

# Water Operations Management Team Notes

February 7, 2024

## Members Attending

- Reclamation: Elizabeth Kiteck, Levi Johnson
- USFWS: Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga
- CDFW: Kristal Davis-Fadtke
- NMFS: Garwin Yip
- DWR: Molly White
- SWRCB: Erik Ekdahl (Acting)

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of meeting notes from last meeting: 2/2/24
- Upcoming Meetings:
  - Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT) (weekly on Tuesday): 2/13/24
  - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT) (weekly on Tuesday): 2/13/24
  - Feather River Operations (monthly first and third Thursdays): 2/15/24
  - American River Group (monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 2/15/24
  - Stanislaus Watershed Team (monthly on third Wednesday): 2/21/24
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (quarterly on third Thursday): 3/21/24
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (SRTTG) (monthly on fourth Thursday): 2/22/24
- Relevant Assessments
  - Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 2/6/24 – 2/12/24
  - Proposed Action Assessment 2/6/24
  - SaMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary 2/6/24
  - SMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary 2/6/24
- Operational Updates
  - CVP: Trinity River release is 300 cfs. Sacramento River (Keswick) release is 15,000 cfs. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown) release is 200 cfs. American River (Nimbus) release is 1,750 cfs, increasing to 2,500 cfs on Thursday (2/8/24). Stanislaus River (Goodwin) release is

1,500 cfs. Reclamation's Delta Pumping is at 4 units targeting 3,600 cfs; increasing Thursday (2/8/24) to 5 units targeting 4,200 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 848 TAF.

- SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are 4,000 cfs; decreasing to 3,500 cfs on Thursday (2/8/24) and potentially decrease to 3,000 cfs by Friday (2/9/24). Clifton Court Forebay exports are 3,700 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is at 405 TAF.
- Delta inflows are expected to peak this week with the recent storms. Although not currently operating to Longfin Smelt COA 8.4.1 or 8.4.2, Rio Vista and Vernalis are projected to exceed COA 8.4.3 High Flow Off-ramp from Longfin Smelt OMR restrictions. Delta flow conditions are as follows:
  - QWEST is at 12,650 cfs, projected to peak 14,440 today (2/7/24), and decrease to 12,300 cfs by Friday (2/9/24).
  - Rio Vista flow is at 61,860 cfs and projected to peak 81,900 cfs by today (2/7/24) and decrease to 68,500 cfs by Friday (2/9/24).
  - Vernalis is projected to peak at 9,150 cfs on Friday (2/9/24).
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation):
  - The 6-day forecast is predicting ½ inch to 1 inch in the Sacramento Valley and Eureka. A tenth of an inch is predicted in the upper Sierras, and San Joaquin area could get anywhere from ½ inch to an inch. Heavier rain predicted along the coast; San Diego area is expected to get 1 inch. Storms will break up tomorrow (2/8/24) and clear skies are expected until Friday of the following week (2/16/24).
  - The monthly precipitation outlook from 1/31/24 shows that precipitation is above normal. Heavier rains are falling in the lower 2/3rds of the state, including southern California.

## Upcoming Actions, Updates, and Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
  - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- FWS:
  - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- CDFW:
  - No actions, updates, discussion items.
- NMFS:
  - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- DWR:

- No actions or discussion items.
- Update: Operating to the ITP COA 8.5.2 Larval and Juvenile Delta Smelt Protection starting today (2/7/24). COA 8.6.3 Mid and Late Season Natural Winter-run Chinook Salmon Daily Loss Threshold was triggered on 2/6/24. Due to this trigger, the action response is to operate to -3,500 cfs OMRI for five days (since this does not result in a change to current operations, 2/7/24 is day 1 of the action response).
- SWRCB:
  - No actions, updates, or discussion items.

## Discussion Items

- No discussion items.

## Elevation Items

- No elevation items.

## Action Items

- No action items.

## Next Meeting

Wednesday, February 14, 1- 1:50pm