The Natomas Mutual Water Company (Natomas) is a private, mutual water company that controls surface water rights for over 280 landowners in an area known as the American Basin. Natomas diverts water from the Sacramento to provide irrigation water for agricultural use and habitat preservation over a service area of about 24,000 acres located immediately north of the City of Sacramento, California. The operation of Natomas’ irrigation facilities provides important habitat for at-risk species, such as the giant garter snake and the Swainson’s hawk. Seasonal flooding of rice fields for rice straw decomposition provides needed wetland habitat for waterfowl.

**PROJECT SUMMARY (SEE PROJECT TIMELINE ON REVERSE)**

Natomas has been voluntarily engaged in the Anadromous Fish Restoration Program since 1993 to consolidate and screen its five (5) river diversions. The Project is well under way with the two largest diversions completely reconstructed and equipped with state-of-the-art fish screens. Only two of Natomas’ high priority diversions on the Sacramento River remain to be screened.

**Phase 1 - Sankey Diversion (434 cfs)  [1] Completed 2013**

In the first implementation phase, a new diversion on the Sacramento River with flat plate fish screens has been constructed to replace two existing diversions in the Natomas Cross Canal. In addition, the low-flow dam at the confluence of the Natomas Cross Canal with the Sacramento River was removed, eliminating a significant barrier to fish migration east into Placer County.

**Phase 2 - Pritchard Lake Diversion (160 cfs)  [2] Completed 2015**

In the second phase, Natomas’ second largest diversion was removed and replaced with a new structure equipped with retractable drum screens. This new technology has proven to be a cost effective alternative to the flat plate screens and allow the screens to be protected in the winter during high flood flows.

**Phase 3 - Riverside Diversion (45 cfs) / Phase 4 - Elkhorn Diversion (80 cfs)  [3]**

The two remaining diversions will be screened in-place similar to the Pritchard Lake Diversion. These two diversions will be constructed in coordination with the US Army Corps of Engineers’ Natomas Basin Flood Control Project that will upgrade the discharge pipe crossings to current design standards.
NATOMAS MUTUAL WATER COMPANY
AMERICAN BASIN FISH SCREEN AND HABITAT IMPROVEMENT PROJECT

Project Accomplishments

1993 • Began Project Planning
1998 • Began Feasibility Study
2002 • Completed Feasibility Study and Preliminary Design
2010 • Completed Environmental Compliance and Final Design of the Sankey Diversion (Phase 1)
2013 • Completed Construction of the Sankey Diversion (434 cfs)
2014 • Decommissioned the Unscreened Northern & Bennett Diversions and the Low-Flow Dam at the Confluence of the Natomas Cross Canal with the Sacramento River
2014 • Began Construction of the Pritchard Lake Pumping Plant (160 cfs) (Phase 2A)
2015 • Completed Construction of the Pritchard Lake Pumping Plant
2016 • Evaluated the Configuration of Riverside Diversion (Phase 3) and Elkhorn Diversion (Phase 4)

Schedule to Complete the Remaining Project Components

2019 - 2020 • Complete Design & Permitting for Elkhorn Diversion and Riverside Diversion
2020 - 2021 • Construct Riverside Diversion (45 cfs) and Elkhorn Diversion (80 cfs)

EXISTING ELKHORN DIVERSION

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1 Local flood control funds will be leveraged to construct project features that are common with the Natomas Basin Flood Control Project. Availability requires aligning with the US Army Corps of Engineers’ project priorities.

CONTACT INFORMATION

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