



US Army Corps of Engineers®



Oroville Spillway Incident Update

Date: 03/17/17 Time: 1300

Information Line: (530) 534-2307

Media Line: (530) 268-5869

STATUS

Incident Start Date: 02/07/2017		Incident Start Time: 1400
Incident Type: Weather System		Description: Damage to the Oroville Spillway
Incident Location: Oroville Dam, Canyon Dr. & Oroville Dam Rd., Oroville, CA 95966		
Structures Threatened: None	Structures Destroyed: None	Structures Damaged: None

RESOURCES

Cooperating Agencies: Butte County Sheriff, Butte County CALFIRE, Oroville Police Department, CHP, Butte County OES, California State Parks, Caltrans, Oroville Fire Department, Butte County Public Works, PG&E, CAL FIRE, Army Corps of Engineers, Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, Oroville Hospital, Red Cross, California Conservation Corps, California National Guard, Bureau of Indian Affairs, CAL OES, Gridley-Biggs Police, and California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

SITUATION

Current Situation:

The flood control spillway flows are currently at 40,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). Inflows are approximately 16,000 to 21,000 cfs which has resulted in the lake rising to 863.9 feet elevation. Hyatt Powerplant is currently shut down.

Approximately 1.25 million cubic yards of material have been removed from the debris pile to date.

The low flow section of the Feather River (the river channel through Oroville) is currently at 33,000 cfs and will increase up to 43,000 cfs by this evening. Total flow to the Feather River will reach approximately 50,000 cfs.

Anglers, boaters, and other river users are advised to be aware of the large increase in flows, as the river will become much deeper and swifter. The Feather River elevation will rise between 10 and 15 feet early Friday afternoon, depending on channel geometry and location. As flows increase to the Feather River, DWR advises the public to avoid the river for the next several days. Outflows and river levels are expected to remain steady for approximately one week before being reduced again.

For information on lake conditions – including lake levels, inflows, and outflows – visit the [Oroville Reservoir page](#) on the California Data Exchange Center.

For more information, visit DWR's [Oroville Spillway Incident web page](#).

Download images from DWR's [photo gallery](#). Log-in required for download.

Video available on [DWR's YouTube page](#).



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Evacuation Centers:	All evacuation centers supported by Butte County are now closed.
Road Closures:	<p>Oro-Dam East from Glen Drive to Canyon Drive. Oroville Dam Crest Road closed at the left abutment restrooms. Canyon Drive from Royals Oaks to Royal Oaks (at Upper Overlook).</p> <p>DWR has partnered with the California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) to address roads in Oroville and surrounding areas impacted by the trucks and heavy machinery driving through Oroville in response to the Spillway Emergency.</p> <p>Canyon Drive from Oroville Dam Blvd East to Royal Oaks Drive is restricted to local residents only. The road will be restricted to north-bound traffic only.</p> <p>For more information, please visit: DWR NEWS RELEASE</p>
Trail Closures:	<p>Portions of the Oroville Wildlife Area (OWA) have been reopened to the public but some areas remain closed. At this time the east side (D-unit) of the OWA remains closed due to public safety concerns from flood damage to the access roads in the area. The west side of the OWA, and the entire Thermalito Afterbay is currently open to the public. These areas may be accessed via Highway 162, the Thermalito Afterbay Outlet entrance, and the Vance and Palm Avenue entrances. The public should be aware that these areas may need to be closed if high flows occur on the Feather River.</p> <p>Lake Oroville SRA has partially opened areas surrounding Lake Oroville SRA, excluding units normally closed due to current water levels and the area in front of the dam. The Thermalito Diversion Pool (Burma Day Use and Lakeland Day Use) and the Spillway Launch Ramp will remain closed. This includes those portions of the Brad Freeman and Dan Beebe trails leading from the SRA's Visitor Center to the City of Oroville. California State Parks Rangers are providing roving patrols due to a large number of contacts in the closed area.</p>
To News Media:	For your safety and the safety of crews working in the construction zone, members of the news media are advised to wear Personal Protection Equipment (PPEs) - hard hat, reflective vest, safety glasses, and sturdy shoes/boots. Those not following this guideline will be asked to leave the area.