

Classroom Aquarium Education Program (CAEP)

Water Advisory Group

April 2, 2025

Agenda Item No. 25-0410

Overview

- The Classroom Aquarium Education Program (CAEP) provides teachers and students with hands-on learning opportunities to study aquatic ecosystems, particularly salmon, through classroom aquariums and field trips.



History

- “Fish in the Classroom” program originated in British Columbia as part of the “environmental movement” of the 1970s.
- Educators established the first programs in California in the 1980s.
- Since 2000, the program has been administered by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) and is offered statewide in partnership with regionally-based community organizations.

Program Goals

- Promote public awareness of the need to maintain and protect aquatic environments.
- Give students and teachers ‘ownership’ of the natural resource.
- Demonstrate how individual actions can either have a positive or negative impact on our natural resources.

How It Works

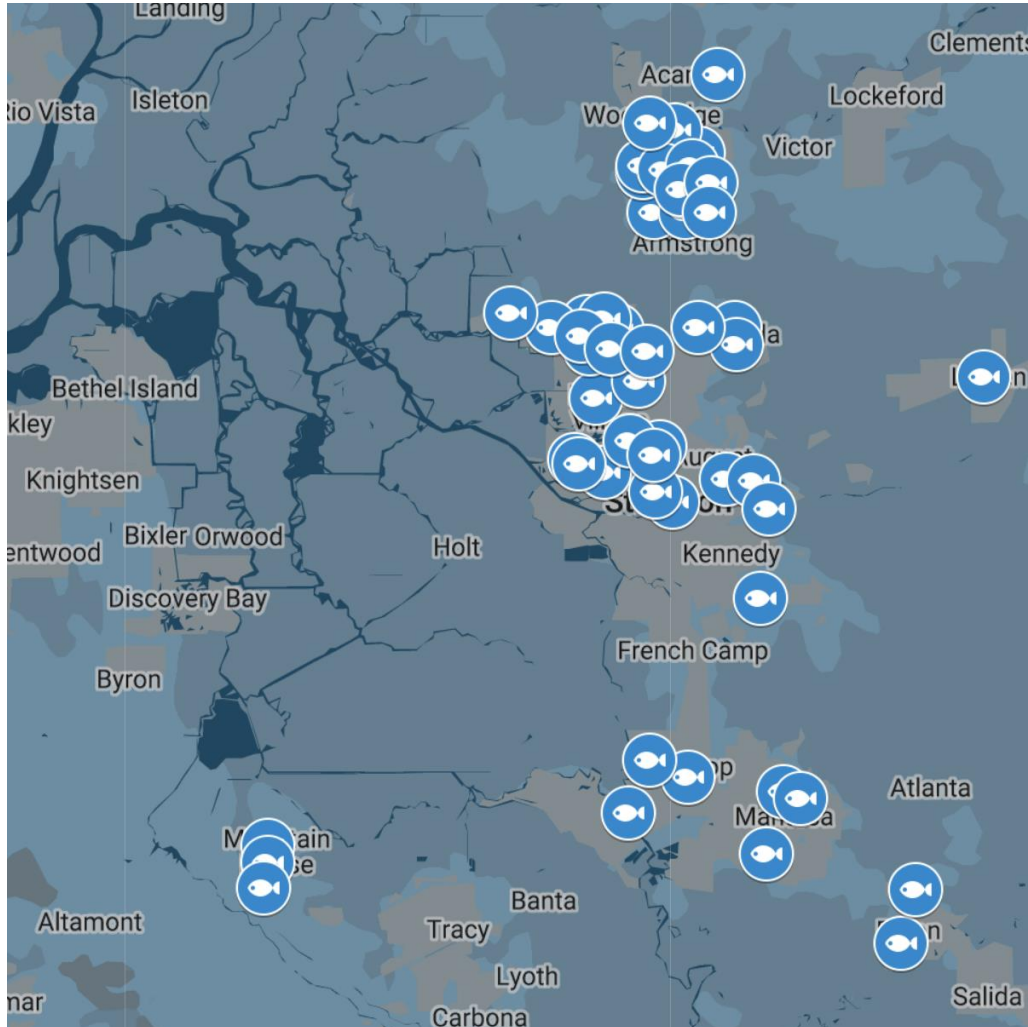
New Teacher Training	CDFW Form 772 (Permit Application) Deadline	Fish tank up and running at least 10 days before egg delivery	Sponsors deliver 35 Chinook salmon eggs to classrooms	Fish released into source river
October	December	Before winter holiday break	January 8, 2025	Eight weeks from egg delivery date

Mokelumne River Hatchery

- Local salmon eggs come from the Mokelumne River Hatchery downstream of Camanche Reservoir.
- The Mokelumne River Hatchery was built in 1963 to offset the loss of fish spawning habitat due to the construction of Camanche Dam by East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD).



Salmon in Stockton Classrooms



- City of Stockton MUD became a sponsor in the 2022 salmon season.
- 18 local schools sponsored to date, K-12.

Salmon in Stockton Classrooms

Anunciation Catholic	First Baptist Christian	John Muir Elementary
Brookside Elementary	Franklin High School	Lincoln High School
CBK Alpine	Grunsky Elementary	One. Frontier
Christa McAuliffe Middle	Hazelton Elementary	Podesta Ranch Elementary
Don Riggio School	Henry Elementary	Pulliam Elementary
Fillmore Elementary	John McCandless STEM Charter	St. Luke Catholic Elementary

Salmon in Stockton Classrooms



- Sponsors may provide a salmon kit to first-time teachers, including:
 - ✓ Fish tank or mini refrigerator
 - ✓ Airline tubing
 - ✓ Air pump
 - ✓ Fish net
 - ✓ Turkey baster
 - ✓ Aquarium thermometer
 - ✓ Ammonia and pH detector

Salmon in Stockton Classrooms



Students raise Chinook salmon in classroom aquariums, observing their development from the eyed-egg stage to alevin and young fry.

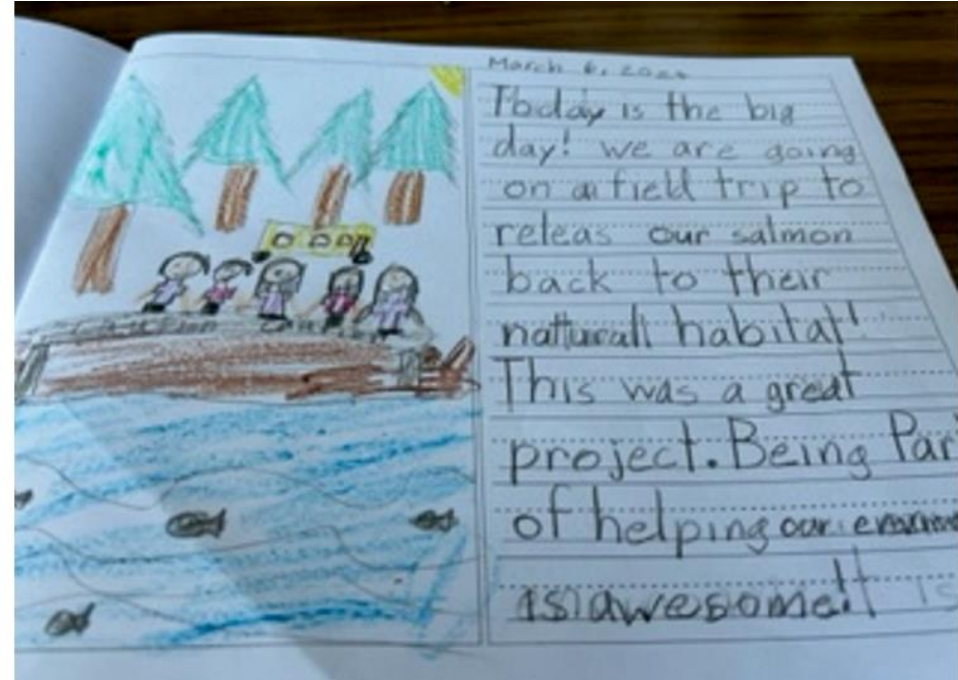
Salmon in Stockton Classrooms

- The program culminates in a field trip to a local stream or river where students release the fry.



Salmon in Stockton Classrooms

- CAEP lessons plans correlate with the California Science Education Standards



Questions

