

Sacramento River Temperature Task Group (SRTTG) Meeting
Wednesday, May 24, 2018 | 1:00 pm – 3:00 pm

MEETING SUMMARY

Participants

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| Craig Anderson, USFWS | Chris Kwan, SWRCB |
| Matt Brown, USFWS | Duane Linander, CDFW |
| Miles Daniels, NMFS | Michael Prowatzke, WAPA |
| Ammon Danielson, WAPA | Joe Pisciotto, CDFW |
| Eric Danner, NMFS | Ryan Revnak, CDFW |
| Vadim Demchuk, SWRCB | Jeff Rieker, Reclamation |
| Randi Field, Reclamation | Alessia Siclari Melchor, SWRCB |
| Sarah Gallagher, NMFS | Mary Suppiger, Reclamation |
| Michael Hendrick, Reclamation | Mike Wright, Reclamation |
| Kenneth Kundargi, CDFW | |

Key Discussion Topics with Summary of Outcomes and Agreements

Meeting Purpose and Overview

Reclamation reiterated the meeting purpose: members of the Sacramento River Temperature Task Group are provided status updates on Sacramento River seasonal temperature targets and anticipated performance.

Fishery Update

Ryan Revnak provided an update of CDFW activities. Staff have identified 11 winter run redds this season so far. Four new redds were identified last week. Redds are upstream of the highway 44 bridge at river mile 296.5. Four redds are identified as shallow spawners; the shallowest is in 14 inches of water and is directly upstream of Turtle Bay at river mile 298 near the Sundial Bridge. The carcass survey is on-going with weekly updates at the end of the week. Total winter run carcasses collected to date is 14.

Joe Pisciotto provided an update from the Livingston Stone Hatchery. The winter run broodstock consists of natural 9 natural origin females and 6 natural origin males. They have collected 45 hatchery origin females, and 100 hatchery origin males to date. Total fish collected include 54 females and 106 males, 12 were found to be jacks. Four females and 11 males were spawned. The end of May collection target is 54 females and 108 males. No catch activity has been reported at the ACID trap to date.

Operations and Temperature Management Update

See Meeting Agenda and Handouts for reference materials.

Randi Field from Reclamation reviewed system operations, temperatures, trends, Shasta Lake isothermal baths, Shasta Lake cold water pool volume, and the Shasta Temperature Control Device (TCD) configuration. Past and expected future operations and forecasted seasonal conditions were also discussed. Releases from Keswick Dam are currently at 9,500 cfs, and will continue at this rate to support Delta needs. Project operation goals are transitioning to meet the State requirements in the Delta. Reclamation highlighted the 90% runoff exceedence outlook forecast, given that actual

May inflow and storage conditions were more similar than the 50% runoff exceedance outlook. Reclamation anticipates a Keswick Dam peak release of 13,000 cfs in July. Fall release reductions are anticipated to be closely coordinated with the agencies.

Shasta Lake is beginning to warm and we are starting to see thermal stratification where the top layers are becoming more defined. The Shasta cold water pool volumes are comparable to year 2016 and a similar performance is expected. We are still running below average for cold water pool volume to date less than 48°F. Reclamation has no expectations for improvement, however, it will be closely monitored. The current TCD configuration is utilizing all of the upper gates and two of the middle gates. Recent TCD operations found that one middle gate was insufficient to meet the downstream target with confidence. Reclamation is currently managing to 56°F daily average temperature (DAT) at BSF and 53.5°F DAT at CCR and will make appropriate adjustments during warming trends.

Temperature Studies

See Meeting Agenda and Handouts for reference materials.

Recent temperature modeling simulation results show 56°F DAT at BSF and 53.5°F DAT at CCR met with confidence during the temperature management season. During July and August we expect to see the target of 53.5°F DAT at CCR is more of a controlling factor when compared to the earlier part of the season and may draw on colder water during this period in time. As part of the “off-ramp” criteria, Reclamation will closely monitor and report the Shasta cold water pool volume less than 49°F. If we start to deviate more than a 10% deficit from the projected volume, then SRTTG will meet to discuss appropriate adjustments.

Reclamation submitted the temperature management plan on May 11th to NMFS and they concurred with the plan for this year. Reclamation also submitted a plan to SWRCB. Reclamation will continue to track and report downstream temperature performance in accordance with the plan.

Other Topics

The refill of Whiskeytown Lake will be delayed slightly this year due to operations and maintenance issues. The reservoir is expected to complete the refill by early June. The Trinity River is operating to a “critical” water year flow regime and diversions will be minimized.

Next Meeting

The next regularly scheduled meeting is June 28, 2018 from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm, in Red Bluff at the USFWS office - 10950 Tyler Road Red Bluff, CA 96080.