

ALDER CREEK RESERVOIR AND CONSERVATION PROJECT

New Water Storage Infrastructure Will Address Vulnerabilities Facing El Dorado County and the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta

- Deep reservoir = less evaporation
- Hydropower = immediate/renewable power generation
- Natural convergent of granite formation in deep canyon = reduced structural footprint in valley area
- Upper elevation = offsets decline in snowpack

Need for Project

The American River Basin Study, conducted by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and local partners, identified Alder Creek, an offstream high-elevation reservoir as an important climate adaptation strategy to address water supply and flood vulnerabilities. Alder Creek Reservoir would provide a new source of storage of water supplies for local residents and businesses as well as storage for recreation. It would also help improve operational flexibility for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's operation of Folsom Reservoir, which provides water supplies and flood protection within the basin.

Project Benefits

- **Capture and store water** to improve local/regional water supply reliability with local control
- **Produce green (carbon free), dependable energy** that is flexible
- **Improve ecosystem health** of downstream aquatic and riparian ecosystems with a deep reservoir
- **Enhance Central Valley Project/State Water Project** adaptive operations with upstream storage
- Create **new local recreation** and **enhance regional recreation** within federal lands
- **Expand drought resiliency/climate change mitigation capabilities** with added storage at a high elevation
- **Improve flood protection** by capturing flows that would otherwise spill from Folsom Reservoir with upstream storage
- **Meet Bay-Delta Water Quality Control Plan requirements** by increasing storage of cold water upstream of the Central Valley Project system

Project Highlights



168,000
acre-feet of active
water storage



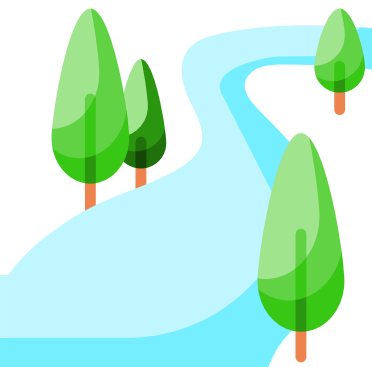
110 MW
of new, green
hydropower generation



a **multipurpose water
resource project**

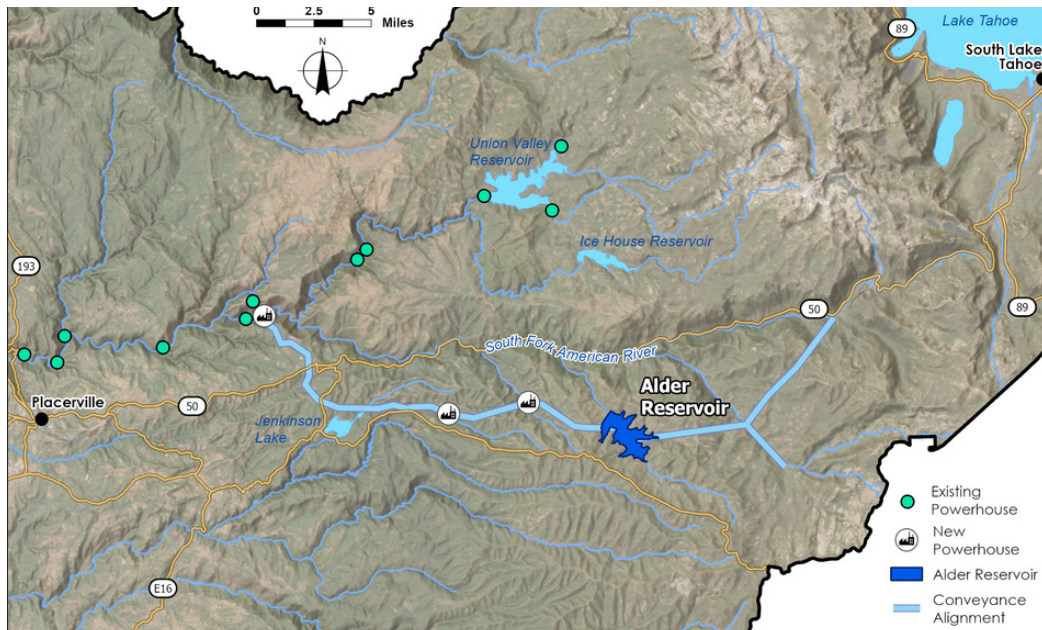
Collaborators

El Dorado Water Agency
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
County of El Dorado



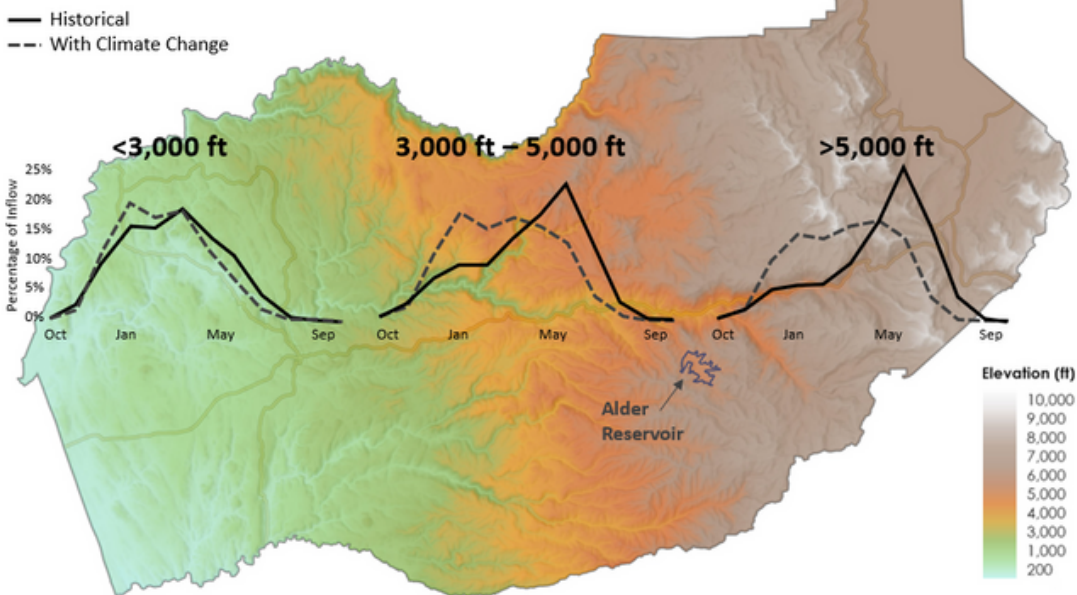
Alder Creek Reservoir Area

Alder Creek Reservoir, located in El Dorado County between the Sierra Nevada ridge and Placerville, was identified by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and local partners as an important multi-beneficial storage project. Located in the upper reaches of the American River watershed, above an existing natural fish barrier, Alder Creek Reservoir is uniquely positioned to capture snowmelt and create storage from the upper South Fork of the American River.



Alder Creek Reservoir is an Adaptation Measure to Help Capture Increased Runoff Caused by Earlier Snowpack Melt

Shift in Percent Inflow Based on Elevation



Contact

edcwa@edcgov.us
 (530) 621-5392
 edwateragency.org