



CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

NEWS FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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California Department of Water Resources

DWR Redirects Fishing from Aqueduct Pool near Taft

Repairs Require Draining the Pool; Fish Won't Be Moved

SACRAMENTO – The Department of Water Resources (DWR) is repairing the lining and underlying embankment of the California Aqueduct near Taft in Kern County. Repairs on a leak in the lining began January 11 and are expected to be completed by mid-February. There will be no interruptions in deliveries to State Water Project water contractors; Southern California contractors will be supplied by DWR reservoirs south of the Tehachapi Mountains while repairs are underway.

As water is drained from a discrete stretch, which DWR calls a “pool,” of the Aqueduct to allow for repairs to the liner and underlying embankment, large striped bass and other warm-water game fish gather in small and isolated ponds. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife does not typically allow relocation of non-native fish due to the potential to introduce diseases where the fish are relocated. The fish in Pool 30 of the Aqueduct will not be moved to new habitat, and DWR is asking anglers to suspend their fishing there due to public safety concerns related to the proximity of the ongoing repair work.

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While the early winter rain and snowpack are promising, this may yet prove to be a fifth consecutive year of drought in California. To learn about all the actions the state has taken to manage our water system and cope with the impacts of the drought, visit Drought.CA.Gov. Every Californian should take steps to conserve water; find out how at SaveOurWater.com.



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