

Water Operations Management Team Notes

March 27, 2024

Members Attending

- Reclamation: **Elizabeth Kiteck, Levi Johnson**
- USFWS: **Matt Nobriga**
- CDFW: **Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Brooke Jacobs**
- NMFS: **Howard Brown, Garwin Yip**
- DWR: **Lenny Grimaldo, Mike Ford**
- SWRCB: **Matthew Holland**

Topics/Actions

- Approval of meeting notes: 3/20/24
- Reminder to have edits for ad hoc meeting (3/25/24): 3/29/24
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT) (weekly on Tuesday): 4/2/24
 - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT) (weekly on Tuesday): 4/2/24
 - Feather River Operations (monthly first and third Thursdays): 4/4/24
 - American River Group (monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 4/25/24
 - Stanislaus Watershed Team (monthly on third Wednesday): 4/17/24
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (quarterly on third Thursday): 6/13/24
 - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (SRTTG) (monthly on fourth Thursday): 4/25/24
- Relevant Assessments
 - Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 3/26/24 – 4/1/24
 - Proposed Action Assessment 3/26/24
 - SaMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary 3/26/24
 - SMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary 3/26/24
- Operational Updates

- CVP: Trinity River release is 300 cfs. Sacramento River (Keswick) release is 4,400 cfs decreasing to 4,000 cfs on 3/29/24. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown) started pulse flow on 3/20/24 and peaked at 840 cfs; pulse flows will be complete on 4/4/24 and will decrease down to 200 cfs. American River (Nimbus) release is 4,500 cfs, decreasing to 4,000 cfs on 3/29/24. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) release is 1,500 cfs. Reclamation's Delta Pumping is at 2 units targeting 1,800 cfs reducing to one targeting 900 cfs on 4/1/24. The Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is at 964 TAF.
- SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) release is 10,000 cfs. Clifton Court Forebay exports are 2,200 cfs. The State share of San Luis Reservoir is at 512 TAF.
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation):
 - Dry conditions through Tuesday; a weather system moves in by mid-week bringing snow, rain, wind, and thunderstorm chances. Forecast shows 40% to 80% chance of snow exceeding 6 inches above 5500 feet from Wednesday through Thursday night.

Upcoming Actions, Updates, and Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
 - No actions or updates.
 - Discussion item: Operations questions regarding what protections will be controlling beginning on April, 1 2024.
- FWS:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- CDFW:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- NMFS:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- DWR:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.

Discussion Items

- Questions regarding operations on 4/1
 - Reclamation: What protections will be controlling starting April 1st?
 - DWR:

- Currently triggered ITP COA 8.6.1 Winter-run Single-year Loss Threshold
- Currently triggered 8.6.3 Mid- and Late-season Natural Winter-run Chinook Salmon Daily Loss Threshold
- Not controlling for delta smelt or longfin smelt protections
- NMFS: The IOP for 2023 expires on 3/31/24. Awaiting a court order for a potential 2024 IOP that will determine what is controlling
- DWR: Wants to check in on the Friday 3/29/24 for an off cycle WOMT meeting prior to end of the 2023 IOP expiring to evaluate operations.

Elevation Items

- No elevation items.

Action Items

- No action items.

Next Meeting

- Friday, March 29, 10-11 a.m.