

# Could President Trump resume plans to raise Shasta Dam?

*Kelli Saam*

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REDDING, Calif. - President Donald Trump is taking action to increase California's water supply to Central and Southern California. On Monday, President Trump issued a memo to the Secretary of the Interior and the Secretary of Commerce to restart the work from his first administration to route more water from the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta to other parts of the state.



Shasta Dam - Kelli Saam

He titled the memo, "[Putting People Over Fish: Stopping the Radical Environmentalism to Provide Water to Southern California.](#)"

During his first term, the state of California sued to stop Trump's water infrastructure plans in California. The memo states "My Administration's plan would have allowed enormous amounts of water to flow from the snow melt and rainwater in rivers in Northern California to beneficial use in the Central Valley and Southern California. This catastrophic halt was allegedly in protection of the Delta smelt and other species of fish. Today, this enormous water supply flows wastefully into the Pacific Ocean."

Trump instructed the Secretary of Commerce and Secretary of the Interior to report to him within 90 days about implementing the policies.

Among Trump's plans from his first term was raising the Shasta Dam by more than 18 feet. By increasing the dam from 602 feet to 620 feet tall, it would provide an additional 600,000 acre-feet of water storage. The plan was challenged in court by the California attorney general in 2020 who said it lacked a complete environmental impact study. It's not clear if Trump plans to resume the plan to raise the Shasta Dam.

Trump plans to visit the Southern California wildfires on Friday.



*Kelli Saam is an anchor for Action News Now and rejoined the team in 2021.*

[https://www.actionnewsnow.com/news/could-president-trump-resume-plans-to-raise-shasta-dam/article\\_6d955940-d8d5-11ef-8f26-cfe118f5fc0e.html](https://www.actionnewsnow.com/news/could-president-trump-resume-plans-to-raise-shasta-dam/article_6d955940-d8d5-11ef-8f26-cfe118f5fc0e.html)

*FOR addendum. Shasta Dam is part of the federal Central Valley Project (CVP). It does not serve Southern California. The "2020" California Attorney General litigation was in 2019 and did not challenge the project because "it lacked a complete environmental impact study." Rather, the Attorney General successfully challenged the ability of the Westlands Water District to undertake an environmental impact report because of a provision of the California Wild & Scenic Rivers Act protecting the McCloud River.*