Reservoir Restrictions

California’s Dam Safety Program was established on August 14, 1929. The California Water Code entrusts the state regulatory authority of 1,239 non-federally owned and operated dams and reservoirs to the Department of Water Resources, which delegates this authority to its Division of Safety of Dams (DSOD). The California Dam Safety Program includes annual maintenance inspections, construction oversight, independent design reviews, re-evaluations of existing dams, inundation map reviews for emergency action plans, and emergency response.

Assembly Bill 2516 (Eggman, Chapter 543, Statutes of 2018) amended the California Water Code to require DSOD to post on its website an annual report on reservoir restrictions of dams under state jurisdiction with respect to dam safety. Information required for reporting includes the dam name, downstream hazard classification, effective date and reason for the reservoir restriction, and planned or completed actions the dam owner has reported to DSOD to address the restriction.

Reservoir restrictions are typically imposed when dam safety related deficiencies are identified at a dam or its related facilities. To reduce the risk, DSOD may direct an owner to operate the reservoir at a water surface elevation level that is lower than the maximum storage level. A reservoir restriction reduces potential downstream impacts to life, property, and the environment by lessening possible flood inundation scenarios as an interim risk reduction measure until the dam or structure is repaired.

The following report contains the 41 dams under DSOD’s jurisdiction with restricted reservoirs. DSOD defines the reason for the reservoir restriction in three categories: seismic, hydraulic or other (deficiencies not related to hydraulic or seismic).

Reservoir Restriction Category
- Seismic – 18
- Hydraulic – 5
- Other – 18

Downstream Hazard Classification
- Extremely High – 14
- High – 13
- Significant – 7
- Low – 7

Dam Condition Assessment
- Satisfactory – 1
- Fair – 29
- Poor – 11
- Unsatisfactory – 0
Dam Name: #3 Forebay
Dam Number: 95-6
Owner Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Low
Effective Date of Restriction: December 28, 2018
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): PG&E has taken the #3 Forebay out of service. The reservoir is an off-stream facility and will not be re-filled until the dam embankment is repaired. PG&E is currently considering potential repair alternatives.

Dam Name: Almaden
Dam Number: 72-4
Owner Name: Santa Clara Valley Water District
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: March 29, 2012
Reason for Restriction: Hydraulic
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): The Almaden Dam Improvements Project is currently under design. The reservoir restriction will be removed after completion of the improvements.

Dam Name: Bear Gulch
Dam Number: 581-6
Owner Name: California Water Service Company
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: March 5, 2012
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): Cal Water is in the final stages of assessing modification options, including construction of a downstream rock buttress, to meet DSOD requirements and to maintain a safe and reliable supply of water for Cal Water customers.
Dam Name: Beardsley Afterbay
Dam Number: 62-7
Owner Name: Tri-Dam Project
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Low
Effective Date of Restriction: January 20, 2016
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): Phase II has been approved by DSOD and will begin Fall 2020. In this Phase, sheet piles will be installed along the downstream face and abutments, and the dam will be resurfaced with new decking.

Dam Name: Calero
Dam Number: 72-3
Owner Name: Santa Clara Valley Water District
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: February 8, 2013
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): The Calero Dam Seismic Retrofit Project is currently under design. The reservoir restriction will be removed after completion of the seismic retrofits.

Dam Name: Campbell Lake
Dam Number: 180-0
Owner Name: Jennifer F. and John W. Menke
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant
Effective Date of Restriction: October 6, 2010
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): The low-level outlet is maintained nearly in the fully open position year-round to meet the restricted elevation. A group of ranchers plan to move debris from the dam and spillway in the upcoming year.
Dam Name: Early Intake  
Dam Number: 9-0  
Owner Name: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Low  
Effective Date of Restriction: October 30, 1998  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): HHWP is evaluating the structural capability of the dam to verify that the installation of a liner will temporarily extend the life of the dam until a dam or facility replacement analysis can be performed, followed subsequently by construction.

Dam Name: El Capitan  
Dam Number: 8-7  
Owner Name: City of San Diego  
Condition Assessment: Poor  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High  
Effective Date of Restriction: May 27, 2015  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The City of San Diego hired Consultants to complete a geologic and seismic stability evaluation of El Capitan Dam. The results of the study will be used to determine if improvements to the dam are needed to mitigate the seismic stability concern.

Dam Name: Gem Lake  
Dam Number: 104-37  
Owner Name: Southern California Edison  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High  
Effective Date of Restriction: February 14, 2013  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): There are plans to upgrade the Arch 8 outlet in 2020 to help maintain safe reservoir levels. The permanent mitigation will be determined through consultation with resource agencies and stakeholders beginning in 2020.
Dam Name: Guadalupe
Dam Number: 72-5
Owner Name: Santa Clara Valley Water District
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: April 25, 2012
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The Guadalupe Dam Seismic Retrofit Project is currently under design. The reservoir restriction will be removed after completion of the seismic retrofits.

Dam Name: Haiwee
Dam Number: 6-24
Owner Name: City of Los Angeles Department of Water And Power
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High
Effective Date of Restriction: July 23, 2002
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): A new earthfill dam will be constructed 800 feet north of the existing North Haiwee Dam. Ground improvement will be completed for the foundation of the new dam. Construction of the new dam project is scheduled to begin in the Spring of 2021.

Dam Name: Healdsburg Recreation
Dam Number: 1002-0
Owner Name: County of Sonoma Regional Parks Department
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Low
Effective Date of Restriction: August 25, 2014
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): Per DSOD's reservoir restrictions in place, Healdsburg Recreation Dam operates at a reduced reservoir height of 7' and completes annual monitoring of critical dam components.
Dam Name: James Porter  
Dam Number: 1123-2  
Owner Name: Terry and Carole York  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High  
Effective Date of Restriction: December 11, 2017  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): To remove portions of James Porter Dam that have been identified as seeping, repair and repack.

Dam Name: Lafayette  
Dam Number: 31-2  
Owner Name: East Bay Municipal Utility District  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High  
Effective Date of Restriction: December 11, 2017  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The dam is safe. The tower requires seismic upgrades. EBMUD lowered the reservoir and is performing environmental studies and evaluating retrofit alternatives. Permitting, design, and public outreach will follow, with construction planned in 2021.

Dam Name: Lake Alta  
Dam Number: 1030-7  
Owner Name: Placer County Water Agency  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant  
Effective Date of Restriction: June 7, 2019  
Reason for Restriction: Hydraulic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): 1) Geotechnical sampling/lab analysis conducted and results provided to DSOD. 2) Design of dam modifications in progress.
Restricted Dams
Listed Alphabetically by Dam Name

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**Dam Name:** Lake Angela  
**Dam Number:** 89-2  
**Owner Name:** Donner Summit Public Utility District  
**Condition Assessment:** Fair  
**Downstream Hazard Potential Classification:** High  
**Effective Date of Restriction:** January 21, 2016  
**Reason for Restriction:** Other  
**Owner's Reported Planned Action(s):** Tendon repairs are planned for this year, 2020.

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**Dam Name:** Lake Buck  
**Dam Number:** 291-0  
**Owner Name:** Wendy Baroli and Jill S. Heaton  
**Condition Assessment:** Fair  
**Downstream Hazard Potential Classification:** Low  
**Effective Date of Restriction:** November 8, 2017  
**Reason for Restriction:** Hydraulic  
**Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s):** A depth survey will be performed to determine reservoir storage capacity at the current lowered spillway control section with the intent to eventually remove the dam from state jurisdiction.

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**Dam Name:** Lake Curry  
**Dam Number:** 14-0  
**Owner Name:** City of Vallejo  
**Condition Assessment:** Fair  
**Downstream Hazard Potential Classification:** High  
**Effective Date of Restriction:** November 8, 1995  
**Reason for Restriction:** Other  
**Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s):** The radial gates will be maintained in the raised position, and will be adequately secured in a full open position. The radial gates will be assessed for replacement or removal upon the completion of the spillway re-design being performed by Consultants.
Dam Name: Lake Hodges  
Dam Number: 8-3  
Owner Name: City of San Diego  
Condition Assessment: Poor  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High  
Effective Date of Restriction: September 4, 2019  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): This City of San Diego has engaged Consultants to perform a comprehensive condition assessment and a seismic stability analysis of Hodges Dam. A plan of short term and long term improvements is being developed to increase dam performance.

Dam Name: Lake Wohlford  
Dam Number: 834-0  
Owner Name: City of Escondido  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High  
Effective Date of Restriction: November 8, 2007  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): A replacement dam was designed to go downstream of the existing dam. To reduce costs, the City will study other options to reduce the dam hazard, including a lower spillway to permanently restrict lake level and rehabilitation of the outlet tower.

Dam Name: Lee Lake  
Dam Number: 818-2  
Owner Name: Elsinore Valley Municipal Water District  
Condition Assessment: Poor  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High  
Effective Date of Restriction: November 20, 2019  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): EVMWD is currently in the process of upgrading the dam by removal of the existing dam and replacement with a new dam or flood control structure. The conceptual design for a new dam has been submitted and is currently under review by DSOD.
Dam Name: Leroy Anderson  
Dam Number: 72-9  
Owner Name: Santa Clara Valley Water District  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High  
Effective Date of Restriction: May 8, 2017  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The Anderson Dam Seismic Retrofit Project is currently under design. The reservoir restriction will be removed after completion of the seismic retrofits.

Dam Name: Lower Blue Lake  
Dam Number: 97-62  
Owner Name: Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant  
Effective Date of Restriction: July 27, 2018  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): PG&E has completed a geotechnical investigation to evaluate subsurface conditions and plans to begin design of a project to mitigate seepage through the left embankment and foundation of the dam in late 2020.

Dam Name: Lower Howell  
Dam Number: 622-2  
Owner Name: San Jose Water Company  
Condition Assessment: Satisfactory  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant  
Effective Date of Restriction: September 25, 2008  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): Constructed in 1877 and contains a small lake of 50 million gallons when full. SJW no longer uses the water in this lake and is evaluating the costs of making corrections to the dam versus draining the lake permanently. Water is kept at a safe level.
**Dam Name:** Matilija  
**Dam Number:** 86-0  
**Owner Name:** Ventura County Watershed Protection District  
**Condition Assessment:** Poor  
**Downstream Hazard Potential Classification:** Extremely High  
**Effective Date of Restriction:** January 18, 2019  
**Reason for Restriction:** Seismic  
**Owner's Reported Planned Action(s):** Interim risk reduction measures include public noticing, EAP engagement noticing to Ventura Co. EOC, a publicly accessible web-enabled dam face camera and quarterly dam movement survey/analysis reporting. Removal of the dam is the long-term remedial plan.

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**Dam Name:** McCloud  
**Dam Number:** 97-123  
**Owner Name:** Pacific Gas and Electric Company  
**Condition Assessment:** Fair  
**Downstream Hazard Potential Classification:** High  
**Effective Date of Restriction:** January 9, 2020  
**Reason for Restriction:** Other  
**Owner's Reported Planned Action(s):** An analysis of potential alternatives for a project to rehabilitate and increase the capacity of the existing spillway is underway. PG&E plans to select a preferred alternative and begin design of the project in 2021.

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**Dam Name:** Misselbeck  
**Dam Number:** 2220-2  
**Owner Name:** Igo-Ono Community Services District  
**Condition Assessment:** Poor  
**Downstream Hazard Potential Classification:** High  
**Effective Date of Restriction:** November 2, 2017  
**Reason for Restriction:** Seismic  
**Owner's Reported Planned Action(s):** The Igo Ono Community Services District (IOCSD) is looking for and applying for funding to do pre-construction dam buttress planning and design.
Dam Name: Moccasin Lower  
Dam Number: 9-4  
Owner Name: San Francisco Public Utilities Commission  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High  
Effective Date of Restriction: April 3, 2019  
Reason for Restriction: Hydraulic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): HHWP is performing an alternative analysis report to identify possible facility modifications to increase release capacity in order to manage storm flows. This improvement would lift the current elevation restriction.

Dam Name: North Fork  
Dam Number: 77-0  
Owner Name: Pacheco Pass Water District  
Condition Assessment: Poor  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High  
Effective Date of Restriction: April 6, 2018  
Reason for Restriction: Hydraulic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): Pacheco Pass Water District is in the process of receiving funding by FEMA to assist in the interim repair of the spillway. COVID-19 and the scope of work has delayed the process.

Dam Name: Patterson  
Dam Number: 1065-0  
Owner Name: Alameda County Water District  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant  
Effective Date of Restriction: September 13, 2004  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): ACWD submitted a December 30, 2019 Statement of Intent for Modifications to Patterson Reservoir.
Dam Name: San Andreas
Dam Number: 10-10
Owner Name: City and County of San Francisco
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: August 3, 2020
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The SFPUC has prepared a 15-year Dam Safety Improvement Plan to make improvements to our dams, including the San Andreas Dam Spillway. The plan is to replace the existing spillway with a new one by 2026.

Dam Name: Santa Anita Debris Basin
Dam Number: 32-29
Owner Name: Los Angeles County Department Of Public Works
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Low
Effective Date of Restriction: June 7, 1995
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): LACoPW is finalizing the design plans for SADD Seismic Strengthening project, which includes buttressing existing spillway walls and westerly embankment; replacing existing outlet tower; and modifying existing outlet works. Project to begin in 2021.

Dam Name: Santiago Creek
Dam Number: 75-0
Owner Name: Serrano Water District and Irvine Ranch Water District
Condition Assessment: Poor
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: May 8, 2020
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): Planning efforts for the replacement of the existing outlet tower and spillway are underway. Replacement facilities will be online by 2029.
Dam Name: Sawpit Debris Basin  
Dam Number: 32-31  
Owner Name: Los Angeles County Department Of Public Works  
Condition Assessment: Fair  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High  
Effective Date of Restriction: June 7, 1995  
Reason for Restriction: Seismic  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): LA County Public Works is finalizing a concept for Sawpit Debris Dam Seismic Strengthening Project. The project will include: Buttressing existing spillway walls; replacing existing outlet tower; and modifying existing outlet works.

Dam Name: Scotia Log Pond  
Dam Number: 205-0  
Owner Name: Scotia Community Services District  
Condition Assessment: Poor  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High  
Effective Date of Restriction: April 6, 2018  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The SCSD will continue to restrict the pondwater height per Dam Safety requirements. An engineer is working on a proposal: laying a bentonite blanket along the bank & building the area out with additional fill to block the assumed seepage.

Dam Name: Selvage #2  
Dam Number: 625-0  
Owner Name: Lucky Hereford Ranch  
Condition Assessment: Poor  
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Low  
Effective Date of Restriction: December 29, 2008  
Reason for Restriction: Other  
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The valve was cut off so no storage can occur.
Dam Name: St. Helena Lower
Dam Number: 16-2
Owner Name: City of Saint Helena
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High
Effective Date of Restriction: February 1, 2016
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): No response provided by owner.

Dam Name: Tinemaha
Dam Number: 6-26
Owner Name: City of Los Angeles Department of Water And Power
Condition Assessment: Poor
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: High
Effective Date of Restriction: March 3, 1993
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): LADWP initiated the Tinemaha Dam Replacement Project to replace the existing dam. The project is in the preliminary planning phase, and the estimated construction completion date is June 2033. The dam is safe to operate at the current restricted level.

Dam Name: Tuolumne Log Pond
Dam Number: 558-0
Owner Name: The Tuolumne Band of Me-Wuk Indians
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant
Effective Date of Restriction: November 10, 2011
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner’s Reported Planned Action(s): TEDA has engaged Consultants to complete plans and specifications for repair of the dam. Once approved by DSOD and permits are obtained from agencies, the dam will be repaired. The gates are removed, the reservoir is empty and there is no hazard.
Dam Name: Vail
Dam Number: 2028-0
Owner Name: Rancho California Water District
Condition Assessment: Fair
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Extremely High
Effective Date of Restriction: June 2, 2015
Reason for Restriction: Seismic
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): In 2014 DSOD approved Interim Operating Plan that restricts water level, and reviewed a new dam Pre-Design Report in 2020. Environmental compliance, permitting, and final design for a new Vail Dam and an Emergency Action Plan updates are in progress.

Dam Name: Williamson No. 1
Dam Number: 464-0
Owner Name: Macy Mak Chan, Michael Chan, and Melinda Lau
Condition Assessment: Poor
Downstream Hazard Potential Classification: Significant
Effective Date of Restriction: May 7, 2009
Reason for Restriction: Other
Owner's Reported Planned Action(s): The reservoir is maintained at the restricted level, 8 feet below the certified elevation. The valve associated with the high level outlet is left fully open to maintain this restriction. The property caretaker checks reservoir conditions weekly.