

USFWS Media Advisory

March 24, 2015

Contact:

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Media Availability to Announce Beginning of 2 ½-months of Salmon Trucking From Coleman National Fish Hatchery 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 Thursday, March 26, carrying out details of the second year of a special drought contingency plan. Media are invited to observe and photograph salmon release operations and ask questions of representatives from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. The media event marks the start of a more than two-month drought response to transport about 12 million Chinook salmon to downriver locations to improve the fish's chances for survival during their migration to the ocean.

When: Thursday, March 26. 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 **3:15 am** to observe fish being loaded into **up to five** CDFW and USFWS trucks. Once loaded, the trucks will then travel at about **4:45 a.m.** in tandem to Rio Vista, arriving at approximately **8:45 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 the operation will be fluid due to tide conditions and other factors. Media should arrive at Rio Vista around **8 a.m.** Representatives will be available from the USFWS. A briefing will be followed by the arrival of the trucks and the transfer of fish into net pens. A USFWS boat will be available for the media.

Who: U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service representatives, including Scott Hamelberg, Project leader, Coleman NFH.

Additional information is contained in the following links:

USFWS 2015 Contingency Release

Strategy: http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/documents/Contingency_Release_Strategies_2015_for_Coleman_National_Fish_Hatchery_03_19_15_Final.pdf

News release from March 24, 2015:

http://www.fws.gov/sfbaydelta/documents/2015_coleman_salmon_trucking_nr.pdf

USFWS photos from the 2014 salmon trucking

operation: https://www.flickr.com/photos/usfws_pacificsw/sets/72157651381858596/

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Check out the BDFWO web page at

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