

Water Operations Management Team Notes

November 1, 2023

Members Attending

- Reclamation: Levi Johnson, Liz Kiteck
- USFWS: Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga
- CDFW: Brooke Jacobs, Kristal Davis-Fadtke
- NMFS: Garwin Yip
- DWR: Molly White, Lenny Grimaldo
- SWRCB: Matthew Holland

Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from last week: 11/1/23
 - Review of Action Items
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT)(weekly on Tuesday): 11/7/23
 - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT)(weekly on Tuesday): 11/7/23
 - Feather River Operations (monthly first and third Thursdays): 11/2/23
 - American River Group (monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 11/16/23
 - Stanislaus Watershed Team (monthly on third Wednesday): 11/15/23
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (quarterly on third Thursday): 11/15/23
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (monthly on fourth Thursday): 11/16/23
 - Upper Sacramento Scheduling Team will no longer be meeting on a regular basis, but will hold a final meeting for an End-of-Season Planning and Debriefing: 12/5/23
- Relevant Assessments
 - Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 10/31/23 – 11/06/23
 - Proposed Action Assessment 10/31/23
 - SaMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary for Winter-Run and Spring-run Chinook Salmon 10/31/23

- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Trinity River releases are at 300 cfs. Sacramento River (Keswick) releases will be at 6,000 cfs starting tomorrow (11/2/23). Will work down to 5,000 cfs by Monday (11/6/23) and will likely hold here for a few months. Clear Creek is at 200 cfs. American River (Nimbus) releases are at 2,000 cfs. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) release is at 200 cfs. Vernalis flows expected to meet the D-1641 monthly average. Reclamation's Delta pumping is at 3 units targeting 2,700 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 715 TAF.
 - CDFW requested more information regarding what work would be done during DCC gate maintenance, and how long the work would last, in consideration that precipitation expected next week may trigger juvenile movement.
 - NMFS reported out from the 11/1/2023 LTO Implementation Agency Coordination Meeting that the DCC gate maintenance work was initiated yesterday (10/31/23) and is expected to be done by Friday (11/3/23), and is characterized as testing the opening and closing of the gate, limited to an hour or 2 at a time.
 - Reclamation reported that dissolved oxygen readings were 6.5 mg/L at Lake Natoma, and 10.5 mg/L below Nimbus Dam, indicating that water quality is improving.
 - SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are 1,750 cfs. Clifton Court Forebay exports are at 6,000 cfs; expected to drop down to 4,000 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is at 608 TAF.
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation): Rains forecasted in the next week, after that dry conditions are in the forecast. In the Sierras (north of Highway I-80), forecast is between 2-3 inches of rain, and in the upper north-west area 3-4 inches of rain. In the Sacramento valley area, forecast is one quarter to half an inch of rain.
- Upcoming Actions or Updates
 - Reclamation:
 - No actions or discussion items.
 - FWS:
 - Discussion item: Actual October average of X2
 - 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
 - DWR reported that the monthly average of X2 for October was 80.56 km, and reminded the group that the average for September was 78 km.
 - CDFW noted that they would be sending out a list of informational requests to WOMT to help them understand conditions in Fall this year. They requested that these items then be reviewed at the next meeting.
 - DWR proposed providing a Delta Operations 101 overview in mid-December, tailored to provide a deep dive into real time operations as they relate to meeting standards throughout the year (i.e., outflow, water quality, X2). There was general support for this effort from the group. A request was made for WOMT to consider representatives that would like to participate.
- Action Items
 - CDFW will email WOMT members a list of informational requests to help them better understand conditions in Fall for this year. Review these items at next week's meeting.
 - Completed on 11/1/23
 - Identify representatives that are willing to participate in the "101" presentations and coordinate with DWR to kick off planning and scheduling.
- Elevation Items
 - No elevation items.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, November 8, 1-1:50 p.m.