

Draft DAT notes for May 3, 2012

Attendees: Angela Llaban, Edmund Yu, James Gleim and Wenli Yin (DWR), Lucinda Shih (CCWD), Geir Aasen (CDFG), Craig Anderson, Jon Speegle and Leigh Bartoo (FWS), Owen Lu and RG Fernando (MWD), Barb Byrne (NMFS)

Salmonid Monitoring

Species*	Red Bluff Diversion Dam RST	Tisdale Weir RST	Knights Landing RST
Date		4/23/2012 to 5/02/2012	4/22/2012 to 5/02/2012
CHNF		653	290
CHNLF			
CHNW			
CHNS		69	29
CHN hatchery		157	47
SH wild		1	
SH hatchery			
*Chinook race based on length; CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS=Spring run, SH = Steelhead			

Hatchery Release Update:

Since 4/24, both the Tisdale RST and the Knights Landing RST have been catching hatchery Chinook. This is most likely due to the fall-run hatchery release at Battle Creek from the Coleman National Fish Hatchery on 4/19 and 4/20.

Recently, the Coleman National Fish Hatchery released about 5.4 million fall-run Chinook salmon into Battle Creek on April 30. This fall-run release group is about 25% marked.

A summary of salmonid monitoring data can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm>

Delta Monitoring

Trawl and Seine Report for 4/22/2012 to 4/28/2012				
Species*	Beach Seines	Mossdale KDTR**	Sacramento KDTR	Chippis Is MWTR
CHNF	141		531	223
CHNLF				
CHNW				6
CHNS			57	371
CHN hatchery			208	134
SH wild				
SH hatchery				
DSM	14 (8 at Steamboat Slough, 1w/eggs, 2 w/milt, 5 no expression; 5 at Sandy Beach, no			15 (2 w/eggs, 13 no expression)

	expression; 1 at Liberty Island, no expression)			
LFS				
SPLT	6			
*Chinook race based on length; CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS=Spring run, SH = Steelhead, DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail				

** From April through June, Mossdale trawls are being conducted by DFG (Region 4) and not by FWS as part of the real time monitoring. Because of this, there is generally a 3-4 week delay in receiving data from the Mossdale trawls. Based on preliminary data from DFG, 254 wild Chinook with an average FL of 87.3 mm were caught at the Mossdale trawls during 4/22 to 4/28. No steelhead were caught during this time period.

Also, there is a backlog of CWT fish that have been captured from the various gears that have yet to be processed. FWS still have about approximately 300 to 400 fish left in the freezer. Looking at the catch data, most of the hatchery Chinook are in the 60 to 90 mm FL range, so they are most likely fall-run hatchery fish.

Salvage

Salmonids - Salvage report for 4/23/2012 to 4/29/2012								
Species	CVP				SWP			
	Adipose Clip Hatchery		Non-Adipose Clip Wild		Adipose Clip Hatchery		Non-Adipose Clip Wild	
	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss
CHNF			24	20				
Total to Date			44	35			8	33
CHNLF								
Total to Date	25	20	20	14				
CHNW*								
Total to Date	227	175	452	377	229	1,017	376	1,644
CHNS			63	52			52	224
Total to Date			548	442	4	17	388	1,652
SH**	8	5	1	1	10	43		
Total to Date	393	267	81	55	192	831	235	1,018
Chinook race based on length; Adipose fin clips indicates hatchery stock; Non-adipose clip indicates natural origin. SWP steelhead loss = salvage x 4.33, CVP steelhead loss = salvage x 0.68.								

Smelts and Others – Salvage report for 4/23/2012 to 4/29/2012				
Species	CVP		SWP	
	Salvage	Total to Date	Salvage	Total to Date
DSM***	18	129		92
LFS****	81	863	88	2,720
SPLT		244	2	3,864
GST				
WST		64		
DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail, GST=Green sturgeon, WST=White sturgeon				

*Seasonal total loss for un-clipped winter-run Chinook as of 4/29 remains at 2,021. This is about 62% of our authorized incidental take level (3,241) for winter-run Chinook.

**Seasonal total salvage for wild (un-clipped) steelhead is at 316 as of 4/29. The authorized incidental take level is at 3,000.

***Larval delta smelt < 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples from 4/23 to 4/29 at the federal facility and from 1500 hours on 4/19 to 4/26 at the state facility.

****Larval longfin smelt were found in larval fish samples at the federal facility during the period from 4/23 to 4/29. No larval longfin smelt were found in larval fish samples at the state facility during the period from 1500 hours on 4/19 to 4/29.

Salvage information is posted at <ftp://ftp.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/> (you can also try <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/apps/salvage/Default.aspx> and click on "salvage FTP site"). Chinook salmon, steelhead, and sturgeon salvage data is located in the tables under the folder "DOSS salvage tables". Smelt salvage data is located under the folder "Daily Smelt Summary".

Smelt Monitoring

The 20mm Survey #4 was conducted last week. The data processing is ongoing. So far, 39 delta smelt were collected, 11 of which were adults. The 28 larvae that were collected ranged in size from 5-22mm. Two delta smelt larvae were collected in the central and southern Delta stations.

The 20mm Survey #5 will begin on Monday (5/7). The 20mm Survey data will be posted at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/projects.asp?ProjectID=20mm>.

Spring Kodiak Trawl #5, the last one scheduled for the year, is in the field this week. The data will be available before next week's DAT call. Spring Kodiak Trawl data will be posted at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/projects.asp?ProjectID=SKT>.

Smelt Working Group

The Smelt Working Group met on Monday (4/30) and reviewed the normal hydrological, environmental, and water operations data. For this week, the Smelt Working Group determined that there was no need to change operations to protect delta and longfin smelt.

Smelt Working Group notes are posted at <http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/OCAP/index.cfm>

DOSS

DOSS met on Tuesday morning (5/1) and covered the usual monitoring data and received updates from both the Delta Conditions Team and the Smelt Working Group. DOSS also reviewed the expected tributary flows that would contribute to the Vernalis augmented pulse flows under D-1641.

Most of the conference call was focused on the stipulation study. For the first experimental period, 166 sentinel steelhead were released downstream of Stockton in mid-April. For the entire two weeks, 49 of the tags were detected at the Railroad Cut receivers, which represent about 29.5% of the release group. Of the 49 tags detected at the Railroad Cut, 15 of them were detected at the receivers located just inside the export facilities of the SWP (i.e., just inside Clifton Court) and CVP (i.e., just inside trash racks). This represents 9% of the first release group and 31% of the tags detected at Railroad Cut.

The second experimental period began on May 1. For this period, about 167 fish were released downstream of Stockton. At the conference call, DOSS discussed potential adjustments for the second experimental period in light of the results from the first experimental period. These adjustments include different proposals from Cramer Fish Sciences and NMFS that adjusted the trigger upward for different reasons. In addition, Reclamation had a proposal to stick with the current trigger and to change the action response to be a 5 day response instead. The final option was to stick with the status quo until we have the full season's worth of data. In the end, DOSS did not provide any advice since the NMFS

determination from last week also directed NMFS staff to reconvene the group that developed the stipulation study and tech memo to re-evaluate the trigger and action response. The reconvened group was scheduled to meet right after DOSS.

DOSS notes are posted at <http://www.swr.noaa.gov/ocap/doss.htm>

Operations

Summary for May 3, 2012			
SWP		CVP	
Clifton Court (cfs)	1,500	Jones Pumping Plant (cfs)	1,000
Outflow (cfs)	~25,700	American - Nimbus (cfs)	8,000
Feather - Oroville (cfs)	2,000	Sacramento - Keswick (cfs)	6,500
San Luis Total (TAF)	1,628	Stanislaus - Goodwin (cfs)	
San Luis Share (TAF)	906	San Luis Share (TAF)	
X2 (Km)	67		
E/I (%)	7.5		
OMR (daily)			
OMR 5 day (cfs)	-1,852		
OMR 14 day (cfs)	-1,865		

There was a question on why OMR is currently targeted around -1,850 cfs and not targeted around an experimental OMR of -5,000 cfs as stated in last week's NMFS determination for 5/1 to 5/15. The reason for this is that OMR is currently being controlled by the regulatory constraints of D-1641. During this period, SWP/CVP exports are limited at 1,500 cfs or 100% of the 3-day average of Vernalis flows.

This resulted in another question on why the experimental flows were swapped to begin with from the joint stipulation. Originally, OMR was targeted at -1,250 cfs for the first half of May and -5,000 cfs for the second half of May. This was changed since there were concerns about smelt protection. In addition, there were concerns with the higher water temperatures in the second half of May that could compromise the health of sentinel steelhead.

A follow up e-mail was sent out to the DAT e-mail reflector after the conference call regarding the temperature conditions in the Delta. Clifton Court temperature decreased slightly from last week. The temperature on 5/2/12 was 19.9°C. Temperature data can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/docs/delta/DeltaMisc1.pdf>

Daily operations summary can be viewed at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/docs/delta/deltaops.pdf>

Next meeting: The next DAT conference call is scheduled for May 10, 2012 at 11:00am.