

## **DIRECTOR REPORT**

Director Name:           Piotr Orzechowski

Subject:                    Changing Water Level at Castaic Lake due to Castaic Dam Modernization Program by DWR.

Date Submitted:           20 April 2021

Board Meeting to Be Presented At:    20 April 2021

As part of the Castaic Dam Modernization Program, the California Department of Water Resources is performing seismic retrofits to the tower's access bridge and bridge piers at Castaic Lake (see Figure 1). The Castaic Dam Modernization Project began in the Fall of 2019 and is expected to be completed by 2023.

DWR has already initiated a temporary drawdown of Castaic Lake. Lake level will fall 135 feet below the maximum operating water level (see Figure 2). Refilling of Castaic Lake will be done by Spring of 2022. The temporary drawdown is needed to access the bridge piers. Construction is scheduled to occur between Summer of 2021 to Spring of 2022.

This drawdown should not be conflated by the public with the current drought prediction for this year (and current precipitation levels). According to DWR, "these slightly lower water levels will not impact water supply [and] DWR is working closely with its state partners and local organizations to minimize the extent of recreation impacts" (DWR, [water.ca.gov](http://water.ca.gov)).

For more information about the Castaic Dam Modernization Program, go to:

<https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/SWP-Facilities/Southern/Castaic-Dam-Modernization>. For specific questions, please e-mail [SWPdamsafety@water.ca.gov](mailto:SWPdamsafety@water.ca.gov).

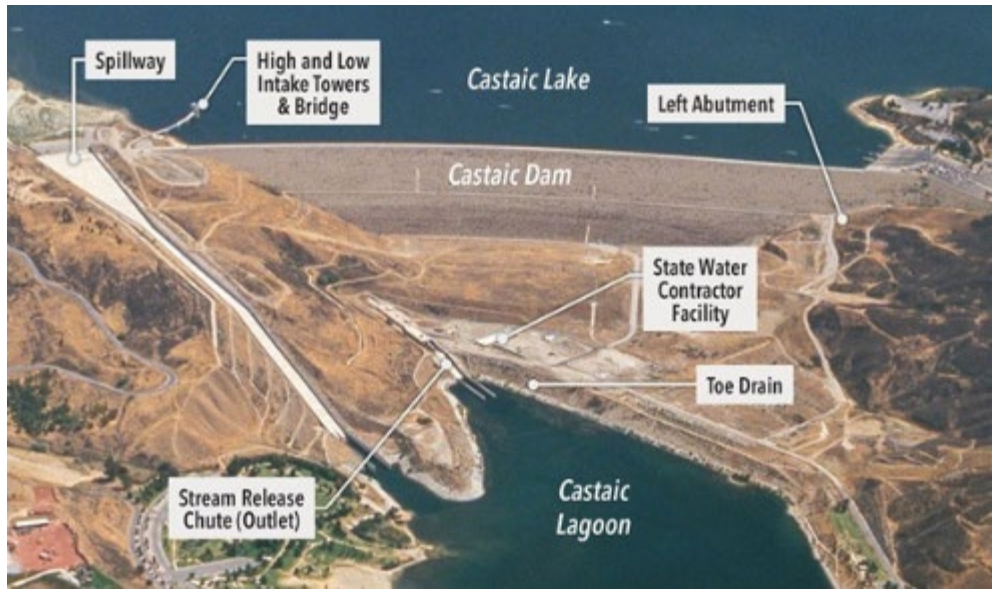


Fig. 1. Castaic Dam Modernization components (CA DWR).

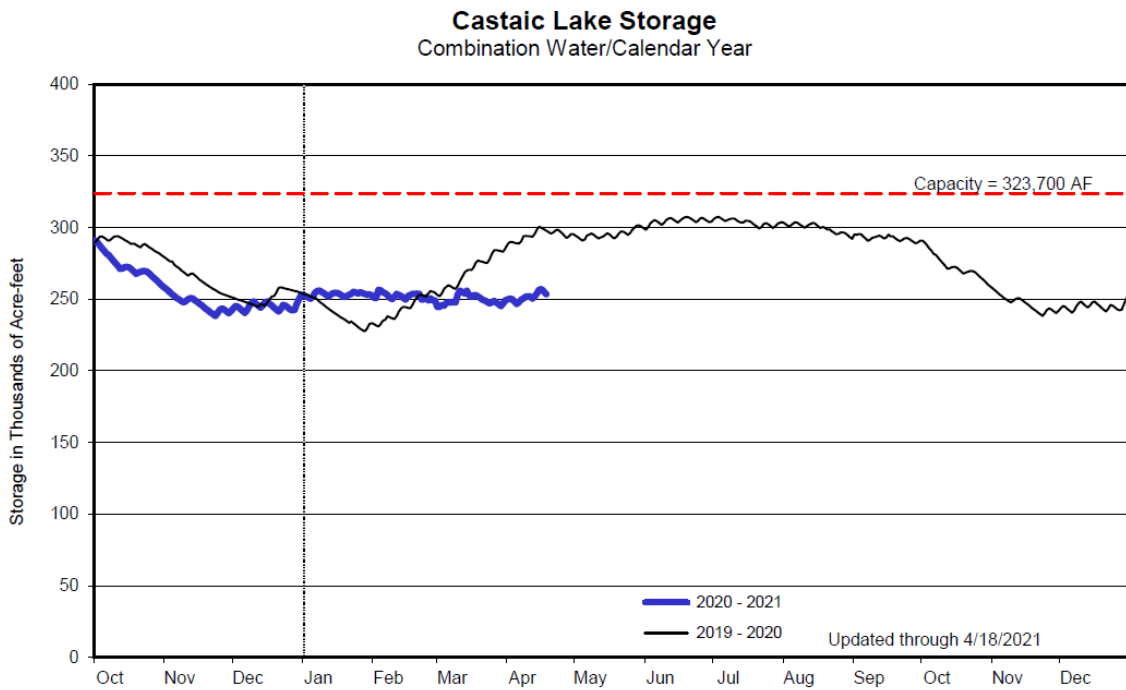


Fig. 2. Castaic Lake Storage Chart (CA DWR).