

Status of the Temporary Barriers as of December 1st, 2022:

The construction of the three agricultural barriers has been completed as of June 10, 2022. All barriers were in full tidal operations from June 1 until the beginning of removal. Barrier removal started on November 3rd, 2022 and was completed by November 30th, 2022. This is the last TBP weekly update for 2022.

Middle River Barrier

In-water work started on May 10, 2022 at 4 pm. The weir was closed on May 18, 2022 at 6 pm with all 6 flap gates tied open. All 6 flap gates were untied and culverts set to tidal operation on June 1, 2022 at 4:30 pm. On June 27, 2022 at 2:00 pm the Middle River Barrier weir crest was raised by an additional foot. The barrier was notched on September 13th, 2022 at 11 am. On November 15th, the contractors mobilized to the site. In-water work began on November 17th, 2022. The barrier was breached on November 17th, 2022. In-water work was completed on November 21st, 2022.

Old River Tracy Barrier

In-water work started on May 11, 2022 at 8 am. The closure of the weir started on May 27, 2022 and was completed on May 28, 2022. Boat portage is available daily from 8 am to 6 pm Monday to Friday and from 7 am to 7 pm on weekends. All 9 flap gates were untied and culverts set to tidal operation on June 1, 2022 at 11 am. The barrier was notched on September 13th, 2022 at 8:15 am. On November 1st, the contractors mobilized to the site. On November 3rd, the concrete mats were removed. In-water work began on November 4th, 2022. The barrier was breached on November 4th, 2022. Boat portage ended on November 4th, 2022. In-water work was completed on November 23rd, 2022.

Grant Line Canal Barrier

In-water work started on May 20, 2022. The flashboard structure was closed on June 2, 2022 at 3:30 pm while the weir was fully closed on June 6, 2022 at 4:30 pm. Culvert operation started on June 7, 2022 at 8:30 am. Boat portage is available daily from 6 am to 8 pm. The adjustment of the flashboard structure was completed on September 13, 2022 at 3:15 pm. On November 1st, the contractors mobilized to the site. In-water work began on November 7th, 2022. The barrier was breached on November 7th, 2022. Boat portage ended on November 8th, 2022. The flap gates were tied open on November 8th, 2022, and the flashboard structure remains open. Docks and underwater concrete mats were removed on November 9th, 2022. In-water work was completed on November 30th, 2022.

Environmental Compliance

As required by the environmental permits, pre-construction surveys were conducted in advance of construction. Environmental monitors were present during all phases of construction including the in-water work. Environmental education was provided to crew members prior to starting work. Required discrete turbidity and dissolved oxygen monitoring data was collected during the in-water work phase of the construction.

During the construction of the agricultural barriers, four separate killdeer nests identified within or adjacent to work areas or haul roads. Although not a CESA protected species, killdeer nests were marked for avoidance, crews were alerted of their location, and were monitored by a biologist when work was occurring in the area.

Environmental monitors were present during the raising of the Middle River Barrier weir and no environmental issues were encountered. Required discrete turbidity and dissolved oxygen monitoring data was collected during the in-water work phase of the construction. Turbidity levels were below the 150 NTU threshold.

Environmental monitors were present during notching at the Middle River and Old River near Tracy Barriers and flashboard removal at the Grant Line Canal Barrier. No environmental issues were encountered. Required discrete turbidity and dissolved oxygen monitoring data was collected during the notching.

Environmental monitors were present during removal of the barriers. No environmental issues were encountered. Required discrete turbidity and dissolved oxygen monitoring data were collected during the in-water work phase of the removal.

Water Temperature

Monitoring of water temperature at the San Joaquin River at Mossdale Bridge station (MSD) is being conducted as part of the 2019 National Marine Fisheries Service Biological Opinion on Long-term Operations of the Central Valley Project and State Water Project which states, "Barriers would include at least one culvert open to allow for fish migration when water temperatures are less than 71.6°F (22°C)." The water temperature exceeded 71.6°F on May 23, 2022 with the daily mean at 71.8°F and consistently registered above 71.6°F for more than 3 days but dropped slightly on May 29 to 70.6°F.

Water Level Modeling

Modeling was conducted for the simulation period from November 29th, 2022 through December 19th, 2022. The modeling results are attached. DWR will continue to monitor and report water levels and conditions

Aquatic Weed Issues

Presence and accumulation of aquatic weeds in the TBP areas will be monitored and reported to CA Department of Parks and Recreation Division of Boating and Waterways Aquatic Invasive Species Branch.