

## CONTACT YOUR ELECTED OFFICIALS

Some points you may want to include:

- Auburn Dam is not needed to protect Sacramento from American River flooding.
- The New Folsom Dam spillway and levee improvements currently under construction will exceed Sacramento's stated goal of 200 year flood protection.
- Auburn Dam would destroy 48 miles of the American River canyons that are enjoyed by close to 1 million recreational visitors a year.
- Auburn Dam would be built on earthquake faults. Water stored behind the dam could trigger a catastrophic quake flooding Sacramento.
- Auburn Dam current estimated construction costs would be \$6 to \$10 BILLION DOLLARS.

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Protect American River Canyons (PARC) is a community based non-profit organization founded in the 1970's to protect the canyons of the North

and Middle forks of the American River from the proposed Auburn Dam.

PARC is a leader in sponsoring community watershed education programs and events, including the annual American River Confluence Festival, Spring & Fall River Clean-ups and Paddle Safety Day. We offer hiking, biking and river outings through our seasonal newsletter. We provide river education outreach programs to the local schools and clubs. We are currently rewriting the American River Guidebook, a 300 + page trails, boating, cultural and natural history guide to the Auburn State Recreation Area.

PARC is a collaborative organization working with all to build community through the protection and conservation of the natural, recreational, cultural and historical resources of the North and Middle Forks of the American River and its canyons for all to enjoy and responsibly care for.

Join PARC and help shape a positive future for the American River Canyons.

Visit the PARC website:  
<http://www.parc-auburn.org/>

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# The American River: **STILL**

## “Worth More Than a Dam”

### Our River Canyons are Threatened Once Again!



Gary Hughes Photo

*The price for keeping the American River canyons forever wild and scenic is eternal vigilance.*

**NOW:**  
**McClintock Vows to Resurrect Auburn Dam—**  
*Sacramento Bee, January 15, 2011*

**THEN:**  
**“I love those [American River] canyons. I’ll love them better when they’re flooded. And I’m working to do that.”** -Rep. John Doolittle, August 5, 2006

# *We don't need to destroy the American River and its canyons with a dam!*

## **Economics**

The proposed Auburn Dam would be the most expensive dam ever built in the U.S. The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation estimated the cost to be \$6 to \$10 billion in 2006. It would add less than one-half of 1% to California's water supply, or 200,000 acre-feet annually.

The water and power revenues will not pay for the cost of the dam - adding to the national debt. The American River is already a hard working river with Placer County Water Agency's Middle Fork Project consisting of five diversion dams, five power plants and power and water transmission facilities.

Locally, Auburn and surrounding communities would lose tourism revenue generated by the almost one million annual visitors to the Auburn State Recreation Area.

## **Recreation**

Loss of the river-based Auburn State Recreation Area and its 48 river miles and thousands of park acres that provide diverse recreational opportunities for close to one million visitors annually.

Placer County would lose the internationally famous Western States 100 Mile Endurance Run and the Tevis Cup Equestrian 100 Mile Ride.

The proposed dam would destroy quality multi-use recreational opportunities including: family friendly hiking, equestrian and mountain bike riding, rafting, kayaking, fly-fishing, gold panning, swimming beaches and more. The proposed Auburn reservoir would become a sacrifice area with widely fluctuating water levels to maintain high reservoir levels at Folsom Lake State Recreation Area.

## **Safety**

The proposed dam is on active earthquake faults that pose a significant risk of causing a reservoir-triggered earthquake, which could cause property damage, injuries and even deaths in the Auburn Area.

An earthquake failure of an Auburn dam could cause catastrophic flooding in Sacramento.

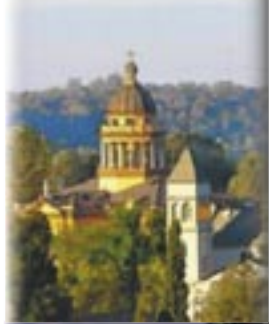
New auxiliary spillway at Folsom Dam and downstream levee improvements (currently under construction) will protect against a flood 50 percent larger than any flood in the past 160 years (since 1848) and will exceed Sacramento's stated goal of 200-year flood protection.

## **Environmental Impact**

A dam would destroy historic sites like No Hands Bridge (Mountain Quarries Railroad Bridge), which is listed in the National Register of Historic Places, Lake Clementine and countless Native American and Gold Rush sites.

Loss of thousands of acres of unique and irreplaceable foothills river canyon habitat rich in biodiversity and educational opportunities.

The proposed reservoir would be characterized by an unsightly "bathtub ring" caused by fluctuating water levels up to 300 feet or more, scarring canyon walls along nearly 100 miles of shoreline.



*PARC is building community through the protection of our American River resources for all to enjoy and responsibly care for.*