

Determination of Actions Required Under Component 2 of the 2008 OCAP Biological Opinion
June 14, 2010

The Service has determined that OMR flows be no more negative than -5000 cfs on a 14-day average (no more negative than -6250 cfs on a 5-day average), as allowed under the RPA.

The Service received a recommendation from the Smelt Working Group (SWG) that OMR flows of no more negative than -5000 would be sufficiently protective of Delta smelt. SWG noted that there has been very little salvage of smelt since May 21. Additionally, the results from the 20mm Survey #7 provide evidence that juvenile delta smelt may have largely moved downstream of the interior delta and that the risk of entrainment of larval and juvenile delta smelt is likely low. No delta smelt were detected in the interior Delta for 20mm Survey #7.

The juvenile protective phase of the biological opinion (RPA Component 2; Action 3 in Attachment B) is in effect. This action will continue until June 30 or when the 3-day mean water temperature at Clifton Court Forebay reaches 25⁰C, whichever occurs earlier. The water temperature for the 3 station average is currently 22⁰C.

Cumulative expanded salvage of larvae is currently at 29 for the season.

The Working Group will continue to monitor salvage, survey data, and hydrological conditions and will reconvene on June 21.