

California Department of Water Resources NEWS

June 26, 1998

CONTACTS:

- [Anita Garcia-Fante](#), Chief, Office of Water Education -- [w] (916) 653-7431
 - [Pete Weisser](#), DWR PIO -- [w] (916) 653-9712
-

Lake Oroville is Full

OROVILLE--Lake Oroville, second largest reservoir in California and the largest reservoir in the State Water Project, is full, State water officials announced today.

Lake Oroville's maximum storage capacity slightly exceeds 3.5 million acre-feet. As this week ends, Lake Oroville is 100 percent full.

"Lake Oroville will remain at this peak level into early July and then will gradually be lowered," said Larry Gage, Chief of the State Water Project Operations Control Office. "As summer ends, we'll lower the Lake further to provide flood control space to accommodate next winter's runoff. Outflows will be adjusted to meet operational, flood control, fishery and water quality needs."

The reservoir is the largest water storage facility in the State Water Project, the nation's largest state-built, multipurpose water development project. The SWP moves water from areas of abundance to areas of need. About two-thirds of California's people receive at least part of their water from the State Water Project.

In addition to water storage and flood control, Lake Oroville also provides recreation such as boating, swimming, camping and riding. Recreation features include boat launching ramps, horseback riding trails and a 41-mile mountain bike trail. Houseboats and floating campsites are available.

Persons wishing more information on recreation opportunities at Lake Oroville may contact the Department of Parks and Recreation, which operates the Lake Oroville Recreation Area, at (530) 538-2200.

Lake Oroville is the reservoir created by Oroville Dam, located on the Feather River in Butte County.

Completed in 1967 and rising to 770 feet at its crest, Oroville Dam is the tallest earthfill dam in the United States.

###

The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs. The State Water Project provides water to two-thirds of California's population.

For more on-line information, see [Find DWR Info](#) or return to the [DWR California Water Page](#)