

## California Department of Water Resources



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### AQUEDUCT LEAK REPAIR PROGRESS REPORT

BYRON---Work continues to fix a leak at Mile 4.3 of the State Water Project's California Aqueduct north of Bethany Reservoir.

Department of Water Resources Engineers report that Teichert Construction Company crews are working around-the-clock to permanently seal the leak, located approximately 29 feet under water. Discovered June 5, the breach was releasing an estimated 2 cubic feet per second. Approximately 55 cubic yards of concrete pumped through the lining of the aqueduct controlled the outflow.

Strengthening is underway on an embankment outside the canal. Compaction, excavation and backfilling are involved in the work, which will take about a week to complete.

Construction of two 30 foot high cofferdams was finished this week. Dewatering and cleaning of the 1200 foot aqueduct section between them is underway. Near the end of that procedure, next Tuesday or Wednesday, crews will capture fish in the dewatered section and release them on the other side of the cofferdams.

DWR Engineers are lowering the aqueduct water level gradually to safeguard integrity of the canal embankment. It will take eight days to complete the dewatering.

The extent of repair work will not be known until dewatering and cleaning is finished. DWR Engineers expect to replace some of the concrete lining panels along with part of the invert (bottom) section in the vicinity of the leak.

A dozen pumps are currently transferring water from the Central Valley Project's Delta-Mendota Canal into the SWP aqueduct at the rate of 100 cubic feet per second. (The CVP is receiving an equal amount back from the SWP's San Luis Reservoir.)

During the repairs, the SWP will meet deliveries to South Bay Aqueduct customers via modified operations on the system. These modified operations will include releasing water from Del Valle Reservoir, located several miles south of the City of Livermore. It is anticipated that only the swimming beaches at Del Valle Reservoir Recreation Area will be affected. Boat ramps and picnic areas will remain operable.

No other SWP deliveries are expected to be affected by this repair project. Such repairs are paid for by the water agencies with longterm contracts to buy SWP water, not the taxpayers. Repair costs are estimated at about \$3 million.

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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.*

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