

**DRAFT Data Assessment Team (DAT) Conference Call Notes
4/25/13 at 11:00 a.m.**

Participants: Lucinda Shih (CCWD), Geir Aasen (DFW), Edmund Yu, Elaine Jeu and Norman Lee (DWR), Elizabeth Leeper (KMTG on behalf of SLDMWA), RG Fernando, Leigh Bartoo (FWS), Barb Byrne (NMFS)

Sacramento River Salmonid Monitoring

Preliminary Rotary Screw Trap (RST) Report			
Species*	FWS Red Bluff Diversion Dam RST (Estimated Passage)	DFW Tisdale Weir RST (Catch)	DFW Knights Landing RST (Catch)
Date	4/9/13 to 4/22/13*	4/17/13 to 4/24/13	Monitoring discontinued since 12/15/12.
CHNF	560,492	1	
CHNLF	912		
CHNW	1,085		
CHNS	102,563		
Ad-Clipped CHN	Not reported	1	
SH	6,329		
Ad-Clipped SH	Not reported		
*Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead. Species are unmarked unless noted as adipose-fin clipped (ad-clipped). Data subject to revision.			

*There has been a decline in passage for all species at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam except for fall-run Chinook salmon since the reporting period of 3/26 to 4/8.

Graphical summaries of the monitoring data collected at the Sacramento River and at other locations can be found at <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm>. In addition, the biweekly passage reports of juvenile salmonids sampled at the Red Bluff Diversion Dam are available at http://www.fws.gov/redbluff/rbdd_biweekly.aspx.

Delta Fish Monitoring

Preliminary FWS Trawl and Seine Catch Report from 4/14/13 to 4/20/13				
Species*	Beach Seines	Mossdale Trawl**	Sacramento Trawl	Chippis Island Trawl
CHNF	36		477	5
CHNLF				
CHNW				1
CHNS	4		249	52
Ad-Clipped CHN	9		339	
SH				1
Ad-Clipped SH			1	
DSM			1 (84 mm, no expression)	3 (74 to 102 mm, no expression)
LFS				3 (77 to 103 mm, no expression)
SPLT	55			4
*Chinook race based on length (Frank Fisher model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, SH = Steelhead, DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail. Species are unmarked unless noted as adipose-fin clipped (ad-clipped). Data subject to revision.				

**From April to June, DFW (Region 4) conducts the Mossdale trawl monitoring and not FWS. Based on preliminary data from DFW, 1,317 non-clipped Chinook salmon were caught at the Mossdale trawls from 4/15 to 4/20. The average fork length was 75.26 mm.

In addition, DFW conducted another trawl efficiency test on 4/19 with 5,500 juvenile Chinook salmon

marked with a lower purple caudal fin.

Information about the Delta fish monitoring data from FWS can also be found at <http://www.fws.gov/stockton/jfmp/>.

Salvage Monitoring

Preliminary DFW Salvage Report for Salmonids from 4/15/13 to 4/21/13								
Species	Central Valley Project (CVP)				State Water Project (SWP)			
	Adipose-Fin Clipped (Ad-Clipped)		Non-Adipose Fin Clipped (Non-Clipped)		Adipose-Fin Clipped (Ad-Clipped)		Non-Adipose Fin Clipped (Non-Clipped)	
	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss	Salvage	Loss
CHNF			304	249			70	298
Total to Date	93	62	352	281	322	1,460	192	818
CHNLF								
Total to Date	165	118	28	18	616	2,780	57	260
CHNW					4	20		
Total to Date	67	53	129	98	120	542	142	633
CHNS			44	36			57	245
Total to Date			124	92			259	1,110
CHNU								
Total to Date			8	5				
SH	11	7	18	12	8	35	16	69
Total to Date	308	209	239	162	328	1,420	329	1,414

Notes:
 -Chinook race based on length (Delta model); CHNF=Fall run, CHNLF=Late-fall run, CHNW=Winter run, CHNS= Spring run, CHNU= Unknown race (Chinook greater than the length-at-date criteria), SH = Steelhead.
 -Salvage and loss estimates are rounded to the nearest whole fish.
 -Documentation on how to calculate salvage and Chinook loss can be found at <ftp://ftp.delta.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/Salmon%20Loss%20Estimation/>.
 -Steelhead loss: SWP steelhead loss = salvage x 4.33 and CVP steelhead loss = salvage x 0.68.
 -Total to date is the total since 10/1/12 (the start of water year 2013).
 -Data subject to revision.
 *NS: CVP ceased water exports and salvage operations at 0600 on 4/1/2013 due to a scheduled installation of a new hoist trolley beam in the fish holding tank building. CVP will resume exports and salvage at 0800 on 4/15/13.

Preliminary DFW Salvage Report for Smelt and Other Species from 4/15/13 to 4/21/13				
Species	CVP		SWP	
	Salvage	Total to Date	Salvage	Total to Date
DSM*	8	156		112
LFS**	24	135	8	16
SPLT		21	2	102
GST				
WST		4		6

Notes:
 -DSM=Delta smelt, LFS=Longfin smelt, SPLT = Splittail, GST=Green sturgeon, WST=White sturgeon.
 -Salvage estimates are rounded to the nearest whole fish.
 -Total to date is the total since 10/1/12 (the start of water year 2013).
 -Data subject to revision.

*No delta smelt <20 mm in fork length were reported in larval fish samples at the CVP fish facility. In comparison, delta smelt < 20 mm in fork length were reported in larval fish samples at the SWP fish facility during the period from 1500 hours on 4/9 to 0900 hours on 4/18.

**Longfin smelt <20 mm FL were reported in larval fish samples at the CVP fish facility. Similarly, longfin smelt < 20 mm in fork length were reported in larval fish samples at the SWP facility during the period from 1500 hours on 4/9 to 0900 hours on 4/18.

Salvage information is posted on the salvage FTP site (<ftp://ftp.dfg.ca.gov/salvage/>). If you cannot access the FTP site, you can also go to <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/apps/salvage/Default.aspx> and click on "Salvage FTP Site."

Smelt Monitoring

No new data to report since the last DAT conference call. All data up to this point are available online at <http://www.dfg.ca.gov/delta/data/>.

Smelt Working Group

The Smelt Working Group met this past Monday (4/22) and the recommendation was similar to the previous week, which states that current operations are protective of delta smelt and longfin smelt. However, the Smelt Working Group will probably reconvene should OMR flows become increasingly negative in the -2,500 cfs to -3,000 cfs range to evaluate risks to delta smelt and longfin smelt.

As of 4/24, the juvenile delta smelt salvage at the Delta fish facilities was at 16, which is above the concern level of 13 and below the take limit of 20. There was a question on the source of this concern level and take limit since it appears to be very low. In response, Leigh Bartoo (FWS) mentioned that it was based on the revised calculations from the 2008 FWS BiOp and Bartoo confirmed after the DAT call that the numbers reported to DAT on 3/7 and documented in the meeting notes were in fact accurate. In addition, Bartoo mentioned that the April take limit for juvenile delta smelt has been historically low since juvenile delta smelt salvage is usually very low in April. At the time of the DAT conference call, the Smelt Working Group did not plan to take action for exceeding the April concern level for juvenile delta smelt since the Smelt Working Group also takes into account the overall take limit of 2,350 juvenile delta smelt for the water year.

The Smelt Working Group notes and FWS determinations are posted at http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/cvp-swp/smelt_working_group.cfm.

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Working Group

DOSS met this past Tuesday (4/23) and provided no formal advice to WOMT and NMFS, but did provide an update on the implementation of the NMFS RPA actions that are in place. As of 4/19, OMR was relaxed to the NMFS RPA Action IV.2.3 (OMR flow management) baseline level of no more negative than -5,000 cfs since all the loss and loss density calculations were below the trigger levels. However, OMR is currently not controlling operations.

For NMFS RPA Action IV.2.1 (San Joaquin River inflow to export (I:E) ratio), DWR and Reclamation are now operating to the 1:1 ratio, which is required for a critical water year type in the San Joaquin Valley unless the San Joaquin River at Vernalis inflow is below 1,500 cfs. In that case, DWR and Reclamation are allowed to export 1,500 cfs for health and safety reasons. At this time, Vernalis inflow is above 1,500 cfs; therefore, DWR and Reclamation are no longer operating at the health and safety export level like in early April.

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

Operations

Preliminary Summary for 4/25/13			
SWP		CVP	
Clifton Court Inflow (cfs)	1,000	Jones Pumping Plant (cfs)	800
SWP San Luis Reservoir Share	453	CVP San Luis Reservoir Share	709

(TAF) as of Midnight		(TAF) as of Midnight	
San Luis Reservoir Total (TAF) as of Midnight	1,162	American – Nimbus Reservoir Releases (cfs)	1,000
Feather – Oroville Reservoir Releases (cfs)	2,750	Sacramento – Keswick Reservoir Releases (cfs)	10,500
DELTA OPERATIONS			
Outflow	~7,000	14-day Average OMR Flow as of 4/24/13 (cfs)	-749
X2 (km)	>81	5-day Average OMR Flow as of 4/24/13 (cfs)	-1,343
E/I (%)	15.9 (14-day average)		

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

Next Conference Call: The next DAT conference call is scheduled on 5/2 at 11:00 a.m. An e-mail update will be sent out before the conference call if an agency representative cannot call in.

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