

Update as of 2/27/17 at 1200

Spillway now closed, but re-use remains likely in coming months

Turlock Irrigation District fully closed the Controlled Spillway at Don Pedro Reservoir at 4:57 a.m. this morning in compliance with US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Flood Control Manual regarding operation of the Reservoir. Prior to this morning, TID had been utilizing a single Controlled Spillway Gate at the Reservoir to make additional releases to the Tuolumne River since Feb. 20.

Upon spillway closure, the Reservoir elevation was 828.67 feet. Reservoir elevation at current is 828.58 feet. The Reservoir's physical capacity is 830 feet. Current releases to the Tuolumne River are approximately 10,100 cubic feet per second (cfs) and are expected to continue at this rate to keep the Tuolumne River at 9th Street in Modesto below elevation 55 feet. The Controlled Spillway's closure means a decline of River level elevation in Modesto around 3:30 a.m. Tuesday.

On Friday, the USACE denied TID's formal request for a deviation to maintain Don Pedro Reservoir releases of 16,000 cfs until the Reservoir could be lowered to an elevation of 815 feet. The deviation would have created additional space in the Reservoir to accommodate future inflows.

It is extremely important to note that, to date, the Tuolumne River Watershed is experiencing the wettest year in recorded history and has accumulated more than 200 percent of average precipitation for this date. Snow sensors are recording a historic snowpack with potentially millions of acre-feet of additional inflow into Don Pedro when significantly warm storms or warm weather unfold in the coming months. As such, TID will continue to work in cooperation with the USACE per the Flood Control Manual, which dictates flood releases from the Reservoir. **Without adequate room in the Reservoir, TID could be forced to use its Controlled Spillway again sometime this year.**

The spillway facility and the spillway channel functioned as designed during the period of releases, and there are no known issues with either.

[Additional Updates](#)

Don Pedro Lake re-opened: Don Pedro Lake has been re-opened for recreational use until further notice. Please note certain road closures are still in effect. For more information about lake operations visit donpedrolake.com

Bonds Flat Road remains closed: Bonds Flat Road remains closed beyond Fleming Meadows and Blue Oaks campgrounds to public access to ensure the safety of the public.

Safety Outage re-energization process: In the interest of electrical safety, TID began de-energizing specific power lines on Feb. 20. While more than 900 service connections have been re-energized since Feb. 20, less than 90 TID service accounts remain without power due to these safety outages. TID is continuously patrolling these de-energized areas and assessing for possible electrical damage up to and including affected service addresses' electrical meters. Affected customers without power can also call TID at (209) 883-8300 to request that a TID Troubleshooter assess their service. More information on the safety outages and the re-energization process is available at tid.org/RiverOutage.

This re-inspection process will continue as water levels recede, and power will only be restored to locations that are deemed safe.

Register for Emergency Alerts: Those in Stanislaus and Merced counties are encouraged to register for emergency notifications from their respective county; Stanislaus County residents at StanAware.com and Merced County residents at CountyofMerced.com/alert.

Online Resources

- For additional information from TID about these increased River levels
 - tid.org/flows
- For Don Pedro levels and Tuolumne River releases
 - tid.org/water/hydrological-data.
- For information about River water level and flows at 9th Street in Modesto
 - <http://www.c6y7y7566y7nrfc.noaa.gov/graphicalRVF.php?id=MDSC1>.
- For updates from the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office
 - www.scsdonline.com/info/press-releases-via-nixle.html.
- **Register for Emergency Alerts from your County**
 - **Stanislaus County:** StanAware.com
 - **Merced County:** CountyofMerced.com/alert
- General Emergency Information:
 - <http://www.stanemergency.com/>
- Information on road closures in Stanislaus County:
 - <http://www.stanemergency.com/pdf/2017Flood/roadclosures.pdf>
- Information on shelters in Stanislaus County:
 - http://www.stanemergency.com/pdf/2017Flood/ARC_Shelter.pdf
- How to obtain sandbags:
 - In Stanislaus County: <http://www.stanemergency.com/naturalDisasters/weather.shtm>
 - In Merced County: <http://www.co.merced.ca.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2680>