

California Department of Water Resources



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AQUEDUCT REPAIR NEARING COMPLETION

BYRON---Repair efforts by Department of Water Resources engineers and Teichert Construction Company crews continued ahead-of-schedule today at a dewatered section of State Water Project aqueduct just north of Bethany Reservoir with the refilling process expected to begin this weekend.

This morning, crews began two-days of work installing a concrete liner over a sealant membrane to complete repairing a leak discovered June 5. Concrete temporarily plugged the breach June 6 but DWR engineers determined that permanent repairs were necessary to prevent possible major damage to the canal and embankment.

Tomorrow evening, workers are scheduled to begin pumping water back into a 1,200 foot aqueduct section between two temporary cofferdams that had been emptied to allow necessary repairs. During the weekend, they will begin removing rock from the cofferdams.

Full use of the aqueduct may resume as early as next Wednesday.

“Our objective has always been to get that water back on as soon as possible, while still making proper repairs,” said DWR Field Engineer Jim Peddy.

Those repair costs are estimated at about \$3 million and will be paid by the water agencies with long-term contracts to buy SWP water, not the taxpayers.

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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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