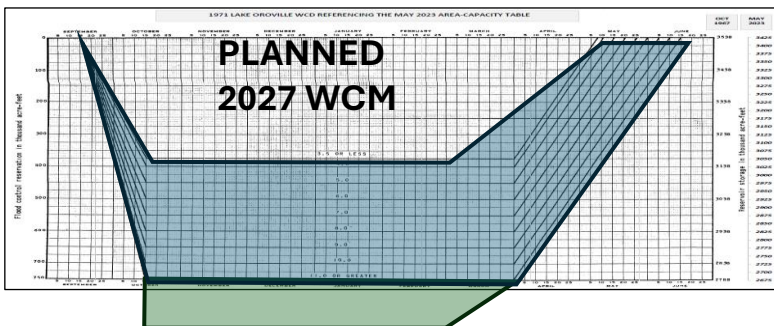
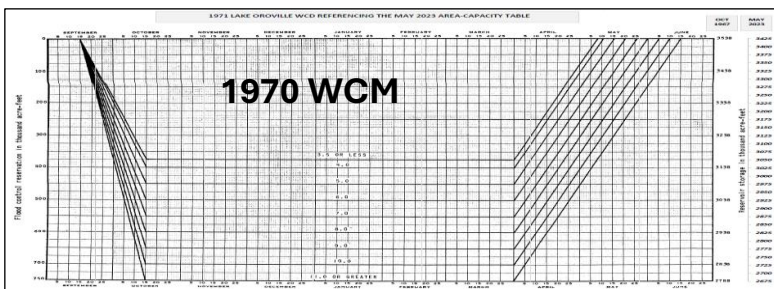


Oroville Dam-Lake Water Control Manual Update Fact Sheet

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Oroville Dam and Lake is located in the foothills of the Sierra Nevada approximately five miles northeast of the city of Oroville, California, in Butte County. Oroville Dam and Lake is an integral part of DWR's State Water Project, built for the purposes of water supply, flood risk management, power generation, recreation, and conservation. These benefits provide pumped-storage capacity, 750,000 acre-feet of flood control storage, recreation, and fresh-water releases to control salinity intrusion in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and for fish and wildlife enhancement. Through authority provided by the 1944 Flood Control Act, USACE prescribes the operating rules for flood risk management functions of the reservoir through the Water Control Manual (WCM). The current WCM for Oroville was approved in 1970 and is undergoing an update with a planned completion in 2027. Releases from Oroville Dam are made through the dam's low-level outlet, Hyatt Powerplant, or through the gated spillway. The WCM Update will include changes to existing hydrology; to include a longer period of record and land use changes, availability of forecast information for reservoir inflows and local inflows downstream to the reservoir control points, operational coordination between New Bullards Bar and Oroville dams, absence of Marysville Reservoir (the WCMs for New Bullards Bar and Oroville dams originally included Marysville Reservoir, which was never constructed), and recovery of the main spillway and armoring of the emergency spillway at Oroville Dam after 2017 damages. The planned 2027 WCM main spillway and armoring of the emergency spillway at Oroville Dam after 2017 damages.

The planned 2027 WCM Update will also incorporate a Forecast Informed Reservoir Operations (FIRO) space – an adaptive operational storage space where water may be retained during dry conditions and pre-released prior to incoming storms. This FIRO space will be above the Top of Conservation, where USACE has the authority to make release decisions and below the Top of Conservation, where USACE can recommend releases to be made by DWR.



For additional information on the New Bullards Bar and Oroville Dams Water Control Manual Updates, scan the QR code or visit

[\(https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Mission/s/Water-Control/New-Bullards-Bar-Oroville-Dams-Water-Control-Manual-Update/\)](https://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Mission/s/Water-Control/New-Bullards-Bar-Oroville-Dams-Water-Control-Manual-Update/)



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OPERATIONAL PARAMETERS COMPARISON

PARAMETER	1970 WCM	PLANNED 2027 WCM
Flood Risk Management	100% authorized flood pool maintained	100% authorized flood pool maintained
Downstream Objective Flows	180,000 cfs Feather River at Yuba City 300,000 cfs at the Yuba-Feather River confluence 320,000 cfs downstream of the Feather-Bear River confluence	180,000 cfs Feather River at Yuba City 300,000 cfs at the Yuba-Feather River confluence 320,000 cfs downstream of the Feather-Bear River confluence - Required coordination between New Bullards Bar and Oroville
Decision Logic	Observed pool elevations/inflows	Observed pool elevations/inflows plus multi-day forecasts
Dry Condition Flexibility	No - standard calendar-based drawdowns	Discretionary retention during extended dry forecasts
Pre-Storm Evacuation	No - reactive to observed rainfall/inflows	Proactive drawdown ahead of forecasted storm events

FIRO SPACE ABOVE TOC

FIRO SPACE BELOW TOC