

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Group
Conference call: 8/23/16 at 9:00 a.m.

Objective: To discuss first draft of DOSS Annual Report for WY 2016. DOSS notes can be found at: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/central_valley/water_operations/doss.html.

DWR: Bryant Giorgi, Kevin Reece

Reclamation: Josh Israel, Mike Hendricks, and Towns Burgess

NMFS: Barb Byrne, Kristin McCleery

CDFW: Duane Linander, Ken Kundargi, Jason Julienne

Agenda Items

1. WY 2016 DOSS Annual Report: Open Discussion
2. WY 2016 DOSS Annual Report: Targeted Discussion On New Sections This Year
3. WY 2016 DOSS Annual Report: Schedule
4. Next DOSS Meeting

Agenda Item 1

WY 2016 DOSS Annual Report: Open discussion

No comments.

Agenda Item 2

WY 2016 DOSS Annual Report: Targeted Discussion on New Sections This Year

Genetic Testing of Salvaged Chinook:

A full breakdown of the genetic testing will be included in the final report. DWR and Reclamation are working on results.

Comparing DOSS Distribution Estimates to Data:

NMFS reviewed options for graphing monitoring data compared to the DOSS group's weekly estimates of what percent of natural-origin spring-run and winter-run have yet to enter, are in, or have exited the Delta.

- **Data used for comparisons:**
Discussed which data to use for "In-Delta" comparisons and decided on combining beach seine and Sacramento trawl data. Confirmed the use of Knights Landing data for the "yet to enter Delta" comparison and Chipps Island trawl data for the "exited the Delta" comparison.
- **Adjustments to data to reduce influence of unmarked hatchery fall-run Chinook**
DOSS discussed whether to adjust large catch numbers in monitoring data which are likely due to fall-run hatchery releases around that time, and how to adjust data. DOSS agreed that adjusting catch numbers for natural-origin **spring run** seemed appropriate in all data sets (Knights Landing, Sacramento trawl, beach seines, Chipps Island trawl) for the following reasons:

- The average fork length of most fall-run hatchery production releases was near the size range of young-of-year spring-run, so many of the larger-than-average individuals in the releases would fall into the spring-run size class
- Anomalously high spring-run catches occurred at all monitoring locations soon after large fall-run hatchery releases (and coincided with increased catch of ad-clipped Chinook), indicating that the expected “false signal” did indeed occur

DOSS agreed that adjusting catch numbers for natural-origin **winter run** seemed appropriate only for the Chipps Island trawl dataset, for the following reasons:

- The average fork length of all fall-run hatchery production was far enough from the size range of young-of-year winter-run that few of the larger-than-average individuals in the release should fall into the winter-run size class.
- Anomalously high winter-run catches soon after large fall-run hatchery releases (indicating that the expected “false signal” did indeed occur) was observed only at the Chipps Island trawl monitoring location.

No correction method is available to remove *only* the hatchery fall-run Chinook misclassified as spring-run Chinook or winter-run Chinook. Genetic sampling of fish captured at monitoring locations could help to distinguish fall-run from winter-run, but would have more limited ability to distinguish fall-run from spring-run.

DOSS agreed on two adjustment approaches:

- (1) Adjust the “observed outlier period”: Replace anomalously high weekly catches with the average of weekly catches two weeks before and two weeks after the “observed outlier period”.
- (2) Adjust the “potential outlier period”: Replace weekly catches of weeks that coincident with hatchery releases (whether or not observed data show anomalously high catches) with the average of weekly catches two weeks before and two weeks after the “potential outlier period”.

It was suggested that DOSS include some recommendations in the Annual Report for ways in which hatchery practices (e.g. 100% mark) and/or monitoring practices (e.g. genetic testing) could change so that we can distinguish actual spring-run or winter-run from the “apparent spring-run or winter-run” that result from the many millions of unmarked hatchery fall-run Chinook released into the system.

Agenda Item 3

WY 2016 DOSS Annual Report: Schedule

- 8/26/16 (Friday): Comments on first draft due
- 8/31/16 (Wednesday): Final draft out to DOSS and the Annual Review team
- 9/16/16 (Friday): Final comments due
- 9/20/16 (Tuesday): DOSS call to discuss final comments
- 9/30/16 (Friday): Final report submitted

Agenda Item 4

Next DOSS meeting: 9/20/16