

# Water Operations Management Team Notes

March 8, 2023

## Members Attending

- USBR: Liz Kiteck
- USFWS: Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga
- CDFW: Brooke Jacobs, Kristal Davis-Fadtke
- NMFS: Howard Brown
- DWR: Molly White
- SWRCB: Diane Riddle, Matt Holland

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from last week:
  - March 1, 2023 Notes: Approved, final notes sent out yesterday.
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Salmonid Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 3/14
  - Smelt Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 3/14
  - Feather River Operations Group (FOG) (meets monthly first and third Thursdays): 3/16
  - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 3/16
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 3/15
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday): 3/16
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (meets monthly on fourth Thursday): 3/23
  - Shasta Planning Group: A Shasta Planning Group representative will provide an update to WOMT on March 15, 2023.
- Relevant Assessments
  - Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 3/7/23 – 3/14/2023
  - 20230307 Proposed Action Assessment
  - SaMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary dated 3/7/2023
  - SMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary dated 3/7/2023

- Operational Updates
  - CVP: Trinity River releases are at 750 cfs for ongoing winter variability flows. Sacramento River (Keswick) releases are currently at 3,250 cfs but may increase if there is localized inflow to Keswick during storms. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown) releases are at 200 cfs. American River (Nimbus) releases are at 5,000 currently and increasing to 7,000 cfs tomorrow. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) releases were increased to 750 cfs this morning due to projected inflow to Tulloch Reservoir, and will likely go up again over the weekend. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at 5 units and pumping at maximum capacity. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 729 TAF.
  - SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases were at 1,050 at the start of week but have been increasing as additional releases are being made for storage management prior to the incoming storm event starting Thursday. Feather River flows today were increased to 3,500 cfs and are expected to increase to 7,000 cfs tomorrow and 15,000 cfs on Friday. DWR is planning to operate the spillway on Friday, 3/10. Depending on runoff from the storm, Oroville releases may be further increased over the weekend or early next week. Clifton Court exports are targeting 7,700 cfs today, increasing with Vernalis flows until Saturday, when DWR anticipates reaching a maximum of 9,500 cfs exports (facility constraints). SWP pumping is expected to remain at 9,500 cfs until March 16, when Army Corps permits require reducing exports. Oroville storage is currently at 2,648 TAF and nearing encroachment levels. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 944 TAF. (State maximum in San Luis is 1,062 TAF)
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation)
  - Another big storm will be arriving on Thursday or Friday and continuing through Sunday, then another storm is expected next week Tuesday through Thursday. Expecting pretty good inflows into Folsom and New Melones, and moderate flows into Shasta Reservoir. This storm should be warmer than the previous storms, so there will be snowmelt at lower elevations.
  - Oroville is increasing its releases already in anticipation of incoming storms, Folsom expected to be in flood control releases soon, San Joaquin reservoirs are releasing due to anticipated inflows and nearing flood encroachment. Vernalis flows will be high because many of the southern reservoirs will be making releases for flood control.
- Upcoming Actions or Updates
  - Reclamation:
    - No actions or discussion items.
  - FWS:
    - No actions or discussion items.
  - CDFW:

- No actions or discussion items.
- NMFS:
  - No actions or discussion items.
- DWR:
  - No actions or discussion items.

SWRCB:

- No actions or discussion items.
- Discussion Items
  - Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP) and Order:
    - For the recently received entrainment report for the TUCP, SWRCB is requesting a description of the methods used for identifying OMRIIs absent the TUCO. SWRCB will email Reclamation and DWR with a formal request.
- Action Items
  - NMFS will look into when the Shasta Planning Group will be meeting, based on requirements of the IOP and will report out to WOMT next Wednesday.
- Elevation Items
  - No elevation items.

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, March 15, 1-1:50 p.m.