

WOMT Notes

May 24, 2016 Meeting

1. GENERAL INFORMATION:

CVP

- *Trinity River Pulse Flows – 4200 cfs; ongoing pulse flows*
- *Keswick Releases to upper Sacramento River @ 6,500 cfs, up to 7500 cfs on June 1*
- *Nimbus Releases to lower American River @ 5,000 cfs, down to 4000 cfs on Friday*
- *Goodwin Release to Stanislaus River @ 850 cfs*
- *Jones Pumping Plant @ 2,000 cfs today, @ 1000 cfs tomorrow*
- *Delta Cross-Channel Gates: Closed*
- *Federal Share of San Luis @ 357 TAF*

SWP

- *Oroville Release to Feather River @ 5,250 cfs today; down to 4250 cfs tomorrow*
- *Clifton Court Allotment @ 600 cfs today; @ 500 cfs tomorrow*
- *State Share of San Luis @ 408 TAF*

Delta

- *Freeport Flow @. 14,689 cfs*

- *Vernalis Flow @ 1,221 cfs*
- *Delta Outflow @ 12,914 cfs*
- *E/I Ratio 14 % (14 day average)*
- *Factor Constraining Operations : NMFS Bi Op Action IV.2.1 – I/E Ratio Export Limit during April through May **and** X2 Compliance in May (D-1641 Delta Outflow Requirements*

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

- INDEX (as of 5/21/2016):
 - 1440 cfs (5 day avg.)
 - 2320 cfs (14 day avg.)
- USGS (as of 5/21/2016):
 - 2040 cfs (5 day avg.)
 - 2450 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. Gates scheduled to open for Memorial Day weekend (May 27) and close again (May 31).
- 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) through end of May
 - ~ 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. Export period to end May 24.

- Seeing declining catch of fall-run and spring-run sized fish (unclipped and clipped) in most monitoring efforts in the Sacramento River, Delta, San Joaquin River and Chipps Island, details follow:
- No GCID data received prior to DOSS call,
- No salmonids in beach seines, 1334 splittail caught,
- 7 FRCS and 4 clipped CS in Sacramento trawl,
- 22 unclipped CS, 0 clipped CS and 0 steelhead in Mossdale trawls,
- 51 FRCS, 14 SRCS and 14 clipped CS in Chipps Island trawls,
- 0 Salmonids in Knights Landing monitoring, water temperatures are rising, currently averaging 72.6 F, low flows are diminishing RST efficiency,
- Tisdale RST is currently non-operational.
- Salvage of 4 unclipped FRCS at SWP and 4 unclipped SRCS at the CVP. No hatchery CS at either facility. 4 hatchery steelhead salvaged at the CVP facility. Overall trend of fish salvage is declining over the past week.
- 1 Wild Steelhead captured during predator removal at SWP on May 23.
- Estimate of young-of-year winter-run Chinook distribution: 0% upstream, Less than 1% in Delta, Greater than 99% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year spring-run Chinook distribution: Less than 1% upstream, 1% in Delta, Greater than 98% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year hatchery winter-run Chinook distribution: 0% upstream, Less than 1% in Delta, Greater than 99% exited Delta
- Overall entrainment risk for listed salmonids in the Interior Delta: is LOW for Sacramento Basin fish and LOW for San Joaquin Basin steelhead.
- Overall entrainment risk for listed salmonids at CVP/SWP Export Facilities for OMR between -2500 cfs to -3500 cfs is LOW for Sacramento Basin fish and LOW for San Joaquin Basin steelhead.
- Overall entrainment risk for listed salmonids at CVP/SWP Export Facilities for OMR between -3500 cfs to -5000 cfs is LOW for Sacramento Basin fish and LOW for San Joaquin Basin steelhead.

SWG:

Delta Smelt – The Working Group agreed that given present distribution, current salvage and Delta conditions, there was no indication that the projected combined exports of approximately 2600 cfs today, dropping to 1500 cfs by Wednesday, May 25, (potentially resulting in daily average OMR flows of approximately -2000 cfs) need to be modified for protection of Delta Smelt adults and larvae. Should the projected combined exports increase from 1500 cfs prior to May 31; the Working Group may need to reassess the risk of entrainment.

Longfin Smelt –. No LFS advice. Current and planned operations are protective. No additional LFS were found in the recently processed 20 mm survey samples from criteria stations and none are likely in the future.

SWRCB:

Division of Water Rights – Term 91 curtailments and notices may be triggered in the next week or two.

Delta Watermaster's Office – Nothing else to report

REGULATORY AGENCY FINDINGS –

NMFS – No determination necessary.

USFWS – Per May 3, 2016 Memo from USFWS to Reclamation: OMR no more negative than -3000 cfs on a 14 day average remains in effect.

DFW – Nothing additional to report.

WOMT Decisions - None