

WY 2013  
Smelt Working Group Recommendations  
Service Determinations

Date	SWG Recommendation	Service Determination
12/07/2012	The Working Group recommended no change in projected operations based on a review of delta smelt distribution, lack of salvage, current Delta conditions and projected operations.	No need for a Service Determination.
12/14/2012	The Working Group recommended no change in projected operations based on a review of current Delta conditions, but noted that the recent salvage of delta smelt would require continued monitoring.	No need for a Service Determination.
12/17/2012	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow be reduced to no more negative than -2,000 cfs for 14 days, with a concurrent 5-day running average no more negative than -2,500 cfs beginning as soon as possible. This recommendation is based on delta smelt salvage occurring over five consecutive days at the Delta facilities (from December 12 through December 16). The Working Group requested that the Service convene a WOMT meeting this afternoon so a Determination and change in operations can be moved forward with all expediency, due to the urgent need of this action to protect adult delta smelt from entrainment.	For the week of December 17, 2012, the Service has determined that OMR flows be no more negative than -2,000 cfs for a total duration of 14 days, with a 5-day running average no more negative than -2,500 cfs (within 25 percent). (1)
12/26/2012	The Working Group made no recommendation to cease or otherwise alter the implementation of Action 1 of the Service's Biological Opinion. Implementation of Action 1 began on December 19 and will continue for 14 days. Old and Middle River flows (OMR) are to be maintained at no more negative than -2,000 cfs for 14 days, with a concurrent 5- day running average no more negative than -2,500 cfs.	December 17, 2012 Determination still in place.
12/31/2012	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow for the start of Action 2 should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -2,000 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -2,500 cfs. Should the Projects experience no salvage for four consecutive days or no salvage for five out of seven days, the Working Group will meet again to discuss the potential to set OMR flow at -3,500 cfs. Implementation of Action 2 will begin January 2, 2013, which follows immediately upon the end of Action 1.	For the week of December 31, 2012, the Service has determined that OMR flows be no more negative than -2000 cfs, with the potential to move to an increased negative OMR of -3500 cfs as early as January 3, 2013, contingent upon completion of an acceptable adaptive management plan. (2)
01/04/2013	Working Group's 12/31/2012 recommendation is in place through the week until 01/07/2013.	The Service has determined that OMR flows be no more negative than -3500 cfs, based on a 14-day running average with simultaneous 5-day running average within 25% of -3500 cfs. An OMR flow of -3500 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. (3)
01/07/2013	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -3,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -4,375 cfs.	January 4, 2013 Determination still in place.
01/14/2013	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -2,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -3,125 cfs	January 4, 2013 Determination still in place.
01/22/2013	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -	January 4, 2013 Determination still in place.

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	2,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -3,125 cfs.	
<b>01/23/2013</b>	The Working Group's 01/22/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 01/28/2013.	The Service has determined that beginning Friday, January 25, 2013, OMR flows be no more negative than -3500 cfs for a total duration of 14 days, with a 5-day running average no more negative than -4375 cfs (within 25 percent), unless the cumulative total of adult delta smelt salvage (expanded) between 0001 hours on January 23 and 2400 hours on January 24 exceeds 8. If cumulative adult delta smelt salvage exceeds 8 during that period, then OMR flows shall be no more negative than -2500 cfs on a 14 day running average, with a 5-day running average no more negative than -3125 cfs (within 25 percent). OMR flow limits of -3500 cfs or -2500 cfs are within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. (4)
<b>01/28/2013</b>	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -2,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -3,125 cfs.	January 23, 2013 Determination still in place.
<b>01/29/2013</b>	The Working Group's 01/28/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 02/04/2013.	The Service determined that as of January 28, 2013, OMR be set to no more negative than -2500 cfs until entrainment risk abates and/or a new determination is made. Accordingly, OMR flows shall be no more negative than -2500 cfs on a 14 day running average, with a 5-day running average no more negative than -3125 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -2500 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to review, on a daily basis, new information that may pertain to entrainment risk. (5)
<b>02/04/2013</b>	The Working Group recommended that until such time that the delta smelt concern level is reached (75% of the WY 2013 incidental take limit, or 228 fish), OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -2,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -3,125 cfs. Upon reaching the concern level, the Working Group recommended that the OMR target be changed to no more negative than -1250 cfs.	January 29, 2013 Determination still in place.
<b>02/05/2013</b>	The Working Group's 02/04/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 02/11/2013 (reaching concern level requires change in OMR, as stated in recommendation)	The Service has determined that as of February 5, 2013, OMR flows should continue to be no more negative than -2500 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -3125 cfs (within 25 percent). If the cumulative adult delta smelt salvage reaches the concern level of 75 percent of the incidental take limit (ITL) for adult delta smelt (228 fish), then the Service, Reclamation, DWR, and DFW shall immediately conference to discuss the situation and determine next steps. The Service has circulated a draft protocol to provide a basis for that conference, should the conference be necessary. An OMR flow limit of -2500 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. (6)
<b>02/07/2013</b>	The Working Group was requested by the Service to hold an impromptu meeting. The concern level of salvage (75% of the total Incidental Take Limit) has been reached, and as of	February 5, 2013 Determination still in place.

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	February 6 is at 232 fish. The Working Group upheld the February 4 recommendation of -1,250 cfs OMR target should the concern level be reached. The Working Group believes the most positive OMR target allowable in the Biological Opinion for the Projects is appropriate at this time to avoid exceeding the ITL for adult delta smelt.	
02/08/2013	The Working Group's 02/07/2013 recommendation remains in place; the Working Group reconvenes on 02/11/2013.	The Service has determined that as of February 8, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -1250 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -1563 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -1250 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions daily and will consider the import of any new information that becomes available. (7)
02/11/2013	The Working Group upheld its February 7 recommendation of -1,250 cfs as the OMR target should the concern level be reached. The water projects concern level of salvage (228 adult delta smelt or 75% of the total Incidental Take Limit [ITL]) was reached on February 5, 2013. The Working Group agreed that less negative OMR flows have a higher probability of reducing the risk of entrainment and thus delaying the occurrence or potential exceedence of the WY 2013 adult delta smelt ITL.	February 8, 2013 Determination still in place.
02/12/2013	The Working Group's 02/11/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 02/19/2013.	The Service has determined that as of February 12, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -2000 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -2500 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -2000cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received. If entrainment of smelt once again occurs on more than a sporadic basis, the Service may call for a reduction to -1250 cfs. (8)
02/15/2013	The water projects concern level of salvage (228 adult delta smelt or 75% of the total Incidental Take Limit [ITL]) was reached on February 6, 2013. However, since that time, no salvage has occurred at either facility. The Working Group was requested by the Service to hold an impromptu meeting to review current adult delta smelt distribution and salvage data, Delta conditions, and projected operations. Based on this review the Working Group recommended to the Service that OMR could be increased to -2,500 cfs from the previous OMR flow level of -2,000 cfs.	The Service has determined that as of February 15, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -2500 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -3125 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -2500cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received. (9)
02/19/2013	The Working Group recommended that its February 15 recommendation of -2,500 cfs as the OMR target be maintained for today and tomorrow. Should salvage of adult delta smelt not exceed a total of four fish during this period, the OMR flow rate can be increased to -3,500 cfs. The water projects concern level of salvage (228 adult delta smelt or 75% of the total Incidental Take Limit [ITL]) was reached on February 6, 2013.	February 15, 2013 Determination still in place.
02/20/2013	The Working Group's 02/19/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 02/25/2013.	The Service has determined that as of February 20, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -3500 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day

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		running average no more negative than -4375 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -3500cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received. <b>(10)</b>
02/25/2013	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -3,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -4,375 cfs. The Working Group will continue to monitor salvage, turbidity, and other conditions, and will reconvene Friday, March 1 to conduct an entrainment risk assessment for delta smelt and review current longfin smelt distribution data.	February 20, 2013 Determination still in place.
02/26/2013	The Working Group's 02/25/2013 recommendation is in place through 03/01/2013.	The Service has determined that as of February 26, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -3500 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -4375 cfs (within 25 percent). If no delta smelt are salvaged at either the state or Federal facility between 0001 hours on February 25 and 2400 hours on February 28, then beginning on March 1, 2013, OMR flows shall be no more negative than -4000 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -5000 cfs (within 25 percent). If delta smelt are salvaged over the period of February 25 through 28, then OMR flows shall remain at -3500 cfs until after updated advice is provided by the Smelt Working Group (SWG) on Friday, March 1, 2013 and the Service considers the available information. OMR flow limits of -3500 cfs and -4000 cfs are within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received. <b>(11)</b>
03/01/2013	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -4,500 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -5,625 cfs.	The Service has determined that as of March 1, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -4500 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -5625 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -4500 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 2, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received.
03/04/2013	The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -5,000 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -6,250 cfs. The Working Group agrees that there will be a need to reconvene immediately to assess the risk of delta smelt entrainment if there is a change in the current low salvage trend.	March 1, 2013 Determination still in place.
03/05/2013	The Working Group's 03/04/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 03/11/2013.	The Service has determined that as of March 5, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -5000 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -6250 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -5000 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 3, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to

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		<p>monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received. Because spent female delta smelt have been detected in the Spring Kodiak Trawl (SKT survey), the Service has determined that the water projects have transitioned into Component 2, Action 3 of the Biological Opinion. Action 3 is designed to protect larval and juvenile delta smelt from entrainment. The Service will continue to assess conditions to minimize adult delta smelt entrainment risk and ensure that the projects do not exceed the Water Year (WY) 2013 incidental take limit of 362 adult delta smelt. <b>(13)</b></p>
03/11/2013	<p>The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -5,000 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -6,250 cfs. The Working Group agrees that there will be a need to reconvene immediately to assess the risk of delta smelt entrainment if there is a change in the current low salvage trend.</p>	<p>March 5, 2013 Determination still in place.</p>
03/12/2013	<p>The Working Group's 03/11/2013 recommendation is in place through the week until 03/18/2013.</p>	<p>The Service has determined that as of March 12, 2013, OMR flows should be no more negative than -5000 cfs on a 14-day running average, with a simultaneous 5-day running average no more negative than -6250 cfs (within 25 percent). An OMR flow limit of -5000 cfs is within the range of allowable net daily OMR flows for Action 3, which is -1250 to -5000 cfs. The Service will continue to monitor Delta conditions on a daily basis and will consider the import of any new information that is received. This determination will remain in place until such time that it is determined more protective OMR flows are necessary. <b>(14)</b></p>
03/18/2013	<p>The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -5,000 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -6,250 cfs.</p>	<p>March 12, 2013 Determination still in place.</p>
03/25/2013	<p>The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -5,000 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -6,250 cfs.</p>	<p>March 12, 2013 Determination still in place.</p>
04/02/2013	<p>The Working Group recommended that OMR flow should be set at a 14-day average flow of no more negative than -5,000 cfs with a corresponding 5-day average flow of no more negative than -6,250 cfs.</p>	<p>March 12, 2013 Determination still in place.</p>
04/08/2013	<p>The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.</p>	<p>March 12, 2013 Determination still in place</p>
04/15/2013	<p>The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given</p>	<p>March 12, 2013 Determination still in place</p>

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	their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	
<b>04/22/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
<b>04/29/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
<b>05/06/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
<b>05/13/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
<b>05/20/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
<b>05/28/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
<b>06/03/2013</b>	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place

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	were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	
06/10/2013	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group also agreed that given their present distribution, existing constraining conditions were sufficient to protect longfin smelt.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
06/17/2013	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment.	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place
06/24/2013	The Working Group agreed that given their present distribution, current salvage, and Delta conditions, the risk of entrainment of delta smelt remains low and therefore, the Working Group recommends that no change in operations is necessary to adequately protect delta smelt from entrainment. The Working Group will continue to monitor smelt salvage, larval and juvenile smelt survey data, and Delta hydrological conditions until June 30, the last day of implementation of Action 3 of the RPA, and reconvene during that time as necessary. <b>This is the final regularly-scheduled Working Group meeting of season.</b>	March 12, 2013 Determination still in place