

## **WOMT Summary for May 31, 2011**

The WOMT met and discussed the following:

The Smelt Working Group reported no recommendation for delta smelt or longfin smelt at this time and will continue to monitor salvage, survey data and hydrological conditions. The Working Group estimated that the overall risk of entrainment was low given the distributional data from recent surveys and believes that, based upon what is known of Delta conditions and delta smelt distribution, a modification of Project operations to protect delta smelt is not yet warranted.

DOSS advises that implementation of the 4:1 I:E ratio continue through Tuesday, 5/31/11, per Action IV.2.1. From 6/1/11 through 6/15/11, DOSS advises that a 1:1 I:E ratio be implemented per Action IV.2.2.

DOSS also advises NMFS and WOMT that the steelhead loss density observed on 5/27/11 triggered an action response under Action IV.2.3 that requires that OMR flow be no more negative than -3500 cfs for at least 5 days. Because OMR flows have been positive under implementation of the 4:1 I:E ratio, no operations changes were necessary over the weekend to achieve this action response under Action IV.2.3. DOSS advises that Saturday, 5/28/11, be considered day 1 of the action response and that the projects operate such that OMR flows be no more negative than -3,500 cfs at least through Wednesday, 6/1/11 (the 5<sup>th</sup> day of the action response). After Wednesday, the OMR limit may be relaxed if the combined steelhead loss density at the fish facilities is reported as less than 8 fish/TAF for at least the last 3 consecutive days of the 5-day action response (and if no other fish density trigger is met).

NMFS accepts the advice from DOSS and determines that managing CVP/SWP operations is consistent with the intended implementation of Actions IV.2.1, IV.2.2 and IV.2.3 and sufficiently protective of listed species present in the Delta at this time.