

Water Operations Management Team Notes

Water Year 2025 – March 19, 2025

Members Attending

- Reclamation: Present
- USFWS: Present
- CDFW: Present
- NMFS: Represented (no member attended)
- DWR: Present
- SWRCB: Present

Topics/Actions

- 3/12/2025 Meeting Notes: Approved by WOMT as edited.
- Upcoming Meetings
 - Salmonid Monitoring Team (SaMT, meets weekly on Tuesdays): 03/25
 - Smelt Monitoring Team (SMT, meets as needed on Tuesdays, met on): 01/28
 - Feather River Operations Group (meets monthly first and third Thursdays): 03/20
 - American River Group (meets monthly on third Thursday, and as needed): 03/20
 - Stanislaus River Watershed Team (meets monthly on third Wednesday): 03/19
 - Clear Creek Technical Team (meets quarterly on third Thursday): 03/20
 - Sacramento River Group (meets monthly on the fourth Thursday or more often as needed): 03/27
 - Shasta Operations Team (SHOT, meeting frequency and timing TBD)
 - Winter-run JPE Sub-Team (as needed): met on 12/20
- Relevant Assessments
 - 20250318 Fish and Water Operations Outlook
 - DWR Spring-run Weekly Assessment 2025-03-18 outline (still under development)

- Operational Updates
 - CVP: Current Trinity River release is 2,000 cfs, with a pulse flow scheduled from March 21st to April 15th. Clear Creek (Whiskeytown Dam) release is 275 cfs. Sacramento River (Keswick) release is 15,000 cfs. American River (Nimbus) release is 2,000 cfs, with reductions to 1,500 cfs and 1,350 cfs scheduled for tomorrow and Friday, respectively. Stanislaus River (Goodwin) release is 600 cfs, decreasing to 200 cfs Friday. Jones PP Delta exports are at 4,200 cfs. Federal share of San Luis Reservoir is 757 TAF. Delta Cross Channel Gates are closed and will remain closed until May, unless there is a water quality issue.
 - SWP: Feather River (Oroville-Thermalito Complex) releases are at 15,000 cfs and holding for now. Clifton Court Forebay exports are at 3,100 cfs. State share of San Luis Reservoir is 1.011 MAF.
- Hydrology Update
 - Scattered rain and mountain showers today and tomorrow. Predominantly dry weather expected into early next week with gradually warming temperatures.

Upcoming Actions, Updates, or Discussion Items

- Reclamation:
 - No upcoming actions.
 - Wants to discuss winter-run hatchery topics.
- USFWS:
 - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- CDFW:
 - No upcoming actions or updates.
 - Wants to discuss SaMT's recommendation re: 2nd YOY spring-run chinook salmon surrogate group release for WOMT consideration and approval.
- NMFS:
 - No upcoming actions or discussion items.

- Update: SWT was informed that the Stanislaus River irrigation districts are considering a 2025 water transfer of up to 100 TAF.
- Update: Recent natural origin winter-run loss is approaching the weekly distributed loss threshold.
- DWR:
 - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.
- SWRCB:
 - No upcoming actions, updates or discussion items.

Discussion Items

- Reclamation noted that the 100% annual threshold for hatchery winter-run salvage (CWT) fish for 2025 is 162 fish, with the corresponding 50% annual threshold salvage at about 80 fish.
- The current salvage count is about 73 fish, so 1-4 more hatchery winter-run salvage at export facilities could trigger an exceedance of the 50% threshold, and an operational export restriction for seven days of an OMRI no more negative than -3,500 cfs.
- SaMT's proposal (as detailed in Crystal Rigby's 3/19/25 email to WOMT) for the 2nd YOY spring-run surrogate release group was approved by WOMT.

Action Items

- Mike Ford (acting as WOMT facilitator) will send out an email notifying SaMT of WOMT's approval of the 2nd YOY spring-run surrogate release proposal with cc's to WOMT members.

Elevation Items

- None

Next Meeting

- Wednesday, March 26, 2025, 1:00-1:50 p.m.