



# 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 40 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.

April 2021



### Advisory

- USACE has established enhanced protocols to ensure the safety of our employees and our partners, and to take necessary precaution to prevent the spread of COVID-19.
- The Phase II Dams and Spillways contractor (Flatiron/Dragados/Sukut Joint Venture, or FDS JV) continues construction activities. As a result, the site including Engineers Point is an active construction area and is off limits to the public.
- Corps policy prohibits public operation of unmanned aircraft systems, such as drones, on or above federal lands and waters managed by USACE. The policy is intended to ensure critical infrastructure security and public safety.

### Looking Ahead Next 30+ days)

- Construction crews continue excavation and slope stabilization on the Emergency Spillway. Steel rebar, slab, and wall placement work continues on the Labyrinth Weir.
- Main Dam excavation began April 1 and Main Dam embankment is scheduled to begin in late May.
- The Project Delivery Team continues with the NEPA analysis for the U.S. Forest Service Visitor Center. A 30-day public comment period will open on/about April 12 and USACE will host a virtual public meeting to discuss the Draft SEA on April 22. More information will be provided as the date draws near. The Final EA is scheduled to be complete in June.
- Auxiliary Dam embankment continues to work toward achieving elevation 2610 by April 30, and we expect to reach elevation 2637 at the dogleg in June.
- USACE will provide updates on any changes via public outreach, the monthly SITREP, and the Isabella Task Force engagements.

### Current Lake Status (as of Apr 6, 2021)

The current pool resides at 93,842 acre-feet (elevation 2,545 feet-IPD), which is 55% of flood conservation pool and 26% of restricted pool.

As part of our interim risk reduction measures, Isabella Lake is restricted to 361,250 acre-feet (elevation 2,589 feet-IPD) outside of flood season. During flood season (~November-March), flood conservation pool is restricted to 170,000 acre-feet (elevation 2,585.5 feet-IPD). Current lake status can be viewed at <https://go.usa.gov/xE2pX>

Milestones	
Pre-Construction Engineering and Design	Complete
Construction of USFS Fire Station and Admin Facilities	Complete
U.S. Forest Service Visitor's Information Center	In Planning
Dams and Spillways Construction	2018-2022

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

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