

RECLAMATION

Managing Water in the West



Folsom Dam and Reservoir – Photo Credit: Winetta Owens

The Bureau of Reclamation recently completed the installation of a temporary pump system that includes floating barges in Folsom Reservoir and ten pipelines over Folsom Dam. The pipes (pictured above) connect to barges that are capable of pumping water to supply the City of Folsom, if needed due to the continuing drought. The floating barges are capable of conveying up to 30 cubic feet of water per second.

As water levels dropped in Folsom Reservoir earlier this year, concern arose regarding the water supply to local communities that rely on Folsom Reservoir. The temporary pump systems serves as an insurance policy to ensure that Reclamation would be able to continue to meet the needs of these local communities.

It is our hope that weather conditions will improve and the pumps will not be needed; however, they are currently in place in case they are needed later this fall/winter.