



● Bay-Delta Management Report

Summary

This report provides a summary of activities related to the Bay-Delta for January 2018.

Purpose

Informational

Detailed Report

Long-Term Delta Actions

California WaterFix

The California WaterFix Petition proceedings before the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) are ongoing. Part 2 of the hearings address the effects of the proposed project on fish and wildlife, including consideration of appropriate Delta flow criteria. Opening briefs for Part 2 were submitted to the SWRCB on November 30, 2017. In January, multiple parties submitted or joined motions to stay the California WaterFix water right hearing for 90 days or longer, and the SWRCB is considering those motions. Part 2 of the California WaterFix hearing resumed on February 8.

Near-Term Delta Actions

Science Activities

Staff continued participation in the Collaborative Science and Adaptive Management Program (CSAMP), including participation on the Collaborative Adaptive Management Team (CAMT). January activities focused on evaluation of actions to improve conditions for Delta smelt and on development of a 2018 workplan for CAMT. Staff provided input to development of CAMT workplan items for 2018; including development of a long-term science plan to assess ambient conditions and management actions on Delta smelt habitat quality and vital rates, and development of salmon projects to assess salmon rearing habitat in the Delta and study the effects of water project operations on salmon behavior and survival in the Delta.

Staff developed a Delta smelt eDNA sampling and reporting study to support management decisions regarding entrainment risk for water operations during January to March 2018. The State Water Contractors provided financial support to the study and it is being conducted by consultant Cramer Fish Sciences.

On January 17, staff participated in a state and federal water contractor meeting with the Delta Science Program Lead Scientist, Dr. John Callaway, and Delta Science Program staff. The meeting included discussion of planned science activities for 2018 and opportunities for collaboration. In January, staff also continued participation on several Interagency Ecological Program Project work teams to provide updates and input to on-going studies, and develop collaborative partnerships for future studies. Staff participated in the development of future actions for the Flow Alteration project work team, and reviewed the Incidental Take Limit for winter-run Chinook salmon developed by the Winter-run Salmon project work team.

Staff is working with UC Davis, NOAA Fisheries, and the Delta Science Program (DSP) on developing a symposium to better understand the impacts that pathogens and disease have on salmonids. The symposium will be hosted by the UC Davis Coastal and Marine Sciences Institute and the DSP. The symposium will (1) explore our current state of knowledge about salmon pathogens and disease in California, (2) learn about the tools that are available and being developed to better study disease and disease impacts, (3) examine case studies from other river systems that have integrated monitoring and research to manage in-season disease effects on salmon, and (4) identify key information and knowledge gaps necessary to guide research and management of pathogens and disease in wild salmon populations.

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

Bay-Delta Initiatives staff person Corey Phillis coauthored an article on California WaterBlog about Winter-run Chinook salmon and the implications of a recent publication he co-authored on the discovery of previously unidentified rearing habitats for this endangered population. The California WaterBlog is UC Davis' Center for Watershed Sciences blog intended to provide thought-provoking ideas and information on water issues in a digestible form for a policy and educated lay audience. <https://californiawaterblog.com/2018/01/07/new-paths-to-survival-for-endangered-winter-run-chinook-salmon/>

Delta Emergency Preparedness

Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan

DWR reported that the Stockton stockpile site of emergency response materials is completed, and that significant rock and other materials storage is available on the ground and in one new and two renovated warehouse facilities. They are evaluating remaining rock contracts to take advantage of the site's full rock storage capability. DWR is also in the final stages of issuing a contract to procure sheet pile to accommodate two deep levee breaches. DWR reports that remaining budgeted Proposition 1E bond funds will provide in the range of \$10 million for sheet pile and \$5-7 million for rock stockpile contracts.

DWR reports that their operations staff is returning from extended commitments at the Oroville spillway reconstruction to facilitate the review and finalization of the Delta Flood Emergency Management Plan. DWR is also evaluating emergency response scenarios, and depending on the severity of flooded island conditions, DWR is evaluating timely emergency response capabilities to agencies with less available storage, including partial pathway solutions and fresh water pulses from upstream reservoirs.

Metropolitan Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) Expenditures

The following is a summary of Metropolitan's cumulative BDCP expenditures updated for the quarter ending December 2017. Staff will continue to provide these on a quarterly basis in the Bay Delta Management Report.

Total (July 2005 – December 2017)

| BDCP – Internal MWD | Total Costs (12.5 yrs.) |
|---------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Labor & Benefits ⁽¹⁾ | \$ 27.96M |
| Professional Services | \$ 5.31M |
| Travel | \$ 1.42M |
| Other ⁽²⁾ | \$ 0.16M |
| SUBTOTAL | \$ 34.85M |
| Administrative Overhead | \$ 10.43M |
| TOTAL | \$ 45.28M |

⁽¹⁾ Labor costs include salary, leave and non-leave benefits

⁽²⁾ Other include charges for materials and supplies, trainings & seminars, conferences & meetings, reprographics

Quarterly (January 2017 – December 2017)

| | FY16-17 Q3 | FY16-17 Q4 | FY17-18 Q1 | FY17-18 Q2 |
|-----------------------|---------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|-----------------------|
| | Jan-Mar 2017 | Apr-Jun 2017 | Jul - Sep 2017 | Oct - Dec 2017 |
| Labor | 0.534M | 0.744M | 1.181M | 0.997M |
| Professional Services | 0.040M | 0.290M | 0.154M | 0.145M |
| Travel | 0.034M | 0.053M | 0.025M | 0.055M |
| Other | 0.003M | 0.004M | 0.002M | 0.002M |
| SUB-TOTAL | 0.611M | 1.091M | 1.362M | 1.199M |

Board Report (Bay-Delta Management Report)

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|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Admin. Overhead | 0.178M | 0.254M | 0.383M | 0.330M |
| TOTAL | 0.789M | 1.345M | 1.745M | 1.529M |

California WaterFix 2017 Program Budget and Commitments

With completion of the planning phase in 2017, the BDCP Expenditures report that was a regular section in the monthly Bay Delta Management Report was closed out and will no longer be included. In its place, the California WaterFix 2017 Program Budget and Commitments was established and is summarized in the table below. Funding is provided by DWR; none of these state funds are state general fund dollars. Expenditures under this budget have been lower than planned. Most of the 2017 Budget will carry forward to 2018. The table below shows the budget and commitments as of December 2017 which reflects all post-Environmental Impact Report approval program costs not classified as planning:

| California WaterFix Program Budget & Commitments (in millions) | | |
|---|--------------------|------------------|
| Budget | Commitments | Remaining |
| \$ 24.73 | \$ 5.40 | \$ 19.33 |