

Water Operations Management Team Notes

February 15, 2023

Members Attending

- USBR: Kristin White, Liz Kiteck
- USFWS: Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga
- CDFW: Brooke Jacobs
- NMFS: Howard Brown, Garwin Yip
- DWR: Molly White, Lenny Grimaldo
- SWRCB: Craig Williams (Acting)

Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from last week:
 - February 8, 2023 Notes: Approved
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Salmonid Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 2/21
 - Smelt Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 2/21
 - Feather River Operations Group (FOG) (meets monthly first and third Thursdays): 2/16
 - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 2/16
 - 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 beginning in February): 2/23
 - Shasta Planning Group: not currently meeting
- Relevant Assessments
 - Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 2/14/23 – 2/20/2023
 - 20230214 Proposed Action Assessment
 - SaMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary dated 2/14/2023
 - SMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary dated 2/14/2023

- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Trinity River releases are at 500 cfs; today is the start of 2-month winter variability flows, which will use 60,000 AF of the volume allocated for spring pulse flows. Sacramento River (Keswick) releases are currently at 3,250 cfs. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown) releases are at 200 cfs. American River (Nimbus) releases are at 4,000 cfs. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) releases are at 200 cfs. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at 5 units targeting 4,200 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 596 TAF.
 - SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are at 950 cfs. Exports are targeting 3,200 cfs and scheduled to hold for next several days. Oroville storage is 2.44 MAF. Gained 1.48 MAF since December 1. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 874 TAF.
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation)
 - Dry conditions are expected into next week. There is a chance of some precipitation at the end of next week.
- Upcoming Actions
 - Reclamation:
 - Report out from discussions at SMT and LTO Coordination: The Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT) discussed whether observations of two ripe, cultured Delta Smelt offramps the turbidity bridge avoidance action described in the PA. Reclamation and FWS will discuss this issue and bring a decision back to WOMT.
 - Reclamation sent out "Shasta Critical Determination" letters. It is not a Shasta Critical year, but that could change at any time. Expecting to send out initial CVP allocations next Wednesday.
 - FWS:
 - No actions. No discussion items.
 - CDFW:
 - No actions. No discussion items.
 - NMFS:
 - No actions. No discussion items.
 - DWR:
 - DWR asked for clarification about the statement in this week's PA Assessment that the SMT is concerned about the recent salvage of cultured Delta Smelt. DWR said it was unclear whether the concern was over release locations, salvage, or something else. DWR requested that the technical teams be clear and specific in their notes and assessments.

- Bulletin 120 was released last week.
- SWRCB:
 - No actions. No discussion items.
- Discussion Items
 - Temporary Urgency Change Petition (TUCP): As discussed last week, DWR and Reclamation submitted TUCP to the SWRCB on Monday. That same day, Governor Newsom also released an Executive Order to build water resilience in California. The TUCP asks to off-ramp the spring X2 requirement at Port Chicago for February and March. Water Board received the TUCP and sent a data request to DWR for hydrologic data to support the TUCP.
- Action Items
 - Reclamation and FWS will meet to discuss how cultured fish should be considered based on the PA language and intent.
- Elevation Items
 - No elevation items to the Directors.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 22, 1-1:50 p.m.