

CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES
Wednesday, November 5, 2008
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Resources Building
Director's Conference Room, 11th Floor

Announcements – None to report

SWRCB Activities –

No SWRCB staff members were present at the meeting or on the phone. Mike Ford and Karna Harrigfeld attempted to summarize yesterday's (Nov. 4) SWRCB workshop, where an update on south Delta salinity objectives work was given by Mark Gowdy (SWRCB). Dr. Hoffman's work under contract to SWRCB is 80% complete. He has completed his literature review of all pertinent background materials. He has developed a modified steady-state model for use with south Delta soil characteristics and crops to look at irrigation water salinity requirements. He believes a transient model would be more desirable but one has not been developed that can be directly applied in the south Delta yet. He will complete his final report by the end of calendar year 2008 because the contract expires at the end of the year. The SWRCB will likely convene a workshop in January 2009 to get public input on his report. Also in the first quarter of 2009, the SWRCB will begin CEQA scoping for alternatives to be considered in the re-evaluation of San Joaquin River flow requirement and south Delta salinity objectives. The Board will try to integrate south Delta objectives with upstream actions being regulated by the Regional Water Quality Control Board (namely TMDL's – Total Maximum Daily Loads)

Fisheries Status

(Chinook) The numbers are similar to last year, most winter-run spawned above Airport Road, which is the current temperature objective location. The majority of juveniles have passed Red Bluff, seen at Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District, not in Delta at Knight's Landing yet, even though there was a storm last week

(Steelhead) Nothing to report

(Green Sturgeon) Nothing to report

(Delta smelt) The September mid-water trawl is done. The smelt index is 2. October trawls have not been released yet; only a couple of smelt were caught and they weren't in the Delta.

(Longfin Smelt) The Fish and Game Commission is meeting next Thursday in southern California to discuss special regulations that could be implemented this winter; the regulations proposed could affect SWP operations.

Work Group Updates

(VAMP) Nothing to report.

(DAT) Met twice since October 1, the resumption after summer break after Delta smelt season was over. Discussed spring-run surrogates, the proposed salmon study in the north Delta and the fact that the spring-run population is down; the adult count is about 1/3 of last year's numbers on all three major streams.

(WOMT) Have primarily been discussing the proposed North/Central Delta Regional Salmon Outmigration Study by DWR and USGS.

CVP/SWP Operations Updates

(CVP) – Keswick @ 5,800 cfs, Folsom @ 1,000 cfs, Goodwin @ 250 cfs, Jones PP approx. 3,800 cfs, Federal share of San Luis at 114 TAF.

(SWP) – Oroville at 1100 cfs with storage of 1.03 MAF, Banks at 2000 cfs, State share of San Luis at 150 TAF (past low point and rising). Oroville releases could go as low as 900 cfs in next few weeks.

(Delta Conditions) – West Delta water quality at Jersey Point is over 2.0 EC, projects are operating to 250 Chlorides at Rock Slough.