



Carson River Diversion Dam

Overview

The Carson River Diversion Dam is located just east of Fallon, Nevada, on the Carson River. The dam and reservoir aid in delivering irrigation water throughout the Lahontan Valley as part of the Newlands Project, one of the first federal water projects under the 1902 Reclamation Act.

- ✓ Location: near Fallon, NV
- ✓ Impounds : n/a
- ✓ Creates: n/a
- ✓ Total Capacity: n/a
- ✓ Part of: Newlands Project
- ✓ Built: 1904-1905
- ✓ Type: Concrete
- ✓ Size: 21-ft high; 241-ft long

Operations

The low-head concrete diversion dam spans the Carson River and is designed to split the river's flow into multiple irrigation canals. The facility includes 21 radial gates to control river diversions. The dam diverts Carson River water into three major canals. The "V" Canal serves areas south of the river; the "S" Canal serves lands to the southeast of Fallon; and the "T" Canal serves lands on the north side of the river. These canals are part of a larger distribution network that delivers irrigation water to over 57,000 acres of farmland in the Lahontan Valley.

While the facility is owned by Reclamation, [Truckee-Carson Irrigation District](#) manages water deliveries, canal maintenance, and daily dam operations under a long-term contract.

Though designed for irrigation, the dam and its canal system have become important for wildlife habitat support in surrounding wetlands, such as Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, as well as cultural heritage as part of Reclamation's earliest and longest-operating projects.



Aerial view of Carson River Diversion Dam.



Water delivered by the Bureau of Reclamation helps sustain the marshes and wetlands of Stillwater National Wildlife Refuge, supporting over 200 bird species along the Pacific Flyway.