

## **CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES**

**Wednesday, September 22, 2010**

**1:00 – 3:00 p.m.**

**Room 1131, Resources Building**

### **1) SWRCB Update**

#### Delta Flow Criteria

Water Code section 85086 requires the State Water Resources Control Board (State Water Board or Board) to develop, within nine months of enactment of the requirement, new flow criteria to protect public trust resources for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta (Delta) ecosystem. The statute further requires the State Water Board to submit its flow criteria determinations to the Delta Stewardship Council within 30 days of their development. In accordance with Water Code section 85086, the State Water Board conducted a public process in the form of an informational proceeding, held on March 22-24, 2010, to develop the flow criteria. The State Water Board released a draft Report on Development of Flow Criteria for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta Ecosystem on July 21, 2010, for public review and comment. On August 3, 2010, the State Water Board adopted Resolution 2010-0039 approving the final report determining new flow criteria for the Delta ecosystem necessary to protect public trust resources. On August 25, 2010 the Executive Director of the State Water Board submitted the final report to the Delta Stewardship Council. The final report and other information from the proceeding can be viewed at [http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/bay\\_delta/deltaflow/final\\_rpt.shtml](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/bay_delta/deltaflow/final_rpt.shtml)

Also, a summary of the criteria is included in the report from page 131 to 136.

For further information on the Delta Flow Criteria, contact Diane Riddle at 341-5297 or [driddle@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:driddle@waterboards.ca.gov)

#### Modeling

The Department of Water Resources (DWR) and U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) are providing modeling assistance to the State Water Board in the following areas:

- a) DWR has developed a plan to address our request for improvements to the salinity simulation performance of the DSM2 model in the southern Delta. The request was made as a follow-up to the recent CDO adopted by the Board in January (WR 2010-0002). We are evaluating the proposed plan and work has not started yet.
- b) DWR is providing modeling runs to evaluate potential improvements to flows and salinity in the southern Delta associated with proposed changes to the temporary ag barriers down there (adding height and changing flap-gate operations). This is being done as part of the coordination effort between DWR and the South Delta Water Agency we requested as part of approving an emergency change petition back in the summer of 2008.

c) USBR is working on a scope of work to provide us with some CALSIM modeling that would evaluate possible alternative flow objectives for the San Joaquin River at Vernalis. Like item b) above this modeling support was requested as part of WR 2010-0002. The scope of work is still in development with USBR and work has not started.

For further information on Modeling, contact Mark Gowdy at 341-5432 or [mgowdy@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mgowdy@waterboards.ca.gov)

### Water Transfer Petitions

## **ORDERS ISSUED**

The State Water Board issued five temporary transfer orders over the summer. These orders are available for viewing online at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/applications/transfers\\_tu\\_orders/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/transfers_tu_orders/)

7/1/10, ORDER ISSUED WR 2010-0022. South Sutter Water District to eight State Water Contractors, 10,000 af. Water was released from Camp Far West Reservoir, however, the water was made available through groundwater substitution.

7/2/10, ORDER ISSUED WR 2010-0023. Garden Highway Mutual Water Company to eight State Water Contractors, 5,802 af of water. Water was made available through groundwater substitution.

7/2/10, ORDER ISSUED WR 2010-0024. Tule Basin Farms to eight State Water Contractors, 3,520 af. Water was made available through groundwater substitution.

7/2/10, ORDER ISSUED WR 2010-0025. City of Sacramento/Sacramento Suburban Water District to eight State Water Contractors, 4,377 af. Water was made available through groundwater substitution.

9/2/10, ORDER ISSUED WR 2010-0027. Merced Irrigation District to four State Water Contractors, 15,000 af . Transfer total consists of stored water.

## **PENDING TRANSFER NOTICE**

9/15/10, Consolidated Place of Use petitions submitted by DWR and USBR to temporarily add the Central Valley Project (CVP) place of use downstream of the Jones Pumping Plant to the State Water Project (SWP) permit and to temporarily add the SWP place of use downstream of the Banks Pumping Plant to the permits and license of the CVP. These changes are intended to facilitate three specific transfers/exchanges involving a total of up to 220,000 acre-feet of water. The petitions request the changes be effective through September 30, 2011. The comment period for these petitions ends on October 18, 2010. The notice is available for viewing online at:

[http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/applications/transfers\\_tu\\_notices/](http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/transfers_tu_notices/)

For further information on water transfers, contact Greg Wilson at 341-5427 or [gwilson@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gwilson@waterboards.ca.gov)

## 2) Fishery Status

Salmonids (B. Byrne) – Preliminary carcass surveys for winter-run have been completed but no population calculations are finalized yet. Bruce Oppenheim’s very preliminary calculations estimate between 1500 and 2000 adults. Spring-Run are showing a decline over the last several years, but populations in Battle Creek and Clear Creek are actually improving. Sturgeon – Anecdotal information would indicate that sturgeon are on the move now, but there was no take of sturgeon at the export facilities last year. Fall-run – escapement has been low the last several years, but some fish are showing early on the Stanislaus River.

Delta smelt and longfin smelt – No salvage to report lately, the summer townet survey was completed and the fall townet survey has just started.

## 3) Working Groups

DOSS – Have had 2 meetings since the summer “hiatus”. The proposed EBMUD salmon/pulse flow experiment has been discussed and also if the Fall Head of Old River barrier needs to be installed this year. An annual Science review of the combined BO’s for salmonids/sturgeon and Delta smelt is expected in early November; each technical group formed by the BO’s will make their own report.

SWG – not currently meeting; preparing for the BO review

## 4) Project operations

CVP – 6750 cfs at Keswick, 1500 cfs at Folsom, 200 cfs at Goodwin, 4100 cfs at Jones P.P., 1800 cfs of CVP water at Banks, Federal share of San Luis = 348 TAF

SWP – 5500 cfs at Oroville, 5500 cfs at Clifton Court, State share of San Luis = 443 TAF- projected “low point” in State share of San Luis to occur in mid-October.