Prado Dam

Prado Dam is located on the Santa Ana River in Riverside County about two miles west of the city of Corona and about 30 miles upstream of the Pacific Ocean. It sits at a natural constriction of the Lower Santa Ana River Canyon, where Temescal Creek, Cucamonga/Mill Creek and Chino Creek join the Santa Ana River to drain the largest watershed (2,255 square miles) in southern California. Portions of the reservoir are in Riverside and San Bernardino counties.

Prado Dam provides flood control and water conservation storage for growing communities in Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. Prado Dam is a major component of the Santa Ana Mainstem Project, which extends from the upper canyon in the San Bernardino Mountains downstream to the Pacific Ocean at Newport Beach - some 75 miles along the Santa Ana River. The entire system is designed to provide various levels of flood protection ranging from 100 to 190 years for areas most susceptible to damage from flooding.

Prado Dam collects upstream water releases from storage facilities and runoff from uncontrolled drainage areas. It primarily benefits Orange County by reducing the potential for flood-induced damage and by providing water conservation storage.

Construction of Prado Dam, completed in April 1941, was authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 22, 1936 (PL 74-738).
Program

Welcome Mr. Ken Morris

Posting of the Colors Color Guard
California National Guard

National Anthem

Pledge of Allegiance SGM Jeffrey Koontz
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Invocation Chaplain Groves

Remarks

Mr. Eric Taylor Senior Vice President
Skanska USA Civil Works

Col. Thomas Magness U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Commander, Los Angeles District

The Honorable Bill Campbell Supervisor
Orange County

The Honorable Ken Calvert Representative
United States Congress

The Army Song

Plaque Unveiling

Ceremonial Opening of Outlet Gates

Photo Session

Refreshments
Welcome

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District and the Orange County Flood Control District thank you for attending today’s ceremony for the completion of Prado Dam Phase One Modifications. The modifications are part of a multi-year, three-phase project that will provide the increased protection necessary to meet the demands of population growth, business development and infrastructure expansion.

Phase One raises the height of Prado Dam 28 feet, constructed a new intake tower and outlet works and built a new outlet channel. It adds 140,000 acre-feet to the basin and increases the dam’s level of protection to 190-years. New outlet works and a new outlet channel increase Prado Dam’s controlled discharge capacity from 9,500 cubic feet per second (cfs) to 30,000 cfs. The upgrades could prevent $15 billion in damages.

The second phase of modifications will construct nine protective dikes in the basin to protect residential properties, commercial facilities and infrastructure. Dikes, floodwalls and intermittent levee and bank protection will prevent flooding of low-lying facilities around the perimeter of the basin and protect structures upstream and downstream from the dam. The final phase of modifications to raise the adjacent spillway 20 feet is scheduled to begin in 2012.

The total cost of the improvements to Prado Dam is estimated at $500 million. The Orange County Flood Control District is the non-federal sponsor for this modernization project and provided a substantial portion of the funding.