



For Immediate Release

September 5, 2017

Oroville Independent Forensic Team Releases Preliminary Findings

This morning, the Oroville Dam Spillway Incident Independent Forensic Team (IFT), delivered the second Interim Status Memorandum to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR). This memorandum presents a summary of findings and opinions to date regarding the chain of conditions, actions and inactions that in February 2017 caused the damage to the service spillway and emergency spillway at Oroville Dam.

John France, the team leader, provided the memorandum to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) today at 8 a.m. PDT. The IFT requested that the report be made available to the public immediately following the DWR briefing.

The Interim Status Memorandum can be viewed here - <https://damsafety.org/article/media/oroville-investigation-team>

Today at 1:30 p.m. PDT, the Association of State Dam Safety Officials (ASDSO) and the United States Society on Dams (USSD) will moderate a press briefing with France to answer questions regarding the document.

If interested, please use:

Participant Dial-In Number: (844) 550-5611

Conference ID: 80500019

Following the formation of the IFT in April and the release of a preliminary list of candidate contributing physical factors in May, the team has furthered its investigation of physical and human factors that led to the Oroville Dam Spillway Incident. The IFT has created the Interim Status Memorandum to provide a summary of the most up to date findings and to help inform and provide preliminary lessons learned for ongoing spillway evaluations at other projects in California and elsewhere.

In Fall 2017, the IFT will provide the final report which will expand on the conclusions and opinions presented in the Interim Status Memorandum and include detailed supporting evidence.

The conclusions and opinions presented in the Interim Status Memorandum is the sole work of the IFT. It was completed without input or influence from DWR or others.

ASDSO and USSD are pleased to receive the document and provide it to the public. ASDSO and USSD are nationally and internationally recognized organizations consisting of dam engineering professionals who are committed to advancing the profession of dam engineering and dam safety. We selected the IFT members to form an independent team of recognized experts with broad experience in the analysis, design, construction and operation of dams and appurtenant water infrastructure.

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For media inquiries and more information please contact:

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