Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Release Environmental Documents for the Coleman Barrier Weir Site Modifications Project

The Bureau of Reclamation and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service have released the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for the Coleman Barrier Weir Site Modifications Project. The Coleman National Fish Hatchery complex, on Battle Creek near Anderson, Calif., includes a fish barrier weir and fish ladder facilities. The facilities, operated to manage the different runs of both hatchery and naturally produced salmon and steelhead in Battle Creek, were significantly modified in 2007 and 2008.

Recent evaluations of the barrier weir facilities have determined that a mechanical feature of the weir is in need of modification in order to facilitate the management of fish passage in Battle Creek. The effective operation of the barrier weir and fish ladder facilities are essential to support the ongoing Battle Creek Restoration Program, which is seeking to restore habitat for federally listed salmonids.

Additionally, the areas where visitors to the hatchery view the salmon will be improved through the installation and/or modification of handrails, guardrails, walkways and ramps that are compliant with the Americans with Disabilities Act. A new viewing platform will also be constructed immediately downstream of the barrier weir to allow better viewing of the fish congregating and jumping below the weir.

Please visit http://www.usbr.gov/mp/nepa/nepa.projdetails.cfm?Project_ID=8348 to view the Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact, which were developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. If you have problems accessing the documents, please contact the Public Affairs Office at 916-978-5100 (TTY 916-978-5608) or mppublicaffairs@usbr.gov.

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