



'Bubble curtain' may keep salmon on course through Delta

Preliminary results show that an experimental, non-physical "bubble curtain" fish barrier is working to help keep young Chinook salmon and steelhead on course to the ocean and away from agricultural irrigation ditches and state and federal pumping plants. The barrier is made up of metal frames lined with strips of strobe lights and air nozzles, creating sheets of bubbles that carry precise acoustic pitches to repel juvenile Chinook. More testing will be held this month along the San Joaquin River and Old River near the barrier. Studies have shown that salmon kept in the San Joaquin River have better survival than those that move into the central Delta through Old River. [Read more.](#)



Above: The "bubble screen" being tested. Left: Screen is deployed at divergence of San Joaquin River and Old River.

DWR sets regional forums about floods — one will be held in the Delta

DWR is presenting a series of regional forums to gather and share information about the Central Valley Flood Management Planning Program, which includes the Delta. There will be five meetings from Chico to Merced. The Delta meeting will be held Monday, June 8, at the Isleton Community Center. [You can find more information on the program's website.](#)

Delta levee funding comments due by Monday

"DWR's Delta Levees Program has evaluated 41 applications from Delta agencies and levee districts for new projects. This week it recommended funding for 16 new projects totaling about \$22 million plus \$3.5 million for 5 year plans and the remainder of the \$31 million for ongoing projects. Following a public comment period, DWR will make a final funding decision. All comments on the recommendations should be received by DWR no later than 4 p.m. next Monday, May 18. [Read more.](#)

Proposal to improve Delta leads to statewide urban water conservation plan

The Governor's 20X2020 Agency Team on Water Conservation will conduct a workshop on Friday, May 29, to hear what the public thinks about its plan to conserve water in urban areas. In February 2008, Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger introduced a seven-part plan for improving the Delta. As part of this effort, the governor directed state agencies to develop a plan to reduce statewide per capita urban water use by 20 percent by the year 2020. That was the start of the 20x2020 Water Conservation Plan (20x2020 Plan) process. The panel now has produced a report titled **20x2020 Water Conservation Plan** and seeks public comment on it. [Workshop details and the report can be found here.](#)

Water Plan workshop precedes DPC meeting next week in Antioch

DWR and 20 other State agencies are asking the public to participate in a series of 12 regional public workshops statewide to gather and share information about the Public Review Draft of the *California Water Plan Update 2009*. One of the workshops will be held in Antioch on Thursday, May 21, prior to a Delta Protection Commission meeting that begins at 5:30 p.m. [More details and region-specific agendas for all workshops are posted here.](#)



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