

Draft DAT notes for May 31, 2012

Attendees: Angela Llaban, Edmund Yu, Kevin Reece, Lacey Wall and Wenli Yin (DWR), Lucinda Shih, (CCWD), Geir Aasen (CDFG), Barb Byrne (NMFS), Tom Boardman (SLDMWA)

Salmonid Monitoring

Species*	Red Bluff Diversion Dam RST	Tisdale Weir RST	Knights Landing RST
Date		5/24/2012 to 5/30/2012	5/24/2012 to 5/29/2012
CHNF		13	3
CHNLF			
CHNW			
CHNS			
CHN hatchery			
SH wild			
SH hatchery			
*Chinook race based on length; CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS=Spring run, SH = Steelhead			

The total fall-run Chinook catch has decreased quite a bit at both the Tisdale Weir and at Knights Landing when compared to previous weeks. For example, fall-run catch at the Tisdale Weir has typically been less than 10 during this reporting period, which differs from early May where fall-run Chinook catch reached as high as 800.

Most of the Central Valley hatcheries have already released their fall-run Chinook groups into the system. Hatchery Chinook were seen at the Tisdale Weir and at Knights Landing a few weeks back, and were most likely from the Coleman National Fish Hatchery.

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 5/20/2012 to 5/26/2012				
Species*	Beach Seines	Mossdale KDTR**	Sacramento KDTR	Chippis Is MWTR
CHNF	6		15	55
CHNLF				
CHNW				
CHNS				
CHN hatchery				15
SH wild				
SH hatchery				
DSM	1 (Sandy Beach, no expression)			3 (no expression)
LFS				1
SPLT	762			2
*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. Therefore, FWS will not be reporting Mossdale trawl data during this period.

Salvage

Salmonids - Salvage report for 5/21/2012 to 5/28/2012								
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	8	6	19	16	16	72	86	388
Total to Date	40	26	293	203	20	91	322	1,415
CHNLF								
Total to Date	25	20	20	14				
CHNW							4	19
Total to Date	227	175	453	377	233	1,035	384	1,682
CHNS	4	4			24	116		
Total to Date	96	63	614	492	46	226	445	1,900
SH			8*	5*				
Total to Date	397	270	89	61	192	831	239	1035

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 5/21/2012 to 5/28/2012				
Species	CVP		SWP	
	Salvage	Total to Date	Salvage	Total to Date
DSM**	12	297	564	1,506
LFS***		898		2,842
SPLT		248		3,880
GST				
WST		64		

DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail, GST=Green sturgeon, WST=White sturgeon

* This salvage and loss estimation includes one non-adipose clipped steelhead that had sutures.

**Larval delta smelt < 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples from 5/21 to 5/28 at the federal facility and from 5/16 to 0300 hours on 5/29 at the state facility.

***No larval longfin smelt < 20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples from 5/21 to 5/28 at the federal facility and from 5/16 to 0300 hours on 5/29 at the state facility.

Hatchery Chinook Salvage Update:

Most of the hatchery fall-run Chinook recovered at the facilities in May were from the Merced Hatchery. In addition, a few fall-run Chinook were from the Coleman National Fish Hatchery on the Sacramento River and the Nimbus Hatchery on the American River.

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 are located in the tables under the folder “DOSS salvage tables.” Smelt salvage data are located under the folder “Daily Smelt Summary.”

Smelt Monitoring

The latest survey updates can be found at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/data/>.

Smelt Working Group

The Smelt Working Group met on Tuesday, 5/29. Leigh Bartoo, the FWS representative, was unable to call in to DAT, but provided the following e-mail update on 5/30 prior to the DAT conference call:

The Working Group recommended no change in projected operations based on a review of delta smelt distribution and salvage data, current Delta conditions and projected operations. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions was sufficient to protect longfin smelt. The Working Group will continue to monitor smelt salvage, larval smelt survey data, and delta hydrological conditions and will reconvene June 4, 2012, at 10 am.

In addition, the group had the following additional discussion:

The Working Group reviewed and discussed all relevant data from fish surveys, Delta monitoring, salvage, and planned Project operations. The first larval delta smelt were salvaged at the CVP on April 26 and the SWP on April 24. The seasonal cumulative total of salvaged juvenile delta smelt is 1,600. Qwest is now 1,577 cfs, X2 is at 73.2 km, and the 5-day OMR flow is at -2,055 cfs. The preliminary data from the 20-mm Survey # 6 indicate low levels of detection in the central Delta and none in the south Delta.

Following the adaptive process parameters in the RPA for Action 3, the SWG agreed that current numbers of salvaged juvenile delta smelt do not reach the level of concern requiring a change in operations, for the following reasons: total cumulative salvage has not reached the total concern level for May of 4,471, as outlined in the OCAP BiOp, the center of delta smelt distribution appears to be out of the south and central Delta. Combined exports are curtailed to comply with the NMFS Stipulation Agreement of -5,000 cfs OMR through 05/31, and will then be more restricted under D1641;-5000 cfs OMR is within the OMR range under Action 3 of the RPA.

Please contact Leigh directly with any questions. Smelt Working Group notes are posted at <http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/OCAP/index.cfm>.

DOSS

DOSS did not meet this week since operations for the week were already in place. DOSS will meet again on Tuesday, 6/5.

Joint Stipulation Study Update:

As of the 5/29 download, a cumulative total of 42 sentinel tags have been detected at the Railroad Cut receivers from the third sentinel steelhead release effort.

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

Operations

Summary for May 31, 2012			
SWP		CVP	
Clifton Court (cfs)	3,000	Jones Pumping Plant (cfs)	1,600
Outflow (cfs)	~6,600	American - Nimbus (cfs)	2,000

Feather - Oroville (cfs)	1,500	Sacramento - Keswick (cfs)	9,500
San Luis Total (TAF)	1,318	Stanislaus - Goodwin (cfs)	
San Luis Share (TAF)	766	San Luis Share (TAF)	
X2 (Km)	74		
E/I (%)	33.2		
OMR (daily)			
OMR 5 day (cfs)	-2,755		
OMR 14 day (cfs)	-3,950		

Project operations will continue to meet the Bay-Delta standards contained in D-1641 that are in place for June (e.g., export/inflow ratio, outflow, and water quality standards). In addition, RPA Action IV.2.3 of the NMFS biological opinion will continue to be in place from 6/1 to 6/15. Under this action, the projects will need to manage exports to target an OMR of -5,000 cfs. However, the OMR target will change if a fish trigger is exceeded.

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

Delta Water Temperature Conditions

On 5/30, water temperature was at about 21.6°C at Clifton Court and at about 20.4°C at Mossdale.

Additional temperature data can be found at
<http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/docs/delta/DeltaMisc1.pdf>.

Next meeting: The next DAT conference call is scheduled for June 7, 2012 at 11:00am.