



# Raft trip symbolizes start of Yuba County economic investment

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Mike TeSelle   
Reporter



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**YUBA COUNTY, Calif.** — As dozens of students kept an eye out for salmon along the Yuba River, the Yuba Water Agency highlighted how a field trip last week is the start of a long and promised revitalization of economic opportunity throughout the county.

"I spent the day on the rafting trip with the kids, and it was awesome," said DeDe Cordell, a spokeswoman for the Yuba Water Agency.

In August, the Yuba Water Agency detailed how the [agency was taking over control of the Colgate Powerhouse](#) from Pacific Gas & Electric for the first time in 50 years. The transfer could result in

as much as \$30 million a year flowing back into Yuba County. The Yuba Water Agency vowed to reinvest that windfall back into the community, Cordell said.

Starting this month, the Yuba Water Agency teamed up with the Department of Water Resources and Olivehurst PUD to host a series of salmon rafting trips for an estimated 600 Yuba County students during October.

"This is significant because for some of these students, they've never been able to go on a field trip of any kind," Cordell said.

As part of this rafting trip, the Yuba Water Agency also bought every child a brand new pair of water shoes in order to protect their school shoes.

"I've been putting my feet in water, and it's cold," said Jenny Small, a Yuba County fourth-grader.

The Yuba Water Agency said this is just the start of its reinvestment into the community.

"The long-term vision includes a state-of-the-art water education center which would create jobs and hopefully spark renewed interest in this area's economy," Cordell said.