



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.

August 2022



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 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)

- Emergency Spillway total excavation is complete with few weir and abutment walls concrete placements remaining. See photo above for current progress of the Emergency Spillway.
- Labyrinth Weir at 96.5% completion with 10 of 12 cycles complete. Target for completion is projected in November 2022.
- Main Dam and Service Spillway work continues with 86.8% completion and 88.4% respectively. Service Spillway is projected for completion by end of September 2022.
- Auxiliary Dam is 95% complete overall.
- The Sacramento District Real Estate office is working toward property acquisition for the US Forest Service Visitor Center.

Current Lake Status (as of August 2, 2022)

The current pool resides at 48,858 acre-feet (elevation 2,536 feet-IPD), which is 13% of restricted pool and 28% of flood conservation pool.

As part of our interim risk reduction measures, Isabella Lake is restricted to 361,250 acre-feet (elevation 2,585.5 feet-IPD) outside of flood season. During flood season (~November-March), flood conservation pool is restricted to 170,000 acre-feet (elevation 2,560.4 feet-IPD). Current lake status can be viewed at https://www.spk-wc.usace.army.mil/plots/california_new.html?name=isb&year=2022&interval=d&tab=plot&window=wy

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
Permanent Operations Facilities	2023
Dams and Spillways Construction	2018-2022