



# Water Operations Management Team Notes

January 12, 2022

## Members Attending

Molly White, Lenny Grimaldo, Jana Affonso, Garwin Yip, Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Josh Grover, Erik Ekdahl, Diane Riddle

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 01/05/2022 Meeting Notes: Approved.
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday of the month): 1/20
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (tentatively meets monthly on fourth Thursdays): 1/27
  - Feather River Operations Group (meets monthly on first and third Thursdays): 1/20
  - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 1/20
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 1/19
  - Salmonid Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 1/18
  - Smelt Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 1/18
- Operational Updates
  - CVP: Lewiston (Trinity River) releases are 300 cfs. Whiskeytown (Clear Creek) releases are 200 cfs. Keswick (Sacramento River) releases are at 3,250 cfs. Nimbus (American River) releases are 5,000 cfs (no longer encroached); change order went out: dropping to 2,000 cfs tonight for RST installation, then flows back to 4,000 cfs, later in the afternoon tomorrow). Goodwin (Stanislaus River) releases are at 200 cfs. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at 5 units, targeting 4,200 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 170 TAF.
  - SWP: Oroville-Thermalito Complex (Feather River) releases are currently 950 cfs. DWR is exporting 1,700 cfs through Clifton Court Forebay. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 544 TAF.

- Relevant Assessments
  - 20220111 Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 1/11/22 – 1/17/2022
  - 20220111 Proposed Action Assessment Final
- Upcoming Actions
  - Reclamation: No actions.
  - FWS: another batch of 12,800 Delta smelt was hard-released, yesterday (1/11), as part of the Delta smelt experimental release.
  - CDFW: No actions.
  - NMFS: Reclamation and NMFS meeting next week to discuss San Joaquin River exceedance forecast issue.
  - DWR: DWR updating operational studies, based on the January 1 forecast on Monday, and meeting with Reclamation to decide whether a TUCP will be needed for February. Director's meeting on Thursday to discuss TUCP in February and then report back to the SWRCB.
  - 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](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/drought/tucp/index.html).

  - Curtailments suspended, previously; some are gradually being reimposed.
- Hydrology Update (Reclamation and DWR)
  - Current forecast dry for next week.
- Discussion Items
  - State Water Resources Control Board upcoming meetings: During the workshop last week on the 2021 and 2022 TUCPs, DWR and Reclamation indicated that the need for a TUCP in February was unlikely and committed to returning at the following SWRCB meeting (1/19) to provide an update which would be based on the January runoff forecast. In addition, there was a request that the fish agencies come back to discuss considerations for the 2022 TUCP. WOMT members discussed the timeframe and expectations for presentations by the agencies considering the uncertainty of a February TUCP. DWR and Reclamation would focus on the TUCP status update and, if warranted, the fish agencies would focus on current status of the species. The workshop on Sacramento River temperature management, discussed during WOMT last week, is currently being planned for March 16.
  - DRY Team: As requested by Cindy Meyer, Reclamation, during the WOMT meeting last week, the DRY Team is looking for direction from WOMT on whether it can be

deactivated or should remain active for the current water year. The DRY Team is currently working to complete the 2021 Drought and Dry Years Action report by the end of January. Discussion among WOMT members included a suggestion of a semi-standdown until it is known whether there will be a need for future drought actions. Another suggestion was to have the DRY Team remain active to keep apprised of local conditions in particular watersheds that may have drier hydrology, to deal with conditions as they develop instead of having to respond at the last minute. There was general agreement among WOMT members to revisit the question of whether to deactivate the DRY Team or keep them activated, later in January.

### **Elevation Items**

- A Directors' meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (1/13). Topics to be covered are the hydrology and forecast related to the need for a TUCP in February.

### **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, January 19, 1-2 p.m.