

WOMT Notes

March 18, 2014 Meeting

1. General Information:

CVP: Keswick Release to upper Sacramento River @ 3,250 cfs

Nimbus Release to lower American River @ 500 cfs

Goodwin Release to Stanislaus River @ 550 cfs (for EC at Vernalis)

Jones Pumping Plant @ 3,300 cfs, down to 2,400 cfs on Thursday

X-channel Gates: Closed

Federal Share of San Luis @ 451 TAF

SWP: Oroville Release to Feather River @ 800 cfs

Clifton Court Allotment @ 2,300 cfs today, drop to 1,500 cfs tomorrow

State Share of San Luis @ 375 TAF

Freeport Flow approx. 11,600 cfs

Vernalis Flow approx. 950 cfs

Delta Outflow approx. 6,200 cfs

OMR index value (5 day average) approx. -5600 cfs

OMR index value (14 day average) approx. -5500 cfs

OMR measured value (5 day average USGS) approx. -5300 cfs

X2 @ 74 km today

SWRCB: Term 91 and 93 (Sacramento and San Joaquin Rivers) are not currently in effect as a result of the prior storm events in March. The current expectation is that they may be re-instituted sometime around April 1; The Real-Time Drought Operations Team (RTDOT) has been discussing modifications and/or alternative interpretations of 1) the Export/Inflow ratio export constraint, 2) OMR limits, and 3) Delta Outflow criteria. These criteria have been the ones most directly affecting project operations to date; NRDC issued a protest to the TUC issued by the SWRCB, despite a revision. A petition will not be submitted to the SWRCB; DWR anticipates a requested revision to the TUC will be sent today, the SWRCB may or may not act immediately on the request, depending on its urgency

Current Water Project Operations Status: Inflows to the Delta have continued to recede as dry conditions in the Delta watershed dominate recent project operations. The projects expect to meet the X2 requirements at Collinsville (“three ways to win”) for the entire month of March.

NMFS – Biological Opinion for CV Salmonids, Steelhead, Sturgeon:

(1) The CVP and SWP will operate through March 31, 2014 in accordance with their projected ops plan, as provided in NMFS’ March 14 letter and clarified in Reclamation’s March 17 letter, while allowing for minor modifications to be discussed and agreed to at RTDOT; (2) No advice from DOSS, therefore no NMFS determination necessary.

USFWS – Delta Smelt : At current and projected export levels, the risk of entrainment to Delta smelt is low, therefore no change in operations is recommended per SWG; No determination from USFWS.

DFW – Longfin Smelt : Current export rates are protective of Longfin Smelt at this time. Continue w/ Incidental Take Permit Condition 5.3, which limits Barker Slough Diversion Rates to no greater than 50 cfs on a 7 day running average basis until March 31 or earlier if no larval Longfin Smelt are detected at Station 716 in subsequent surveys.

2. WOMT Decisions - None