

Final WOMT Summary for 12/30/08:

The Smelt Working Group (SWG) provided the following clarifications to the Projects Operations staff on meeting the expectation of future OMR flow objectives.

1) Due to the delayed availability with the USGS tidally filtered data, Projects Operations will continue to use the same provisional methodology as during 2007-2008 water year to measure the compliance expectation to meet the OMR flow objective as a result of real-time operational changes. Projects Operation Offices will begin to report these OMR flows and are working with California Data Exchange Center (CDEC) to make available the same OMR values on its website to the public in the near future.

2) In any future OMR flow objectives recommended by the SWG, it is understood that the Projects Operations will be required to meet the recommended OMR flow objectives using the 14-day average of the OMR flow values with any applicable 5-day restrictions as perscribed in the December 15, 2008, USFWS Biological Opinion. Projects Operation Offices will made available both the 5-day and the 14-day averages of OMR flows based on the provisional methodology developed by the Projects Operation Offices.

In addition, based on concerns raised by DWR, the FWS agreed to delay the start of the proposed Adult Delta Smelt Mark Recapture Experiments at Skinner Fish Facility and Clifton Court Forebay, pending discussion and potential resolution of these issues by the WOMT at next week's meeting or, if necessary, a subsequent Director-level decision.