

Summary of DAT Conference Call 10/02/2007

Participants: EChappell(DWR), JSpeegle(FWS), BPoytress(FWS), RGartz(DFG), VPoage(FWS), LBartoo(FWS), NHindman(FWS), THinojosa(DWR), MGuerin(CCWD), JSnow(WWD), RSilva(BR), EVolkman(FWS), TSwanson(BI), PRhodey(FWS), JWhite(DFG), FBrewster(SCVWA), KTotzke(KCWA), AChu(DWR), TBoardman(SLDMWA), ASandhu(DWR), EGleason(DFG), BOppenheim(NOAA), PManza(BR), LKiteck(BR)

Conclusions and Recommendation

Winter-run Chinook escapement is lower than in the last several years. The preliminary estimate from the DFG carcass survey is 2,500 to 5,000 adults. Juvenile winter run Chinook recoveries at RBDD are also lower than previous years. Passage (July 1-September 29) is estimated at 739,000 compared to 4.4 million this time last year. A few juvenile Chinook are also being recovered at GCID.

The Summer Tow-net Survey index for delta smelt was 0.4 for 2007. The 2006 index was also 0.4. The first survey of the Fall Midwater Trawl was completed in September. DFG caught 8 delta smelt. Survey 2 started yesterday.

No operational changes were recommended at this time.

Next DAT Conference Call Tuesday, 10/16/2007, 9:00 am - 11:00 am. 916/657-4111.

Chinook Monitoring

Upper Sacramento River

Winter run Adult Counts – Based on very preliminary numbers from the carcass survey, escapement is estimated to be between 2,500 and 5,000. This is lower than the escapement three years earlier of 7,400. DFG will meet this month to finalize the escapement number.

Spring run Adult Counts – Based on preliminary numbers from the snorkel survey, escapement is estimated at 4,943 on Butte Creek. Carcass surveys are still being conducted on the tributaries so escapement estimates are not available yet.

Red Bluff Diversion Dam – Juvenile winter run passage averaged 20,500/day for the past week and are starting to decrease. The passage so far this season, is 739,000. This is the lowest passage during this period (July 1-September 29) for the last five years. Last year, passage for the same period was estimated at 4.4 million.

Late fall Chinook passage was approximately 512/day. Fall Chinook passage was approximately 26/day and steelhead passage was approximately 425/day.

The flow at Bend is 7,800cfs and the water is clear.

FWS posts biweekly reports on the Bay-Delta and Tributaries Project website, at http://baydelta.ca.gov/Php/Special_Reports/red_bluff.php.

Mill Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the contract is finalized and flows increase.

Deer Creek – DFG will install the rotary screw trap once the contract is finalized and the flows increase.

Butte Creek – No update.

GCID - Catch of older juvenile Chinook ranged from 4 – 53 per day over the last two weeks.

Knights Landing – DFG will install the rotary screw trap next week and will check the trap two to three days per week.

Delta Monitoring

In the last two weeks no species of interest have been caught. The Chipps Island trawl resumed today, 10/2.

Sacramento Midwater Trawl - 6 sample days, 60 samples. No species of interest.

Lower Sacramento River seine - 2 sample days, 10 samples. No species of interest.

North Delta seine - 3 sample days, 17 samples. No species of interest.

Central Delta seine - 3 sample days, 17 samples. No species of interest.

South Delta seine - 2 sample days, 14 samples. No species of interest.

Mossdale Kodiak Trawl - 6 sample days, 57 samples. No species of interest.

San Joaquin River seine - 2 sample days, 6 samples. No species of interest.

Chipps Island Midwater Trawl - 0 sample days, 0 samples. FWS resumed sampling today, 10/2.

Bay seine - 2 sample days, 8 samples. No species of interest.

Delta Smelt Monitoring

Summer TNS – The 2007 index for delta smelt was 0.4, which is the same as the index for 2006. Survey results are posted at <http://www.delta.dfg.ca.gov/data/townet/>.

FMWT – The September FMWT survey has been completed. DFG caught 8 delta smelt. The smelt were caught at 7 stations between Montezuma Slough and the Carquinez

Strait. DFG started the October FMWT survey yesterday, 10/1. Results from the September and October surveys are used to calculate the delta smelt recovery index.

DSWG – At this time the DSWG does not have any meetings schedule but will meet as needed this season.

Salvage Facilities

Chinook – None.

Steelhead – None.

Delta smelt – None.

Splittail – 9 splittail were salvaged at SWP last week.

Longfin smelt - None.

Sturgeon – None.

The DFG Salvage Database can be accessed at this ftp site:.

Head of Old River and Agricultural Barriers

HORB - On September 27th DFG requested the DWR install the fall HORB to improve dissolved oxygen concentrations into the Stockton Deep Water Ship Channel for salmon. DWR has notified the contractors and work is expected to begin at the end of this week.

Ag. Barriers – The Grantline and Middle River barriers are operating tidally. The Old River barrier has 6 flap gates tied open and 3 are operating tidally. All of the barriers were notched in mid-September for salmon passage.

Operations

SWP -

CCFB – 4,500cfs.

Oroville - 3,500cfs.

X2 - > 81 km.

E/I - 3-day ~63%

San Luis - ~449taf. SWP share of San Luis capacity is 1,062 taf.

EWA - As of end of August, the debts for SWP is approximately 70 to 75 taf and for CVP is approximately 50 to 55 taf.

CVP -

Tracy PP - 4,300cfs.

DCC - open.
Trinity - 450cfs.
Clear Creek - 200cfs.
Keswick – 7,500cfs.
Nimbus – 1,250cfs.
Goodwin – 200cfs.
San Luis - 200taf. CVP share of San Luis capacity is 966 taf.

Flows

Sacramento River at Freeport ~ 12,200cfs.
Fremont Weir ~ 0.
San Joaquin River at Vernalis ~ 1,250cfs. The fall pulse flow is scheduled to start in mid-October.
Delta Outflow ~ 3,450cfs. The 7-day average is 3,000cfs.

Delta Water Quality

The Delta is in balanced conditions. Water quality is okay.

October Water Quality Standards –

Delta Outflow – monthly average $\geq 4,000$ cfs, 7-day average $\geq 3,000$ cfs.

E/I Ratio – 65%

Rio Vista – monthly average $\geq 4,000$ cfs, 7-day average $\geq 3,000$ cfs.

Contra Costa Canal – Cl ≤ 250 mg/L. In addition, Cl ≤ 150 mg/L for 165 days per year. This portion of the standard has been met for the year.

South Delta – 30-day average EC ≤ 1.0

Suisun Marsh = EC ≤ 19

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