



# Water Operations Management Team Notes

January 26, 2022

## Members Attending

Kristin White, Liz Kiteck, Molly White, Lenny Grimaldo, Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga, Garwin Yip, Josh Grover, Diane Riddle

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of the 01/19/2022 Meeting Notes: Approved.
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday of the month): 2/17
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (tentatively meets monthly on fourth Thursdays): 1/27
  - Feather River Operations Group (meets monthly on first and third Thursdays): 2/3
  - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 2/17
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 2/16
  - Salmonid Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 2/1
  - Smelt Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 2/1
- 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 2,000 cfs; proposed to go to 700 cfs next Wednesday (tentatively) to install the other RST that was unable to be installed two weeks ago. Goodwin (Stanislaus River) releases are at 200 cfs; winter instability flow beginning at end of this week, consisting of a short two-day pulse with a peak of 1,100 cfs, then returning to 200 cfs; after that increasing flows to target 2,280 cfs at Vernalis for February (D1641), initially targeting release of 1,500 cfs to see the response. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at 5 units, targeting 4,200 cfs; Vernalis flows slightly under 1,000 cfs, about 922 cfs today. Reducing exports later this week. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 275 TAF.

- SWP: Oroville-Thermalito Complex (Feather River) releases are currently 950 cfs. DWR is exporting 1,600 cfs through Clifton Court Forebay, with the plan to remain between 1,500 and 2,000 cfs over the next several days, then reducing to 300 cfs at the beginning of February in preparation of X2 requirements in February (D1641). State share of San Luis Reservoir is 571 TAF.
- Relevant Assessments
  - 20220125 Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 1/25/22 – 2/1/2022
  - 20220125 Proposed Action Assessment Final
    - Discussion about DS experimental release on p. 15 needs to be updated to reflect that the latest release has already happened.
  - ITP SaMT Risk Assessment Summary 25 Jan 2022 DRAFT
  - ITP SMT Risk Assessment Summary 25 Jan 2022 DRAFT
    - Triggering SWP ITP Condition of Approval 8.4.2 last week did not result in advice from the SMT to change OMR.
- Upcoming Actions
  - Reclamation: No actions.
  - FWS: No actions.
  - CDFW: No actions.
  - NMFS: Meet and confer for Sacramento River Settlement Contractors scheduled for February 1 (federal only).
  - DWR: Completing and submitting a joint DWR and Reclamation Drought Contingency Plan on February 1.
  - SWRCB: Upcoming curtailment related actions; working through potential health and safety exceptions, including grid reliability, as conditions continue to dry up. Solidifying the agenda and notice for the workshop on Sacramento River temperature management, scheduled for March 16.
- 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).

  - DWR and Reclamation are proceeding with developing a Drought Contingency Plan for WY 2022, as required by the ITP for Long-term Operation of the SWP, to be completed and submitted to CDFW by February 1.

- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation)
  - Maybe some light rain within the next week, but possibly focused on the coast with nothing in the Central Valley.
- Discussion Items
  - Recent paper by Pat Brandes and others: Comparison of Length-at-Date Criteria and Genetic Run Assignments for Juvenile Chinook Salmon Caught at Sacramento and Chipps Island in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta of California published in San Francisco Estuary & Watershed Science.
  - Director's meeting on Delta Smelt experimental release: CDFW has been having internal discussions and then reached out to DWR. Warrants discussion among the directors.
  - DRY Team: WOMT discussed the issue of whether the DRY team should be deactivated after completion of the Drought and Dry Year Action report and there was general agreement that the DRY Team should remain active to monitor conditions as the hydrology has continued to be dry throughout January.
- Elevation Items
  - WOMT did not identify any items to elevate for the Directors. However, a Directors' meeting will be held tomorrow (1/27) to discuss Delta Smelt experimental releases.

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 2, 1-2 p.m.