

## WOMT Notes

May 10, 2016 Meeting

### **1. GENERAL INFORMATION:**

#### **CVP**

- *Trinity River Pulse Flows – Ongoing pulse flows*
- *Keswick Releases to upper Sacramento River @ 6,500 cfs*
- *Nimbus Releases to lower American River @ 4,500 cfs*
- *Goodwin Release to Stanislaus River – Middle of last pulse flow*
- *Jones Pumping Plant @ 1,000 cfs today*
- *Delta Cross-Channel Gates: Closed*
- *Federal Share of San Luis @ 402 TAF*

#### **SWP**

- *Oroville Release to Feather River @ 2500 cfs*
- *Clifton Court Allotment @ 1,100 cfs*
- *State Share of San Luis @ 501 TAF*

#### **Delta**

- *Freeport Flow @. 13,779 cfs*
- *Vernalis Flow @ 2,225 cfs*

- *Delta Outflow @ 15,028 cfs*
- *E/I Ratio 17 % (14 day average)*
- *X2 @ 78 Km (Daily Reading)*
- *Factor Constraining Operations : NMFS Bi Op Action IV.2.1 – I/E Ratio and 100% Vernalis Flow (3 day average) Export Limit during April-May 31 Day Pulse Flow Period*

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

- INDEX (as of 5/7/2016):
  - 2850 cfs (5 day avg.)
  - 2820 cfs (14 day avg.)
- USGS (as of 5/7/2016):
  - 2980 cfs (5 day avg.)
  - 2710 cfs (14 day avg.)

**FISHERY UPDATES:**

**DOSS –**

- DOSS met this morning and provided no advice
- RPA IV.1.2: DCC Gates closed since Dec. 15
- RPA IV.2.3: No triggers exceeded past week, OMR limit of -5000 cfs in effect
- RPA IV.2.1: San Joaquin River I/E ratio:
  - ~ Started April 1. Currently 2:1 ratio Vernalis flows to exports with a minimum of 1,500 cfs exports for human health and safety (Dry year classification as of April WY update)
  - ~ NMFS concurred with Reclamation's request for flexibility in the I/E ratio to export "augmented water" from Oakdale and South San Joaquin ID's at 1:1 ratio
- Seeing continued catch of fall-run and spring-run sized fish (unclipped and clipped) in all monitoring efforts in the Sacramento River, Delta,

San Joaquin River and Chipps Island, including: 13 FRCS, 2 unclipped CS in the beach seines, 4 FRCS, 1 SRCS and 1 clipped CS in Sacramento trawl, 18 unclipped CS and 1 clipped CS in Mossdale trawls, 21 FRCS, 1 SRCS and 5 clipped CS in Knights Landing monitoring, and 78 FRCS, 7 SRCS and 25 clipped CS in Chipps Island trawls. Tisdale RST is currently non-operational.

- Salvage of 8 unclipped SRCS, 0 FRCS at SWP and 0 natural CS at the CVP, no hatchery CS at either facility. Overall trend of fish salvage is declining over the past week.
- 5 Wild Steelhead captured at SWP, 0 at the CVP, trend has increased over past week.
- Salvage of 2 hatchery steelhead at SWP and 0 at CVP, trend is decreasing over past week.
- Estimate of young-of-year winter-run Chinook distribution: Less than 1% upstream, Less than 5% in Delta, Greater than 95% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year spring-run Chinook distribution: Less than 5% upstream, 5% in Delta, Greater than 90% exited Delta;
- Estimate of young-of-year hatchery winter-run Chinook distribution: Less than 1% upstream, Less than 5% in Delta, Greater than 95% exited Delta
- Overall entrainment risk for listed salmonids in the Interior Delta: is LOW for Sacramento Basin fish and LOW to MEDIUM for San Joaquin Basin steelhead.
- Overall entrainment risk for listed salmonids at CVP/SWP Export Facilities for OMR between -2500 cfs to -3500 cfs is LOW for Sacramento Basin fish and LOW for San Joaquin Basin steelhead.
- Overall entrainment risk for listed salmonids at CVP/SWP Export Facilities for OMR between -3500 cfs to -5000 cfs is LOW for Sacramento Basin fish and LOW for San Joaquin Basin steelhead.

## **SWG:**

**Delta Smelt** – The Smelt Working Group (SWG) assessed the entrainment risks at project export facilities to smelt.

The Working Group 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 larval and juvenile Delta Smelt for each of the flow ranges is characterized as follows:

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

If conditions changes, or there are indications of Delta Smelt presence in the central or south Delta from field survey or salvage data, the Working Group may need to reconvene to assess entrainment risks in light of the new data.

The Working Group is following guidance for entrainment protections from both Action 2 (adult Delta Smelt) and Action 3 (juvenile Delta Smelt). The Working Group will continue to monitor Delta Smelt survey and salvage data and Delta conditions, and will meet again on Monday, May 16, 2016 at 10 am.

**Longfin Smelt** –. No new advice for longfin smelt. The period of risk for this water year is essentially over. S.F. Bay Study began sampling last week and caught young-of-year LFS in west Suisun Bay and San Pablo Bay (Total of 14). May sampling continues this week in central and south San Francisco Bay.

**SWRCB:**

**Division of Water Rights** – Nothing to report

**Delta Watermaster's Office** – Nothing to report

**REGULATORY AGENCY FINDINGS** –

**NMFS** – No determination necessary. Noted the rapid genetic testing for salmonids proposed by Reclamation for WY 2016 was supported by NMFS via a letter dated May 6, 2016 from Maria Rae. Asked about status of letter to request an extension of the OMR calculation pilot program; no new information was provided.

**USFWS** – Per May 3, 2016 Memo from USFWS to Reclamation: OMR no more negative than -3000 cfs on a 14 day average is currently in effect.

**DFW** – Nothing additional to report.

**WOMT Decisions** - None