

Update as of 2/20/17 at 1045

ADVISORY: DON PEDRO CONTROLLED SPILLWAY GATES WILL OPEN TODAY AT 3 P.M.

Media Advisory: Joint Stanislaus County Office of Emergency Services-Turlock Irrigation District media briefing to be held at C.C. Wright Hall located at 247 E. Canal Drive in Turlock at 1 p.m. today.

Due to the size and magnitude of the current storm, forecasts project Don Pedro Reservoir exceeding its maximum capacity of 830 feet. Therefore, Turlock Irrigation District will open the Controlled Spillway Gates at Don Pedro Reservoir today at 3 p.m. Landowners, growers and those living along the Tuolumne River, out of an abundance of caution, should undertake necessary steps to protect their property and livestock as Tuolumne River levels will rise quickly.

Due to the rapidly increasing inflows to Don Pedro Reservoir, TID has been coordinating with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to open the Controlled Spillway Gates prior to reaching 830 feet. Use of the Controlled Spillway Gates prior to 830 feet is designed to minimize downstream impacts along the Tuolumne River.

The structural integrity of Don Pedro Dam and Controlled Spillways aren't in question and aren't a factor in the early release. The Dam and spillway structures undergo regular inspections and testing.

TID will provide frequent updates throughout today and through the duration of the event. TID is partnering with the Stanislaus County Sheriff's Office, which is also providing regular updates via their website at www.scsdonline.com/info/press-releases-via-nixle.html.

Scheduled Electrical Outages: In the interest of electrical safety near the River, TID and Modesto Irrigation District began de-energizing power lines along the Tuolumne River channel earlier today. Power will be restored when safe.

Bonds Flat Road Closure: In anticipation of utilizing the Controlled Spillway Gates at Don Pedro Reservoir, Bonds Flat is closed beyond Fleming Meadows and Blue Oaks campgrounds to public access to ensure the safety of the public and spillway operations.

Register for Emergency Alerts: Those in Stanislaus and Merced counties are encouraged to register for emergency notifications from their respective county; Stanislaus County residents at StanAware.com and Merced County residents at CountyofMerced.com/alert.

Additional Information: TID will continue to provide updates as necessary. Please visit tid.org/flows for more information. You can also view Don Pedro levels and Tuolumne River releases at tid.org/water/hydrological-data. For information about River water level and flows at 9th Street in



Modesto, visit the National Weather Service page at
<http://www.c6y7y7566y7nrfc.noaa.gov/graphicalRVF.php?id=MDSC1>.

- Register for Emergency Alerts from your County
 - Stanislaus County: StanAware.com
 - Merced County: CountyofMerced.com/alert
- General Emergency Information:
 - <http://www.stanemergency.com/>
- How to obtain sandbags:
 - In Stanislaus County: <http://www.stanemergency.com/naturalDisasters/weather.shtm>
 - In Merced County: <http://www.co.merced.ca.us/DocumentCenter/Home/View/2680>