



Prado Dam, CA (Dam Safety Modification) Construction

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

FACT SHEET as of February 26, 2026

AUTHORIZATION: Flood Control Act of 1936, modified by Flood Control Act of 1938

TYPE OF PROJECT: Flood Risk Management, Dam Safety Modification Project

PROJECT PHASE: Preconstruction Services Phase



CONGRESSIONAL INTEREST: Senators Padilla (CA) and Schiff (CA); Representatives Garamendi (CA-8), Cisneros (CA-31), Torres (CA-35), Takano (CA-39), Kim (CA-40), Calvert (CA-41), Garcia (CA-42), Tran (CA-45), Correa (CA-46), Min (CA-47), Issa (CA-48)

NON-FEDERAL SPONSOR: None

BACKGROUND: Construction of Prado Dam and Reservoir was completed in 1941. It is operated by the USACE, Los Angeles District, and is a central element of the Santa Ana River Basin flood risk management system. It provides incidental water conservation benefits and further reduces flood risk for more than 1.4M people and property (valued at \$200B+) across 29 cities in Southern California. The Dam Safety Modification Study (DSMS) was approved by the Dam Safety Oversight Group in June 2022 designating Prado Dam as a Dam Safety Action Classification 2 - very high incremental risk. This is primarily due to loss of life consequences resulting from potential failure due to overtopping of the embankment low spot, and failure caused by spillway erosion. This project is to design and construct the risk reduction measures identified in the DSMS, to reduce the overall risk of failure, potential loss of life, economic consequences, and environmental effects.

STATUS:

The base contract for preconstruction services and early work items for the spillway modification was awarded on April 14, 2025 (\$31,175,954) and the demonstration section contract modification was awarded on December 17, 2025 (\$36,185,336). On January 23, 2026 the President signed the Interior and Environmental Appropriations Act which authorized incremental funding for the project. The construction contract is scheduled to be awarded by March 24²³, 2026 with the first increment utilizing the Incremental Funding Clause. The current working estimate for the project is \$1.646B Construction General for dam safety and \$140M BBA-18 Supplemental funding for the Raise portion.

Commented [SM1]: The full name is too long for the factsheet, "Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act"... But I recommend replacing "Interior and Environmental Appropriations Act" with "Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act to shorten.

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS – TULSA DISTRICT

ISSUES:

The FY2026 Interior and Environmental Appropriations Act provided authority to utilize incremental contract funding, this will allow the project to award the construction option with funds on hand. To prevent life-safety and dam-safety impacts during construction, full capability funding of \$475M is included in the FY 2027 budget request.

Commented [SM2]: Same as above to match all other documents in the FY27 Budget Hearing documents.

FINANCIAL SUMMARY (\$):

CONSTRUCTION

Allocations thru FY 2022	\$6,000,000	1/
Allocation for FY2023	\$50,000,000	2/
Allocation for FY 2024	\$655,000,000	
President Budget FY 2025	\$0	
President Budget FY 2026	\$0	3/
FY 2027 Full Capability	\$475,000,000	4/

1/ PED funds from the USACE Risk Management Center (WEDGE).

2/ FY 2023 Allocations were part of the FY 2023 Work Plan.

3/ Project not included in the FY26 President's Budget.

4/ FY 2027 Allocations required to fund remainder of construction option and fund agency management costs ~~through FY27. Project contingency is not included.~~

SCHEDULE:

FY 2026: Award Spillway Modifications construction option using first increment by March 2026. Complete the spillway modifications preconstruction services and Quality Assurance laboratory improvements. Continue early work items, demonstration sections, and environmental coordination and mitigation.

FY 2027: Obligate remaining construction funding for Spillway Modification with second increment utilizing FY2027 appropriations (\$475M). Continue all construction and environmental services in support of the project.

Completion: Project is currently scheduled for physical completion by May 2033 (pending start in 2027 construction season).