



Construction begins on Non-Physical Barrier at Old River, San Joaquin River

The installation of seasonal barriers begins this month with the Non-Physical Barrier (NPB) at the Head of Old River confluence with the San Joaquin River. The barrier contractor began installing the support piles and piers for the NPB this week. The NPB is designed to keep juvenile Chinook salmon and steelhead on course as they migrate to the Pacific Ocean. It consists of a submerged steel frame, bubble hoses, sound generators, and strobe lights. The NPB is due to be completed and fully operational by next Thursday, April 15, in time to support the Vernalis Adaptive Management Plan experiment during April- May. Construction of three agricultural rock barriers on Old River, Grant Line Canal, and Middle River will begin in May. [Read more.](#)

Work begins on Delta Information Center near Rio Vista

Work has begun work on the Farmers Market part of the Discover the Delta Information Center, according to the [Lodi News-Sentinel](#). The project is the centerpiece of the Discover the Delta Foundation. The farmers market will be open by June. The visitor's center will open in mid-2011. [You can find more information on the foundation's website.](#)



Delta aquatic species is focus of UCD seminar next week

The Center for Aquatic Biology and Aquaculture at UC Davis will hold a seminar a week from today, March 15, on Bay-Delta aquatic species. The CABA Seminar is titled "Imperiled Bay-Delta Aquatic Species: How an Aquatic Technology Center Can Help Address Conservation Needs." Delta Species with potential need of captive propagation for conservation/recovery and research needs to be served by an aquatic technology center, according to the program on the [CABA website](#).

USBR extends comment period on Delta water transfer document

The Bureau of Reclamation has extended the public comment period from March 29 to tomorrow, April 9, for the Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) for the transfer of up to 20,500 acre-feet of Central Valley Project (CVP) water to assist South-of-Delta water service contractors with 2010 and 2011 water supplies. [Read more.](#)

USBR increases flows from New Melones through May 31

Last week, the Bureau of Reclamation began increasing releases at New Melones Dam to the Stanislaus River from 200 to 1,350 cubic feet per second. Higher releases in the river will fluctuate until May 31. These releases will meet the National Marine Fisheries Service's Biological Opinion objectives. [Read the press release.](#)

DWR releases latest issue of California Drought Update

DWR has released the latest issue of the 2010 California Drought Update, which monitors and reports on the current water supply effects and conditions of California's drought. [You can find it here.](#) It reports in part: "Although the Water Year 2010 average through February indicates normal rainfall levels, March precipitation through March 25 is slightly below average which may bring down the water-year average total."



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