

## Earth Log: Fresno area gets chance to comment about Temperance Flat project

By Mark Grossi



Overlooking the gorge containing the upper reaches of Millerton Lake near Temperance Flat. The proposed Temperance Flat Dam would be beyond the first ridge in the center of the photo.

MARK CROSSE — Fresno Bee Staff Photo [Buy Photo](#)

People around Fresno will get a chance Wednesday to talk about Temperance Flat Dam with the people who are setting priorities for spending nearly \$3 billion on water storage projects.

I'm talking about the California Water Commission's [scheduled meeting at 10 a.m. Wednesday](#) in Fresno City Council Chambers, 2600 Fresno St.

The commission will listen to the public's comments about the Temperance Flat project. In other words, the moment has arrived for people to make their points about creating a bigger reservoir above Millerton Lake.

This is all about the \$7.5 billion water bond, Prop. 1, which voters approved last November. About \$2.7 billion is intended for water storage projects.

Is there competition for the money? The last time I checked, there were nearly 150 project proposals worth more than twice the available money.

San Joaquin Valley farm groups have long coveted Temperance Flat, a project progressing through [studies](#) being

done by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. Some opponents also have emerged, challenging the cost-effectiveness of the project.

Farm water groups say they are hoping to get a crowd of commenters at the meeting, because this probably will be the only time the commission comes to Fresno to hear the public.

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