



# 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.

September 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 common and rock excavation is at 98% completion. Excavation anticipated complete by October.
- Labyrinth Weir at 96.7% completion with 10 of 12 cycles complete. Target completion is projected in November 2022. Photo shows current progress of the Lab Weir downstream apron.
- Main Dam and Service Spillway work continues with 91.1% completion and 88.5% respectively. Contractor continues placing stone protection material on the upstream slope of the Main Dam. Service Spillway blasting and excavation is projected for completion by end of September 2022. Only few precisions blasts for riprap remain.
- Auxiliary Dam is 95.5% complete overall.

## Current Lake Status (as of September 6, 2022)

The current pool resides at 42,612 acre-feet (elevation 2,536 feet-IPD), which is 12% of restricted pool and 25% 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](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

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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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