



Adjusting the river's flow could help solve the problems. Although the waters will be rushing even more over the next few days, eventually they'll be cut to a manageable level that will help with the fish passage.

For the past four years, Stockton East officials also have been working with the National Marine Fisheries Service to create a habitat conservation plan that describes how the district plans to protect fish species in the future. That plan, now under review, includes outlines for more useful fish ladders.

The plan also includes spending \$300,000 a year to study the river and monitor the migration patterns of the steelhead, Kauffman said.

Contact reporter Warren Lutz at 209 546-8295 or [wlutz@recordnet.com](mailto:wlutz@recordnet.com)