

## I - INTRODUCTION

**1-01 Authorization.** This water control manual is prepared pursuant to the requirements set forth in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 33, Part 208.11, subparagraph d-4, entitled, "Water Control Plan and Manual."

The authority and directives for the preparation and publication of this manual are contained in the following U.S. Army Corps of Engineers publications:

Engineering Technical Letter-ETL 1110-2-251: Engineering and Design, Preparation of Water Control Manuals; dated 14 March 1980.

Engineering Regulation-ER 1110-2-240: Engineering and Design, Water Control Management; dated 8 October 1982.

Engineering Manual-EM 1110-2-3600: Engineering and Design, Management of Water Control Systems; dated 30 November 1987.

The chain of correspondence leading to approval of this manual is included in Exhibit H.

**1-02 Purpose and Scope.** The purpose of the manual is to provide current information about the dam and reservoir, the regulating policy, and a description of the organizations responsible for collecting data and regulating the reservoir. This Manual contains (1) a brief description of the project and its history, (2) a description of the watershed characteristics, (3) the data collection and communications network, (4) a revised reservoir regulation schedule, and (5) a description of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District's (LAD) organization for reservoir regulation and operation.

The following issues directly affect the operation of Prado Dam and are addressed in this water control manual: (1) flood control, (2) water supply, (3) recreational, (4) environmental, and (5) commercial issues. Because Prado Dam does not provide hydroelectric power or aid in navigation, these topics are not discussed.

**1-03 Related Manuals and Reports.** Manuals and reports relevant to Prado Dam, Prado Reservoir, the drainage areas above and below Prado Dam, and significant hydraulic structures within these drainage areas are listed in Plate 1-01. This list is not exhaustive and is only meant to provide information on key reports and manuals. A more comprehensive list of manuals and reports would include material available

from other agencies such as the: U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Orange County Environmental Management Agency (OCEMA), Orange County Water District (OCWD), and others.

**1-04 Project Owner.** Prado Dam and the reservoir lands behind the dam (sometimes referred to as the Prado Flood Control Basin) are owned or otherwise controlled by the Federal Government. The LAD is charged with the responsibility for the regulation, operation, and maintenance of the project.

**1-05 Operating Agencies.** Prado Dam is operated by personnel from the LAD. The dam is staffed by a dam tender who is on duty throughout the year, Monday through Friday, during regular business hours. The dam tender does not live at the dam site. During flood control operations, Prado Dam is manned 24 hours a day. Staffing of dam tenders is the responsibility of the Operations Branch (CESPL-CO) of the LAD. However, it is the responsibility of the Reservoir Regulation Section (CESPL-ED-HR) of the LAD to issue operating instructions to the dam tender. The Reservoir Regulation Section, therefore, maintains a staff of water control managers and operates a Reservoir Operations Center (ROC) for this purpose.

**1-06 Regulating Agencies.** The LAD is solely responsible for the regulation of Prado Dam. The LAD coordinates its management efforts with other federal, state and local agencies which are affected by impoundments within the reservoir control basin or releases from Prado Dam. These include, but are not limited to:

**U.S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM)**, which regulates the mineral rights of reservoir lands held in fee by the U.S. Government.

**California State Department of Fish and Game**, which has regulatory responsibility for fishing and hunting activities as well as for protecting habitat and fauna within the basin.

**U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)**, which is responsible for the conservation, protection and enhancement of fish, wildlife, and their habitats.

**San Bernardino County and Riverside County**, which operates parks and recreational facilities within the basin.

**City of Corona**, which operates a park, a general aviation airport, and a wastewater reclamation plant and percolation ponds in the southeastern portion of the reservoir.

Orange County Water District (OCWD), which owns land within the basin and operates ground water recharge facilities within and adjacent to the Santa Ana River, downstream of Prado Dam.

Orange County Environmental Management Agency (OCEMA), which is responsible for maintenance of the Santa Ana River channel within Orange County.

Northwest Mosquito Abatement District. Mosquito abatement within the Prado reservoir area falls within the jurisdiction of this agency.

**1-07 Public Coordination** Draft copies of this Water Control Manual were sent on June 19, 1990 to OCEMA and OCWD, the primary local agencies responsible for flood control and water conservation, respectively, for review and comment. Comments received from these agencies have been incorporated into the manual.

On November 14, 1990 a public meeting was held on the Draft EIS for the Prado Dam Water Conservation Study. The base condition for the water conservation study, which was presented at the public meeting, is essentially the Water Year 1990 Water Control Plan presented in this manual.

The EA prepared for this water control manual underwent a 30 day public review period during January 1991. A copy of the resulting FONSI is included in Appendix G.