

## WOMT Notes

April 19, 2016 Meeting

### 1. GENERAL INFORMATION:

#### CVP

- *Keswick Releases to upper Sacramento River @ 5,000 cfs*
- *Nimbus Releases to lower American River @ 3,000 cfs*
- *Goodwin Release to Stanislaus River @ 2600 cfs today, increasing to 3500 cfs tomorrow*
- *Jones Pumping Plant @ 1,000 cfs*
- *Delta Cross-Channel Gates: Closed*
- *Federal Share of San Luis @ 403 TAF*

#### SWP

- *Oroville Release to Feather River @ 1050 cfs*
- *Clifton Court Allotment @ 500 cfs*
- *State Share of San Luis @ 612 TAF*

#### Delta

- *Freeport Flow @. 18,471 cfs*
- *Vernalis Flow @ 2,812 cfs*
- *Delta Outflow approx. 19,089 cfs*

- *E/I Ratio 7 % (14 day average)*
- *Factor Constraining Operations : NMFS Bi Op Action IV.2.1 – I/E Ratio*

**OMR (cfs) (Not including CCWD Rock Slough exports):**

- INDEX (as of 4/16/2016):
  - 1900 cfs (5 day avg.)
  - 1880 cfs (14 day avg.)
- USGS (as of 4/16/2016):
  - 1250 cfs (5 day avg.)
  - 1720 cfs (14 day avg.)

**FISHERY UPDATES:**

**DOSS –**

- DOSS met this morning and provided no advice
- RPA IV.1.2: DCC Gates closed since Dec. 15
- RPA IV.2.3: No triggers exceeded past week, OMR limit of -5000 cfs in effect
- RPA IV.2.1: San Joaquin River I/E ratio:
  - ~ Started April 1. Currently 2:1 ratio Vernalis flows to exports with a minimum of 1,500 cfs exports for human health and safety (Dry year classification as of April WY update)
  - ~ NMFS concurred with Reclamation's request for flexibility in the I/E ratio to export "augmented water" from Oakdale and South San Joaquin ID's at 1:1 ratio
- Seeing continued catch of fall-run and spring-run sized fish (unclipped and clipped) in all monitoring efforts in the Sacramento River, Delta, San Joaquin River and Chipps Island, including: 94 FRCS, 2 SRCS and 2 LFRCS in the beach seines, 111 FRCS, 92 SRCS and 65 clipped CS in Sacramento trawl, 32 unclipped CS, 35 clipped CS and 1 unclipped SH in Mossdale trawl, 303 FRCS, 220 SRCS, 145 clipped CS and 1 clipped SH in Knights Landing monitoring, 1259 FRCS, 517 SRCS and 468 clipped CS in Tisdale monitoring and 12 FRCS, 174 SRCS, 1 WRCS, 27 clipped CS and 5 clipped SH at Chipps.

- Most of the FR/SRCS sized fish are likely from the Coleman Hatchery releases of production FRCS in March and April. Average sizes of fish released were close to the minimum size at date for SRCS.
- Releases of acoustically tagged study CS in the San Joaquin River occurred last week. Releases will repeat this week on same schedule.
- Salvage of 12 wild SRCS at CVP, overall trend of wild fish salvage has slightly increased this past week.
- 1 Wild Steelhead were captured at CVP, trend has decreased this past week.
- No clipped SRCS from SJRRP releases observed at the facilities. Trend is decreasing this past week.
- Salvage of hatchery steelhead (20) is increasing over past week.
- Estimate of young-of-year winter-run Chinook distribution: Less than 1% upstream, 5-20% in Delta, 80-95% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year spring-run Chinook distribution: Less than 5% upstream, 10-20% in Delta, 75-85% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year hatchery winter-run Chinook distribution: Less than 1% upstream, Less than 5% in Delta, Greater than 95% exited Delta
- Overall entrainment risk for young-of-year winter-run and young-of-year spring-run in Interior Delta: LOW
- Overall entrainment risk for young-of-year winter-run and young-of-year spring-run in CVP/SWP Export Facilities:
- LOW for OMR between -2500 cfs to -3500 cfs;
- LOW for OMR between -3500 cfs to -5000 cfs
- Could change from LOW to MEDIUM if steelhead start to be observed in Mossdale trawls.

## **SWG**

**Delta Smelt** – The Working Group described the risk of entrainment under the Service-provided advice framework.

Under this framework the relative risk of entrainment for OMR flow ranges is discussed and assessed. For the current week, the risk of entrainment of larval and juvenile Delta Smelt for each of the flow ranges is characterized as follows:

- -1250 to -2000 cfs has a low to medium risk of entrainment,
- -2000 to -3500 cfs has a medium to high risk of entrainment,
- -3500 to -5000 cfs has a high risk of entrainment.
- 

The Working Group is following guidance for entrainment protections from both Action 2 (adult Delta Smelt) and Action 3 (juvenile Delta Smelt). The Working Group will continue to monitor Delta Smelt survey and salvage data and Delta conditions, and will meet again on Monday, May 2, 2016 at 10 am.

**Longfin Smelt** – No longfin smelt were salvaged from April 11-17. No larvae were detected in the April 11<sup>th</sup> 20 mm survey. Risk of entrainment is low due to no detection, positive west Delta flows (QWEST) and low exports. NMFS criteria in April and May will limit exports. Likelihood of further hatching is very low as we near the end of April.

**SWRCB:**

**Division of Water Rights** – Nothing to report

**Delta Watermaster's Office** – Nothing to report

**REGULATORY AGENCY FINDINGS** –

**NMFS** – No determination.

**USFWS** – Per April 19, 2016 Memo from USFWS to Reclamation: OMR no more negative than -2500 cfs on a 14 day average is in effect.

**DFW** – Nothing additional to report.

**WOMT Decisions** - None