

Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Group
Conference call: 11/1/2016 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.

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DWR: Bryant Giorgi, Kevin Reece, Mike Ford, Dan Yamanaka, Farida Islam

NMFS: Barb Byrne, Kristin McCleery

Reclamation: Towns Burgess, Tom Patton, Mike Hendrick

SWRCB: Chris Carr, Brittany Kammerer

Agenda Items

1. Agenda review and introductions
2. RPA Implementation review (For the DOSS Dashboard, click on the "Triggers & Indices" tab at: www.baydeltalive.com/djfmfp)
3. Current Operations
4. Fish Monitoring: Salvage
5. Fish Monitoring: RSTs/trawls/seines
6. DOSS Estimates of Fish Distribution
7. DOSS advice
8. Next DOSS meeting

Agenda Item 2.

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:

- Recent (10/25/16-10/31/2016, unless otherwise noted) conditions for:
 - Wilkins Slough flow: 4,028-8,038 cfs (range of mean daily flow)
 - Knights Landing temperature: 62-63°F (range of temperatures reported at the rotary screw traps during trap checks during the 10/25-10/31 period)
 - Mill Creek and Deer Creek flows [highlighted cells exceed the first component (>95 cfs flow threshold) or second component (>50% flow change) in first alert]:

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.

Date	Mill Creek (MLM)		Deer Creek (DCV)	
	mean daily flow (cfs)	change in mean daily flow	mean daily flow (cfs)	change in mean daily flow
10/25/2016	804	570%	491	399%
10/26/2016	395	-51%	291	-41%
10/27/2016	229	-42%	157	-46%
10/28/2016	418	83%	163	4%
10/29/2016	730	75%	372	128%
10/30/2016	473	-35%	311	-16%
10/31/2016	438	-7%	351	13%

- The first alert (triggered if either component is met) was triggered based on Mill Creek and Deer Creek flows >95 cfs or a change in mean daily flow of over 50% (either or both creeks; see table above for details) on 10/25-10/31.
- The second alert is triggered only if both components are met (Knights Landing temperatures less than 56.3°F and Wilkins Slough flows >7,500 cfs). The second alert has not been triggered this week.

Action IV.1.2² (DCC gate operations):

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

Agenda Item 3.

Current Operations (11/1/16)

SWP		CVP	
Exports (cfs)			
Clifton Court Forebay	5,000	Jones Pumping Plant	4,000
Reservoir Releases (cfs)			
Feather - Oroville	2,450	American - Nimbus	1,250
		Sacramento - Keswick	5,500*
		Stanislaus - Goodwin	875
		Trinity - Lewiston	300
Reservoir Storage (in TAF)			
San Luis (SWP)	433	San Luis (CVP)	156
Oroville	1,559	Shasta	2,765
New Melones	510	Folsom	354
Delta Operations			
DCC	Open	Sacramento River at Freeport (cfs)	15,436

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

Outflow Index (cfs)	13,129	San Joaquin River at Vernalis (cfs)	2,570
E:I	65% (14-day avg.)	X2	>81 km

*Releases are scheduled to decrease to 5,250 on 11/3 and to 5,000 on 11/4.

Factor controlling Delta exports:

10/25-29/16: Seasonal salinity management

10/30-31/16: Seasonal salinity management and the D-1641 E:I ratio of 65%.

Agenda Item 4.

Fish Monitoring: Salvage

No species of management concern have yet been salvaged during WY 2017.

Agenda Item 5.

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

Location	Chippis Is. Midwater Trawl ^A	Sacramento Trawl ^A	Beach Seines ^A	Knights Landing RST ^B	Tisdale RST ^C	GCID RST ^D	Mossdale Kodiak Trawl ^A
Sample Date	10/26-10/28	10/24, 26, 28	10/24-10/28	10/24-10/31	10/24-10/29	10/24	10/24, 26, 28
Total Catch							
FR Chinook							
WR Chinook			1	3	3	2 juveniles	
SR Chinook			1				
LFR Chinook							
Adult Chinook							
Ad-Clipped Chinook							
Delta Smelt							
Splittail							
Longfin Smelt							
Steelhead (ad-clip)							
Steelhead (wild)							
Green Sturgeon							
Flows (avg. cfs)				4722	6390	836	

W. Temp. (avg. °F)				62	58	57	
Turbidity (avg. NTU)				8.8	13.8	11.2	

^AData reported in the 10/23 to 10/29 DJFMP sampling summary.

^BKnights Landing RST Sampling period was from 10/24 at 9:45 am to 10/31 at 9:30 am.

^CTisdale RST sampling period was from 10/24 at 11:30 am to 10/29 at 10:30 am.

^DGCID RST sampling period was from 10/24 at 8 am to 10/24 at 9 am. On 10/24/2016, 9 pm, trap operations were cancelled due to extremely heavy debris. Trapping will continue when debris becomes manageable.

Agenda Item 6.

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.

Location	Yet to Enter Delta (Upstream of Knights Landing)	In the Delta	Exited the Delta (Past Chipps Island)
<i>Wild young-of-year (YOY) winter-run Chinook salmon</i>	92% - 95% (Last week: 95% - 98%)	5% - 8% (Last week: 2% - 5%)	0% (Last week: same)

Rationale for changes in distribution

Wild winter-run Chinook: Over the past week, 3 wild winter-run were observed at Knights Landing, 3 at Tisdale, 2 at GCID (with limited monitoring) and 1 at beach seine monitoring sites, indicating that winter-run are moving into the Delta. Also, higher flows due to recent rain events are likely to have cued fish to move downstream. No young-of-year winter-run-sized fish have been observed exiting the Delta at Chipps Island.

Agenda Item 7.

DOSS Advice to WOMT and NMFS: None

Agenda Item 8.

Next Meeting: The next DOSS conference call will be on **11/8/16 at 9am.**

The November 15th call will be cancelled due to the Bay Delta Science Conference starting that day. A summary of fish monitoring and operations data will be sent via email and DOSS members will update the winter-run Chinook distribution estimate via e-mail discussion.