

## California Department of Water Resources NEWS

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## **Sacramento Weir Closure Begins Today**

SACRAMENTO---The Department of Water Resources today began closing the gates of the Sacramento Weir.

Sixteen of the weir's 48 gates were opened early in February to release high flows from the Sacramento River safely into the Yolo Bypass. Now that moderate flows on the Sacramento River have resumed, the weir gates are being closed to keep sediment from being deposited in the river channel.

The weir is a concrete flood overflow structure 1,920 feet long in the west levee of the Sacramento River. It is located about four miles upstream of Sacramento's Tower Bridge, and about three miles upstream from the mouth of the American River.

Chief purpose of the Sacramento Weir is to protect the City of Sacramento from excessively high river flows.

Under rules developed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Sacramento Weir is opened when the Sacramento River at Sacramento's I Street Bridge hits the 27.5 foot stage.

The Sacramento Weir is the furthest downstream of five overflow waterways along the Sacramento River between Butte City and Sacramento. The weirs are used to divert excess runoff from the Sacramento River channel into the Sutter and Yolo bypasses.

The Yolo Bypass is a broad, leveed floodway channel which in wet years is used to safely conduct a high volume of water to the Delta.

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*The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs. The State Water Project provides water to two-thirds of California's population.*

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