



Lookout Slough Restoration Project Tour

Agenda Item at a Glance

- As part of the March meeting of the California Water Commission, Commissioners and staff will tour the Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project.
- Lookout Slough is the largest environmental restoration project in the Delta in decades. It produces food for fish species and reduces overall flood risk in the Sacramento area.
- This is an informational agenda item, important to anyone interested in tidal habitats in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.
- The tour is open to the public. Members of the public are responsible for their own transportation.

Introduction

The California Water Commission will tour the Lookout Slough Tidal Habitat Restoration and Flood Improvement Project. This multi-benefit project restores tidal wetland habitat and produces food for Delta smelt and other fish species, while reducing overall flood risk in the Sacramento area. The tour will be conducted by Department of Water Resources (DWR) staff. It was completed in September 2024 as part of State Water Project (SWP) mitigation.

Background

At 3,400-acres, Lookout Slough is the largest single tidal wetland restoration project to date in the Delta. Lookout Slough is part of the State's effort to "build more, faster" through upgrades to critical infrastructure and other projects across California.

After breaking ground in June 2022, construction included building more than three miles of a 25-foot-tall setback levee, which provides 100-year flood protection with allowances for future sea level rise, excavating 26 miles of open tidal channels, and restoring native habitat through grading, fill placement, and natural revegetation.

The breached site provides more than 40,000-acre feet of additional flood storage within the Yolo Bypass, which will help protect surrounding communities and infrastructure during future flood events. Along with the flood prevention benefits and the 3,400 acres of restored habitat that supports fish and wildlife, Lookout Slough also provides recreational opportunities. Once

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all of the levee breaches are complete, the public may access the new tidal channels for wildlife viewing, fishing, and hunting via a non-motorized boat ramp at the northernmost breach.

Meeting Overview

The tour will begin no earlier than 1 p.m. at the terminus of Liberty Island Road in Dixon, CA 95620 . (38° 19'44.3" N, 121° 41'39.6" W). Start time is subject to change. The tour is anticipated to last approximately three hours. There will not be a remote option for this tour, and it will not be recorded. Members of the public are responsible for their own transportation. Comfortable clothing and comfortable walking shoes are recommended.

Contact

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