



ISABELLA LAKE, CA CONSTRUCTION

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Location & Description

Isabella Lake Dam (consisting of a Main Dam, Auxiliary Dam and service spillway) is located about 32 miles northeast of Bakersfield in Kern County, California, and became fully operational in 1953. The Main Dam is located near the confluence of the north and south forks of the Kern River and the Auxiliary Dam is located about half a mile east of the Main Dam. The Main Dam is a 185-foot-high earth-fill dam, and the Auxiliary Dam is a 100-foot-high earth-fill dam. The service spillway is located between the two dams. The reservoir (Isabella Lake) has a gross storage capacity of 568,075 acre feet.

September 2016



Highlights (Last 30 days)

- We continue to monitor the wildfires around Lake Isabella. They are not impacting the project at this time.
- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers investigated the impact of the proposed interim boat launch at French Gulch for traffic safety. The study recommended a left-turn lane for westbound traffic to turn into the French Gulch Marina. We are finalizing an approved traffic control design with Caltrans.
- The USFS raised a cultural issue with the current French Gulch parking lot design. The Corps is redesigning the lot to accommodate and protect a Native American feature.
- A series of successful public meetings were held in Lake Isabella, Kernville and Bakersfield in July to discuss Draft Supplemental Environmental Assessment #5 (Dams and Spillways). Public comments have been collected and will be addressed in Final SEA #5.
- We awarded contracts for the USFS admin/warehouse building and engine station. The engine station contract award is currently under review. We expect construction for both contracts to begin this fall.

Looking Ahead (Next 30+ days)

- The Corps is preparing a temporary trailer campus contract to support USACE construction and engineering personnel on-site for the project. We finalized an agreement with Southern California Edison to remove utility poles, clearing the way for the trailer campus construction.
- Once the road and parking design for French Gulch are complete, a new contract will be solicited for the French Gulch Boat Launch. Solicitation is anticipated in May 2017.
- We are modifying the Phase II contract to allow work to begin on other project features while the acquisition of the Borel Canal easement continues. Solicitation of the Phase II contract is expected in the 2nd quarter of FY17 with contract award by the end of FY17.
- Real Estate acquisitions continue with many tracts nearing completion and all tracts on schedule to be acquired ahead of Phase II contract award.

Current Lake Status (as of August 31)

The current pool resides at 105,907 acre feet, and elevation of 2,548.01 feet which is 29% of the restricted pool. As part of our interim risk reduction measures, Isabella Lake has a restricted elevation of 2,589 feet (361,250 acre feet). Current lake status can be viewed at <http://130.165.21.224/cgi-bin/hourly.py?report=isb>

Upcoming Milestones	
Pre-Construction Engineering and Design	2013 - 2016
Construction of USFS Facilities	Begins Fall 2016
Dams and Spillways Construction	2017 - 2022

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www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/IsabellaDam.aspx

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