

California Department of Water Resources NEWS

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Aqueduct East Branch Repairs Are Completed

SACRAMENTO---The Department of Water Resources today announced completion of repairs to eliminate leaks at three locations in the East Branch of the California Aqueduct near Palmdale in Southern California.

The work was completed ahead of schedule even though the repairs doubled in size over original estimates. Repairs were made on approximately 3500 linear feet of concrete canal at three locations along the East Branch, a key facility of the State Water Project. The \$5 million repairs are funded by Southern California state water contractors, agencies with long-term contracts to purchase SWP water.

The repairs involved replacing broken concrete panels, sealing joints and installing a new watertight lining over the existing panels. The new canal liner consists of a two-to three-inch shotcrete surface placed over a waterproof membrane.

To reduce delivery demands, the repairs were performed during a low demand period. Reservoirs at Silverwood and Castaic lakes provided water for uninterrupted deliveries while repairs proceeded. Starting the first week in November, crews worked around the clock to accomplish the repairs in a timely manner.

The repair sites near Palmdale are more than 300 miles south of the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta where the California Aqueduct begins.

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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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