

U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation

Yolo Bypass "Big Notch" Concept Development and Evaluation



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Project Background

- Enhance floodplain rearing habitat
- Improve adult fish passage
- Comply with 2019 NMFS BO
- Work with existing land uses
- 2022 start of construction





Initial Questions:

Where to connect with river?
 How much flow?
 Operation and timing?
 Fish passage design flows?
 Project constraints and impacts?

Flow

Tolo Bypass

Sacramento River

Established Design Principles:

Restore "natural" ecosystem process
 No impact to flood control capacity
 Coexist with existing land uses
 Design with O&M access in mind
 Incorporate flexibility via AM

Flow

Olo Bypass

Sacramento River

Alternative Formulation Process



Conduct Public Scoping Refine Purpose and Need/ Objectives ID Initial Concepts from Scoping

Evaluate Concepts Select Alternatives for EIS/EIR



Develop Initial Concepts: *Establish Design Criteria*

Structure	Feature Length	Depth Criterion	Velocity Criterion	Width Criterion
Intake structure/ short channel transitions	<60 ft	>3 ft	<6 ft/sec	>10 ft
Downstream channel	>60 ft	>5 ft	<4 ft/sec	>10 ft



Example: Initial Gated Concepts

- Various sizes, locations, & configurations
- 3,000 6,000 cfs
 max





Federal Planning Criteria & Evaluation Factors

- 1. Effectiveness: Does alternative meet Project goals?
- 2. Completeness: Does alternative account for all species?
- **3.** Acceptability: Is alternative compatible with other regional efforts, land uses, and laws?
- **4.** *Efficiency:* How well does alternative deliver benefits relative to Project cost?



Example: *Effectiveness*

Category	Evaluation Factors	
Increase access to floodplain habitat	Measure connectivity and potential to entrain winter-run Chinook onto floodplain	
	Measure connectivity and potential to entrain spring-run Chinook onto floodplain	
Increase area of floodplain habitat	Inundation area (area inundated at least 14 days in 50% of years)	
Increase food production as part of ecosystem approach	Increase in food production	
Adult fish passage	% of season that meets adult fish passage criteria	
Juvenile fish passage	Potential for juvenile stranding or predation risk	



Alternative Evaluation Phase: Peer-Review

- Adult Fish Passage
 YBPASS
- Hydro Modeling
 SRH2D
- Juvenile Entrainment
 - CSA
 - ELAM
- Salmon Benefits Model



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Yolo Bypass Salmon Habitat Restoration and Fish Passage Analytical Tool Review

A report to the

Delta Science Program

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Delta Stewardship Council Delta Solence Program

Alternative Evaluation: Lessons Learned

- Volume diverted = Primary influence of entrainment
- Connection point should maximize adult fish passage
- Consider adult passage early in design
- Mimic ecosystem processes
- Incorporate design flexibility
- Consider maintenance access





Fremont Weir Adult Fish Passage Project Constructed Fall 2018

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Questions?