

Mid-Pacific Region Central Valley Project

Overview

The Central Valley Project (CVP) extends 400 miles through California, from the Cascade Range in the north near Redding to the Tehachapi Mountains near Bakersfield in the south. The CVP's complex, multi-purpose network of dams, reservoirs, canals, hydroelectric powerplants and other facilities serve agriculture, municipal and industrial needs, and fish and wildlife in the semi-arid Central Valley. The CVP also provides flood protection, produces electrical power and offers recreational opportunities.

The project is a major asset to California's economy, providing water for most of the top agricultural producing counties in the nation's leading farm state. The California Department of Food and Agriculture reported in its latest California Agricultural Highlights publication that farm production in the state totals more than \$36 billion annually. About a third of that production, or about \$12 billion, came from the Central Valley.

The CVP provides flood protection for the Central Valley and supplies domestic and industrial water in the valley, as well as to major urban centers in the Greater Sacramento and San Francisco Bay areas. The project also provides water to restore and protect fish and wildlife, and to enhance water quality. It is a major source of water for 19 National Wildlife Refuges. Five of the refuges are located in the Sacramento Valley in Northern California and 14 are in the San Joaquin Valley in Central California.



Facilities

Construction of major CVP facilities began in 1938 with breaking of ground for Shasta Dam on the Sacramento River near Redding in Northern California. Over the next five decades, the CVP was expanded into a system of 20 dams and reservoirs that together can hold nearly 12 million acre-feet. The CVP includes 500 miles of canals and aqueducts and 11 hydroelectric powerplants. In Sacramento, the Central Valley Operations Office jointly controls, with the California Department of Water Resources, the CVP and its companion, the State Water Project.



Benefits

The CVP has long-term agreements to supply water to more than 250 contractors in 29 of California's 58 counties. Deliveries by the CVP include providing an annual average of 5 million acre-feet of water for farms; 600,000 acre-feet of water for municipal and industrial uses (enough water to supply about 2.5 million people for a year); and water for wildlife refuges and maintaining water quality in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

The CVP's annual agricultural benefits can be measured at least two ways. Farm-related jobs totaled more than 210,000 in counties served by the CVP, according to the latest figures reported by the California Department of Employment Development. In addition, the California Department of Food and Agriculture reported the following agricultural production on land served by the CVP:

- Acreage serviced, 3 million
- Principal crops, 24 million tons
 - Field crops, 10 million tons
 - Vegetable/melons, 9 million tons
 - Fruit/nut crops, 5 million tons

The CVP's 11 powerplants produce about 4.5 million megawatt hours in an average water year. (A megawatt hour is continuous production of one megawatt over an hour.)

MAJOR CVP FACILITIES

<u>Dam and Reservoir</u>	<u>River System</u>	<u>Storage Capacity (acre-feet)</u>
Shasta Dam and Reservoir	Sacramento	4,552,000
Trinity Dam and Reservoir	Trinity	2,448,000
Folsom Dam and Reservoir	American	977,000
New Melones Dam and Reservoir	Stanislaus	2,420,000
Friant Dam and Millerton Reservoir	San Joaquin	520,000
San Luis Dam and Reservoir	Offstream Storage	966,000 (Federal share)

<u>Canal</u>	<u>Length (miles)</u>	<u>Design Capacity (cfs)</u>
Corning	21.0	500
Tehama-Colusa	110.9	2,530
Contra Costa	47.7	350
Folsom South	26.7	3,500
Delta-Mendota	117.0	4,600
Friant-Kern	151.8	5,000
Madera	35.9	1,250
Coalinga	11.6	1,100
San Luis (Joint Federal/State)	102.5	13,100

For More Information:

MP Region Public Affairs

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www.usbr.gov/mp

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