

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Group
Conference call: 10/4/2016 at 9:00 a.m.

Objective: Provide advice to the Water Operations Management Team (WOMT) and National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on measures to reduce adverse effects from Delta operations of the Central Valley Project and the State Water Project on salmonids and green sturgeon. DOSS will work with other technical teams. DOSS notes and advice can be found at: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/central_valley/water_operations/doss.html.

CDFW: Bob Fujimura, Jason Julienne
DWR: Bryant Giorgi, Mike Ford, Kevin Reece, Dan Yamanaka
NMFS: Barbara Byrne, Kristin McCleery
Reclamation: Towns Burgess, Tom Patton
SWRCB: Chris Carr

Agenda Items

1. Agenda review and introductions
2. Intro to SacPAS (<http://www.cbr.washington.edu/sacramento/>) and Bay Delta Live (Click on the "Triggers & Indices" tab at: www.baydeltalive.com/djfmj)
3. RPA Implementation review
4. Current Operations
5. Smelt Working Group
6. Fish Monitoring: Salvage
7. Fish Monitoring: RSTs/trawls/seines
8. DOSS Estimates of Fish Distribution
9. DOSS advice
10. Check-in on DOSS Annual Report
11. Next DOSS meeting

Agenda Item 2.

Intro to SacPAS and Bay Delta Live

Reviewed both sites in relation to DOSS needs, including the "DOSS Dashboard" page on Bay Delta Live and emergence modeling on SacPAS.

Agenda Item 3.

RPA Implementation Review

Delta RPA Actions affecting operations during October:

Action IV.1.1 (Alerts that indicate the Delta Cross Channel (DCC) gate operations may be triggered soon)¹:

¹ For details, see pages 60-61 in Enclosure 2 of the 2011 Amendments to the 2009 RPA document at: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/Central_Valley/Water%20Operations/Operations,%20Criteria%20and%20Plan/040711_ocap_opinion_2011_amendments.pdf. Note that in October 2014, NMFS approved a modification of the first component of the first alert to a 95 cfs mean daily flow threshold in either Mill Creek or Deer Creek in lieu of operating the Mill and Deer Creek rotary screw traps.

- Recent (10/1-3/16, unless otherwise noted) conditions for:
 - Wilkins Slough flow: 6,510-6,605 cfs (range of mean daily flow)
 - Knights Landing temperature: 64-65°F (range of temperatures reported at the rotary screw traps during trap checks during the 10/1-2/16 period)
 - Mill Creek flow : 83-97 cfs (range of mean daily flow)
 - Deer Creek flow: 74-87 cfs (range of mean daily flow)
- The first alert (triggered if either component is met) has been triggered based on Mill Creek flows >95 cfs (97 cfs) on 10/3/16

Action IV.1.2² (DCC gate operations):

- Since 10/1/16, none of the criteria requiring DCC gate closure have been met.

Agenda Item 4.

Current Operations (10/4/16)

SWP		CVP	
Exports (cfs)			
Clifton Court Forebay	3,000	Jones Pumping Plant	4,000
Reservoir Releases (cfs)			
Feather - Oroville	4,000	American - Nimbus	1,500*
		Sacramento - Keswick	7,500**
		Stanislaus - Goodwin	203
		Trinity - Lewiston	440
Reservoir Storage (in TAF)			
San Luis (SWP)	436	San Luis (CVP)	78
Oroville	1,602	Shasta	2,787
New Melones	528	Folsom	302
Delta Operations			
DCC	Open	Sacramento River at Freeport (cfs)	~13,000
Outflow Index (cfs)	4,700	San Joaquin River at Vernalis (cfs)	379
E:I	48.8% (3-day avg.)	X2	>81 km

*Nimbus will drop to 1,000 cfs on 10/5/16.

**Keswick is down from 7,750 cfs.

Factors controlling Delta exports:

10/1-4/16: Seasonal salinity management

Agenda Item 5.

Smelt Working Group

The Smelt Working Group has not yet started meeting for the 2017 water year.

² For details, see pages 62-66 in Enclosure 2 of the 2011 Amendments to the 2009 RPA document at: http://www.westcoast.fisheries.noaa.gov/publications/Central_Valley/Water%20Operations/Operations,%20Criteria%20and%20Plan/040711_ocap_opinion_2011_amendments.pdf

Agenda Item 6.

Fish Monitoring: Salvage

Fujimura (CDFW) provided a salvage summary. No listed fish species have been observed in salvage since the start of the current water year on 10/1/16.

Agenda Item 7.

Fish Monitoring: The following table presents fish monitoring data summarized over the past week. Unless otherwise noted, reported sizes are fork length.

Location	Chippis Is. Midwater Trawl	Sacramento Trawl	Beach Seines	Knights Landing RST	Tisdale RST	GCID RST	Mossdale Kodiak Trawl
Sample Date	9/25-10/1	9/25-10/1	9/25-10/1	9/26-10/2	9/26-9/28	9/26-10/4	9/25-10/1
Total Catch							
FR Chinook						6 smolts	
WR Chinook				1		126 juveniles	
SR Chinook							
LFR Chinook						3 juveniles	
Ad-Clipped Chinook							
Adult Chinook	3						1
Delta Smelt							
Splittail	1		1				
Longfin Smelt							
Steelhead (ad-clip)							
Steelhead (wild)						3	
Green Sturgeon							
Flows (avg. cfs)				6721	7060	1023	
W. Temp. (avg. °F)				66.1	65.7	59.8	
Turbidity (avg. NTU)				8.5	14.3	8.8	

Red Bluff Diversion Dam (RBDD)

USFWS biweekly report (9/9-22/16) for preliminary estimates of passage by brood-year and run for unmarked juvenile Chinook salmon captured by rotary screw traps at RBDD included:

Run and Species	Biweekly Total	Brood Year Total (90% CI)
Winter-run Chinook (BY2016)	64,257	164,717 (122,457-206,978)

Agenda Item 8.

DOSS Estimates of Fish Distribution

DOSS estimates of the current distribution of listed Chinook and steelhead, as a percentage of the population, are based on recent monitoring data and historical migration timing patterns. Since sampling began on 8/29/16, through 10/2/16, 17 WR-sized Chinook have been caught at the Knights Landing RST. Since sampling began on 9/4/16, through 9/28/16, 4 WR-sized Chinook have been caught at the Tisdale RST.

Location	Yet to Enter Delta (Upstream of Knights Landing)	In the Delta	Exited the Delta (Past Chipps Island)
<i>Young-of-year (YOY) winter-run Chinook salmon</i>	98-100%	0% - 2%	0%

Rationale for changes in distribution

Wild winter-run Chinook: Over the past week, 126 wild winter-run were observed at GCID and 1 at Knights Landing, indicating that a small fraction of the winter-run population has started making its way into the Delta. Winter-run Chinook are not expected to exit the Delta at Chipps Island until later in the season, and no young-of-year winter-run-sized fish have been observed exiting the Delta at Chipps Island.

Agenda Item 9.

DOSS Advice to WOMT and NMFS: None

Agenda Item 10.

Check-in on DOSS Annual Report

The group discussed minor edits to the report.

Agenda Item 11.

Next Meeting: The next DOSS conference call will be on **10/11/16 at 9am**. Matt Dekar (USFWS) will be joining the DOSS call next week to give an overview of the new proposed sampling program for Delta Smelt.