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# **Environmental Assessment of the Enhancement of Species Permit for Collection and Transport of Spring- Run Chinook Salmon for the SJRRP**

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**NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service**

**Fisheries Technical Feed Back Group Meeting**

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# NEPA





## Purpose and Need

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A permit under section 10(a)(1)(A) of the ESA needed to:

- collect surplus spring-run Chinook eggs or juveniles from the Feather River Fish Hatchery (FRFH)
- establish broodstock and handling methodologies

The purpose is to meet some requirements of the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement and to further conservation and recovery objectives for threatened spring-run Chinook salmon.



# Proposed Permitted Activities

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- Take of surplus Feather River Hatchery eggs and juvenile spring-run Chinook salmon
- Off-stream holding and rearing facilities in a salmon conservation hatchery facility
- Holding and rearing in incubators or holding pens that would be placed in or adjacent to the San Joaquin River

The proposed action does not include activities that would release spring-run Chinook salmon to the river.



# Alternatives

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1. Do not issue the permit (no action alternative)
2. Issue the permit with conditions (preferred alternative)
3. Not analyzed: Issue permit without conditions



# Preferred Alternative

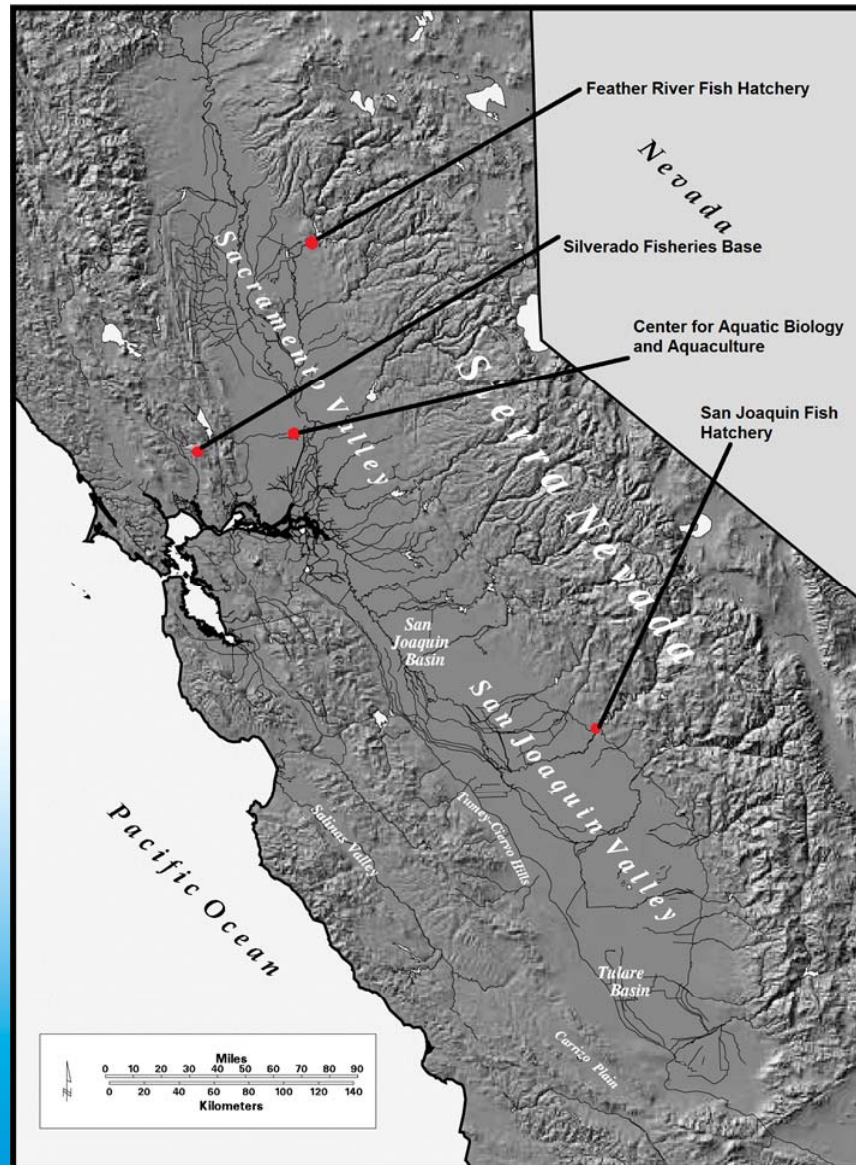
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## Conditioned permit.

- No spring-run Chinook are released to the San Joaquin River under this permit.
- Expressly for the propagation and enhancement of the ESA-listed spring-run Chinook population and the associated monitoring activities.
- Annual take of ESA-listed anadromous fish limited.
- Includes reporting requirements for compliance.



# Action Area





# Affected Environment

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In NEPA :

How the proposed action can potentially affect the physical and biological resources within the action area.







# Environmental Analysis

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1. Organized geographically
2. Affected resources
  1. Donor population
  2. Water Supply
  3. Water quality
  4. Air quality
  5. Greenhouse gas emissions
  6. Fish and wildlife in the rivers
3. No significant impacts
4. No socio-economic effects

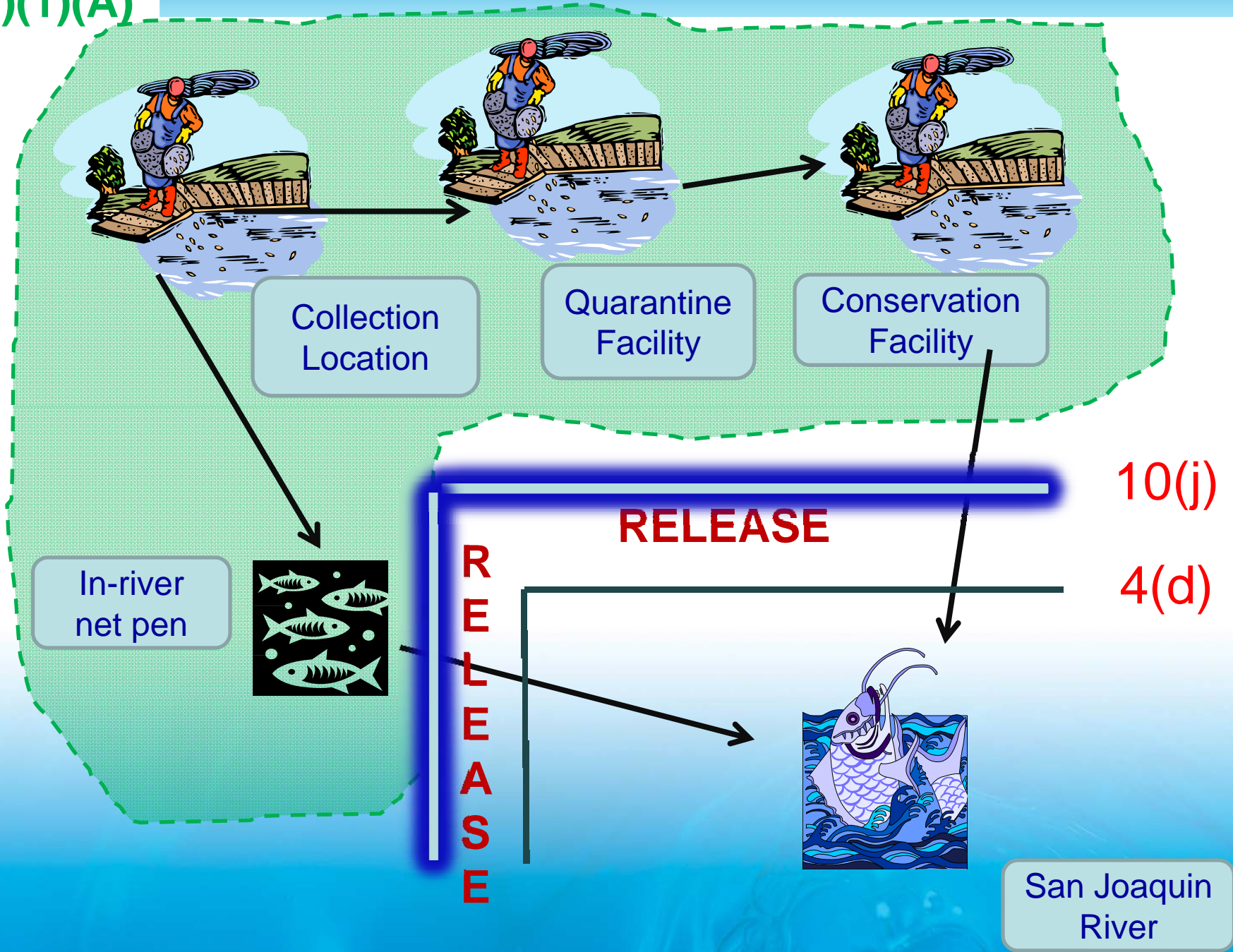


# Cumulative Impacts

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1. Climate Change and Green house gasses:  
Negligible impact
2. Establishment of an experimental population:  
Foreseeable, and will require NEPA analysis

10(a)(1)(A)





# Focus Your Comments

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- Factual information
- Affected environment or Action Area
- Impacts not identified
- Errors
- Are impacts adequately analyzed and addressed?



# Questions?





# Next Steps

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Written comments on the EA should be directed via mail, fax, or electronic mail by Monday, May 21, 2012 to:

Responsible Official:

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<http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/sjrrestorationprogram/salmonreintroduction.htm>

or <http://swr.nmfs.noaa.gov/nepa.htm>



# Historical Salmonid Populations in the San Joaquin River



<http://www.nrdc.org/water/conservation/images/fsanjoaquin2.jpg>