

Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (SRTTG) Call
Thursday, July 16, 2015 | 1:00 p.m. – 2:00 p.m.

MEETING SUMMARY

Participants:

- Matt Brown, FWS
- Eric Danner, NMFS
- Robert Franklin, Hoopa Valley Tribal Fisheries
- Tim Hayden, Yurok Tribe
- Bob Hughes, CDFW
- Liz Kiteck, USBR
- Scott Ligare, SWRCB
- Ron Milligan, USBR
- Seth Naman, NMFS
- Tom Patton, WAPA
- Joe Pisciotto, CDFW
- Jason Roberts, CDFW
- Jeff Sandberg, USBR
- Diane Riddle, SWRCB
- John Rueth, FWS
- Rich Satkowski, SWRCB
- Jim Smith, FWS
- Stacey Smith, USBR
- Brycen Swart, NMFS
- Garwin Yip, NMFS

Note-taking:

- Kelsey Rugani, Kearns & West

Action Items

- Jim Smith to circulate results of the monitoring program at Red Bluff to the group.
- Reclamation to circulate July profile on isothermobaths to the group.
- Group members to circulate issues and concerns to Diane Riddle (diane.riddle@waterboards.ca.gov) with the State Water Board.
- Diane to invite Jim Smith, Matt Brown and Jason Roberts to attend Monday, July 20th meeting with the Bureau, DWR and State Water Board staff.
- Robert Franklin to send concerns to Diane Riddle on Sacramento River temperatures and redirected impacts.
- Jeff Sandberg to coordinate with Thuy Washburn on today's call, particularly on how Whiskeytown temperatures might be impacted by diversions and holding off changing from the upper to lower outlet gauges.
- Reclamation to provide an update on Oak Bottom Temperature Control Curtain Replacement at the next meeting.
- Reclamation to look into whether modeling for Trinity River temperatures can be completed.

Key Discussion Topics with Summary of Outcomes and Agreements:

Fisheries Update

As of July 13, CDFW's aerial red surveys observed 121 winter-run redds. Two of those were observed downstream of the Highway 44 Bridge. Of the observed redds, approximately half were upstream of ACID dam, the other half downstream.

As of July 13, 590 carcasses were observed with a distribution similar to that of previous years.

Since July 9, the Juvenile Monitoring Program at Red Bluff has continued to consistently catch juveniles. FWS will continue tracking the juveniles caught and will determine whether the increased amount of juveniles this time of year is an indication that they are developing sooner. The juveniles have been approximately between 29 and 36 millimeters.

Livingstone National Fish Hatchery has spawned 88 females and 77 males to date. Trapping is set to slow down. Since the water temperature is approximately two degrees warmer than normal, the fish are trapped a day or two ahead of when they usually do. The fish are kept in incubators after spawning.

Action: Jim Smith to circulate results of the monitoring program at Red Bluff to the group.

Operations Update

Temperatures at Clear Creek (CCR) have averaged 59.5°F with 60°F being the target. The Trinity Dam diversions have been less than forecasted in June; approximately 53% of water came over in June which was approximately 40% of what was forecasted. Reclamation shared that the temperature gauge at Douglas City is not working but they are in the process of fixing it.

Reclamation also shared that they are getting more profiles and will have more updated water temperature information, particularly for Trinity Dam, as requested. A full set of updates will be given at the next SRTTG meeting.

Action: Reclamation to circulate July profile on isothermobaths to the group.

Action: Group members to circulate issues and concerns to Diane Riddle (diane.riddle@waterboards.ca.gov) with the State Water Board.

Action: Diane to invite Jim Smith, Matt Brown and Jason Roberts to attend Monday, July 20th meeting with the Bureau, DWR and State Water Board staff.

Action: Robert Franklin to send concerns to Diane Riddle on Sacramento River temperatures and redirected impacts.

Reclamation sent out the latest model runs on July 16. A Shasta Dam TCD change was made on July 15 as temperatures continued to rise. Regarding storage, everything is on track compared to the generalized modeling. Reclamation opened PRG level #2 and does not currently plan to close it. Reclamation is expected to reach the 60°F target soon for Sacramento River temperatures.

Reclamation explained the 10% model graph and noted that the difference between the Clear Creek (CCR) red and green colors is to show the current model runs compared to previous model runs. The dip in the light green Shasta Dam on the model graph is to show when the lake level reaches the point where side gates are opening; that should occur in mid-September and then again in October. The graph includes estimates at this point and there is a level of uncertainty every year.

It was suggested that Reclamation consider holding off from changing from the upper outlet gate to the lower outlet gate. Reclamation shared that Spring Creek diversions at Keswick (*KKR*) are between 800 and 1100 cfs per day. Reclamation noted that lower levels should be expected from Trinity and that the duration might change. The diversions account for approximately 40-50% of what was forecasted.

Action: Jeff Sandberg to coordinate with Thuy Washburn on today's call, particularly on how Whiskeytown temperatures might be impacted by diversions and holding off changing from the upper to lower outlet gates.

It was suggested that Reclamation send out revised Trinity model runs to know what the tradeoffs are, how much diversions increased in June, and whether diversions are on track with July and August projections from the operation plans. Reclamation responded that approximately 40% of the forecast is being diverted in July; there has been just below an acre-foot of water diversions thus far in July. It is important to understand how operations in the system are impacted by changes in diversions.

Reclamation intends to keep operations consistent with the temperature management plan and not change Sacramento operations in the August/September/October timeframe.

The State Water Resources Control Board has modified its drought website to separate out items related to Sacramento River temperature and operations. The SWRCB received a letter on July 15 that discussed the average daily water temperature at Clear Creek (*CCR*). On June 17, 18 and 24, the temperature at Clear Creek (*CCR*) was at 58.0°F. Reclamation clarified that over 58.0°F was not the target for compliance and that the sentence in the letter might need to be edited. There seems to be a discrepancy with whether the compliance target is not to exceed 58.0°F or at 57.0°F.

Eric Danner, NMFS, shared that there is a modeling workshop on Tuesday, July 21. More information will be circulated.

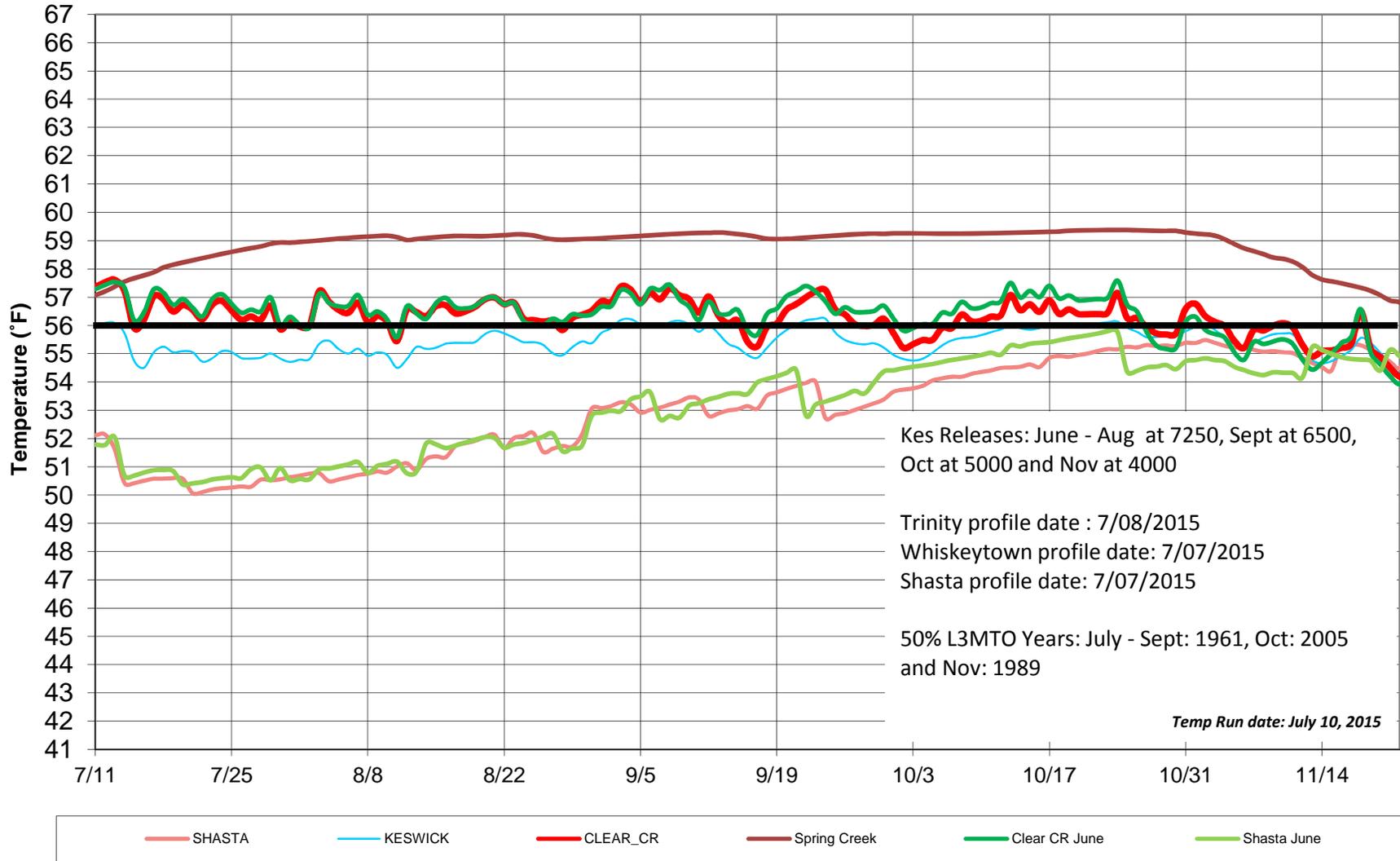
Action: Reclamation to provide an update on Oak Bottom Temperature Control Curtain Replacement at the next meeting.

Action: Reclamation to look into whether modeling for Trinity River temperatures can be completed.

Next meeting

The next meeting of the SRTTG is scheduled for July 23 at 1:00 p.m.

**Sacramento River Modeled Temperature
 2015 June 90%-Exceedance Outlook - 50% L3MTO
 Approximately 57 degree at CCR**



**Sacramento River Modeled Temperature
2015 June 90%-Exceedance Outlook - 10% L3MTO
Approximately 57 degree at CCR**

