

Media Advisory

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Media Availability for Release of 173,000 Livingston Stone Hatchery Chinook salmon juveniles near Caldwell Park in Redding

What: The first installment of a record number of endangered winter-run Chinook juvenile salmon will be released into the Sacramento River from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery (NFH) as part of a multi-agency effort to protect this year's run from the dire effects of an ongoing drought. Approximately 173,000 of the 600,000 winter-run Chinook salmon smolts in the hatchery will be released to begin their migration to the Pacific Ocean. Resource agencies took action early in 2014 to collect additional returning adult salmon for the Livingston Stone NFW winter-run broodstock program to help counter increased in-river mortality due to the poor expected environmental conditions. Note: The City of Redding announced that in cooperation with the planned release of the fish the lights on the deck of the Sundial Bridge will be turned off during the evening hours of February 4-6 to help reduce potential of predation by resident trout.

When: Wednesday, February 4. Media are invited to observe operations at one or both of the locations at times listed below:

Shasta Dam/Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery

Media are encouraged to arrive at the Shasta Dam Security Area at 3:30 p.m. to 3:45 p.m. at which time media will be escorted to the Livingston Stone National Fish Hatchery to photograph/video the last of the juvenile winter Chinook salmon being loaded into the fish distribution vehicles. Directions to Shasta Dam:

- Take Interstate 5 (I-5) to 7 miles north of Redding, CA
- Take I-5 Exit #685 "Shasta Dam Blvd / 151"
- Drive west on Shasta Dam Blvd. (151) for 7 miles to Shasta Dam

All visitors must check in at the Security Building and must have valid ID/credentials. USFWS personnel will be in the vicinity to help direct media to the Security Area and will escort them down to the Livingston Stone NFH.

Caldwell Park

After the last of the fish are loaded, media can follow the fish distribution trucks and/or proceed directly to the fish release location (boat ramp at Caldwell Park). Directions to Caldwell Park:

- From 299 (Market St.) turn west on Quartz Hill Road.
- Take second left (Rio Drive) into boat launch Parking Area.
- You have gone too far if you pass under the Diestelhorst Bridge (railroad bridge).

The sun sets at about 5:30 p.m. and fish release will occur between 5:30 p.m. and 6 p.m. All activities at the boat launch should be concluded by about 6:30 p.m.

For background, this is last week's joint agency news release: <https://cdfgnews.wordpress.com/2015/01/26/agencies-taking-measures-to-protect-winter-run-chinook-preparing-to-release-approximately-600000-fish/>