



Advisory

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View Video of Historic JFK-Governor 'Pat' Brown 1962 Event on 50th Anniversary of San Luis Ground-breaking

SAN LUIS COMPLEX -- On Saturday, August 18, California will observe a historic date in Western water development.

On that date in 1962, President John F. Kennedy joined California Governor Edmund G. (Pat) Brown, Sr. in Merced County to mark the ground-breaking for the San Luis Complex, a dam and reservoir that would be used by both federal and State water systems to improve water supply deliveries in California.

President Kennedy praised the project as a model for the nation, making California a pioneer in the development and conservation of natural resources.

To view a video clip of President Kennedy's remarks at that event, click on the following URL address:

<http://www.water.ca.gov/news/newsreleases/2012/081412jfksanluis.wmv>

Today, San Luis Reservoir is the largest off-stream reservoir in the United States, with a storage capacity of more than 2 million acre-feet. It is located on State Highway 152 about eight miles west of Interstate 5.

San Luis Reservoir stores water pumped from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta. The reservoir holds water to meet year-round needs of agricultural customers in the

San Joaquin Valley, as well as urban water consumers in the San Francisco Bay Area and Southern California.

Motorists can visit the Romero Overlook Visitors Center just off State Highway 152 to learn more about the San Luis Reservoir and other California water topics. For information on visits, call Howard Berman or Jill Morgan at (209) 827-5353.

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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.