



Oroville Dam Spillways Tour and Feather River Fish Hatchery Tour

Introduction

The California Water Commission will be touring the Oroville Dam Spillways and the Feather River Fish Hatchery. Tours will be conducted by Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff: Scott Turnquist, Engineering Branch Manager with the Oroville Field Division, and Tony Meyers, State Water Project Operating Officer, will lead the Oroville Dam tour and Jason Kindopp, Environmental Program Manager with Division of Integrated Science & Engineering, and Sabrina Bell, Senior Environmental Scientist – Specialist with the Oroville Field Division, will lead the fish hatchery tour.

Background

The Oroville Dam sits at the confluence of the three forks of the Feather River and is the tallest dam in the United States at 770 feet high. Construction on the dam site began in 1961, and, with the dam partially completed, it already proved to protect the Sacramento Valley from flooding in 1964. The dam was completed in 1968 and provides water storage, hydroelectric power, flood control, and recreational benefits. In 2017, heavy rainfall severely damaged the main spillway, leading to the evacuation of approximately 188,000 at-risk downstream residents. DWR mobilized a coordinated emergency response effort with local, state, and federal partners to stabilize the spillway and residents were able to return home after a few days. The Oroville Dam spillways were redesigned and reconstructed; the reconstruction was completed in November 2018.

The Feather River Fish Hatchery was constructed as part of the Oroville Dam complex and benefits Central Valley Steelhead and spring and fall-run Chinook Salmon. Its purpose is to produce and release juvenile salmon and steelhead to mitigate for lost habitat and anadromous fish production due to the construction and operation of Oroville Dam and its associated facilities. In addition to a mitigation purpose, the hatchery also produces fall-run Chinook salmon for the Commercial Salmon Trollers Enhancement and Restoration Program to benefit ocean Chinook landings; collects eggs for the statewide Inland Chinook salmon program; and produces fall-run Chinook for the Lake Oroville Inland Fishery as required by its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission license.

Agenda Item: 7 & 8

Meeting Date: September 20, 2023

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Meeting Overview

All times subject to change. Each tour is anticipated to last approximately one hour. The Oroville Dam Spillways tour will begin no earlier than 9:05 a.m. and the Feather River Fish Hatchery tour will begin no earlier than 10:15 a.m. Transportation is not provided.

09:00 am	Open meeting Tour Oroville Dam Spillways
10:30 am	Tour Feather River Fish Hatchery – stops at viewing area and hatchery Adjourn meeting

Contact

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