

# Water Operations Management Team Notes

Water Year 2025 – January 08, 2025

## Members Attending

- Reclamation: Levi Johnson, Elizabeth Kiteck (not in attendance)
- USFWS: Jana Affonso (not in attendance), Matt Nobriga
- CDFW: Kristal Davis-Fadtke, Brooke Jacobs (not in attendance)
- NMFS: Garwin Yip, Howard Brown (not in attendance)
- DWR: Tracy Hinojosa, Chris Wilkinson
- SWRCB: Matthew Holland (not in attendance), Dianne Riddle (not in attendance), Craig Williams (Acting)

## Topics/Actions

- Approval of Meeting Notes from December 18, 2024: Approved
- Upcoming Meetings
  - Salmonid Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 01/14
  - Smelt Monitoring Team (meets weekly on Tuesdays): 01/14
  - Feather River Operations Group (meets monthly first and third Thursdays): 01/09
  - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 01/16
  - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 01/15
  - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday): 03/20
  - Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (meets monthly on fourth Thursday): 01/09; USST (as needed): met on 10/08
  - Shasta Planning Group (as needed): met on 10/08
  - Winter-run JPE Team (as needed): met on 12/20
- Relevant Assessments
  - Weekly Fish and Water Operations Outlook 01/07/25 – 01/13/25
  - 20250107 Proposed Action Assessment
- Operational Updates

- CVP: Trinity River release is 1,500 cfs. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown Dam) release is 200 cfs. Sacramento River (Keswick) release is 15,000 cfs and holding elevated release in response to flood operations. Inflows will be evaluated next week. American River (Nimbus) release is 1,750 cfs. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) release is 200 cfs. Reclamation's Delta export is currently 4,200 cfs. Delta Cross Channel Gates are closed.
- SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are at 1,750 cfs. Clifton Court Forebay exports are at 1,800 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 888 TAF. First Flush ended on January 1<sup>st</sup> with a length-at-date winter-run Chinook salmon salvage reported on January 2<sup>nd</sup>. On January 4<sup>th</sup>, the fish salvage was confirmed genetically that it was not a winter-run. Export reductions were therefore not required.
- Hydrology Update (DWR and Reclamation)
  - Forecast is dry and above normal temperatures. Gusty winds are coming this weekend but weaker than previously experienced in the valley.

## Upcoming Actions, Updates, or Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
  - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- USFWS:
  - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- CDFW:
  - No upcoming actions or updates.
  - Discussion: Charters for Working Teams and WOMT
  - Discussion: 2024 OMR Seasonal Report
- NMFS:
  - No upcoming actions or discussion items.
  - Update: Finalizing winter-run JPE on Friday
- DWR:
  - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
  - No upcoming actions, updates, or discussion items.

### Discussion Items

- Charters for Working Teams and WOMT

- CDFW: ITP condition 8.1.4 (specific to WOMT) and condition 8.1.6.4 indicate that DWR is to take the lead with Reclamation in initiating the process in developing charters. CDFW is seeking confirmation on how the communication process will be implemented for the WOMT season and if starting with a small group first to draft the charters would be beneficial.
  - DWR: DWR agrees with the approach to have a small group initially to start drafting the charters. DWR requests clarification on a date that charters need to be completed by.
  - CDFW: No due dates for charters identified in the ITP, however, CDFW is focusing on starting the communication processes first.
  - DWR: Agrees that a new protocol needs to be developed for communication and will coordinate internally on this item.
- 2024 OMR Seasonal Report
  - CDFW: With Reclamation intending to finalize the 2024 OMR Seasonal Report, CDFW noted that it did not have an opportunity to review the report to see how comments were addressed. CDFW is seeking clarification on if another review period will be provided.
  - Reclamation: Reclamation stated that the agencies had an opportunity to review 2024 OMR Seasonal Report in the summer. If critical red flag items are identified within the report, Reclamation encouraged agencies to reach out so they can be addressed.
  - CDFW: CDFW stated that it provided comments but was unable to review how those comments were addressed. CDFW is concerned with how the comments were incorporated since DWR uses the OMR report for compliance for reporting for the ITP.
  - NMFS: NMFS confirms that there was an opportunity to review in the summer, however, fish agencies requested for another review period to happen later in the year in November and December.
  - Reclamation: Reclamation requested for agencies to meet after WOMT to discuss further about paths forward. Reclamation will convene a "Sub-Cub" team meeting to discuss.
- SHOT Representatives
  - WOMT agencies will provide SHOT representative to the WOMT facilitator.
  - Received written confirmation from DWR and SWRCB.
- OMR Trigger Discussions
  - No OMR Trigger discussion items.
- Action Items

- Agencies to provide WOMT facilitator with their identified SHOT representative(s).
- Elevation Items
  - No elevation items.

## **Next Meeting**

Wednesday, January 15, 2025, 1-1:50 p.m.