

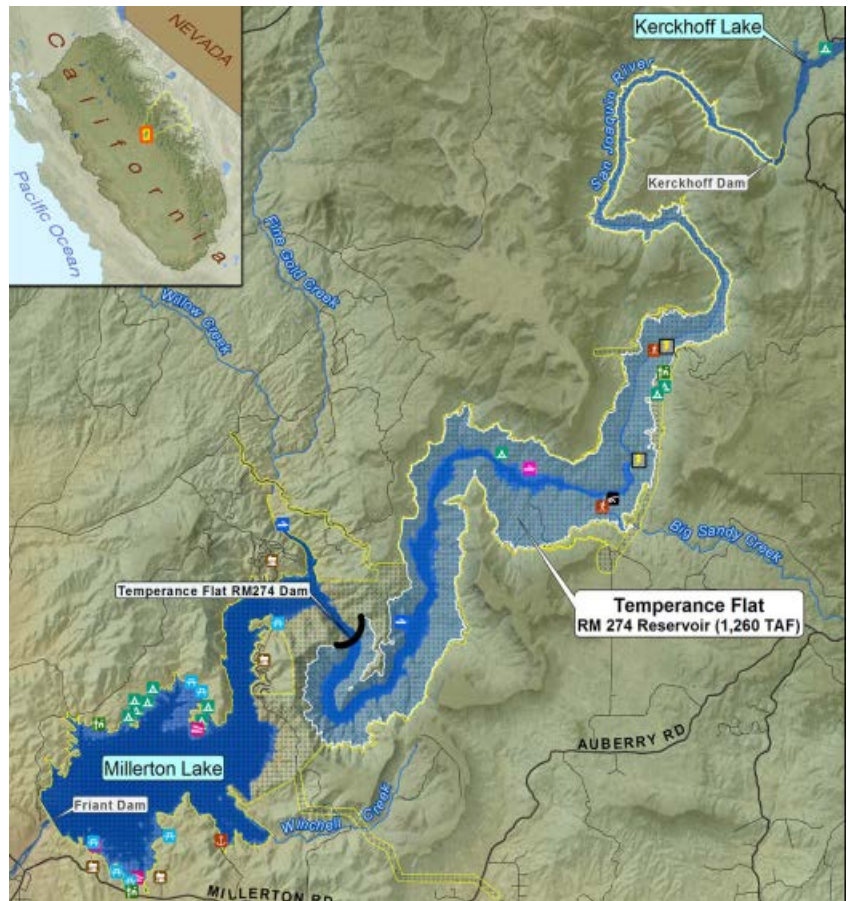
Temperance Flat Reservoir – What you need to know

What is it?

Temperance Flat would be a new reservoir, formed by constructing a new dam within the impounded backwater of the existing Millerton Lake. Temperance Flat would provide an additional 1.26 million acre-feet (MAF) of water storage on the San Joaquin River that could both capture water that might otherwise spill from the existing project (as was seen in 2017) and improve regional and statewide water operations.

How will it work?

Temperance Flat would be used to manage water supplies stored from flows that exceed the operational capabilities of Millerton Lake and the uses of the existing Friant Division contract holders. Additionally, the facility will provide opportunities for coordinated operations with regional and statewide water systems. The combined operation of Millerton Lake and Temperance Flat would preserve the existing requirements and delivery capabilities of Millerton Lake.



Why is it important?

California faces a critical water resources challenge, with its current water demands exceeding supplies for urban, agricultural, and environmental (fisheries, wildlife refuges) water users across the State. The imbalance between supply and demand is most pronounced in the San Joaquin Valley, where a long-standing imbalance of 2-3 MAF has been masked by unsustainable rates of groundwater use, leading to alarming rates of ground subsidence that have severely degraded the delivery capacity of regional canals and aqueducts. Without further investment in water management infrastructure, annual statewide shortages are expected to increase to approximately 4.9 MAF by 2030, with more acute effects in droughts.

Demands on the San Joaquin River and its waters have grown tremendously over the past decade, punctuated by water supplies dedicated to the restoration of fisheries below Friant Dam and growing pressures of Friant Division districts and their neighbors to craft plans for compliance with the requirements of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act.

Who would benefit?

The operations plan for Temperance Flat has not been finalized, but studies have demonstrated the potential for the facility to provide benefits for a wide range of water users in the San Joaquin Valley and the State, through:

- Improvements to conjunctive management that supports regional groundwater sustainability;
- Additional storage for managing water supply reliability for dry years and emergency supplies;
- Additional capture of surface water in wet years;
- Reductions of flood risk downstream of Friant Dam;
- Resilience to anticipated future conditions that expect reductions in snow accumulation; and
- Improvements to the management of aquatic ecosystems and wildlife refuges in the San Joaquin Valley.



What is Friant Water Authority's position?

The Friant Water Authority (FWA) supports the project for the benefits it could provide the Friant Division and the San Joaquin Valley, as noted above. In July 2017, the FWA Board of Directors voted to support Proposition 1 funding for Temperance Flat Reservoir. However, FWA support depends on the project meeting existing contractual and legal requirements, including implementation of the San Joaquin River Restoration Program, and demonstration that Friant Division contractors retain full access to all current contract types and quantities of Millerton Lake, including unstorable flows, as if the project were not constructed.

What's happening now?

Over the next two years, three separate but related efforts are being pursued.

1. In August 2017, the San Joaquin Valley Water Infrastructure Authority (SJVWIA) submitted an application for funds for the Temperance Flat Project through "Proposition 1" (the *Water Quality, Supply, and Infrastructure Improvement Act* of 2014). That application is being considered by the California Water Commission, and the Commission expects to determine the interest by June of 2018.
2. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation will be conducting a federal feasibility study to adequately assess the costs and benefits of the project, and to determine the federal interest in the project. This study is expected to be completed by the end of 2018.
3. FWA believes that, ultimately, the bulk of the costs for Temperance Flat will be borne by water users, as investors to the project. The Federal and Proposition 1 studies (1 and 2, above) do not provide the detail on financial costs and water supply benefits that is needed for investors to determine a desired level of participation. To address this gap, FWA has initiated technical studies at the direction of potential investors that will produce more detailed financial and operations plans over the coming two years.

What can I do?

Stay informed by checking on the FWA website, www.friantwater.org, for updates on the progress of the Proposition 1 funding process, as well as the planning and stakeholder outreach efforts.

And stay informed on the California Water Commission's process at <https://cwc.ca.gov/Pages/Home.aspx>.

Or contact Media@friantwater.org

FWA is a joint-powers authority formed in 2004 by a majority of the water agencies receiving water from the Friant Division of the Central Valley Project. Its primary purposes are to operate and maintain the Friant-Kern Canal and to serve the information and representation needs of its member agencies.