

State Water Project Incidental Take Permit Risk Assessment for Winter-run and Spring-run Chinook Salmon

Section 1: Overview

Date: 1/26/2021

Life Stages Present:

Winter-run Chinook Salmon (juvenile)

Winter-run Chinook Salmon (adult)

Spring-run Chinook Salmon (juvenile)

Advice to WOMT:

No advice is warranted.

The current controlling factor for State Water Project (SWP) and Central Valley Project (CVP) exports is water quality under D-1641. The 2020 SWP Incidental Take Permit (ITP) Conditions of Approval (COA) for salmonids are unlikely to control exports for the week beginning 1/26/2021. Old and Middle River (OMR) flow is currently -2,700 cfs (1/25/2021) which is more positive than the base level OMR flow requirement of -5,000 cfs under COA 8.3 (Onset of OMR Management) which has been in effect since 1/1/2021. However, the first significant precipitation events of the season are expected this week and will result in a wide range of projected hydrology and CVP and SWP operations that may result in OMR reaching the COA 8.3 -5,000 cfs OMR restriction.

SaMT does not anticipate a COA 8.6.1 (Winter-run Chinook Salmon (WR) Single-year Loss Threshold) to be triggered, as no WR loss has occurred yet this OMR management season (See Appendix 2 Salvage Data). SaMT does not anticipate COA 8.6.3 (Mid- and Late-season Natural Winter-run Chinook Salmon Daily Loss Threshold) to be triggered this week due to the current estimated distribution and life stage of WR and forecasted export operations. However, because projected significant precipitation events this week could trigger a substantial redistribution of fish into the Delta and potentially stimulate fish emigration from the Delta as accretion flows reach the Delta later this week, the potential for triggering COA 8.6.3 exists. COA 8.6.4 (Daily spring-run (SR) Chinook Salmon Hatchery Surrogate Loss Threshold) begins 2/1/2021 during this OMR management week; however, no hatchery surrogate releases are scheduled to occur.

Risk Assessment:

Winter-run Chinook Salmon:

Overall risk of entrainment of juvenile WR into the central Delta remains the same as the previous week for the early part of the week and is considered medium based on an increased estimate of distribution of juvenile WR into the Delta and projections of increased flows associated with the first significant precipitation event of the water year. Due to the lag time in hydrologic response and associated changes to CVP and SWP operations, the effect on risk is likely more applicable to the end of this OMR management week and more so for the following OMR management week. That said, WOMT should not discount the potential for ITP related operational changes due to SWP ITP COAs during the week.

SaMT estimates that 35-65% juvenile WR population has yet to enter the Delta, 35-65% are present in the Delta, and 0% have exited past Chipps Island. The wider ranges reflect uncertainty in estimating distribution associated with minimal WR detection in sampling stations from the middle Sacramento River through the Delta (See Appendix 1A SaMT Monitoring Program Data). The low numbers of WR detection in sampling locations are potentially due to factors including the following: 1)The prevailing low turbidity and low flow conditions result in reduced trap capture efficiencies that allow fish to avoid the traps, trawls, and seines, 2) Storm events and environmental cues, which are known to trigger mass migration and exposure to capture under favorable trapping conditions, have not occurred, 3) Under prevailing low flow conditions, WR juveniles are more likely to be rearing and may be distributing through the system more slowly in small numbers on the margins of the river rather than migrate en masse thus avoiding detection, and 4)Finally, the prevailing low flow conditions are often associated with lower upriver survival due to predation and disease, which may contribute to relatively low numbers of WR reaching the Delta. Overall, it is likely that some combination of all the above factors, coupled with the unknown effect of thiamine deficiency this year on natural origin WR survival, is resulting in the low detections at mid-river and Delta monitoring sites and the associated wide estimates of upriver and in-Delta distribution.

For the previous week, the WR sampling station detection data from upstream to downstream are as follows (preliminary subject to revision); GCID RST (1/19-1/25) 2 WR juveniles, Tisdale RST (1/19/-1/24) 0 WR, Knights Landing RST (1/18-1/24) 0 WR, Beach Seines (1/21) 0 WR, Sacramento Trawl (1/17, 1/19, 1/21, 1/22) 0 WR, Salvage (1/18-1/22) 0 WR, and Chipps Island Trawl (1/17, 1/20, 1/21, and 1/22) 0 WR. Nonetheless, the estimated WR distributions are generally within the range of historic migration for natural origin WR averaged over the period from 2011-2019 as reported on SacPAS (Table 3). Table 3 also indicates that, while WR have not yet been salvaged, this week is within the known period for salvage to occur. By this time of the year 23.8% average annual WR salvage (95% CI of 3.8%-43.9%) is estimated to have occurred by this time as affected by overall meteorology, hydrology, and CVP and SWP operations.

This week of OMR management marks the first significant meteorology event of the season with projections to changes in hydrology and CVP and SWP operations that will likely affect distribution of WR throughout the system. The forecast is that the approach system will become very active starting in the Tuesday evening 1/26, bringing a high impact winter storm to Northern California and impactful precipitation looks likely Sunday (1/31) into Monday (2/1). There will be associated lag time for increased hydrology to travel to the Delta resulting in a wide range of projected flows and CVP/SWP export operations over the coming week compared to previous weeks, with the highest end of the ranges projected by the end of the week prior to the next OMR management week. Projections at key locations are as follows: Freeport 7,000 to 20,000 cfs, Vernalis 800 to 2,500 cfs, Delta outflow index 5,500 to 30,000 cfs, combined exports 3,150 to 6,100 cfs, Tracy 800 to 3,600 cfs, CCF 1,500 to 2,500 cfs, and OMR -2,500 to -5,000 cfs. DCC Gates are closed and anticipated to remain closed through mid-May 2021 barring water quality concerns that necessitate an opening.

Based on the current in-Delta distribution of juvenile WR, seasonal timing, and hydrological conditions forecasted over the next week, the overall risk of WR entrainment into the central Delta is still considered medium as the increased exposure due to expected redistribution of WR is balanced by increased flows at Freeport and in the Sacramento River, which provide favorable routing conditions to the west Delta. While we expect exports to increase, resulting in more negative OMR, we still anticipate a low risk of routing into the south Delta towards the export facilities for fish already present in the central and south Delta. The risk of

entrainment at the facilities or exceeding a JPE scaled daily loss threshold remains in the low category based on the low numbers of fish believed to be in the central and south Delta at this time. The overall WR entrainment risk remains medium. We note; however, that hydrologic conditions and WR distributions may change rapidly and unexpectedly and WOMT should be aware of the overall uncertainty with the SaMT ITP risk assessment projections for this week.

Note that the final winter-run juvenile production estimate (JPE) of 330,130 fish has been approved for natural WR estimated to survive and enter the Delta and will be in effect for the remainder of the OMR management season. The COA 8.6.1 (Winter-run Single-year Loss Threshold) threshold is 3,863 natural origin WR (50% threshold: 1,932 WR; 75% threshold: 2,897 WR). The COA 8.6.1 (Winter-run Single-year Loss Threshold) threshold is 117 for Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery released WR (50% threshold: 59; 75% threshold: 88) scheduled for release on 1/30. The COA 8.6.3 (Mid- and Late-season Natural WR Daily Loss Threshold) threshold for January is 20.96 unclipped older juvenile Chinook salmon and for February the threshold is 32.71 unclipped older juvenile Chinook salmon.

Spring-run Chinook Salmon:

Based on monitoring data, hydrological conditions, and seasonal timing, the SaMT estimates an overall low risk of entrainment into the interior Delta from the Sacramento River as well as an overall low risk of entrainment at the facilities for young-of-year SR. Although the distribution of SR into the Delta from upstream may increase, based on projections of increased flow and turbidity, these same hydrologic conditions also provide more favorable conditions for western Delta routing through the Sacramento River, which balance the risk of central and south Delta routing. Additionally, we expect there to be lag time from when precipitation falls on the watershed and a subsequent increase in river flows expected meteorology to result in hydrologic response and any associated changes to CVP and SWP operations. These changes are to be more applicable towards the end of this OMR management week and the more so for the following OMR management week. As previously mentioned, COA 8.6.4 (Daily spring-run (SR) Chinook Salmon Hatchery Surrogate Loss Threshold) begins Monday, February 1, 2021, during this OMR management week; however, no hatchery surrogate releases are scheduled to occur over the next week and thus, this condition will not control export operations this week.

SaMT estimates that 75-85% of the juvenile SR population has yet to enter the Delta, 15-25% are present in the Delta, and 0% have exited past Chipps Island. There is uncertainty with projecting SR distribution due to low detection at the upriver, mid-river, and Delta sampling locations. The potential reasons for low detection of SR are equivalent to those previously discussed for WR. For the previous week, the SR detection data from upstream to downstream sampling locations are as follows (preliminary subject to revision); GCID RST (1/19-1/25) 14 SR juveniles, Tisdale RST (1/19-1/25) 0 SR, Knights Landing RST (1/19-1/25) 0 SR, Beach Seines (1/21) 0 SR, Sacramento Trawl (1/17, 1/19, 1/21, 1/22) 0 SR, Salvage (1/18-1/22) 0 SR, and Chipps Island Trawl (1/17, 1/20, 1/21, and 1/22) 0 SR.

Beginning on 10/21/2020, flows in Mill Creek have been greater than 95 cfs indicating river conditions that are consistent with downstream movement of yearling SR out of the tributaries and into the mainstem upper Sacramento River. Flows were also greater than 95 cfs in Deer Creek this week and have been since 12/26/2020. Monitoring in Butte Creek indicates young-of-year and yearling SR are moving downstream in this tributary towards the Sacramento River. Note that approximately 66,912 brood year 2020 late fall-run

Chinook salmon that function as surrogates for yearling SR to inform their distribution were released from Coleman National Fish Hatchery on 1/8/2021. These fish have distributed throughout the system and have been detected in all the sampling stations indicating that there is risk of entrainment for natural origin yearling SR; however, there are no specific COAs for yearling SR in the SWP ITP.

Section 1-A: Sacramento River and Confluence

Assessment of risk of entrainment into the central Delta and CVP/SWP facilities for WR and SR in the Sacramento River: (8.1.5.1 C ii, iii, iv and 8.1.5.1 B iii)

- Exposure Risk:
 - WR: Medium
 - SR: Low
- Routing Risk:
 - WR: Medium
 - SR: Medium
- Overall Entrainment Risk:
 - WR: Medium
 - SR: Low
- Change in risk of entrainment into the central Delta (increased/decreased risk compared to last week):
 - WR: Exposure risk is similar to last week based on the estimated percentage of the population expected to be in the Delta and is still considered to be medium this week. Currently, 35-65% of the juvenile WR population is estimated to be present in the Delta for this week. The wide range of estimated distribution of juvenile WR in the Delta is intended to characterize the uncertainty associated with the evaluation of historical timing and the few detections in the Delta monitoring stations this water year. There will be an associated lag time for increased river flows to travel to the Delta resulting in a wide range of projected flows and operations over the coming week compared to previous weeks. The highest predicted ranges of flows and exports occur at the end of the week and through the weekend, prior to the next OMR management week. Projections at key locations are as follows: Freeport 7,000 to 20,000 cfs, Vernalis 800 to 2,500 cfs, Delta outflow index 5,500 to 30,000 cfs, combined exports 3,150 cfs to 6,100 cfs, Tracy 800 to 3,600 cfs, CCF 1,500 to 2,500 cfs, and OMR -2,500 to -5,000 cfs. DCC Gates are closed and anticipated to remain closed through mid-May 2021 barring water quality concerns that necessitate the gates to be opened. Routing risk is medium. Based on the current in-Delta distribution, seasonal timing, and forecasted operations, overall risk of entrainment for juvenile WR into the central Delta is medium.
 - SR: Exposure risk remains similar to last week based on low numbers of juvenile SR in the mainstem Sacramento River system and their distribution primarily upstream of Knights Landing. Currently, 15-25% of the young-of-year SR population is estimated to be present in the Delta this week. Precipitation events as described above may increase SR distribution into the Delta. However, exposure risk is estimated to remain low based on current population distribution estimates. Routing risk is similar to the effects described for WR based on forecasted Sacramento River flows at Freeport, resulting in a medium risk level. Based on the current in-Delta distribution, seasonal timing, and forecasted operations, overall risk of entrainment into the central Delta remains low.

Section 1-B: Facilities Risk

CVP/SWP facilities entrainment risk for WR and SR in the central Delta over the next week (8.1.5.1 D iii, iv, v)

- Exposure Risk:
 - WR: Low
 - SR: Low
- Reporting OMR/Export Risk: (Number and range of OMR bins will vary based on anticipated hydrology and operations)
 - OMR (-1,000 cfs)
 - WR: Low
 - SR: Low
 - OMR (-3,500 cfs)
 - WR: Low
 - SR: Low
 - OMR (-5,000)
 - WR: Low
 - SR: Low
- Overall Entrainment Risk:
 - WR: Low
 - SR: Low
- Change in risk of entrainment into the facilities (increased/decreased risk compared to last week):
 - WR: Exposure risk is anticipated to be higher this week than last week but remains in the low category. This elevation in risk is supported by the seasonal timing of WR maturation, multiple releases of hatchery produced late fall-run Chinook salmon into the upper Sacramento River system, and the observation of hatchery late fall-run Chinook salmon and hatchery steelhead in salvage, indicating the presence of salmonids from the upper Sacramento River in the south Delta. The range of the forecasted level of exports is predicted to generate an OMR flow of – 2,500 to -5,000 cfs, resulting in a low risk of entrainment of WR into the export facilities for fish already present in the central and south Delta. No WR have been observed in salvage for water year 2021, and based on fish distribution in the central and south Delta, overall risk of entrainment at the facilities remains in the low category.
 - SR: Exposure risk is similar to last week based on forecasted hydrology and upstream distribution of the juvenile SR population this week compared to last week and remains low. The range of exports forecasted over the upcoming week are the same as those described for WR. No SR have been observed in salvage for water year 2021, and based on fish distribution in the central and south Delta, overall risk of entrainment at the facilities remains in the low category.

Section 1-C: Annual Loss Threshold Risk

- Annual loss threshold risk and Alternative Actions (8.1.5.1. E I, ii, iii and 8.1.5.1 F I, ii)
 - Salvage loss at the SWP and CVP facilities compared to the estimated remaining population in Delta and upstream of the Delta: No salvage of CESA-listed Chinook salmon has occurred over the past week.

- Define risk of hitting a threshold, 50%, or 75%, or 100%, and likelihood of exceeding a threshold:
 - Natural origin WR: 3,863 (1.17% of the final natural origin WR JPE)
 - Current Annual Loss: 0
 - 50% Threshold based on natural WR JPE: 1,931
 - Risk of exceeding threshold: Not likely.
 - 75% Threshold based on natural WR JPE: 2,897
 - Risk of exceeding threshold: Not likely.
 - 100% Threshold based on natural WR JPE: 3,863
 - Risk of exceeding threshold: Not likely.
 - Hatchery WR: 117 (0.12% of the Final LSNFH hatchery release JPE)
 - Current Annual Loss: 117.
 - 50% Threshold based on hatchery WR JPE: 59
 - Risk of exceeding threshold: Not applicable. Releases have not yet occurred, but are planned for 1/30.
 - 75% Threshold based on hatchery WR JPE: 88
 - Risk of exceeding threshold: Not applicable. Releases have not yet occurred, but are planned for 1/30.
 - 100% Threshold based on hatchery WR JPE: 117
 - Risk of exceeding threshold: Not applicable. Releases have not yet occurred, but are planned for 1/30.

Section 1-D: Daily Loss Threshold Risk

- Daily loss threshold risk and Alternative Actions
 - Salvage loss at the SWP and CVP facilities compared to estimated remaining population in Delta and upstream of the Delta:
 - Daily loss thresholds hit and subsequent loss and associated operations:
 - Natural origin WR:
 - January monthly daily loss threshold: 20.96 (0.00635% of the natural origin WR JPE) older juvenile Chinook salmon per day.
 - Highest daily loss: 0
 - Hatchery origin WR:
 - Highest daily loss: Currently not applicable. Releases have not yet occurred.
 - Hatchery origin SR:
 - Highest daily loss: Currently not applicable. Releases have not yet occurred.
 - Hatchery origin SR surrogates:
 - Highest daily loss: Currently not applicable. Releases have not yet occurred.

Section 2: Basis for Advice:

The 2020 [Incidental Take Permit for Long-Term Operation of the State Water Project in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta 2081-2019-066-00](#) (ITP) states that advice to Water Operations Management Team (WOMT) shall be consistent with the Project Description, COA in the ITP, and the applicable ESA authorizations. This week's advice is based on the following COAs which are currently applicable:

List relevant COA number and title based on species/life stage, time of year, etc.

8.1.4 Collaborative Approach to Real-time Risk Assessment. Beginning no later than October 1 through the end of OMR Management (see Condition of Approval 8.8) the Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Teams shall meet weekly, or more often as required, to consider survey data, salvage data, and other pertinent biotic and abiotic factors and prepare risk assessments as described in Conditions of Approval 8.1.1, 8.1.2, 8.1.5.1 and 8.1.5.2.

The Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Teams shall prepare operations advice for the WOMT as required by Conditions of Approval 8.3.1, 8.3.3, 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.6.2, 8.6.3, 8.6.4, 8.7, and 8.8, including advice on operations. The Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Teams shall each prepare risk assessments and operations advice. Within each team, staff jointly develop the risk assessment and supporting documentation to accompany operations advice (see Conditions of Approval 8.1.5.1 and 8.1.5.2). DWR and CDFW Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Team staff may conclude different operations advice is warranted, in which case the difference shall be noted and elevated as described in this Condition of Approval.

The Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Teams shall communicate their advice to WOMT. The WOMT shall then confer and attempt to reach a resolution and agreed-upon Project operations. If a resolution is reached, Permittee shall operate consistent with the decision regarding Project operations from WOMT. If the WOMT does not reach a resolution, the CDFW Director may require Permittee to implement an operational recommendation provided by CDFW. CDFW will provide its operational decision to Permittee in writing. Permittee shall implement the operational decision required by CDFW. Permittee shall ensure that its proportional share (see Condition of Approval 8.10) of the OMR flow requirement as a part of the operational decision is satisfied.

8.1.5 Real-time Risk Assessments. The Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Teams (Conditions of Approval 8.1.1 and 8.1.2) shall prepare weekly risk assessments, or more often as required, and operations advice (as required by Conditions of Approval 8.3.1, 8.3.3, 8.4.1, 8.4.2, 8.5.1, 8.5.2, 8.6.1, 8.6.2, 8.6.3, 8.6.4, and 8.7) during their discussions and analyses. The Smelt and Salmon Monitoring Teams shall provide the risk assessments and pertinent supporting information to the WOMT (Condition of Approval 8.1.3) within one business day of each meeting.

8.3.2 Salmonid Presence. After January 1 each year, if Conditions of Approval 8.3.1 or 8.3.3 have not already been triggered, the OMR Management season shall begin when the Salmon Monitoring Team first estimates that 5% of the WR or SR population is in the Delta whichever is sooner. Upon initiation of the OMR Management season, Permittee shall reduce exports to achieve, and shall maintain a 14-day average OMR index no more negative than -5,000 cfs, until the OMR Management season ends (see Condition of Approval 8.8). In the event that a salmon daily or single-year loss threshold is exceeded (Conditions of Approval 8.6.1, 8.6.2, 8.6.3, or 8.6.4) prior to the start of OMR Management season the requirements in those Conditions shall control operations.

8.6.1 Winter-run Single-year Loss Threshold. In each year, Permittee shall, in coordination with Reclamation, operate the Project to avoid exceeding the following single-year loss thresholds:

- Natural WR (loss = 1.17% of natural WR JPE)*
- Hatchery WR (loss = 0.12% of hatchery WR JPE)*

The loss threshold and loss tracking for hatchery WR does not include releases into Battle Creek.

Loss of WR at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities shall be calculated based on LAD criteria for run assignment.

Annual loss of natural and hatchery WR at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities shall be counted cumulatively beginning November 1 each calendar year through June 30 the following calendar year.

WR shall be identified based on the Delta Model LAD criteria. Loss shall be calculated for the South Delta Export Facilities using the 2018 CDFW loss equation (Attachment 6).

During the water year, if cumulative loss of natural or hatchery WR exceeds 50% of the annual loss threshold, Permittee shall restrict south Delta exports to maintain a 14-day average OMR index no more negative than -3,500 cfs through the end of OMR Management (see Condition of Approval 8.8). After 14 days of operations to maintain an OMR index no more negative than -3,500 cfs, Permittee may convene the Salmon Monitoring Team to conduct a risk assessment (Condition of Approval 8.1.5.1) and determine whether the risk of entrainment and loss of natural and hatchery WR is no longer present. Risks shall be measured against the potential to exceed the next single-year loss threshold. The results of this risk assessment and associated OMR advice shall be provided to WOMT according to Condition of Approval 8.1.3 and the decision-making process shall follow the process described in Condition of Approval 8.1.4.

The -3,500 cfs OMR flow operational criteria, adjusted and informed by this risk assessment, shall remain in effect until the end of OMR Management (Condition of Approval 8.8).

During the water year, if cumulative loss of natural or hatchery WR at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities exceeds 75% of the single-year loss threshold, Permittee shall restrict OMR to a 14-day moving average OMR flow index that is no more negative than -2,500 cfs through the end of OMR Management (Condition of Approval 8.7). After 14 days Permittee may convene the Salmon Monitoring Team to conduct a risk assessment (Condition of Approval 8.1.5.1) and determine whether the risk of entrainment and take of natural and hatchery WR is no longer present. The results of this risk assessment and associated OMR advice shall be provided to WOMT according to Condition of Approval 8.1.3 and the decision-making process shall follow the process described in Condition of Approval 8.1.4.

The -2,500 cfs OMR flow operational criteria adjusted and informed by this risk assessment shall remain in effect until the end of OMR Management (Condition of Approval 8.8).

During the water year, if natural or hatchery WR cumulative loss at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities exceeds the single-year loss threshold, Permittee shall immediately convene the Salmon Monitoring Team to review recent fish distribution information and operations and provide advice regarding future planned Project operations to minimize subsequent loss during that year. The Salmon Monitoring Team shall report the results of this review and advice to the WOMT (see Condition of Approval 8.1.3). Operational decisions shall be made following the process described in Condition of Approval 8.1.4 (Collaborative Real Time Risk Assessment).

If the single-year loss threshold is exceeded, Permittee and Reclamation shall also convene an independent panel to review Project operations and the single-year loss threshold prior to November 1, as described in Condition of Approval 8.2. The purpose of the independent panel is to review the actions and decisions contributing to the loss trajectory that lead to an exceedance of the single-year loss threshold, and make recommendations on modifications to Project implementation, or additional actions to be conducted to stay within the single-year loss threshold in subsequent years.

Permittee shall, in coordination with Reclamation, continue monitoring and reporting salvage at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities. Permittee and Reclamation shall continue the release and monitoring of yearling Coleman National Fish Hatchery (NFH) late fall-run and yearling SR surrogates. The Salmon Monitoring Team shall use reported real-time salvage counts along with qualitative and quantitative tools to inform risk assessments (see Condition of Approval 8.1.5.1).

8.6.3 Mid- and Late-season Natural Winter-run Chinook Salmon Daily Loss Threshold. To minimize entrainment, salvage, and take of natural WR during the peak and end of their migration through the Delta. Permittee shall restrict south Delta exports for five days to achieve a five-day average OMR index no more negative than - 3,500 cfs when daily loss of natural older juveniles at the SWP and CVP salvage facilities exceeds the following thresholds based on the JPE reported in January of the same calendar year:

- January 1 – January 31: 0.00635 % of the WR JPE*
- February 1 – February 28: 0.00991 % of the WR JPE*
- March 1 – March 31: 0.0146 % of the WR JPE*
- April 1 – April 30: 0.00507 % of the WR JPE*
- May 1 – May 31: 0.0077 % of the WR JPE*

All natural older juvenile Chinook salmon juveniles shall be identified based on the Delta Model length-at-date criteria. Loss shall be calculated for the South Delta Export Facilities using the equation provided in CDFW 2018 (Attachment 6). This Condition of Approval may be modified through the process described in Condition of Approval 8.6.6 and an amendment to this ITP.

8.6.4 Daily Spring-run Chinook Salmon Hatchery Surrogate Loss Threshold. To minimize entrainment of emigrating natural juvenile CHNSR from the Sacramento River and tributaries, including the Feather and Yuba rivers into the channels of the central Delta, south Delta, CCF, and the Banks Pumping Plant, Permittee shall restrict exports based on the presence of hatchery produced CHNSR surrogate groups at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities. CHNSR surrogate groups shall consist of all in-river fall- and spring-run surrogate release groups of Chinook salmon from the Coleman National Fish Hatchery, Feather River Hatchery, and the Nimbus Fish Hatchery. Each water year between February 1 and June 30 Permittee shall reduce south Delta exports for five consecutive days to achieve a five-day average OMR index no more negative than -3,500 cfs when:

- Feather River Hatchery coded wire tagged (CWT) CHNSR surrogates (includes both spring- and fall-run hatchery release groups) cumulative loss at the at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities is greater than 0.25% for each release group, OR*

- *Coleman National Fish Hatchery and Nimbus Fish Hatchery CWT fall-run release groups cumulative loss at the at the CVP and SWP salvage facilities is greater than 0.25% of the total in-river releases for each release group.*

This Condition of Approval may be modified through the process described in Condition of Approval 8.6.6 and an amendment to this ITP.

Discussion of Conditions of Approval

Provide sentence or two addressing criteria for each Condition of Approval listed in “Basis for Advice” section. Refer to data below where appropriate.

Per Conditions of Approval 8.1.4 and 8.1.5, SaMT has provided advice and accompanying risk assessment to WOMT.

Per Conditions of Approval 8.6.1, 8.6.3, and 8.6.4 SaMT does not believe these conditions are at risk of exceeding thresholds.

Section 3: Hydrology and Operations

Assessment of hydrologic, operational, and meteorological information. 8.1.5.1 A

Section 3-A: Water operations conditions 8.1.5.1 A. i, iii:

- Antecedent Actions: *(e.g., DCC gate closure and actions such as integrated early winter pulse protection, etc.)*
DCC gates were closed 12/1/2020 and will remain closed until mid-May 2021 per Reclamation's PA description of DCC operations.
- Current Controlling Factor(s):
 - SWP: Delta water quality
 - CVP: Delta water quality
- Water Temperature:
 - Mossdale (MSD): 50.3°F on 1/25/2021
 - Number of days threshold exceeded: Not applicable until June.
 - Prisoners Point (PPT): 50.4°F on 1/20/2021
 - Number of days threshold exceeded: Not applicable until June.
- Tidal Cycle: *(Spring/Neap. Note if tidal cycle has potential to affect south Delta hydrology or X2)*
 - Spring tides are expected to peak on 1/28 (full moon), and diminish through next week.
- Turbidity:
 - 8.3.1 Turbidity at FPT Dec 1 to Jan 31 (3-day running average)
 - 4.66 FNU as of 1/20/2021.
- Salinity: X2: > 81km on 1/20
- Hydraulic Footprint *(Provide brief description of hydrologic footprint and summary of relevant DSM2 results):*
 - DSM2 runs were provided to the SaMT. Refer to the Reclamation Proposed Action Assessment for details.

Section 3-B: Water Operations Outlook 8.1.5.1 A. ii:

- Outages:
 - SWP: None, no reported reductions in fish salvage counts
 - CVP: None, no reported reductions in fish salvage counts
- Exports
 - SWP: 1,500 cfs
 - CVP: 1650 cfs
- Meteorological Forecast: *Precipitation, wind, air temperature. Are conditions (i.e. flow, turbidity, water temp) expected to change?*
 - First major storm of the season expected to result in changes to hydrology and project operations.
- Storm Event Projection:
 - The storm is forecast to become very active starting in the evening 1/26 as a trough drops out of the Gulf of Alaska. This will bring a high impact winter storm to Northern California. As the trough drops south, there will continue to be light precipitation developing over the Coastal Range after 1 pm. Precipitation will continue to spread during the late afternoon into the

evening. Precipitation will become heavier during the evening and will be the heaviest overnight as the cold front moves through. This will bring intense rain and snow. This can be expected between 8 pm Tuesday (1/26) and 8 am Wednesday (1/27) and we could see rain rates exceed 0.50" per hour and snow rates exceed 2" per hour during this time. The active storm pattern continues into early next week as an upper trough remains off the coast bringing persistent moist southwest flow into Northern California. Precipitation amounts likely to be significantly less than earlier in the week on Saturday (1/30), but impactful precipitation looks likely Sunday (1/31) into Monday (2/1).

Section 3-C: Projected Conditions 8.1.5.1 A. iii:

- DCC Gates position: Closed 12/1/20 until mid-May 2021 per PA DCC gate operations.
- Sacramento River flow at Freeport: 7,000 – 20,000 cfs
- San Joaquin River flow at Vernalis: 800 – 2,500 cfs but expected to be stable at 850 cfs.
- QWEST: QWEST has been around 0 cfs but may approach 6000 cfs.
- Old River at Bacon Island Turbidity: *Is turbidity at Bacon Island (OBI) expected to change due to precipitation, wind, operations, or other factors?* Not discussed.
- Freeport Turbidity: *Is turbidity at Freeport (FPT) expected to change due to precipitation, wind, operations, or other factors?* Not discussed.
- Expected changes in South Delta Exports:
 - CCF: 1,500 – 2,500 cfs
 - Tracy: 800 – 3,600 cfs

Table 1: Comparison of OMR gauge and OMR Index

Date	Averaging Period	USGS gauges (cfs)	Index (cfs)
1/23/2021	Daily	-2,507	-2,674
1/23/2021	5-day	-2,706	-2,523
1/23/2021	14-day	-2,535	-2,302
1/25/2021	Daily	Not Applicable	-2,653
1/25/2021	5-day	Not Applicable	-2,672
1/25/2021	14-day	Not Applicable	-2,245

Section 4: Distribution and Biology

8.1.5.1.B Assessment of biological information for WR and SR.

Section 4-A: WR population status 8.1.5.1.B i

- Adult escapement estimate:
 - Estimate from carcass counts for adults contributing to brood year (BY) 2020 is 6,195 natural origin total adults and 4,093 female spawners.
 - Adults that will contribute to BY 2021 have entered the Delta system and are appearing in the Keswick area.
- Redd distribution and fry emergence timing:
 - BY 2020 total passage at Red Bluff Diversion Dam through 1/14/21 is 1,972,734 fish. Average historic passage (2010-2019) as of 1/14/2020 indicates 97.6% (one standard deviation of 2.9%) have passed Red Bluff Diversion Dam.
- Juvenile production estimate:
 - A final JPE has been provided by NMFS and CDFW for BY 2020 which estimates 330,130 natural-origin juvenile WR will reach the Delta. The final JPE also estimates that 97,888 Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery released WR and 37,232 Battle Creek Jumpstart WR will reach the Delta.
- Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery release:
 - Not applicable. Releases have not occurred, but are planned for 1/30/21. Preliminary information from the Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery indicates issues potentially related to thiamine deficiency in returning adults may impact the final supplemental goal. Releases are tentatively planned for early February.
- Distribution of natural WR:
 - % of juveniles upstream of the Delta: 35-65%
 - % of juveniles in Delta: 35-65%
 - % of juveniles past Chipps Island: 0%
- Distribution of Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery WR:
 - % of juveniles upstream of the Delta: Not applicable. Releases have not occurred, but are planned for 1/30.
 - % of juveniles in Delta: Not applicable. Releases have not occurred, but are planned for 1/30.
 - % of juveniles past Chipps Island: Not applicable. Releases have not occurred, but are planned for 1/30.
- Distribution of Battle Creek WR:
 - % of juveniles upstream of the Delta: Not applicable.
 - % of juveniles in Delta: Not applicable.
 - % of juveniles past Chipps Island: Not applicable.
- Change in risk of entrainment into the central Delta:
 - See Section 1-A: Sacramento River and Confluence

Section 4-B: SR population status 8.1.5.1.B ii

- Adult escapement estimate: Not available
- Redd distribution and fry emergence timing: Adult SR are likely to have completed their spawning by mid-November. Egg incubation and fry emergence is currently occurring. BY2020 total passage at Red Bluff Diversion Dam through 1/14/2021 is 145,027 fish.

- Hatchery release (in-river and downstream): No SR hatchery releases have occurred in the Sacramento River system at this time. SR egg collection at the Feather River Hatchery ended on 10/2/2020. Preliminary information from the Feather River Hatchery indicates issues potentially related to thiamine deficiency in returning adults which has impacted the final production goal. In addition, reduced numbers of tagged SR adults returned to the hatchery this fall and remained in-river to spawn which may also contribute to the low hatchery production this year.
- Distribution of natural SR:
 - % of juveniles upstream of the Delta: 75-85%
 - % of juveniles in Delta: 15-20%
 - % of juveniles past Chipps Island: 0%
- Distribution of Feather River Fish Hatchery SR:
 - % of juveniles upstream of the Delta: Not applicable. Releases have not occurred.
 - % of juveniles in Delta: Not applicable. Releases have not occurred.
 - % of juveniles past Chipps Island: Not applicable. Releases have not occurred.
- Change in risk of entrainment into the central Delta:
 - See Section 1-A: Sacramento River and Confluence

Section 4-C: Additional data sources to assess sensitivity to entrainment into the central and south Delta 8.1.5.1.C & D

- In-Delta distribution of WR and SR: See Section 4-A: WR population status 8.1.5.1.B i and Section 4-B SR population status 8.1.5.1.B ii.
- Acoustic telemetry: *Summary of acoustic telemetry tracking*
 - Two groups of late fall-run Chinook salmon were released from Coleman National Fish Hatchery on 1/4/2021 and 1/5/2021. A subset of each group were acoustic tagged, 460 and 141 fish respectively. The first tag detected from the first release group at Tower Bridge occurred five days later (1/9/2021). As of 1/27/2021, 72 fish have been detected at the I-80/50 Bridge and 35 have been detected at the Benicia east and west sites. One fish was detected in Old River at Quimby Island on 1/20/21.
- Trawls: *List all relevant trawl surveys and brief overview of data. Insert tables, PDFs or other information as attachment at end of document. Include interruptions to sampling or other relevant information (e.g. canceled surveys, dropped stations, etc.)*
 - See Appendix 1: SaMT Monitoring Program Data
- Rotary Screw Traps: *List all relevant rotary screw trap surveys and brief overview of data. Insert tables, PDFs or other information as attachment at end of document. Include interruptions to sampling or other relevant information (e.g. canceled surveys, dropped stations, etc.)*
 - See Appendix 1: SaMT Monitoring Program Data
- Seines: *List all relevant seine surveys and brief overview of data. Insert tables, PDFs or other information as attachment at end of document. Include interruptions to sampling or other relevant information (e.g. canceled surveys, dropped stations, etc.)*
 - See Appendix 1: SaMT Monitoring Program Data

- Additional hatchery release notifications: *List all relevant hatchery release notifications.*
 - *Note: This information may be deemed relevant as there is a potential emigration influence on CESA listed species present upstream of the Delta.*
- New monitoring (as required by Condition of Approval 7.5.1, 7.5.2, and 7.5.3): *Upstream monitoring results during transfer window, additional rotary screw trap monitoring updates, additional acoustic tag study results, genetic identification results, trap capture efficiency trial results, and pathology results if available and relevant*
 - Not applicable at this time.
- Anticipated emigration to continue into the Delta:
 - WR and SR are distributing and rearing downstream of their spawning grounds and throughout the Delta. Projected significant hydrological and meteorological environmental cues could trigger additional accelerated movement into the Delta.
- Flows in the Sacramento River predicted with upcoming storm events:
 - See Section 3-A: Water operations conditions 8.1.5.1 A. i, iii and the routing analysis below.
- DCC gate position:
 - Closed 12/1/2020 until late May 2021 per Reclamation’s PA description for DCC gate operations.
- Prediction of tidal interaction at Georgiana Slough (*Inflow to Delta from Sacramento River and the interaction of the muting of tidal effects around Georgiana Slough*):
 - See Section 3-A: Water operations conditions 8.1.5.1 A. i, iii and the routing analysis below.
- Precipitation in the forecast for the week and river flows affecting routing into central Delta:
 - See Section 3-B: Water Operations Outlook 8.1.5.1 A. ii: Storm Event Projection.
- Routing analysis:
 - STARS analysis was conducted on 1/23/2021 with results presented in Table 2 below. These results are reflective of the latest DCC gate change order and reflect the gate closure through mid-May.

Table 2: STARS Model Output

Date: 1/26/2021	DCC	Georgiana Slough	Sacramento River	Sutter and Steamboat Sloughs
Proportion of Entrainment	0%	29%	46%	25%
Survival	Not Applicable	17%	51%	37%
Travel Time	Not Applicable	17.7 days	10.8 days	11.5 days

- Trend analysis: *Provide brief description of historic trends if relevant (e.g. salvage patterns, onset of spawning, etc.). Refer to data or publications as needed:*

Table 3: Historic Migration and Salvage Patterns for unclipped WR and SR averaged from 2011-2019 as reported on SacPAS (http://www.cbr.washington.edu/sacramento/data/query_hrt.html) with associated 95% confidence interval. These values are provided for context only.

Date: 1/24/2021	RBDD RST	Tisdale RST	Knights Landing RST	Sac Trawl	Chipps Island Trawl	Salvage
WR	97.7% (95.9%,99.5%)	77.8% (53.3%,102.4%)	76.2% (51.8%,100.5%)	38.0% (8.9%,67.2%)	3.2%(- 0.4%,6.8%)	23.8% (3.8%,43.9%)
SR	21.0% (5.7%,36.4%)	34.7% (2.2%,67.3%)	23.7% (-2.9%,50.2%)	4.6% (-3.3%,12.5%)	0.0% (0.0%,0.0%)	0.0% (-0.0%,0.0%)

- Survival analysis (*e.g. Zeug and Cavallo CWT model*): Not available
- Tillotson entrainment model or other entrainment models as they become available: Not applicable
- Salvage trends in relation to OMRI: *Provide overview of salvage data and insert salvage table as attachment at end of document*: Not applicable as there has been no salvage of CESA listed salmon for water year 2021.
- Future export modifications: *Describe anticipated or potential changes to exports*: Not applicable at this time.

Notes:

None

Appendix 1: SaMT Monitoring Program Data

Table 4: Fish Monitoring Data for the 1/26/2021 Meeting. The following table presents fish monitoring data summarized over the past week. Unless otherwise noted, reported sizes are fork length.

Location	GCID RST ¹	Tisdale RST	Knights Landing RST	Beach Seines ²	Sacramento Trawl ²	Chippis Is. Midwater Trawl ²	Mosssdale Kodiak Trawl ²
Sample Date	1/19-1/25	1/19-1/25	1/19-1/25	1/21	1/17, 1/19, 1/20, 1/21, 1/22	1/17, 1/20, 1/21, 1/22	Not Sampled
Fall-run Chinook	436 juveniles	1	1	0	0	0	Not Available
Spring-run Chinook	14 juveniles	0	0	0	0	0	Not Available
Winter-run Chinook	2 juveniles	0	0	0	0	0	Not Available
Late Fall-run Chinook	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not Available
Chinook (ad-clip)	2 LFR juveniles, 22 LFR smolts	1 LFR	0	0	0	4	Not Available
Steelhead (wild)	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not Available
Steelhead (ad-clip)	8	2	2	0	0	1	Not Available
Green Sturgeon	0	0	0	0	0	0	Not Available
Flows (avg. cfs)	333	4338	4448	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
W. Temp. (avg. °F)	50.6	49.3	49.9	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Turbidity (avg. NTU)	5.01	4.7	4.8	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

FR = fall-run, WR = winter-run, SR = spring-run, LFR = late-fall-run

¹ GCID running at ½ cone all week. *Flows were only recorded one day this week.

² DatCall data reported in the 1/10/2021-1/16/2021 DJFMP sampling summary. Mosssdale Trawl sampling have ceased due to COVID.

Table 5: Delta Sturgeon Tagging and Monitoring,

Date	Comments
1/21/2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• No new tags applied this past week.• 17 juvenile GS, and 1 adult WS detected in the Sacramento River north of Sherman Lake.

GS = green sturgeon, WS = white sturgeon

Table 6: CDFW Adult Monitoring Surveys

Location	American River Carcass Survey ¹	Stanislaus River Carcass Survey
Sample Dates	1/19/21-1/22/21	Not Sampled
Live Fish	Not Available	Not Available
Redds	Not Available	Not Available
Carcasses	139	Not Available
Ad-clipped	15	Not Available
Spawn Condition	Prespawn Mortality: 0% (0/5)	Not Available
Flows (avg. cfs)	1110	Not Available
W. Temp (avg. °F)	50.5	Not Available

¹ Due to continued high counts of fresh carcasses, CDFW is extended the American River carcass survey to 1/22/2021.

Appendix 2: Salvage Data

Table 7: SaMT Update. Reporting period is 1/18/2021 through 1/24/2021. Prepared by Geir Aasen on 1/25/2021 at 1520 hours. These are preliminary results and are subject to revision.

Criteria	18-Jan	19-Jan	20-Jan	21-Jan	22-Jan	23-Jan	24-Jan	Trend ¹	Weekly Summary
Wild older juvenile CS Loss	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	↗	0.55
Wild Steelhead Loss	0	0	2.72	0	0	0	0	↗	0.39
SWP daily export (acre-feet)	2,608	2,939	3,776	2,513	2,955	2,939	2,939	↘	2,953
CVP daily export (acre-feet)	1,645	1,647	3,267	3,289	3,287	3,290	3,293	↗	2,817
SWP reduced counts ²	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
CVP reduced counts	None	None	None	None	None	None	None	Not Applicable	Not Applicable

¹ Trend is the current value compared to the previous week.

² Reduced counts are the percentage of time that routine salvage sample times were less than 30 minutes per two hours of salvage and export operations.

Table 8: Chinook salmon weekly salvage and loss combined for both the SWP and the CVP fish collection facilities. Race is determined by LAD on the date of capture. Hatchery origin fish are determined by the lack of adipose fin. Prepared by Geir Aasen on 1/25/2021 at 1520 hours. These are preliminary results and are subject to revision.

Category	Salvage ¹	Loss ²	Trend
Wild winter-run	0	0	→
Wild spring-run	0	0	→
Wild late Fall-run	0	0	→
Wild fall-run	0	0	→
Hatchery winter-run	0	0	→
Hatchery spring-run	0	0	→
Hatchery late Fall-run	4	4	↗
Hatchery fall-run	0	0	→
Total	0	0	Not Applicable

Table 9: Chinook salmon cumulative salvage and loss for Water Year 2021 combined for both the SWP and the CVP fish collection facilities. Race is determined by LAD on the date of capture. Hatchery origin fish are determined by the lack of adipose fin. Prepared by Geir Aasen on 1/25/2021 at 1520 hours. These are preliminary results and are subject to revision.

Category	Salvage	Loss	Trend
Wild winter-run	0	0	→
Wild spring-run	0	0	→
Wild late Fall-run	0	0	→
Wild fall-run	0	0	→
Hatchery winter-run	0	0	→
Hatchery spring-run	0	0	→
Hatchery late Fall-run	4	4	↗
Hatchery fall-run	0	0	→
Total	4	4	Not Applicable

Table 10: Steelhead weekly salvage and loss combined for both the SWP and the CVP fish collection facilities. Hatchery origin fish are determined by the lack of adipose fin. Prepared by Geir Aasen on 1/25/2021 at 1520 hours. These are preliminary results and are subject to revision.

Category	Salvage	Loss	Trend
Wild steelhead	0	0	→
Hatchery steelhead	4	3	→
Total	4	3	Not Applicable

¹ Salvage is equal to the estimated number of fish collected by the CVP and SWP fish protective facilities per unit of time.

² State Water Project loss is equal to salvage multiplied by 4.33. Central Valley Project loss is equal to salvage multiplied by 0.68.

Table 11: Steelhead cumulative salvage and loss for Water Year 2021 combined for both the SWP and the CVP fish collection facilities. Hatchery origin fish are determined by the lack of adipose fin. Prepared by Geir Aasen on 1/19/2021 at 1411. These are preliminary results and are subject to revision.

Category	Salvage ¹	Loss ²	Trend
Wild steelhead	4	3	→
Hatchery steelhead	4	3	→
Total	8	6	Not Applicable

¹ Salvage is equal to the estimated number of fish collected by the CVP and SWP fish protective facilities per unit of time.

² State Water Project loss is equal to salvage multiplied by 4.33. Central Valley Project loss is equal to salvage multiplied by 0.68.