

CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES
Wednesday, December 9, 2009
1:00 – 4:00 p.m.
Resources Building
Director's Conference Room, 11th Floor

Announcements

None

SWRCB Activities (P. Fernandez)

1. The Draft Modification to the Cease and Desist Order issued to USBR and DWR on south Delta standards has been released to the public and comments on the draft were due by December 4. The final modification may be adopted by the SWRCB at its January 5, 2010 meeting.
2. The SWRCB is mandated by Senate Bill 1 (recently passed by Legislature and signed by the Governor) to develop new flow criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta, including flow volume, timing and water quality, within 9 months (August, 2010). The SWRCB will schedule workshops and proceedings in the future to solicit information from the public on how best to comply with SB 1 requirements.
3. The SWRCH held a workshop to receive final comments on the draft report titled "Salt Tolerance of Crops in the southern Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta", by Dr. Glen Hoffman. The report is expected to be finalized in early January 2010.

Fisheries Status

(B. Oppenheim, NMFS)

Salmon – No salmon have been taken yet at the export facilities for the new water year except for one winter-run (based on size) at Jones P.P. on 12/8. There was a small "pulse" of winter-run in September in the Delta. With the storms predicted to arrive next week, may see some additional movement; DFG's preliminary estimate is 2000-3000 adults upstream, which will influence the incidental take number for 2010; the final determination will be made in January.

Steelhead and Sturgeon- None have been taken at the export facilities and no juvenile have been found at the export facilities. Six adult sturgeon were found near GCID, appears they're waiting for a pulse flow to move back to the ocean.

Delta smelt – No Delta smelt have been salvaged at the pumps in the last several months expect for one adult taken a week ago at Jones P.P. The Smelt Working Group started meeting this month and will meet next week.

Longfin smelt – Nothing to report.

Work Group Updates

DAT – Nothing to report.

DOSS - Have started meeting per NOAA’s Biological Opinion. Meet on Tuesday mornings prior to WOMT. Project operations focus so far has been on Delta Cross Channel gate closures and Action 8 (examine salmon migration)

WOMT – Concurred with DOSS recommendation to open cross channel gates for part of Action 8. Also, DFG wanted the cross channel gates closed for a Mokelumne River pulse flow in October, but WOMT said “no” citing water quality concerns.

CVP/SWP Operations Updates

CVP - Trinity at 300 cfs, Keswick at 3,250 cfs, Nimbus at 1,800 cfs, Goodwin at 250 cfs, Jones PP at 2,000 cfs , San Luis Federal share at 443 TAF.

SWP - Oroville at 2,000 cfs ramping down 200 cfs/day to 1350 cfs minimum, Clifton Court at 2,000 cfs, San Luis State share at 214 TAF.

Delta Standards – Sacramento River at Freeport approx. 8,000 – 9,000 cfs, Vernalis approx. 1,200 cfs. South Delta salinity at Old River near Tracy Road Bridge continues to exceed 1.0 EC since November 27.

Misc – Jason Peltier requested an agenda item be added at future meetings on Friant Restoration Flows