WaterFix: Risk to Humans

If simple small size water intakes can harm or kill humans, what happens if one of the California Waterfix Intakes malfunctions? What happens if a large or unknown natural gas conveyance line is hit by tunnel contractors?



"He drowned right before their eyes": California man sucked under water by irrigation pipe

JUL 4, 2018 8:48 AM EDT U.S. CBS NEWS



Carlos Tovar and his family



Carlos Tovar was untangling a ski line when he was sucked under in the Sacramento River. His friends tried desperately to pull him back on board.

"They couldn't free Carlos and he drowned right before their eyes despite their efforts," Saeltzer said.



Investigators say it appears the man was held under by a pipe that juts out of the levee and into the Delta. It's used to pump water to crops.

"It's the first one that I've personally heard of " said Sat Darren Epperson

SAN JOAQUIN COUNTY, Calif. – A

Northern California man was sucked to his death under by an irrigation pipe. **CBS Sacramento reports** that the freak accident has left his family questioning how it all happened.

"Now a wonderful man is dead, he apparently got caught in an irrigation pipe running water out of the Delta," said Douglas Saeltzer, the family's attorney.



Carlos Tovar was untangling a ski line

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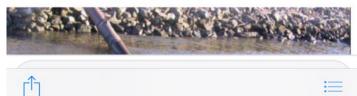
San Joaquin County Sheriff's Office

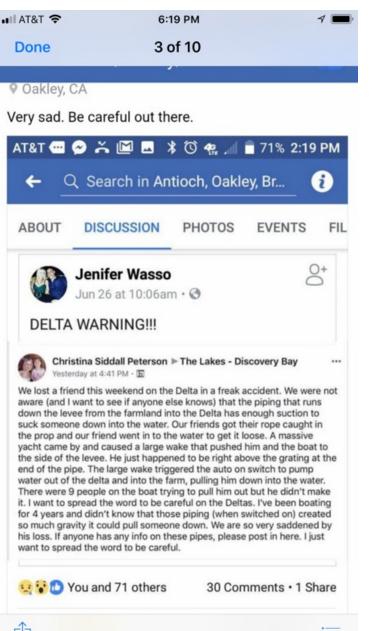
Jun 29 at 3:53pm · 🕄

On Saturday June 23, 2018, at approximately 12:20 pm, Sheriffs' Deputies responded to the area of Empire Cut Waterway near Lower Jones Rd for a report of a male subject beneath the water near an irrigation pipe.

Preliminary information indicated that occupants of a boat were towing a skier prior to the incident. After they retrieved the skier back onto the boat, the tow line was caught in the propeller. The victim then entered the water in an attempt to remove the tow line and did not resurface. 41 year old Carlos Tovar was transported to an area hospital and was pronounced dead.

The incident is currently under investigation by the Sheriff's Boating Safety Unit.







Carlos Tovar was tragically killed in a boating accident on Saturday, June 23rd. Carlos was an amazing father and husband as well as a loving son, brother, and friend to many. He leaves behind his wife, Mona, and two beautiful children, Izaiah and Olivia. The entire family is completely devastated and we ask for your help and support in lightening the financial burden that comes with such an unexpected tragic loss. The funds will go toward funeral costs and helping Mona and the kids with living expenses while they readjust in this difficult time. Any and all help is greatly appreciated. No donation is too small.



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To assure integrity, continuity and safety it is proposed that Waterboard should require that all water intakes located in rivers, streams and lakes be accurately charted and available online in human readable format, such as location on an interactive map. All intakes capable of sucking in sufficient flow to create a possibility of holding a human at the suction pipe, whether operating normally or malfunctioning, must be clearly marked and a bouy or other floating marker must be located at the suction point within the waterway. Statewide, the locations of all river and stream bottom drains must be reported and safety mechanisms must be verified so that there will not be accidental drownings due to bottom drain that can not be shut off.

Due to the sink holes apparently caused by the new method of horizontal or directional fracturing for oil or natural gas, Waterboard could direct that fracturing of ground below lakes, rivers and streams shall be prohibited to avoid possible sink holes that could drain the lakes, rivers or streams. <u>https://www.bing.com/videos/search?q=Sinkhole+Lake+Pennsylvania&&view=detail&mid=ADD322A2</u> <u>027E4A6462E4ADD322A2027E4A6462E4&&FORM=VRDGAR</u> Disaster like Lake Peigneur sink hole could happen around McDonald Island if tunnel contractors accidentally hit natural gas lines

