

## Media Advisory

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### **Media Availability to Announce Beginning of 2 ½-months of Salmon Trucking From Federal and State Hatcheries and Downstream Releases**

**What:** Coleman National Fish Hatchery (NFH) will begin transporting fall Chinook salmon smolts in from the hatchery in Anderson, Calif., to a release site near Rio Vista the morning of Tuesday, March 25, carrying out details of a special drought contingency plan announced by Federal and State agencies earlier this month. Media are invited to observe and photograph salmon release operations and ask questions of representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries Service and Golden Gate Salmon Association. The media event marks the start of a more than two-month drought-response effort by federal and state hatcheries to transport roughly 30.4 million Chinook salmon to downriver locations to improve the fish's chances for survival during their migration to the ocean. Additional background is contained in a joint state-federal news release issued March 10: <http://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2014/03/10/state-and-federal-agencies-evaluate-new-drought-contingency-plan-to-help-commercial-fishing-and-utilize-trucking-of-salmon-smolts/>

**When:** Tuesday, March 25. Media are invited to observe operations at one or both of the locations at times listed below:

#### **Coleman National Fish Hatchery.**

24411 Coleman Fish Hatchery Road, in Anderson. Gates will open for media at **4 a.m.** to observe fish being loaded into four CDFW and USFWS trucks. Once loaded, the trucks will then travel at about 6 a.m. in tandem to Rio Vista, arriving at about **10:15 a.m.**

#### **Rio Vista at the Old Navy Yard site on Beach Dr. next to Coast Guard Station.**

To get to the Rio Vista event, go through the City of Rio Vista, and from Second Street, turn left on the Y, and then turn left on Beach Dr. There's a blue sign that says **Army Facility**. Go through the gate and follow the road straight about a quarter-mile to the event site. At Rio Vista, start of operation will be fluid due to tide conditions and other factors. Media should arrive at Rio Vista around **9:15 am**. Representatives will be available from state and federal agencies, and stakeholder groups. A presentation will be followed by the arrival of the trucks and the transfer

of fish into net pens. Boats will be available to take media to salmon release sites. Boats will be available between **11 a.m.** and **1 p.m.** If interested in getting on a boat, please give advance notice. Pool video and other materials will be available.

**Who:** Speakers will include **Stafford Lehr**, Fisheries Branch Chief, CA Fish and Wildlife; **Robert Clarke**, Fisheries Program Supervisor, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; **Howard Brown**, Fisheries Biologist, NOAA Fisheries; **John McManus**, Executive Director, Golden Gate Salmon Association.

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<http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/>