



NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Original East Span Demolition One Year Ahead of Schedule, Saving CA Millions

13 marine foundations to be imploded in 2017

Oakland — Caltrans today announced the demolition schedule for the remaining 13 marine foundations of the original East Span of the Bay Bridge, including a series of implosions anticipated over several weekends this fall, with a projected completion date by the end of 2017. The series of implosions to demolish the 1936 concrete structures are scheduled for six weekends, starting Labor Day Weekend, September 2, and then every other weekend through mid-November 2017. Caltrans will be combining multiple piers on certain demolition dates, allowing the demolition work to be completed a year ahead of schedule, saving taxpayers nearly \$10 million.

“The innovative demolition acceleration plan is a win for this project on several levels,” said Caltrans Director Malcolm Dougherty. “Not only are environmental resource agencies on board, but we are looking at a year in time savings and millions of dollars in cost savings for the public.”

Significant environmental monitoring will take place pre, during and post blast, including water quality, sonar, marine mammal and fish. This time period from September through November provides the window when the least number of fish and marine mammals are present in the area. There will be brief impacts to water quality, as turbidity is expected to dissipate in just over an hour. Studies conducted from 2015 and 2016 implosions showed minimal impacts to marine mammals and fish due to the blasts.

A Blast Attenuation System, better known as the "bubble curtain," will minimize impacts to biological resources in the Bay on each foundation-blasting project. The implosion will again take place near "slack tide," the time when tidal fluctuation is at a balance point between ebb and flow to help minimize potential impacts to the environment by maximizing the effectiveness of the Blast Attenuation System.





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Last year, Caltrans successfully removed Piers E4 and E5 following the successful removal of Pier E3 in 2015. These innovative controlled charges have been shown to be more efficient and the environmentally preferable alternative to traditional marine foundation removal.

Caltrans is working with Federal and local law enforcement agencies from the Bay Area communities to ensure the safety of motorists and the public. There will be rolling closures on the Bay Bridge during the demolition. Caltrans will also close the bridge’s Bike & Pedestrian Path (see the updated calendar online for bike/pedestrian path closure dates) (PDF) for security and safety the week before each scheduled implosion.

The best place to watch the upcoming implosions will be on <http://www.dot.ca.gov/oldbaybridgedemolition/> or by following #BayBridgeDemo on Twitter, Instagram, and Facebook.

Tentative Schedule for the Implosions of the Original Bay Bridge Marine Foundations - Piers E6 through E18 – September through November 2017

Potential Weekend Dates	Marine Piers
<i>Dates and times may change during the planned weekend due to weather, presence of marine animals, and other conditions</i>	
September 2, 3, 4 – Labor Day Weekend	E7 & E8
September 16, 17, 18	E6
September 30, October 1, 2	E9 & E10
October 14, 15, 16	E11, E12 & E13
October 28, 29, 30	E14 & E15
November 11, 12, 13	E16, E17 & E18

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