

WOMT Notes

February 9, 2016 Meeting

1. General Information:

CVP

- *Keswick Releases to upper Sacramento River @ 3250 cfs*
- *Nimbus Releases to lower American River @ 3000 cfs*
- *Goodwin Release to Stanislaus River @ 200 cfs*
- *Jones Pumping Plant @ 2450 cfs*
- *Delta Cross-Channel Gates: Closed*
- *Federal Share of San Luis @ 218 TAF*

SWP

- *Oroville Release to Feather River @ 950 cfs*
- *Clifton Court Allotment @ 1800 cfs*
- *State Share of San Luis @ 520 TAF*

Delta

- *Freeport Flow @. 19,900 cfs*
- *Vernalis Flow @ 1,180 cfs*
- *Delta Outflow approx. 17,000 cfs*

- *E/I Ratio 10 % (14 day average)*
- *Factor Constraining Operations :OMR no more negative than -4000 cfs remains in effect per USFWS determination; Projects are operating to OMR at -3500 cfs for turbidity control to minimize the risk of entrainment at export facilities.*

OMR (cfs) (Not including CCWD Rock Slough exports):

- INDEX (as of 2/06/2016):
 - 2372 cfs (5 day avg.)
 - 2816 cfs (14 day avg.)
- USGS (as of 2/06/2016):
 - 2353 cfs (5 day avg.)
 - 2431 cfs (14 day avg.)

FISHERY UPDATES:

DOSS

- Met this morning, no advice
- RPA IV.1.2: DCC Gates Closed since 12/15/15
- RPA IV.2.3:
 - * No triggers hit this week;
 - * OMR limit of -5000 cfs is in effect (but not controlling)
- Genetic analysis completed for all unclipped Chinook salvaged at CVP and SWP export facilities from Oct. 1, 2015 through Jan. 16, 2016; no genetic winter-run Chinook salvaged.
- Chinook salvaged from Jan. 16 to Feb. 7, 2016 sent for testing on Feb. 8
- Fish movement into Delta slowed last week, and expected to remain low as dry conditions continue for the next week
- Chinook and steelhead that moved into Delta over the past several months likely still in Delta; WR outmigration peaks in March and SR YOY will likely remain in the Delta until April/May
- Export Facilities Salvage: Low, but consistent salvage of salmonids over past week

- Estimate of young-of-year winter-run Chinook distribution: 5-10% upstream, 90-95% in Delta, 0-5% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year spring-run Chinook distribution: 35-45% upstream, 55-65% in Delta, 0-5% exited Delta;
- Entrainment risk for young-of-year winter-run and young-of-year spring-run is:
 - Interior Delta: MEDIUM
 - CVP/SWP Export Facilities:
LOW-MEDIUM for OMR between -2500 cfs to -3500 cfs;
MEDIUM for OMR between -3500 cfs to -5000 cfs

SWG –

Delta Smelt – SWG reviewed current Delta Smelt distribution, salvage data, and Delta conditions and described the risk of entrainment under the Service-provided advice framework. Under this framework the relative risk of entrainment for OMR flow ranges is discussed and assessed. For the current week, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt for each of the flow ranges is characterized as follows:

- -1250 to -2000 cfs has a medium risk of entrainment,
- -2000 to -3500 cfs has a high risk of entrainment,
- -3500 to -5000 cfs has a high risk of entrainment.

The Working Group will continue to monitor Delta Smelt survey and salvage data and Delta conditions, and will meet again on Tuesday, February 16, 2016 at 10 am.

Longfin Smelt – Few larvae detected and low risk of entrainment due to positive QWEST and X2 position (west of Chipps). No advice for exports or Barker Slough diversions.

NMFS – No new determination needed. Reiterated the need for Projects to request from NMFS an extension of the OMR index demonstration project and clarify that the calculation should not include Rock Slough diversions.

USFWS – Aware of the SWG meeting and advice. Most recent determination remains in effect at this time.

DFW – No determination.

SWRCB:

Division of Water Rights – Nothing to report

Delta Watermaster's Office – Nothing to report

2. WOMT Decisions - None