

Water Operations Management Team Notes

April 24, 2024

Members Attending

- Reclamation: **Elizabeth Kiteck, Levi Johnson, Dave Mooney**
- USFWS: **Jana Affonso, Matt Nobriga**
- CDFW: **Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Brooke Jacobs**
- NMFS: **Barb Byrne (Acting)**
- DWR: **Lenny Grimaldo**
- SWRCB: **Craig Williams (Acting)**

Topics/Actions

- Approval of meeting notes from last meeting: 4/17/24
- Upcoming Meetings:
 - WOMT / SaMT / SMT Coordination (as needed): 4/26/24
 - Salmon Monitoring Team (SaMT) (weekly on Tuesday): 4/30/24
 - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT) (weekly on Tuesday): 4/30/24
 - Feather River Operations (monthly first and third Thursdays): 5/2/24
 - American River Group (monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 5/16/24
 - Stanislaus Watershed Team (monthly on third Wednesday): 5/15/24
 - 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: 4/23/24 – 4/29/24
 - Proposed Action Assessment: 4/23/24
 - SaMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary: 4/23/24
 - SMT ITP Risk Assessment Summary: 4/23/24

- Operational Updates
- CVP: Trinity River release is peaking at 8,500 cfs today and will slowly decrease starting Friday through August 4. Sacramento River (Keswick) release is 11,000 cfs and will decrease to 6,000 cfs by April 30. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown) managed release is 200 cfs. American River (Nimbus) release is 5,000 cfs and decreasing to 4,000 cfs on 4/27. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) is currently releasing pulse flows, which are scheduled to continue through mid-May. Reclamation's Delta Pumping is at 970 cfs (1 unit) and increasing to 1,800 cfs (2 units) on Friday. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 920 TAF.
- SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) release was 6,500 cfs yesterday and will be decreasing to 6,000 today on the way down to 4,000 cfs on Friday. Clifton Court Forebay exports are 600 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is at 547 TAF.
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation): A small weather system is expected on Friday, with minimal precipitation. Inflows from snowmelt are decent.

Upcoming Actions, Updates, and Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
 - No actions, or discussion items.
 - Update on allocations: SWP bumped up allocations yesterday, and CVP just announced that they will be increasing allocations from 35 to 40 percent for south of Delta agriculture.
 - No actions or discussion items.
- FWS:
 - No actions or updates.
 - Discussion item: Friday WOMT and Tech Team meeting this week.
- CDFW:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- NMFS:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items
 - Discussion item: Biological rationale and accounting for 100 TAF export reductions for the IOP.
- DWR:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
 - No actions, updates, or discussion items.

Discussion Items

- Biological rationale for use of the 100 TAF export reductions in the IOP:
 - Increasing CVP exports to two units extends the period of CVP export limitation under the IOP compared to one unit (because of a lower daily water cost); therefore, it is more protective of spring-run Chinook salmon and steelhead, which are both likely to be in the Delta through May and into June.
- Update from Director's Elevation item on Accounting for the IOP:
 - Accounting starts on April 10, with spring export curtailment volume estimate compared to an assumed "without IOP" operation; continue assuming a -2,500 OMRI.
- CDFW asked if there would be reporting on a weekly basis to understand the balance as we move forward. Reclamation agreed to provide a rough estimate to WOMT each week, as well as to present possible scenarios for operations.
- WOMT members agreed to hold the meeting with the Technical Teams on Friday at 2 pm. NMFS requested that Reclamation provide SMT and SaMT members with an estimate of water remaining for the 100 TAF and a "ballpark" understanding when it will run out.

Elevation Items

- No elevation items.

Action Items

- Weekly: Biological rationale pursuant to the IOP (include in WOMT notes).
- Reclamation to provide an update on "spending" of the 100 TAF exports reductions.

Next Meeting

Wednesday, May 1, 1-1:50pm