

TRANSCRIPT

ARRA Project Multimedia:

“Project Explanation: Water Tower Replacement at the Richard Cronin National Salmon Station, Sunderland, Massachusetts.”

[Opening Credits]

MICKY NOVAK:

The Richard Cronin National Salmon Station was established in 1982, construction was completed and the first fish came on site in '83. The aeration towers you see behind us here are the original aeration towers. They are both 10,000-gallon tanks. One of the tanks is totally dysfunctional and is empty. The other tank has major physical problems with it and is costing the Service a chunk of money every year just to maintain its current status.

The importance of this tower. We have two major well fields off to the east; they are pumping up to 500 gallons per minute of water. Water is pumped from the well fields to the aeration tower, the tower to the right, the water is gravity fed due to the height of the tower itself. Head pressure is forcing water from there into the building. This tower has some physical problems with relays, wiring problems, and it is beginning to leak. It is 28 years old, it has been subjected to all types of weather. The tower on the left is not being utilized because of its physical condition. It will be taken down first, the concrete pad will be removed, and the replacement tower, with the technology available today we do not need two towers. We can do everything we need with one aeration tower.

When the final connection is ready, we will shut the water to the building sometime in March; we will not have any eggs or fish on station for about a thirty-day period. This is a time when the actual connection will be made. The wiring will be hooked up to the new aeration tower; the plumbing will be connected from the existing drain line that is going into the building now. That should take a couple days at most, if all goes according to plan, and then the old tower will be removed and native grasses will be planted.

If we do not get water into this building, then the hundreds and hundreds of fish, and the half million to three quarter of a million eggs are jeopardized. This is a very important piece of equipment that is needed. We have needed for several years, the funding was not available, but under the stimulus package the money is here and this is the highest priority right now for the Cronin Salmon Station.

[Closing Credits]

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