2,550 cfs with a planned increase to 2,700 cfs on Saturday, 9/18. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 20 TAF.

SWP: Oroville-Thermalito Complex (Feather River) releases are 1,250 cfs. DWR is exporting ~350 cfs through Clifton Court Forebay with a planned increase to 400 cfs on Friday, 9/17. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 228 TAF. Weather forecast shows a system hitting northern California (primarily on Sunday), including a projection for up to

a half inch of precipitation in the Feather River basin. The precipitation is not projected to appreciably increase Lake Oroville inflow.

- Relevant Assessments
  - 20210914 fish and water operations outlook

- Upcoming Actions
  - Reclamation: No actions.
  - FWS: No actions.
  - CDFW: No actions.
  - NMFS: Issued letter of concurrence on 9/14 for the Section 7 consultation for Reclamation's request to release 30,000 acre-feet from New Melones.
  - DWR: Expect to issue updated drought plan by 9/24.
  - SWRCB: SWRCB meeting next week on 9/21-22. The agenda includes a drought and hydrology update on 9/21 and an update on emergency regulations for Mill Creek and Deer Creek on 9/22. The SWRCB is working on potential curtailments for October and also reviewing the methods used for implementing curtailments now and in the future.
  
- 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).

  - WOMT members checked in on upcoming reporting deadlines.
  
- Discussion Items:
  - WOMT facilitation: Chris Wilkinson (DWR) will facilitate WOMT for WY 2022, starting in October 2021.
  - Technical assistance re: curtailments: DWR and Reclamation confirmed that they can send relevant staff to the upcoming meeting(s) regarding curtailment methods. This week's meeting will include a discussion about how to estimate return flows.
    - ACTION ITEM: Diane Riddle to send meeting invite.
  - 9/21 drought update to the SWRCB: No fish agency presentations are on the agenda at this time. DWR and Reclamation WOMT members will confirm with their directors that they are not expecting fish agency participation.
  - D-1641 October pulse flow at Vernalis: Reclamation is planning on releasing at least minimum flows (per the Stepped Release Plan) on the Stanislaus River during October, but those minimum flows (and the limited flows expected from elsewhere in the basin) are unlikely to satisfy the D-1641 requirement for October flow at Vernalis. Reclamation and the SWRCB will discuss further.

- Elevation Items
  - No elevation items for directors from WOMT.

## **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, September 22, 1 pm – 2 pm.