

WOMT Summary 11/7/2006

This is for the WOMT meeting on 11/7/2006. Please excuse me for not sending out the final and to the DAT reflector.

Agricultural Barriers Removal Schedule

At the WOMT meeting of 9/26/07, the WOMT agencies determined the Head of Old River Barrier was not necessary this fall because the Stockton dissolved oxygen level was greater than 5 ppm. However, in order to have as much San Joaquin River flow past Stockton to the Central Delta as possible to help migrating San Joaquin basin adult Chinook find their natal streams, DFG requested the agricultural barriers remain in place later, until 11/20/2006, assuming 10 days would be sufficient to complete the barrier removal by 11/30/2006 as required by the FWS and NOAA Biological Opinions.

At the WOMT meeting of 11/7/2006, we were informed by the contractor that it may take more than 10 days to complete the agricultural barrier removal, including final cleanup.

The Thanksgiving weekend may exacerbate the timing. The barriers will be breached before 11/30/2006, but final clean up may extend in to the first week of December. The FWS and NOAA Biological Opinions specify the barriers be removed by 11/30/2006, therefore DWR will write a letter to FWS and NOAA explaining the situation where the final cleanup may extend into the first week of December and request recommendations.