



Water Operations Management Team Notes

September 22, 2021

Members Attending

Kristin White, Liz Kiteck, Molly White, Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga, Howard Brown, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Erik Ekdahl

Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 9/15/2021 Meeting Notes: Approved.

- Upcoming Meetings
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly): December 2021
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (currently meeting weekly on Thursdays): 9/23
 - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team -- Spring management of spawning locations (no regular schedule): 10/12
 - Feather River Operations Group (meets first and third Thursdays): 10/7
 - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursdays, and as needed): ad-hoc meeting on 9/24 to discuss proposal for Folsom power bypass; next regular meeting 10/21
 - 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 increased from 150 cfs to 200 cfs on Tuesday, 9/21. Keswick (Sacramento River) releases are 6,800 cfs, including some releases of transfer water. Nimbus (American River) releases are 550 cfs. Goodwin (Stanislaus River) releases are 250 cfs and will decrease to 200 cfs on Friday, 9/24. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at ~2,700 cfs and holding. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 30 TAF.

SWP: Oroville-Thermalito Complex (Feather River) releases are 1,250 cfs. DWR is exporting ~400 cfs through Clifton Court Forebay with a planned increase to ~500 cfs tomorrow, 9/23. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 221 TAF. Salinity (measured as electrical conductivity, or EC) at the Old River at Tracy station has increased; recent daily values reached 0.96 and the standard in D-1641 is for an EC of 1.0 on a 30-day average. If EC at this location exceeds the standard, DWR will notify the SWRCB by letter.

- Relevant Assessments
 - 20210921 fish and water operations outlook

- Upcoming Actions
 - Reclamation:
 - Drought Toolkit is posted online at:
<https://www.usbr.gov/mp/bdo/docs/droughttoolkit-latest.pdf>
 - Reclamation is hosting the 2nd meeting of the “Central Valley Water Temperature Modeling Platform: Modeling Technical Committee” on 10/7. Because of the large invitee list, the invitation is being managed via a registration link and you need to register to receive the meeting details.
 - FWS: No actions.
 - CDFW: No actions.
 - NMFS: No actions.
 - DWR:
 - Working this week to finalize what is expected to be the last update (at least through December 2021) of the Drought Contingency Plan.
 - Per ITP Condition 8.21, DWR, in coordination with Reclamation, will meet and confer with USFWS, NMFS, SWRCB and CDFW by joining the 9/30 Dry Team meeting.
 - Herbicide application in Clifton Court Forebay is planned to begin 11/1; DWR will send details to CDFW for California Endangered Species Act (ESA) compliance, and coordinate with Reclamation regarding Federal ESA compliance.
 - 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.

- No updates.

- Discussion Items:
 - 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 29, 1 pm – 2 pm.