

San Joaquin River Restoration Program Restoration Flow Releases in 2017

This notice is to inform you of the recently approved schedule of San Joaquin River Restoration Program (Program) Restoration Flows for the 2017 Restoration Year. This schedule takes effect on March 1.

On January 20, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) issued the initial Restoration Flow Allocation for the Program. Based on the considerable precipitation that has fallen in the watershed above Millerton Lake, a Wet Restoration Year Type was declared. The Wet Restoration Year Type provides a Restoration Flow Allocation to the Program of 556,542 acre-feet as measured at Gravelly Ford. Should hydrologic conditions change, this allocation may be reduced.

On January 31, the Restoration Administrator returned a recommendation to Reclamation that has now been approved. That recommendation schedules 197,812 acre-feet as the Restoration Flow Allocation, with the balance of 358,730 acre-feet as Unreleased Restoration Flows. These Unreleased Restoration Flows will be offered for sale to Friant long-term contractors and then to third parties should any remain unallocated.

As of February 6, Friant Dam is releasing flood flows into the San Joaquin River, precluding the release of Restoration Flows. Once flood releases into the San Joaquin River are no longer necessary for reservoir management, Restoration Flows will commence using the schedule below. Friant Dam flood releases are anticipated to continue through the month of February.

Restoration Flow Schedule based on Restoration Administrator's January 31 Recommendation — this schedule may be amended in response to changing river and groundwater conditions.

Date	Estimated Flow Release from Friant Dam ¹ (cfs)	Scheduled Restoration Flows at Gravelly Ford ² (cfs)	Scheduled Restoration Flows from Sack Dam (cfs)	Volume of Scheduled Restoration Flows ³ (acre-feet)
Mar 1 – Jun 30	540 – 600	410	300	99,213
Jul 1 – Aug 31	350	120	30	14,757
Sep 1 – Sep 30	350	140	50	8,331
Oct 1 – Oct 31	350	190	100	11,683
Nov 1 – Nov 10	700	570	480	11,305
Nov 11 – Dec 31	350	230	140	23,266
Jan 1 – Feb 28, 2018	350	250	160	29,256
Total Volume of Scheduled Restoration Flows (Mar 1, 2017 through Feb 28, 2018)				197,812

¹ Release at Friant Dam may be higher or lower than estimated due to channel infiltration losses, holding contract demands along the San Joaquin River, and other factors.

² Restoration Flows at Gravelly Ford do not include 5 cfs for Holding Contracts, therefore total flow at the Gravelly Ford gauge (the Gravelly Ford flow target) will typically be 5 cfs greater than the Restoration Flows shown here.

³ Final volume of Restoration Flows will be based on the actual flows at Gravelly Ford. The scheduled flow volumes based on the Gravelly Ford gauge are shown here.

Reclamation will regularly evaluate releases at Friant Dam to achieve the flow target at Gravelly Ford. These flows are consistent with the *Stipulation of Settlement*, will not impact senior water rights, and will be limited such that no flooding or seepage impacts are expected to occur. Reclamation will reduce Restoration Flows as necessary should information from landowners or groundwater monitoring wells indicate that impacts may be occurring. Reclamation maintains a Seepage Hotline at 916-978-4398.

For Information about Restoration Flows, please visit <http://www.restoresjr.net/restoration-goal/restoration-flows/>.

To access the Restoration Administrator recommendations, please visit <http://www.restoresjr.net/documentsreports/ra-recommendations/>