CALFED Operations Group
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Winter-run chinook salmon:

Adult winter-run chinook spawning has begun with CDFG reporting 418 redds observed by helicopter as of 6/11, of these 8 redds (1.9%) have been observed below the temperature compliance point (Jelly's Ferry). The number of redds observed is slightly more then the number reported at this time last year.

The CaLFed-EWA Science Team hosted a Salmon Workshop at UC-Davis on June 21st. One of the main purposes was an examination of factors related to the high take of juvenile winter-run chinook this year at the Fish Salvage Facilities. Emphasis was on the use of the EWA to curtail exports during peak winter-run densities. Recommendations from this workshop will be used in preparing a report on the annual review of the EWA called for in the CalFed-ROD. The results of this review will guide implementation of the EWA in the future, including potential modifications to the decision making process for fish actions taken next year.

Steelhead and Spring-run Chinook: Monitoring and loss at the Fish Salvage Facilities has dropped off to near zero. Most juvenile salmon being caught now are fall-run chinook. A few unmarked steelhead continue to be caught in the USFWS trawl at Chipps Island. The cumulative total for steelhead salvaged at the Fish Facilities is 4,228 still below the 4,500 incidental take limit established in the new OCAP- biological opinion issued May 8th. Steelhead and spring-run chinook numbers are expected to remain low through the rest of the summer.

On the American River good numbers of juvenile steelhead have been reported in snorkel surveys above Watt Ave this year. The American River Operations Group (AROG) is working on maintaining temperatures in the lower river for steelhead. The first set of shutters has already been pulled on Folsom Dam for temperature control. A steelhead monitoring program has been started by CDFG to establish biological triggers for steelhead focusing on temperature that will guide the AROG in flow recommendations.