



Project Fact Sheet

Arroyo Canal Fish Screen and Sack Dam Fish Passage Project



Existing view of Sack Dam and Arroyo Canal facing south.

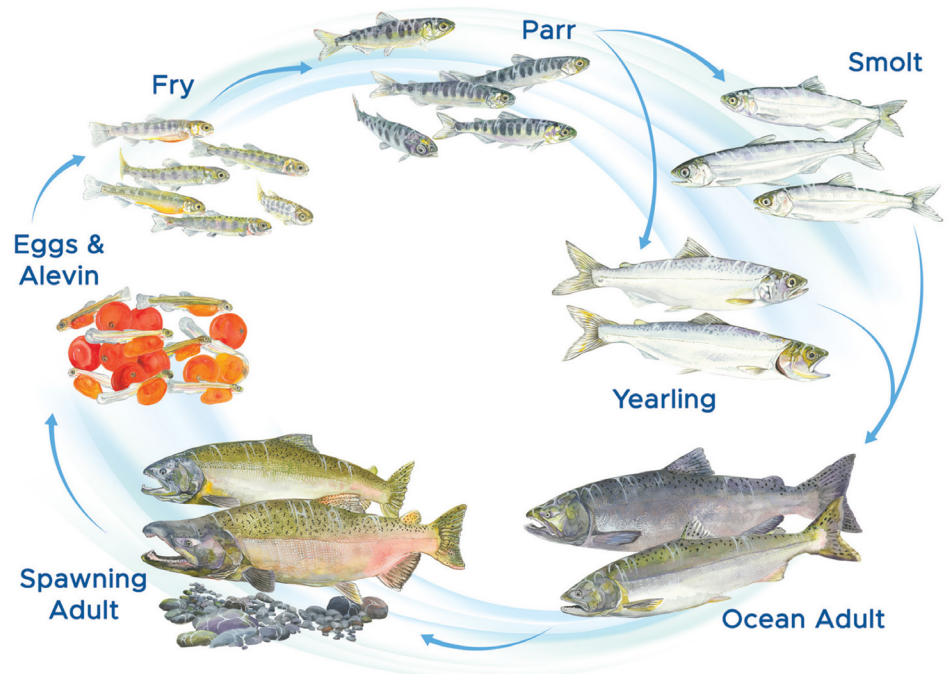


Artist rendering of completed project facing south.

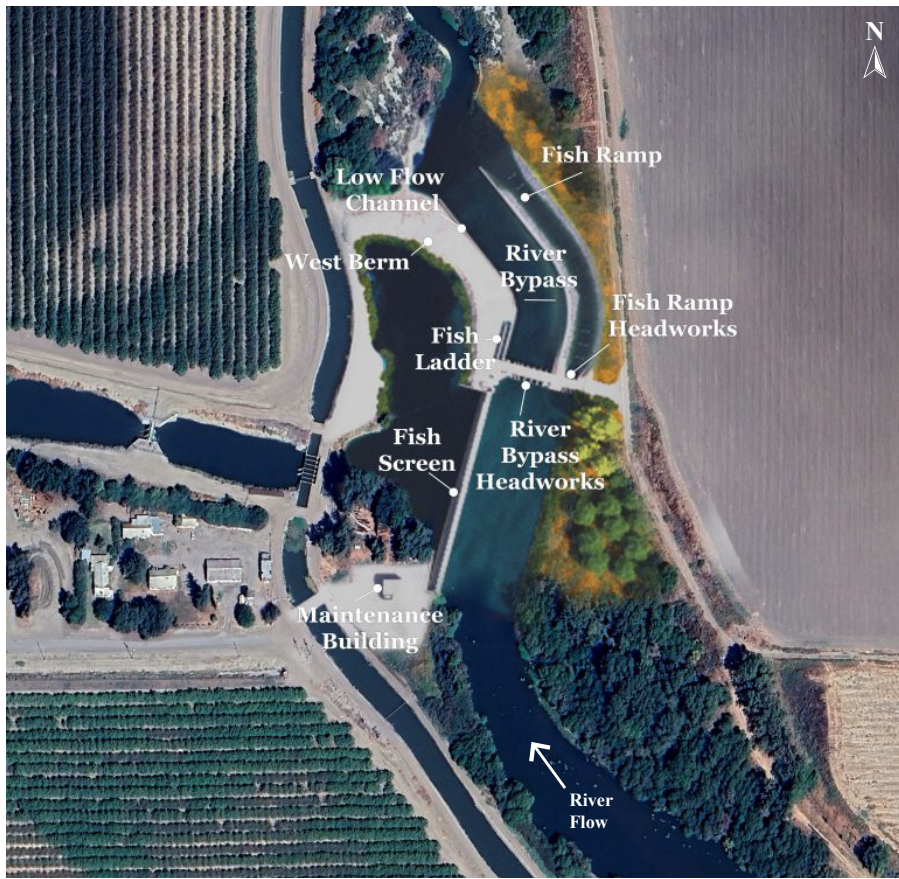
The Arroyo Canal Fish Screen and Sack Dam Fish Passage Project is the first of several major fish passage construction projects to be implemented under the 2006 San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement. Once all passage projects (four in total) are complete, salmon and other fish will have unimpeded access to approximately 150 miles of habitat used for holding, spawning, juvenile rearing, and migration in the San Joaquin River between Friant Dam and the confluence with the Merced River.

The Arroyo Canal Fish Screen and Sack Dam Fish Passage Project constructs two of the highest priority projects identified in the Settlement and authorized in the San Joaquin River Restoration Settlement Act (P.L. 111-11): fish passage at Sack Dam; and a fish screen at the Arroyo Canal water diversion to prevent entrainment of salmon and other anadromous fish.

Anadromous fish, like Chinook salmon, live in both fresh and salt water, traveling up and down rivers during key periods of their lifecycle. Juveniles, spawned in fresh water, outmigrate to the ocean to grow, mature, and return as adults to their natal streams. The Arroyo Canal Fish Screen and Sack Dam Fish Passage Project will allow adult salmon upstream passage via a fish ladder and fish ramp during normal to higher flows. Likewise, juveniles will pass through the Sack Dam Control Structure while moving out to the ocean.



Spring-run Chinook Salmon Lifecycle: In early spring months (April/May), adult spring-run migrate upstream from the ocean, holding all summer in cool river waters, before spawning in fall and dying. Juveniles hatch in November/December and outmigrate to the ocean the following spring.



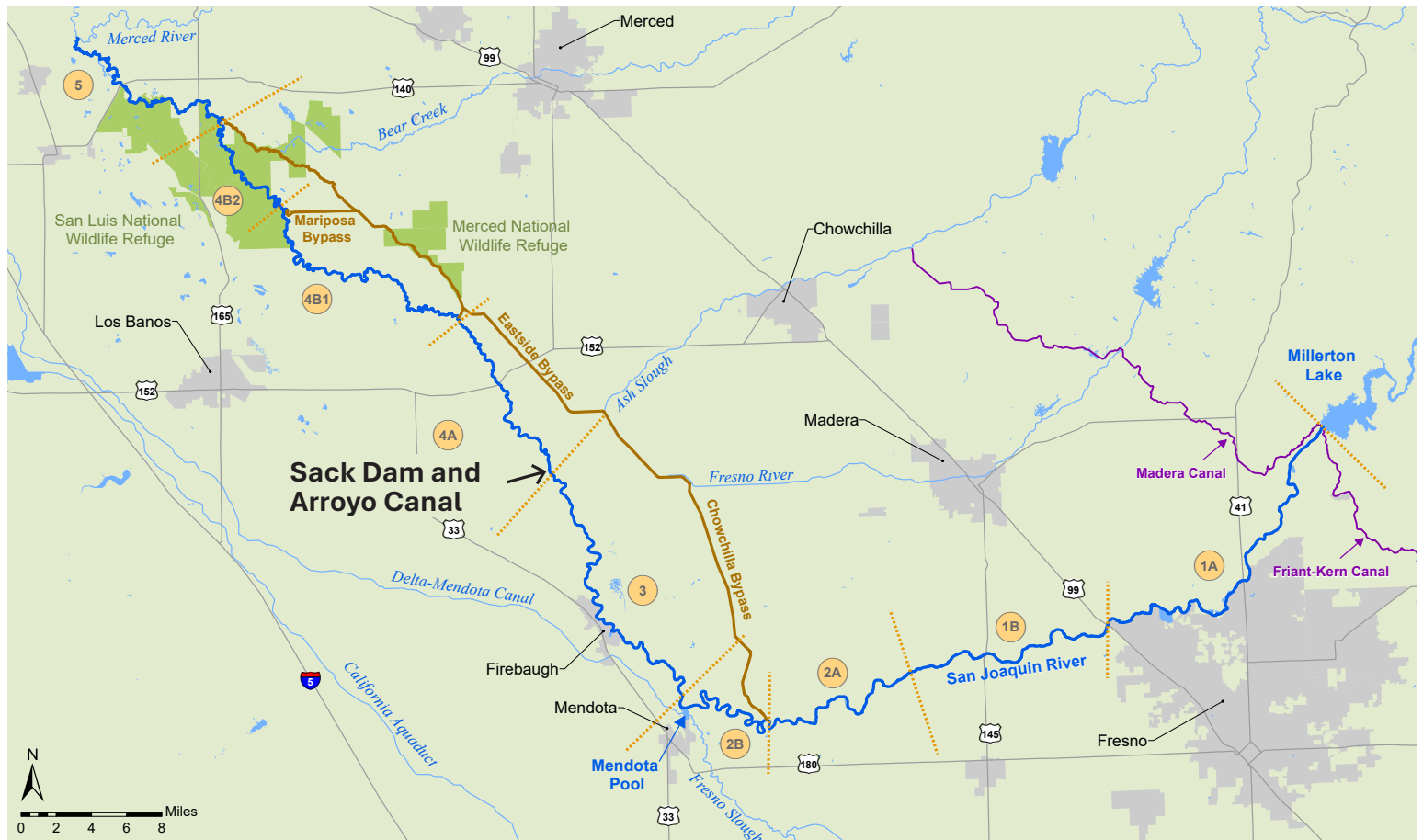
The project also allows for continued water supply diversions through Arroyo Canal while improving subsidence-resiliency for an area suffering from groundwater overdraft. Arroyo Canal and existing Sack Dam are the sole diversion and conveyance facilities for the local reclamation district, providing agricultural water to approximately 47,000 acres of farmland in the San Joaquin Valley as well as water to federal and state wildlife refuges and private duck clubs. The project will screen the gravity-fed Arroyo Canal and meet Settlement objectives for safe fish passage and entrainment protection.

The construction award was made to NW Construction, Inc. in July 2025 with project construction beginning Fall 2025 and completed Summer 2028.

The above rendering shows the major project elements. The fish screen will keep all life stages of salmon from entering the Arroyo Canal. The fish ladder, river bypass and fish ramp will allow salmon of all life stages to pass through the project area during a wide-range of hydrologic river conditions.



For more information about the project, please visit the San Joaquin River Restoration Program website at www.restoresjr.net.



Map showing 152-mile Restoration Area and general project location.