



# ISABELLA LAKE, CA CONSTRUCTION

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

## 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.

July 2016



## Highlights (Last 30 days)

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers investigated the impact of the proposed interim boat launch at French Gulch on traffic safety. The study recommended a left-turn lane for westbound traffic into the French Gulch marina. The Corps is working on a traffic control design for Caltrans to review.
- The USFS raised a cultural issue with the current French Gulch parking lot design. The Corps is redesigning the parking lot to accommodate the previously undisclosed feature.
- The Corps received proposals for the new USFS Engine Station and USFS Admin/Warehouse building. The Corps expects to award both contracts in July 2016 and start construction in September 2016.

## Looking Ahead (Next 30+ days)

- The Corps released SEA #5 (Dams and Spillways) for public review. Public meetings are scheduled for July 25-27, 2016, at the following locations:
  - Monday July 25, 2016, 6-8 p.m. at Kern Valley Veterans Center, Lake Isabella, Ca.
  - Tuesday July 26, 2016, 6-8 p.m. at Kernville Elementary School, Kernville, Ca.
  - Wednesday July 27, 2016, 6-8 p.m. at Kern County Board of Supervisors Chambers, Bakersfield, Ca.Depending on the Erskine fire situation, we may reschedule the public meetings and extend the public review period. The Corps will coordinate with the Isabella Task Force to make a final decision by July 15, 2016.
- The Corps removed the vacated trailers and plans to place temporary trailers in the same area by the end of 2016. The Corps is also working with SCE and Verizon to move utility poles on government land out of the way for construction.

## Current Lake Status (as of 28 June)

The current pool resides at 162,220 acre-ft., and elevation of 2,559.10 feet (IPD) or 2558.24 (NAVD 88) which is 45% 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-ft.). Current lake status can be viewed at <http://130.165.21.224/fcgi-bin/hourly.py?report=isb>

Upcoming Milestones	
Pre-Construction Engineering and Design	2013-2016
Award construction contracts for USFS Facilities	Summer and Fall 2016
Dams and Spillways Construction	2017-2022

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SACRAMENTO DISTRICT, 1325 J ST., SACRAMENTO, CA 95814

[www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/IsabellaDam.aspx](http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/IsabellaDam.aspx)

916-557-5100

[Isabella@usace.army.mil](mailto:Isabella@usace.army.mil)