

## WOMT Notes

### April 14, 2015 Meeting

#### 1. General Information:

##### CVP

- *Trinity Release @ 300 cfs*
- *Keswick Release to upper Sacramento River @ 3250 cfs*
- *Nimbus Release to lower American River @ 500 cfs*
- *Goodwin Release to Stanislaus River @ 200 cfs (on the receding limb of 2<sup>nd</sup> pulse, which peaked at 1,500 cfs, targeting base flow of 150 cfs)*
- *Jones Pumping Plant @ 950± cfs*
- *X-channel Gates: Closed (no immediate need, so will likely stay closed)*
- *Federal Share of San Luis = 393 taf*
- *Total Volume in San Luis = 1.329 MAF*

##### SWP

- *Oroville Release to Feather River @ 800 cfs*
- *Clifton Court Allotment @ 500± cfs (operating to 1,500 cfs combined on a 3-day average)*
- *State Share of San Luis @ 934 taf*

##### Delta

- *Freeport Flow (4/13) = 5,805 cfs*
- *Vernalis Flow (4/13) = 1,186 cfs*

- *Delta Outflow (4/13) = 4,739 cfs*
- *14-day average E/I Ratio = 18%*

**OMR (cfs) (as of 4/11/15):**

- Index:
  - Daily: -1,773
  - 5-day: -1,791
  - 14-day: -1,555
- USGS:
  - 5-day: -1,570
  - 14-day: -1,427

**FISH UPDATES:**

- **DOSS**

Entrainment risk of fish from the Sacramento River into the Interior Delta (same as last week except for tidal conditions)

DOSS noted that generally, there is an increased risk of entrainment into the interior Delta during spring tides, compared to during neap tides, at any OMR level. During a spring tide, tidal conditions extend further upstream and may, for example, create conditions at Georgiana Slough (e.g. reverse flows) that are associated with routing into Georgiana Slough, a route to the interior Delta. Currently, the Delta is entering a spring tide (quarter moon was on Sunday, 4/12).

Entrainment risk of fish in the Interior Delta into the CVP/SWP facilities (same as last week)

DOSS assessed the current risk of entrainment for YOY winter-run Chinook salmon. For both naturally-produced and hatchery-produced YOY winter-run in the Delta, the current risk of entrainment for each OMR flow ranges was characterized as follows:

- 1,200 to -2,000 cfs has a medium risk of entrainment
- 2,000 to -3,500 cfs has a medium to high risk of entrainment
- 3,500 to -5,000 cfs has a high risk of entrainment
- more negative than -5,000 cfs has a higher risk of entrainment

DOSS estimated a high risk of entrainment at OMR flows of -3,500 cfs or more negative than -3,500 cfs, since salvage of salmonids has been observed at those OMR levels. The less negative ranges of OMR flow were considered to create medium or medium-high risk of entrainment because: 1) currently there are physiological cues for migration (i.e. high temperatures) which increases the vulnerability of migrating fish across even the lower ranges of OMR; and 2) the threshold for exceeding a trigger is low, which means that even low salvage is associated with a fairly high risk of exceeding an OMR trigger.

- **SWG**

Working Group met Monday and agreed that given present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, there was no indication that the projected combined exports of approximately 1,500 cfs for the week (potentially resulting in daily average OMR flows of approximately -1900 cfs) needs to be modified for the protection of Delta Smelt adults and larvae.

The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt from entrainment in the southern Delta.

20-mm Survey #2 was in the field starting March 30 and continued through April 8. Processing is 95% complete. One Delta Smelt was caught at station 812 (9 mm) and one at station 707 (15 mm). 20-mm Survey #3 is in the field this week.

Spring Kodiak Trawl #4 was in the field last week. A single ripe male (66 mm) Delta Smelt was caught at station 719.

USFWS's Early Warning Survey concluded sampling for the season on March 31.

- **NMFS** – No determination needed.
- **USFWS** – No determination at this time.
- **DFW** – No determination.

**SWRCB:**

• **Office of Delta Watermaster:**

- Watermaster and Region 5 Board are investigating EC complaint on Sugar Cut. It appears that high EC water (2-3000) was making its way down Sugar Cut a couple of weeks ago that may impact the EC readings at the Old River near Tracy Road Bridge compliance location.

• **Office of Water Rights:**

- Board approved a revised Order for the SWP and CVP on April 6. The Order is now posted on the Board's website.
- Included in the April 6 revised Order, the Board stipulated that Reclamation shall prepare a plan to reasonably protect fish and wildlife on the Stanislaus River at the March 99% hydrologic exceedance level. The draft plan was to be submitted by April 15 and final plan submitted by April 25. Board staff has received the draft plan and is preparing a response stating that the draft plan is adequate for final submission.
- Also included in the April 6 revised Order, the Board stipulated that Reclamation shall update the Temperature Management Plan for the Sacramento River for 2015. The draft plan was submitted to the Board in early April, and the final plan is being developed in coordination with all the stakeholders.

**2. WOMT Decisions - None**