Delta Cross Channel Operations-The Four Seasons

Central Valley Operations--Bureau of Reclamation MP Region—Sacramento, CA



Delta Cross Channel

From the Sacramento River near Walnut Grove, California to Snodgrass Slough
1950-1951
1.2 mi
3,500 cfs
210 ft
3:1
26 ft

History of DCC

- Early Alternatives to DCC were "Peripheral Canal"- like variants
- Location and Sizing Alternatives studied using Electrical Analog Computers (1940's)
- 60'x30' Radial Gates are Reclamation's Largest

Evolution of DCC Operations Guidelines

- USBR SOP (1968)
- D-1485 (1978)
- NOAA Fisheries Biological Opinion 1992, 1993
- Bay Delta WQCP (1995)
- D-1641 (1999)

Reclamation SOP for DCC

- Operations Instruction by Reclamation CVO
- Gates O&M by San Luis Delta Mendota Water Authority (SLDMWA)
- Two Gates normally operated together
- Close Gates if Sac River > 20-25 kcfs (flood/facility scour)
- Fully Open Gates to Elev +15' (above bottom elev of RR bridge

Reasons for Closures of DCC

- Flood Control/Facility Scour (Sustained >20-25 kcfs in Sac. R.)
- Salinity Control per WQCP

 Western Delta Ag. Sac. R. at Emmaton.
- Fish Protection per Delta WQCP
- Sac. R. flow at Rio Vista WQCP

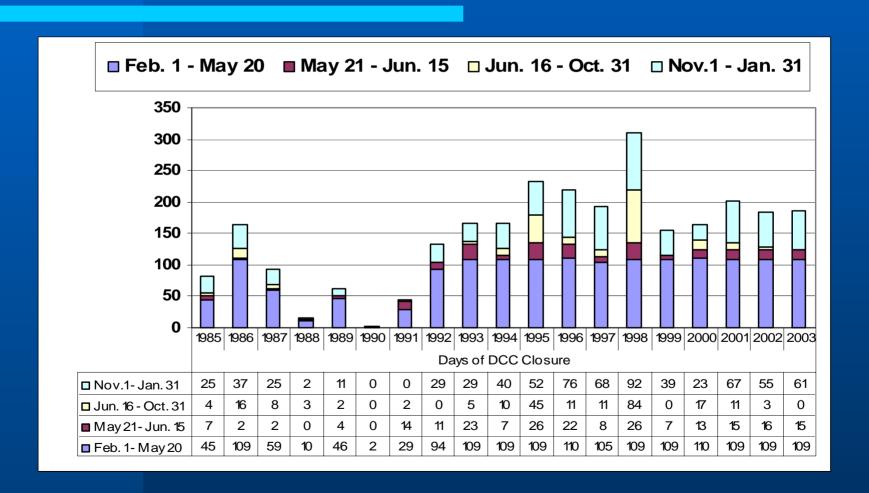
Reasons for Opening the DCC

- Short-cut for Fresh Water Flow to Interior/Southern Delta for Export
- Interior Delta Salinity management for Export Water Supply.
- Salinity Control per WQCP M&I Chlorides and Western Delta Ag. San Joaquin R. at Jersey Point.
- Recreational Boating Use

Four Seasons of DCC Operation

- November 1- January 31
- February 1- May 20
- May 21 June 15
- June 16 October 31

Days of DCC Closure



February 1 – May 20

- Gates closed for protection of Sac.
 River salmon during this 109 day period
- Closure period includes Feb. 1 Apr. 30 mandated closure per NOAA Fisheries Winter Run Biological Opinion.

May 21- June 15

- Gates to be closed for 14 of these 26 days. Reclamation decides timing after consultation in CALFED Ops (DAT/WOMT information/decision process).
- Generally, gates are time managed to be opened for Memorial Day Weekend.

June 16 – October 31

 Gates will be default open during this 138 day period, unless closure required because of high river flows, or WQCP standards for Emmaton salinity, or Rio Vista min. flow.

November 1- January 31

- Gates may be closed up to 45 days to protect out-migrant fish, in response to Real-time Monitoring per terms of Salmon Protection Process and NOAA Fisheries Biological Opinion.
- Use of DAT and WOMT information/decision process.

O&M Issues for Frequent DCC Changes

- DCC Gates are not automated nor remotely operated.
- 1.5 hour drive to DCC from SLDMWA and general scheduling of Dispatch Operator
- Increased Frequency of Operations creates Greater Staffing and Long-term Maintenance Commitment
- Notification to Recreational Boating and Public Safety Interests

O&M Issues – Oct. 2002 Gate Malfunction





Another Aerial View of DCC

