

CALFED OPERATIONS MEETING NOTES
Wednesday, January 23, 2013
1:00 – 2:00 p.m.

SWRCB Update (P. Fernandez)

1) Phase 1: San Joaquin River Flow and South Delta Water Quality Objectives

- The State Water Board released a draft Substitute Environmental Document (SED) on December 31, 2012.
- The State Water Board will hold a public hearing on the adequacy of the draft SED on March 20, 2013, and continuing on March 21 and 22, if necessary.
- Written comments on the draft SED are due by noon on March 29, 2013.
- A final SED is anticipated by Spring 2013.

2) Comprehensive Review of Bay-Delta Plan

- On January 17, 2013, Brock Bernstein, the facilitator of the Phase 2 public workshops and a sub-contractor of ICF International, released a draft report summarizing the three workshops:
 - Ecosystem Changes and the Low Salinity Zone (Sep. 5-6)
 - Bay-Delta Fishery Resources (Oct. 1-2), and
 - Analytical Tools for Evaluating Water Supply, Hydrodynamic and Hydropower Effects

The report identifies key points of agreement and disagreement, uncertainties and questions.

3) Bay-Delta Compliance

- On January 10, 2013, the Delta Watermaster met with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Deputy Regional Director Pablo Arroyoave to discuss Reclamation's role in meeting D-1641 objectives.

4) Water Transfers

- No new information

Fisheries Update

Chinook Salmon, Steelhead and Green Sturgeon (B. Oppenheim) –

Winter-run – Official escapement is out. The number of adults in 2012 is approx. 3 times higher than in 2011, although still relatively low. A report, to come out, will document potential reasons for the increase. The ITL is 10,656. Approx. 2% of loss has occurred so far (302 adults).

Spring-Run – Number of spring-run look good so far, with a clear increase in the number of spawners.

Steelhead – Surveys of steelhead spawning are just beginning this month. More steelhead have been seen in the various rivers this year. Year to date salvage is only 39, w/ the ITL = 3,000.

Green sturgeon – Very few observed spawning above RBDD. No salvage at export facilities to date.

Delta smelt (E. Gleason) – The SWG recommended that OMR be no more negative than -2500 cfs to protect adult Delta smelt, this was the same recommendation as the week before

DOSS – Haven't had any advice for some time, salmon salvage at export facilities has been low for awhile.

SOG – Group will develop January pulse flow requirement prior to the 27th. The temperature criteria at Orange Blossom Bridge is being met.

Water Project Operations

CVP – Keswick @ 4500 cfs; Nimbus @ 2250 cfs; Goodwin @ 275 cfs , Jones PP @ 1000 cfs and Fed share San Luis @ 709 TAF

SWP – Oroville @1750 cfs, Clifton Court @ 3500 cfs, and State share San Luis approx. @ 500 TAF