

For internal discussion only

Agenda
Federal Fish Agency Coordination Meeting
ROC on LTO
December 7, 2018: 12-1pm
1-877-785-0805, PC: 2662693

1. **Check in on process and schedule**

2. **NMFS Initial Elevation Topics**
 - a. Independent Peer Review
 - b. Risk Analysis
 - c. Shasta Operations
 - d. Fish Passage Program
 - e. I:E Ratio
 - f. OMR - Storm Flex
 - g. OMR - Onset
 - h. Delta Barriers: Head of Old River and Georgiana Slough

3. **Next Steps/Action Items**

	Elevation Topic	Reclamation's Perspective	NMFS' Perspective	Recommendation on Path Forward
a	Independent Peer Review of BA	We are not aware of Reclamation's position.	Delta Science Program independent peer review of BA will strengthen final BiOp and not impact schedule	Contact Delta Science Program
b	Risk Analysis	Reclamation has developed a Risk Analysis approach for making many of the operational decisions described in the Proposed Action (DCC ops, OMR, Shasta Temps, Water Operations Governance).	The approach is vague and lacks the specificity for us to understand and evaluate how it works or how it would be applied.	The risk assessment process should include clear triggers or performance standards that can be measured and tracked. The "conferencing" option also needs clarification on how decisions will be made.

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c	Shasta Operations	Reclamation proposes that they will attempt to meet temperatures when storage is sufficient, otherwise they will implement other methods (i.e., novel/untested theories on temperature/water quality management)	As currently written, there is no storage component at all and no connection between operations and temperature management (focus is on use of the Temperature Control Device) - This is a pre-2004 scenario	Waiting for Reclamation to provide more detail on Shasta Operations per our Tuesday Tiger Team discussions.
d	Fish Passage Program	Fish passage is a recovery action and not mitigation for CVP/SWP Operations. Want clear understanding of benefits.	Fish passage is a necessary mitigation action to address the declining status of Winter-run and the stressors to the species associated with the existence of only 1 remaining population below Shasta Dam. Benefits: Reduced regulatory burden, water supply flexibility	Need commitment from Reclamation to include a program as part of the Proposed Action. NMFS to provide Reclamation with materials that describe the benefits.
e	Inflow/Export Ratio (I:E) The I:E ratio is not in the Proposed Action	Reclamation superseded the I:E ratio with an OMR action oriented to a "San Joaquin River steelhead salvage/loss trigger.	NMFS believes that SJ juvenile steelhead protection in April and May is important. Reclamation's proposed OMR trigger, based on "San Joaquin Origin steelhead" is not feasible because there is no method proposed to distinguish San Joaquin from Sacramento basin steelhead.	NMFS recommends that Reclamation revisit our July 19, 2018 document "Alternatives to the San Joaquin Inflow-to-Export Ratio for Reclamation to Consider in Its Initial Actions convene a technical Environmental Assessment" and meeting with NMFS to develop a feasible alternative.

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f	<p>OMR Storm Flexibilities</p> <p>Description in PA is vague. During a live edit session, Reclamation added that implementation will be to pump up to maximum permitted levels. Not clear how Reclamation will define “storm”; in past meetings during Track 1 discussions, Reclamation suggested defining “storm” as “anytime the Delta is in ‘excess’ conditions”.</p>	<p>There needs to be an OMR Storm Flex component to the PA to integrate WIIN Act</p>	<p>Agree with need to include this for WIIN Act Implementation but</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Need more clarity about how this described in order to conduct effects analysis. b. Based on what has been presented at OMR Tiger Team discussions, we understand the Reclamation proposal would offramp the proposed -5,000 cfs OMR levels during much of January through March. This is a period of great concern for winter-run Chinook salmon in the Delta. March is the month of maximum salvage for winter-run. c. NMFS recommended approach in March 2018 merits discussion. 	<p>Need clarification ASAP on what is being proposed, including any risk analysis procedure.</p> <p>Tiger Team Team should be tasked to help with this.</p>
g	<p>OMR Onset/Offramp Criteria</p>	<p>Propose operating to -5,000 cfs OMR levels during a window based on criteria that are jointly conditioned on population percentage and calendar date onset.</p>	<p>The population criteria, as initially shared, are not feasible except for Winter-run.</p> <p>If population criteria were used, should not jointly condition on calendar date.</p>	<p>Need to revisit the OMR Criteria at a Tiger Team Meeting.</p> <p>Criteria should be clarified and made suitably protective.</p>
h	<p>Head of Old River (HORB)</p>	<p>Reclamation believes the HORB</p>	<p>Lots of different perspectives on this.</p>	<p>For HORB:Include in consultation to be</p>

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	<p>Georgiana Slough Barriers are not in the Proposed Action</p>	<p>is not necessary to improve survival of SJ River juveniles. They also believe that Georgiana Slough Barrier is expensive and that habitat restoration would be a better investment</p>	<p>However, recent CWF decision was to include an operable barrier at HOR. This decision should be carried into this consultation.</p> <p>Georgiana Slough Barrier could be very helpful when combined with Storm Flex Operations.</p>	<p>consistent with CWF.</p> <p>For Georgiana: Commit to implementation of a Georgiana Slough Barrier and continue working with BOR/DWR to explore design alternatives.</p>
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