

**Delta Operations for Salmonids and Sturgeon (DOSS) Group**  
**Conference call: 10/30/12 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 coordinate the work of other technical teams. DOSS notes and advice can be found at: <http://www.swr.noaa.gov/ocap/doss.htm>

**DWR:** Mike Ford, Andy Chu, Edmund Yu, James Gleim, Tracy Pettit  
**FWS:** Roger Guinee, Leigh Bartoo, Craig Anderson  
**NMFS:** Barbara Rocco, Barb Byrne, Garwin Yip, Bruce Oppenheim, Jeff Stuart  
**Reclamation:** Russ Yaworsky, Josh Israel  
**DFG:** Bob Fujimura, Jason Roberts  
**EPA, SWRCB, USGS:** not present

**Agenda**

1. Fish monitoring
2. Current operations
3. Stipulation Study results

**Fish Monitoring:** The following table presents fish monitoring data. Unless otherwise noted, reported sizes are fork length. See: <http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm>.

Location	Chippis Is. Midwater Trawl	Sacramento Trawls	Mossdale Kodiak Trawl	Beach Seines	Knights Landing RST	Tisdale Weir RST
Sample Date					10/23–10/26	10/24, 26, 29
Total Catch					0	0
FR						
WR						
SR						
LFR						
Ad-Clipped Chinook						
DS						
Splittail						
Longfin						
SH (ad-clip)						
SH (wild)						
W. Temp. (avg. °F)					59	57

<b>Flows (avg. cfs)</b>					5,452	5,387
<b>Turbidity (avg. NTU)</b>					5.5	5.8
<b>WR/LFR Avg. CPUE</b>						
<b>FR/SR Avg. CPUE</b>						

**Key:** FR = Fall run; LFR = Late-fall run; SR = Spring run; WR = Winter run; SH = Steelhead; DS = Delta smelt; LFS = Longfin smelt; CPUE = catch per unit of effort

**Fish Monitoring:** Edmund Yu (DWR) is including the Deer and Mill creek flow and temperature data in the DWR reports. Last week, we discussed using temperature data as a first alert so it is being monitored. Flows have not increased and temperatures have not decreased at this point.

No salmon, steelhead, or sturgeon have been observed at the fish salvage facilities since the beginning of the new water year (October 1<sup>st</sup>).

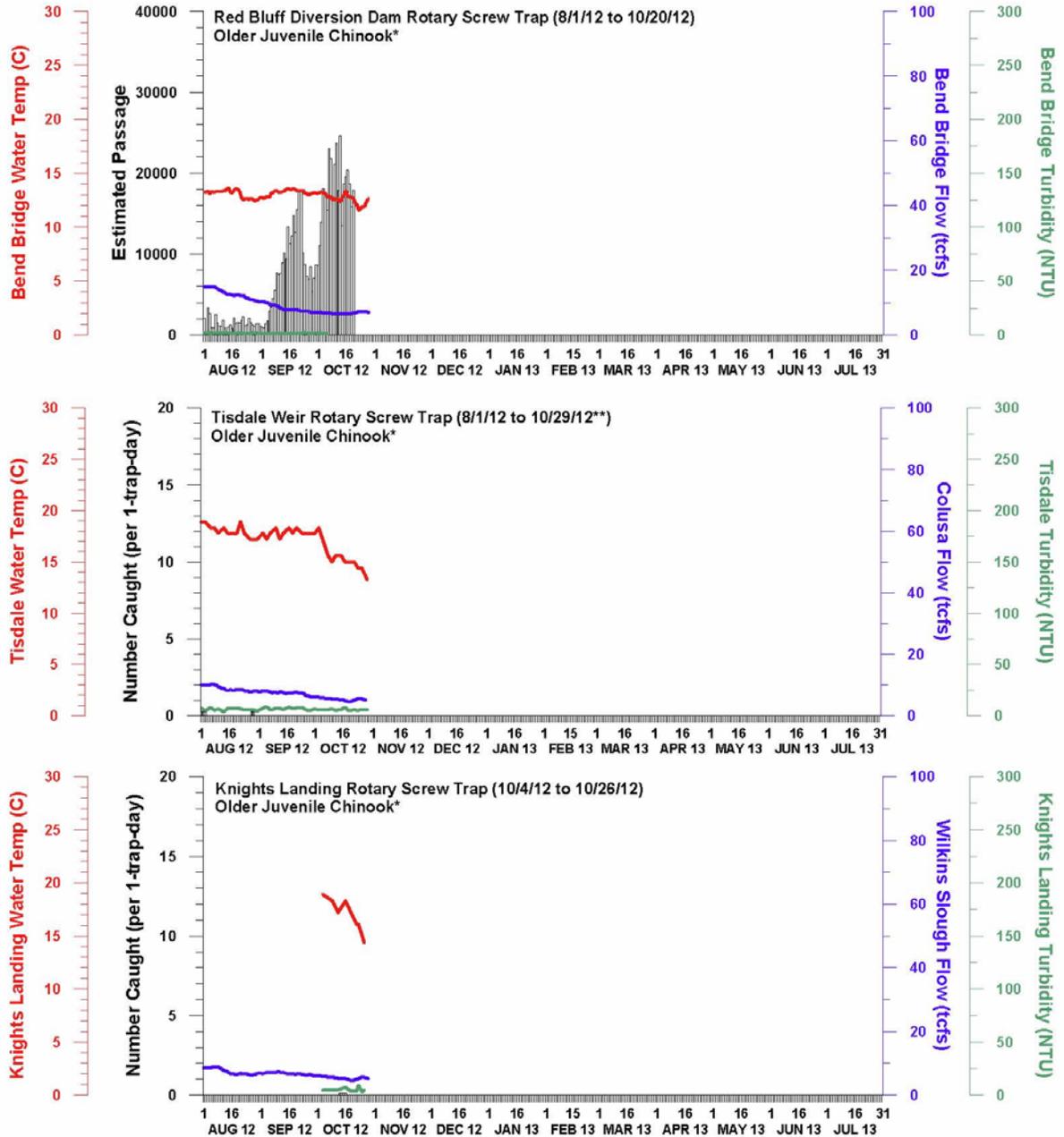
Jones Pumping Plant had a power outage for maintenance on Saturday and Sunday so there were no data collected at the Tracy Fish Facility on those days. They are back up and running now.

The catch of juvenile Chinook salmon in the Knights Landing and Tisdale rotary screw traps (locations at which catch is used as an indicator of the movement of juveniles downstream of the spawning areas) has been very low (often zero) to date this water year.

Below are the graphs for Chinook and steelhead up to 10/29/12. For additional graphs, please visit the DWR website at:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/swp/operationscontrol/calfed/calfedmonitoring.cfm>.

## NUMBER OF OLDER JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE SACRAMENTO RIVER

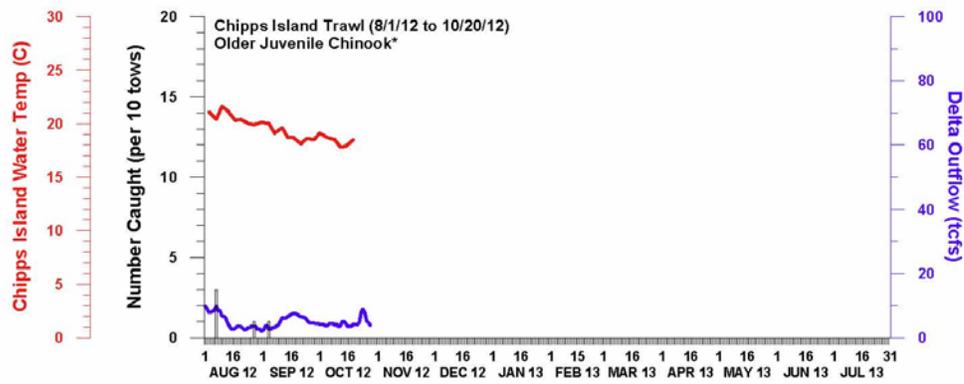
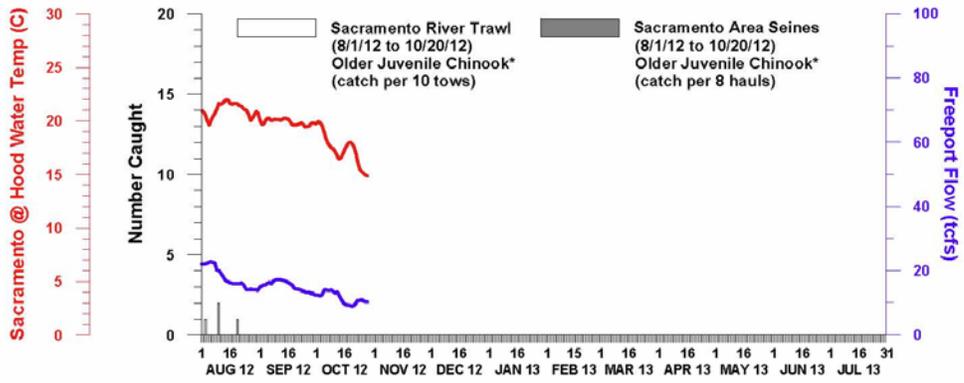


DWR-DES 29 OCT 2012  
Preliminary, subject to revision

\*Older juvenile Chinook defined as all Chinook above the minimum length for winter-run (Frank Fisher model)

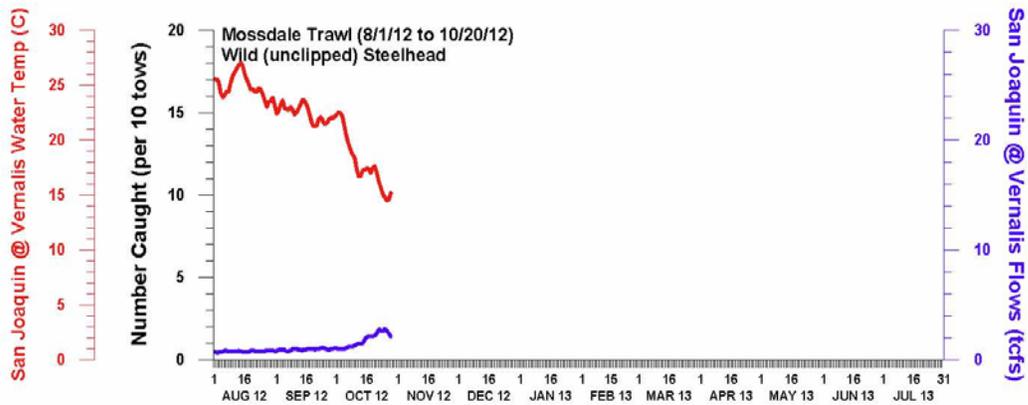
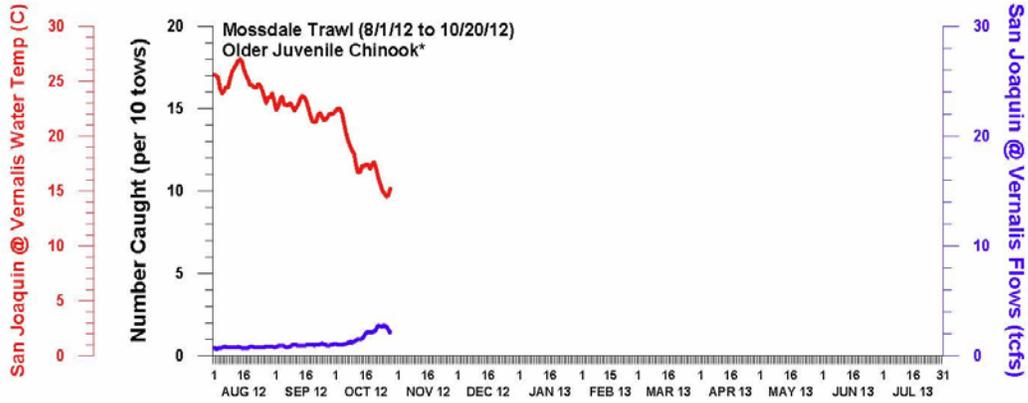
\*\* 9/14 at Tisdale Weir: One older juvenile caught, but not presented in graph since CPUE could not be calculated because the RR cone clicker malfunctioned

## NUMBER OF OLDER JUVENILE CHINOOK MEASURED IN THE LOWER SACRAMENTO RIVER & CHIPPS ISLAND



DWR-DES 29 OCT 2012  
 Preliminary, subject to revision  
 \*Older juvenile Chinook defined as all Chinook above the minimum length for winter-run (Frank Fisher model)

## NUMBER OF OLDER JUVENILE CHINOOK AND STEELHEAD MEASURED IN THE SAN JOAQUIN RIVER



DWR-DES 29 OCT 2012  
 Preliminary, subject to revision  
 \*Older juvenile Chinook defined as all Chinook above the minimum length for winter-run (Frank Fisher model)

**Operations (10/30/12)**

SWP		CVP	
<b>Exports (cfs)</b>			
Clifton Court Forebay	2,720 (intake increased to 6,000 cfs; today back down to 3,500 cfs range; will either maintain or decrease)	Jones Pumping Plant	3,500 (scheduled maintenance last Sat. and Sun.; back up now)
<b>Reservoir Releases (cfs)</b>			
Feather - Oroville	2,400	Nimbus	1,800 (will go to 1,850 cfs on 11/1; temps are ~61°F at Hazel Ave.)
		Sacramento - Keswick	6,500
		Stanislaus - Goodwin	300 (further reductions expected in November)
<b>Reservoir Storage (in TAF, % of capacity)</b>			
San Luis (SWP)	312	San Luis (CVP)	359 (37)
Oroville	1,832	Shasta	2,475
New Melones		Folsom	400
<b>Delta Operations</b>			
DCC	Open	Sacramento River at Freeport (cfs)	10,175
Outflow Index (cfs)	4,300	San Joaquin River (cfs) at Vernalis	1,834
Total Delta Inflow (cfs)	12,384	OMR (daily) (cfs)	
Water Temperature (°F)		OMR 5 day (cfs)	
X2 (km)	81	OMR 14 day (cfs)	
E/I (%)	52.7 <sup>1</sup>		

<sup>1</sup>On Sunday, the E/I exceeded the D-1641 limit of 65% by 2-3%. DWR will be submitting a letter to the SWRCB.

There is a new weather system coming through on Wednesday/Thursday; might get about 1 inch of precipitation at the north end of the Valley. Sacramento River depletions are increasing now that the weather has warmed up. Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District increased its diversions on Friday/Saturday and holding until the end of next week. Wilkins Slough flows are now 5,000 cfs but dropping slowly and will continue to drop without more rain.

**Stipulation Study Data Report:** Last week, DOSS was asked to review the report and provide any comments or questions at today's meeting.

The CFS Status Report gives a rough estimate of through-Delta survival from Buckley Cove to Chipps Island, using tag detection data that has been filtered to exclude all tag detections observed more than 15 days after release. Of all the tags that reached Chipps Island, 93% had reached it within 15 days of release; therefore, it was suggested that the survival rate is unlikely to change much even if the 15-day filter is adjusted to include all tag detections.

The estimates of survival from the release point at Buckley Cove to Chipps Island, by release group, shows approximately 20% for group 1 at an OMR of about -2,500 cfs, 28% for group 2 at about the same flow rate, and 20% for group 3 at about -5,000 cfs. We have no information, yet, on the routes the fish took before reaching Chipps Island.

Rebecca Buchanan's analysis (presented at the 2012 Bay Delta Science Conference in mid-October) of the 2011 VAMP data for juvenile Chinook showed that very few tagged Chinook made it from the entrance to Clifton Court to the SWP fish facilities. She also reported that 64% of the fish that reached Chipps Island had come from CVP but none ever made it from SWP.

**Annual Review Update:** Byrne (NMFS) gave an update of the review agenda and will present the stipulation study process, which will include a description of the management approaches in the NMFS Technical Memorandum. Dr. Steve Lindley from the NMFS-Southwest Fisheries Science Center will be presenting on adding salmonid behavior to particles in PTM. The annual review team made it clear that we are not asking for recommendations regarding the study, but that does not preclude the Independent Review Panel (IRP) from providing any. One of the questions in the IRP's charge is, "What adjustments to the particle tracking models, as informed by the acoustically tagged fish studies, might be more effective for predicting fish behavior and informing future acoustic study design?" The full agenda is on the Delta Science Program website (<http://deltacouncil.ca.gov/science-event/7842>).

**Smelt Working Group (SWG):** No report.

**DOSS advice to WOMT and NMFS:** None. No WOMT call needed today.

**Next Meeting:** The next DOSS conference call meeting is scheduled for 11/6/12 at 9:00 a.m.