

WOMT Summary for Mar 13, 2012

The WOMT met and discussed the following:

The DOSS advice to WOMT and NMFS is for the projects to continue to implement the RPA Action IV.2.3 of OMR at no more negative than -2,500 cfs until there are 3 consecutive days of combined loss density below 5.0 fish/TAF trigger for older juvenile Chinook. Based on the preliminary data for Monday, 3/12/2012 (loss density <5.0 fish/TAF), the earliest that this action could be relaxed would be Thursday, 3/15/12. DOSS will review the salvage data Thursday and determine whether to continue the action.

NMFS accepts the advice from DOSS and determines that the DOSS advice is consistent with the intended implementation of Action IV.2.3 and sufficiently protective of listed species present in the Delta at this time.

The SWG will continue to monitor smelt salvage, adult and larval smelt survey data and Delta hydrological conditions. The SWG agreed that given their present distribution, low levels of salvage, and current Delta conditions, risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the SWG recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The SWG also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions was sufficient to protect longfin smelt.

Currently as of today, the FWS and DFG deem that no additional actions are needed for protection of delta and longfin smelt.