



# Western Pacific Railroad Oroville Dam Line Change



Celebrating 100 Years of  
the Feather River Route

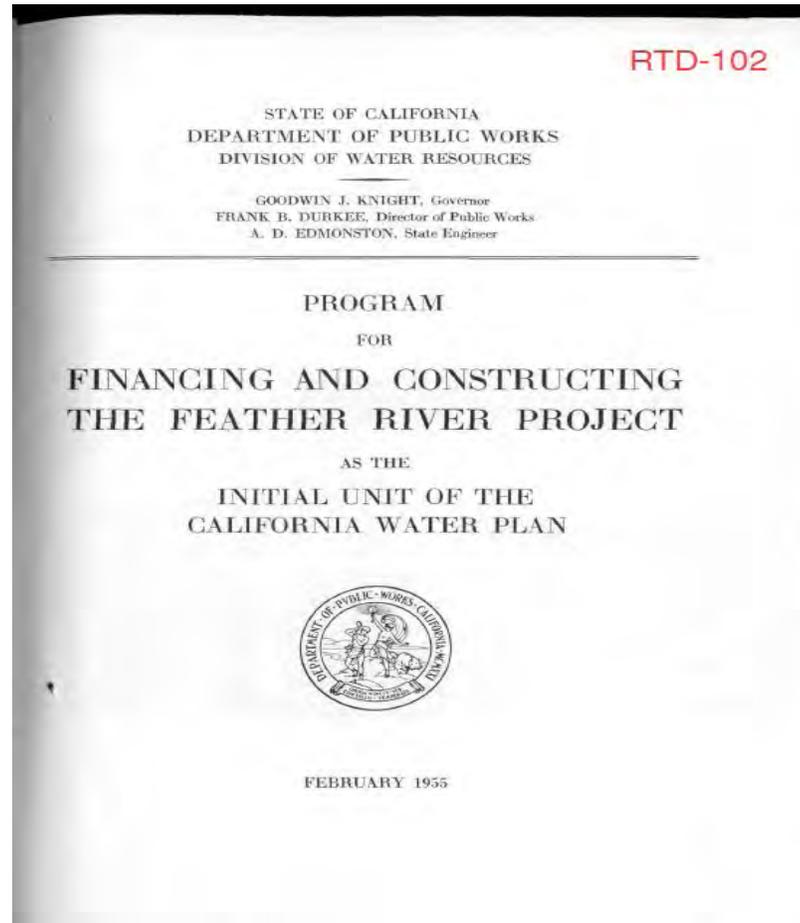


[www.wplives.org](http://www.wplives.org)

Celebrating 25 Years of  
Presenting & Preserving the  
legacy of the Western  
Pacific Railroad.



# State of California Division of Water Resources



# Diversion of Water from the Feather River

STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
THE RESOURCES AGENCY  
DEPARTMENT OF WATER RESOURCES

AGREEMENT ON DIVERSION OF WATER  
FROM THE FEATHER RIVER

632,520  
FRF

*File left*

THIS AGREEMENT, made and entered into this 28th day of  
May, 1971, by and between the State of California,  
acting by and through the Department of Water Resources, hereinafter  
called "State"; and Plumas Mutual Water Company, hereinafter referred  
to as "Water User":

WITNESSETH, that:

WHEREAS, the State has constructed Oroville Dam and Thermalito  
Diversion Dam, Forebay and Afterbay, features of the State Water  
Project, which will modify the regimen of the Feather River; and

WHEREAS, the Water User has the right to divert water of  
the Feather River pursuant to rights which are prior in time and  
superior to the water rights of State; and

# Ground Breaking ceremonies June 1<sup>st</sup> 1957



# Surveying for the new track alignment







**OROVILLE DAM SITE  
KEY TO THE  
FEATHER RIVER PROJECT  
FIRST UNIT CALIFORNIA WATER PLAN  
IN PROGRESS BY THE  
STATE OF CALIFORNIA  
HON., GOODWIN J. KNIGHT, GOVERNOR**

**Largest dam in the world  
Higher than Hoover or Shasta dams  
Reservoir cap. - 3,500,000 ac. ft.**

**167 miles - shoreline  
Estimated construction period - 1957-'64  
Transport water as far south as San Diego**



# Checking Archeological Sites

The Archeology

of the

**WESTERN PACIFIC RAILROAD RELOCATION**

Oroville Project

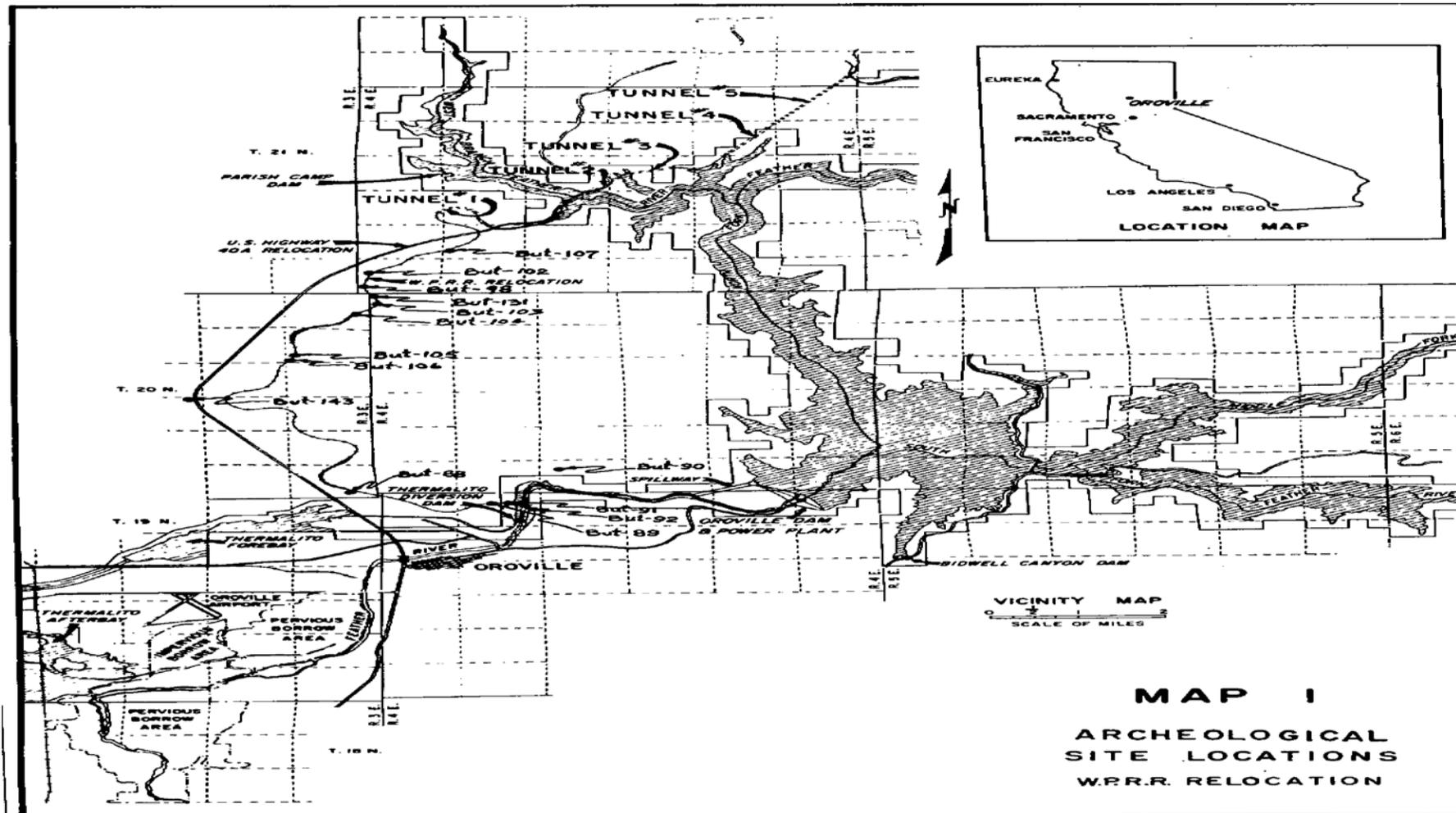
Butte County, California

by

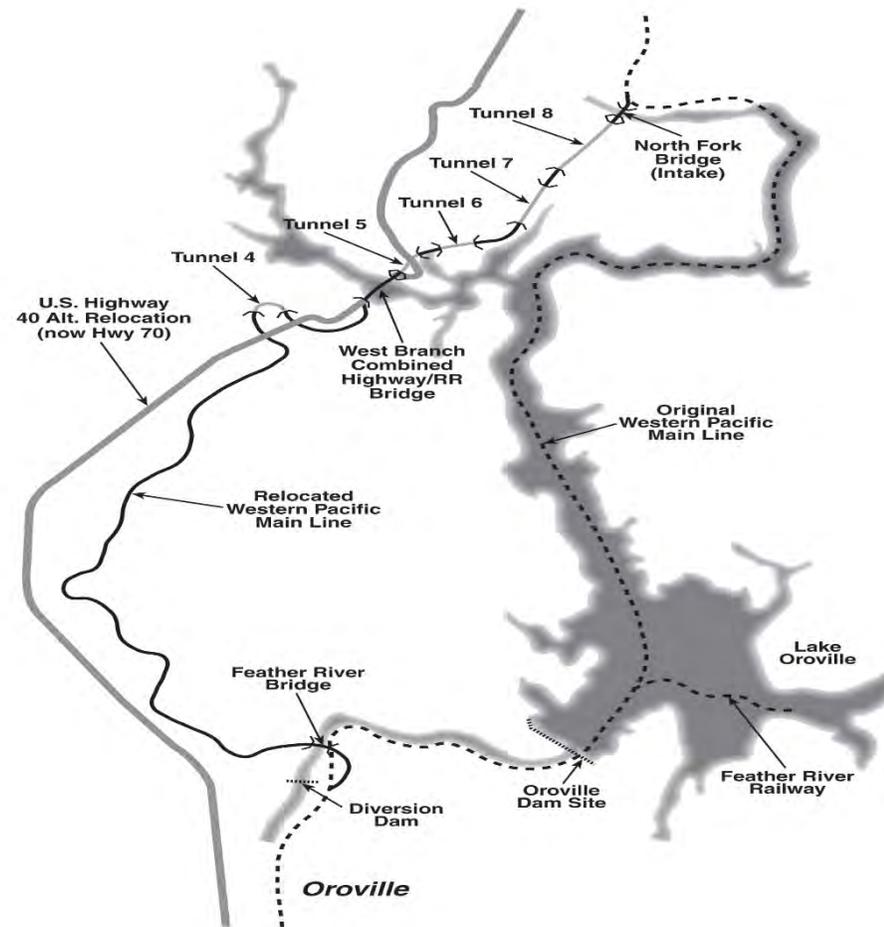
**W. H. Olsen and F. A. Riddell**

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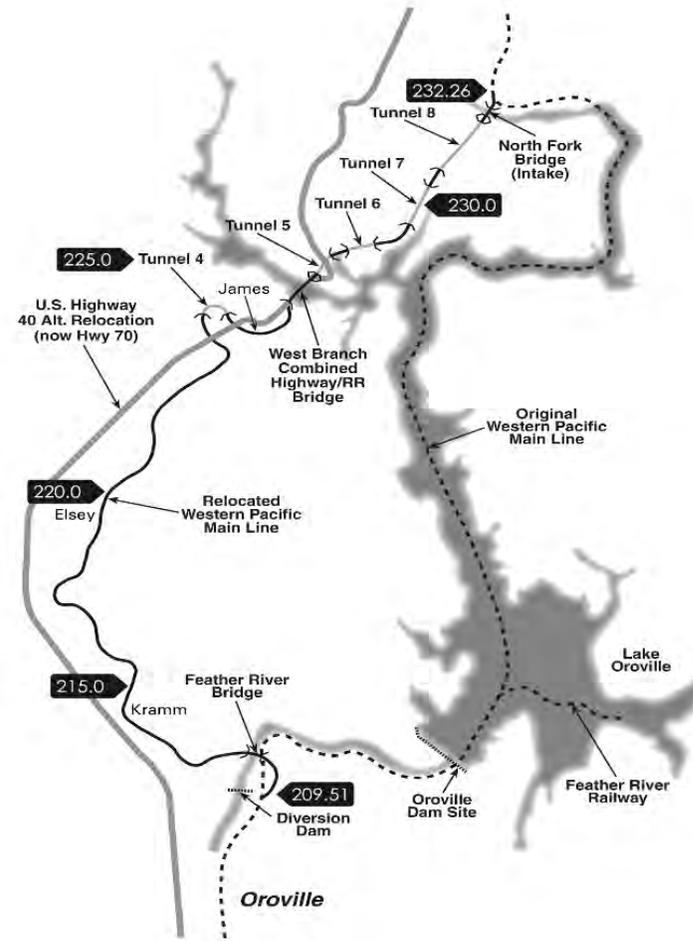
# Archeological Sites Locations



# Map of Line Relocation



# Mile Posts New Alinement

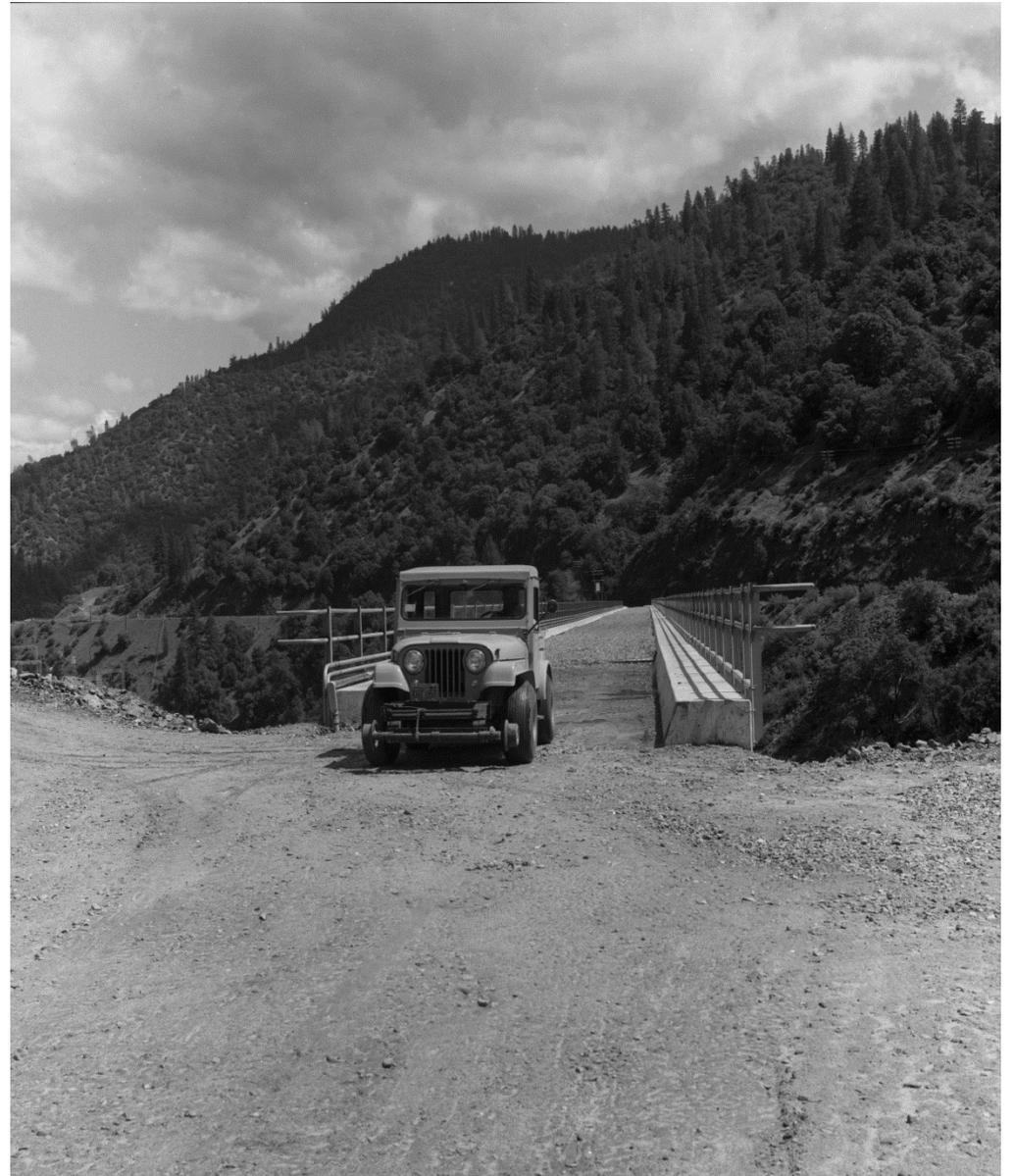


# South End Line Change



# Line Construction





# Old Mainline still in operation





# More Construction



















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Gravel Quarry at Elsey

to Oroville

to Keddie

# James





Cut away hillsides between Tunnels 6 and 7

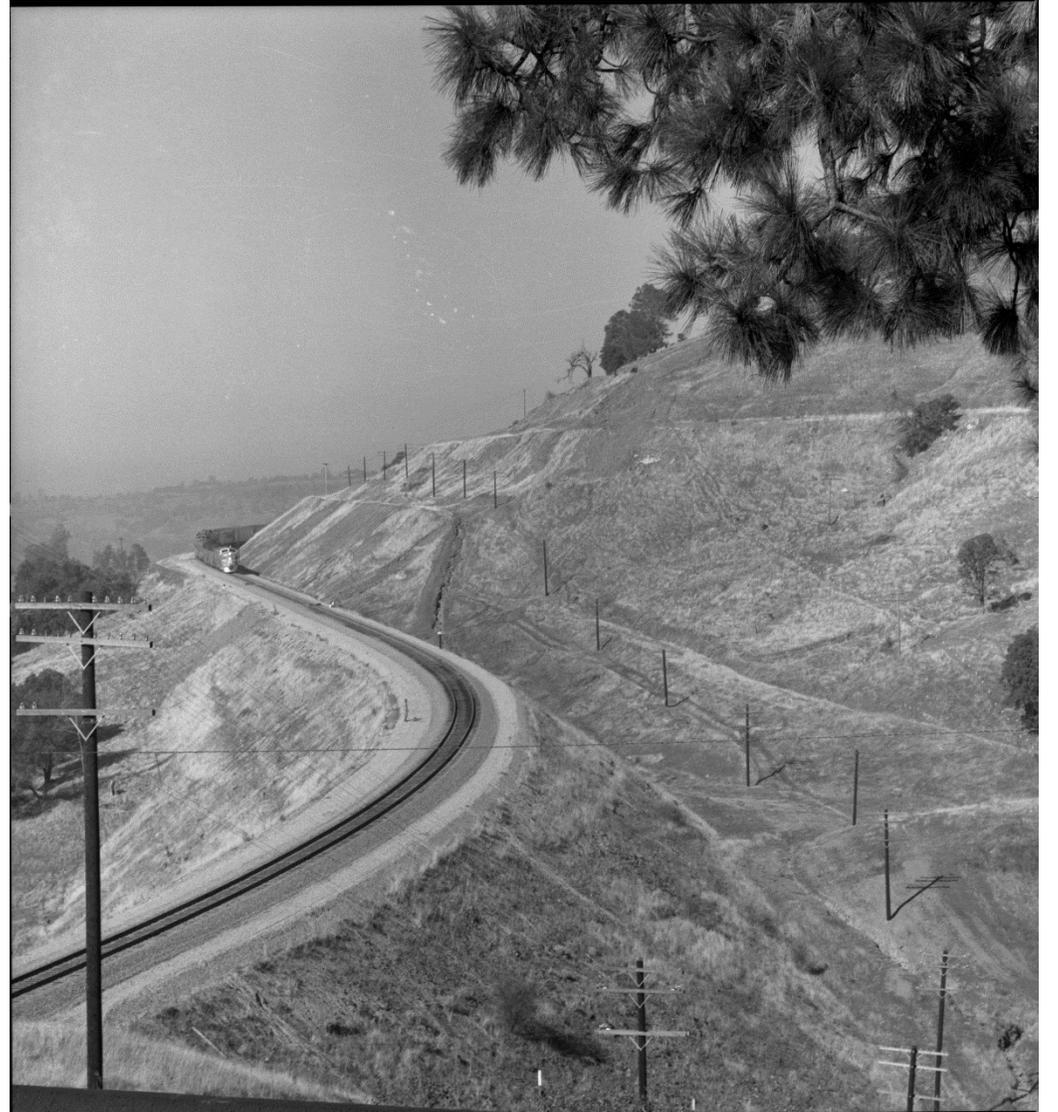
Tunnel 6

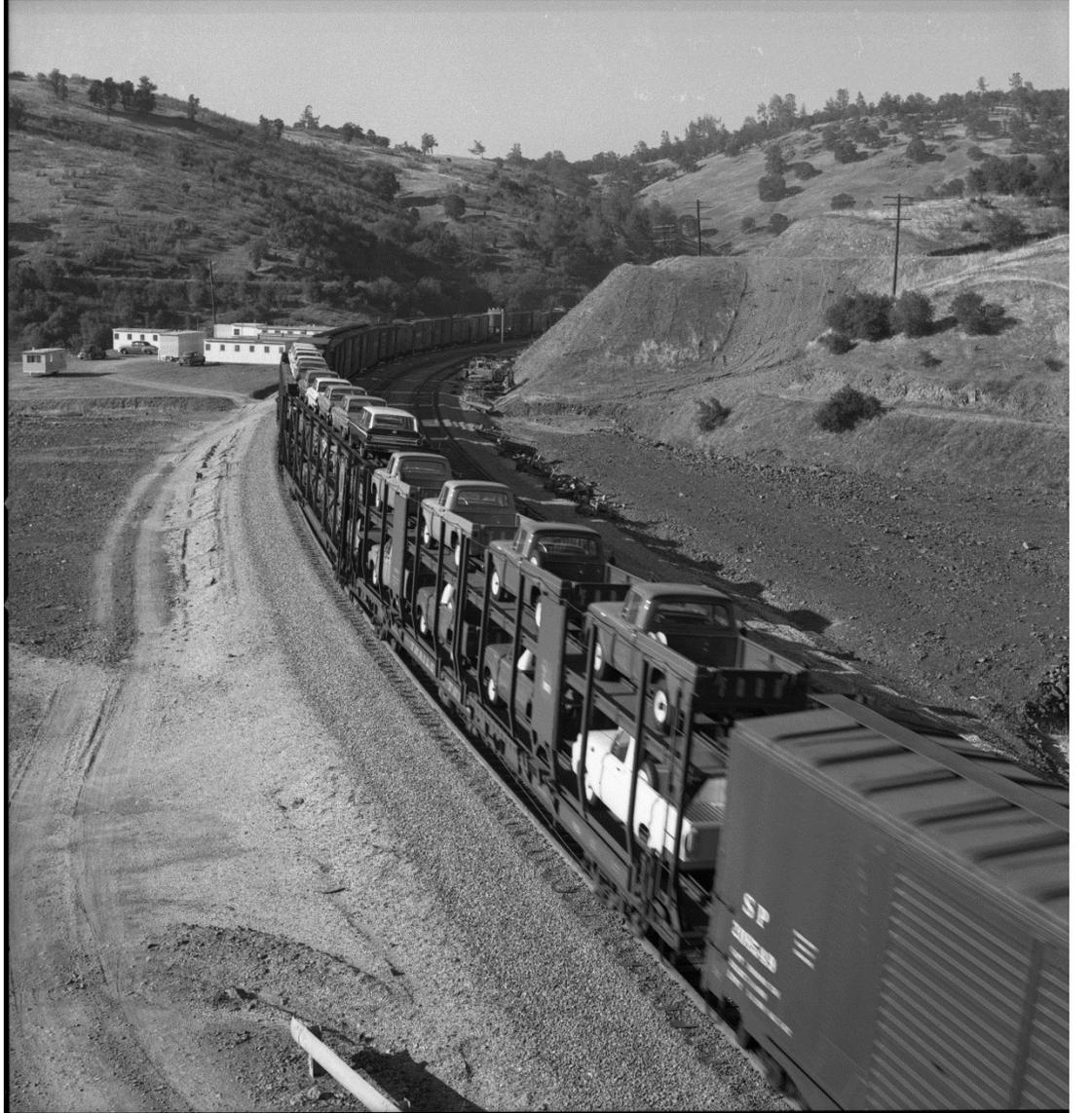
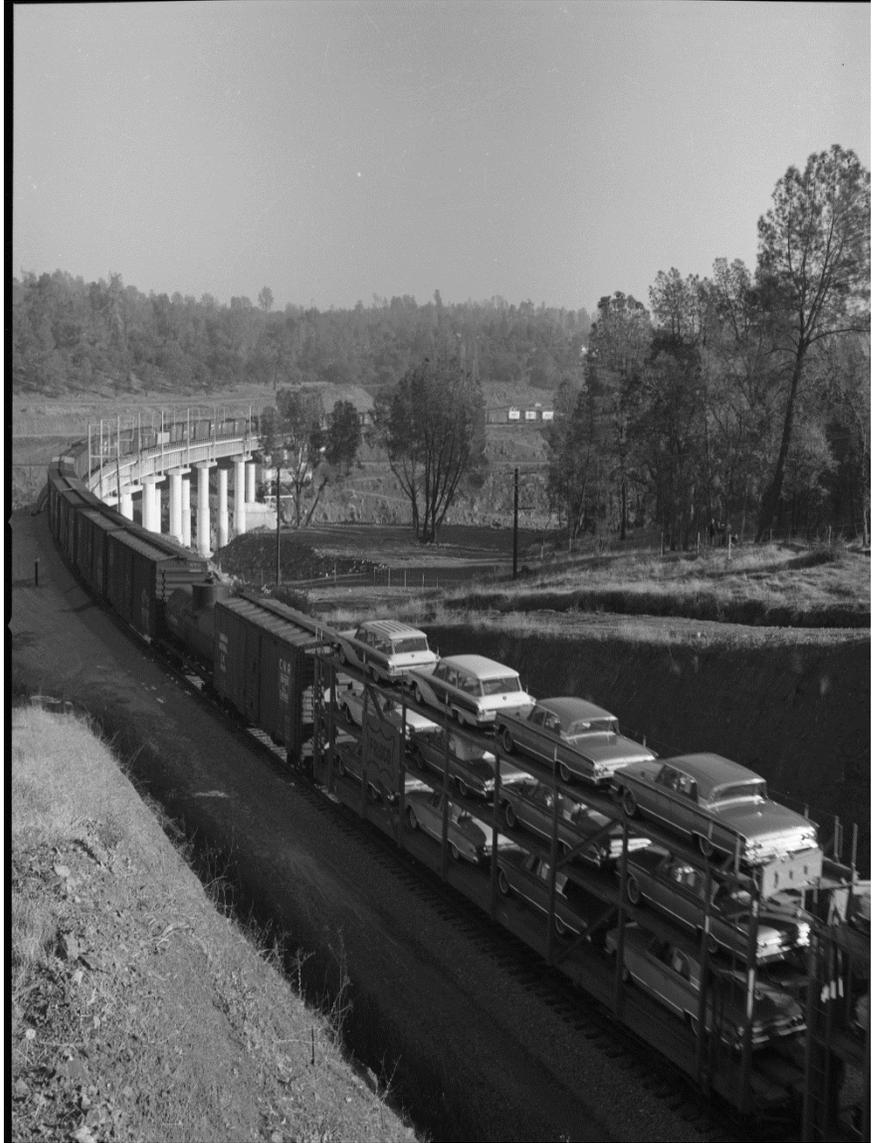
to Keddie

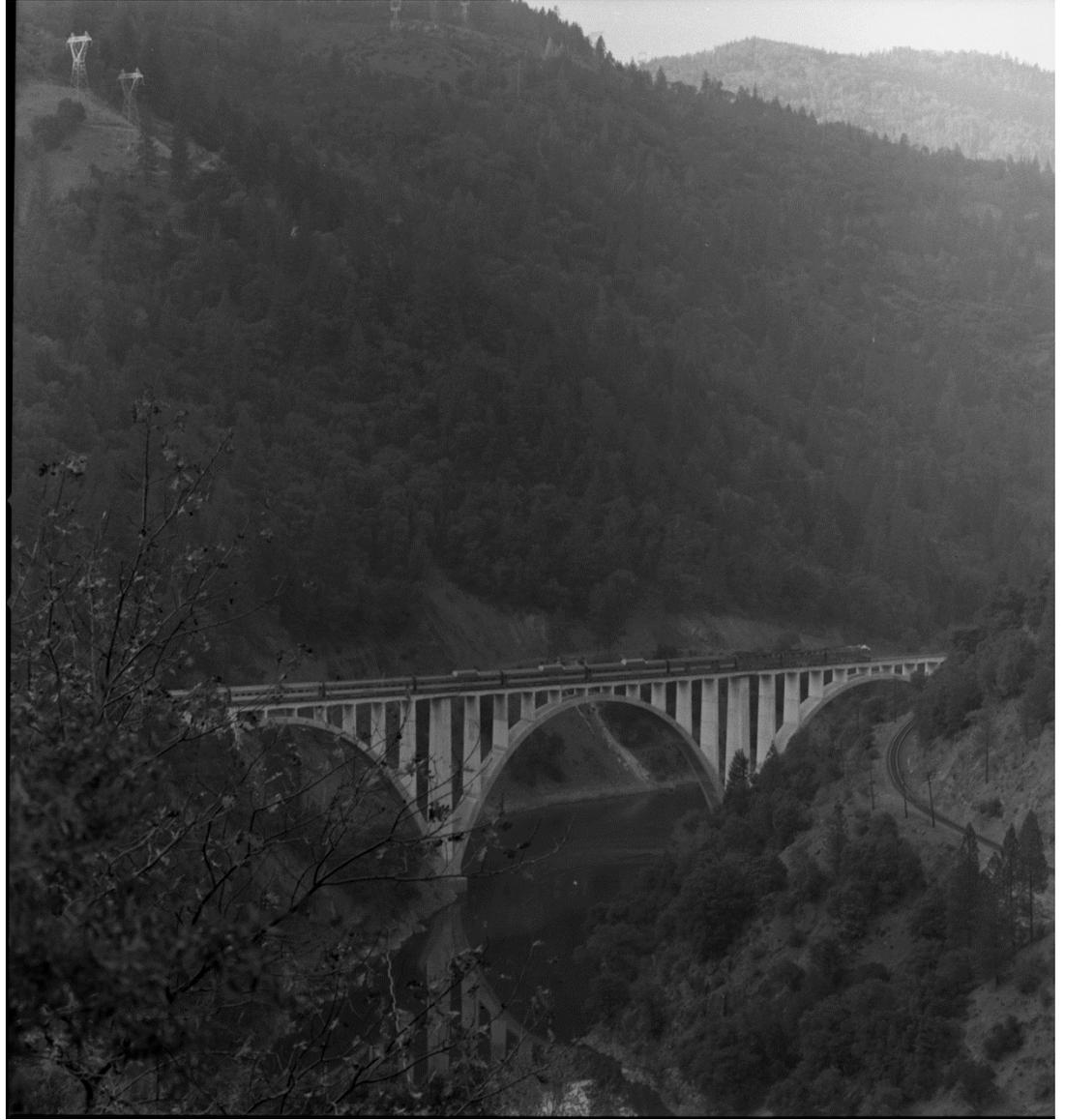
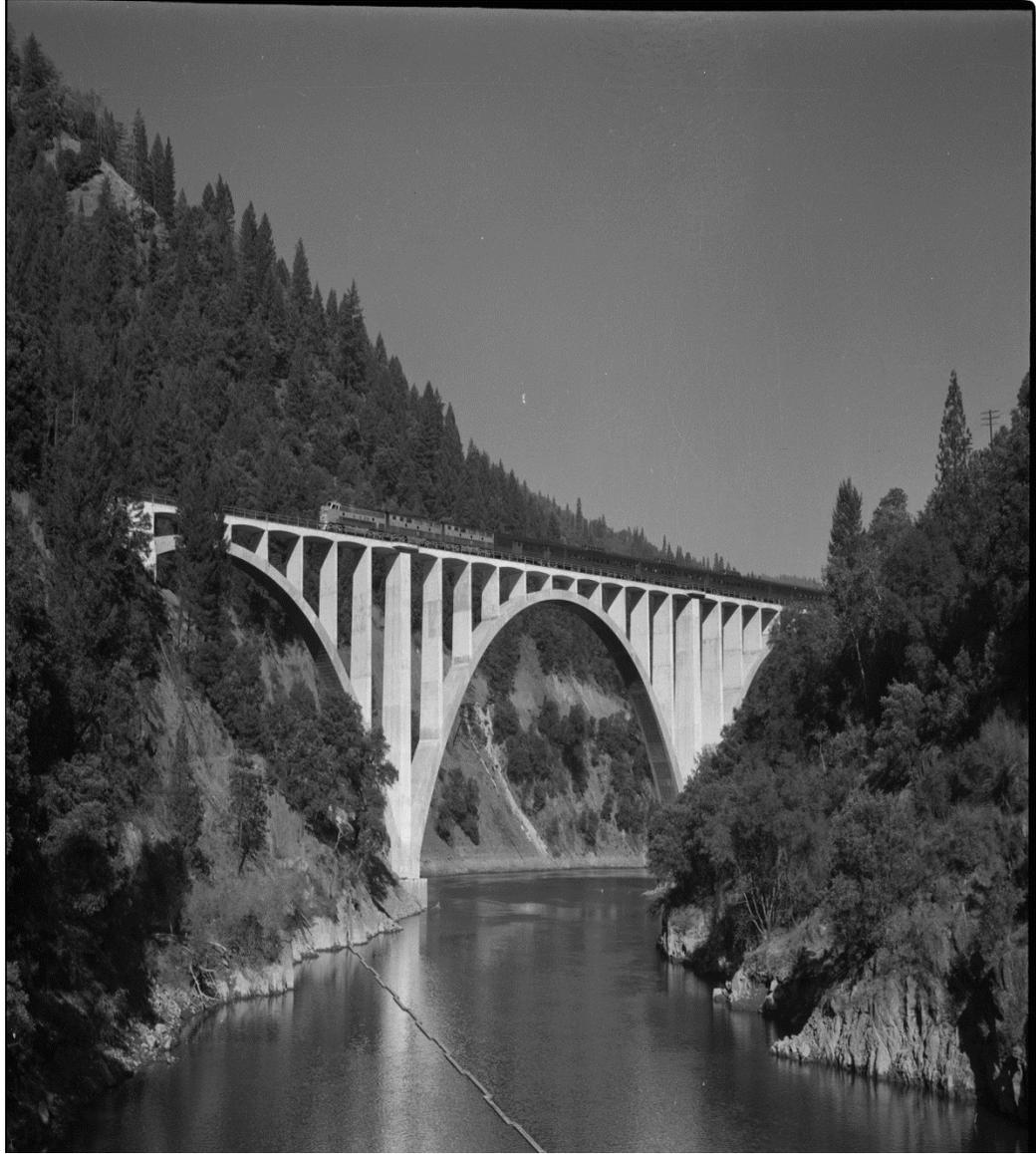
to Oroville

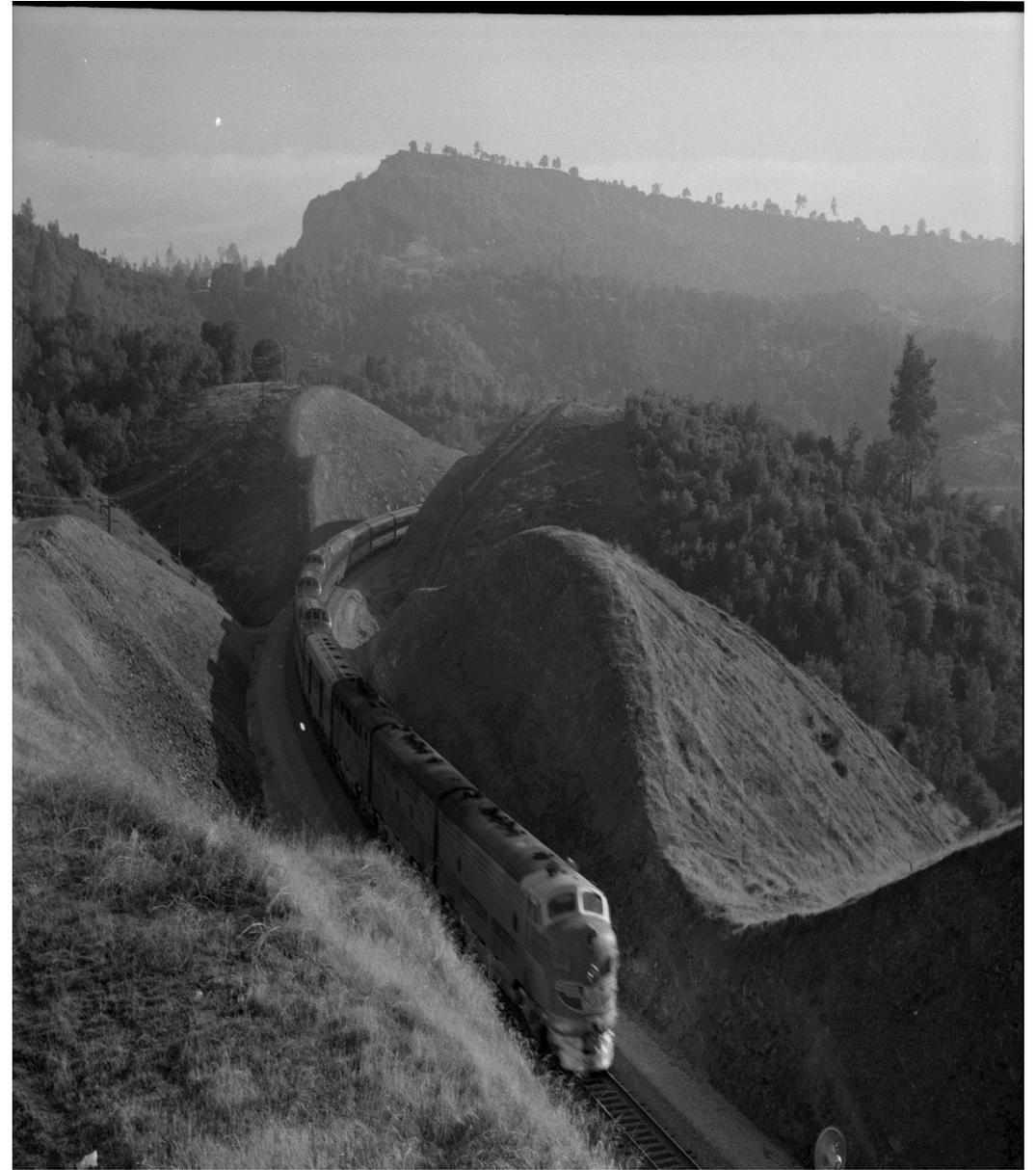
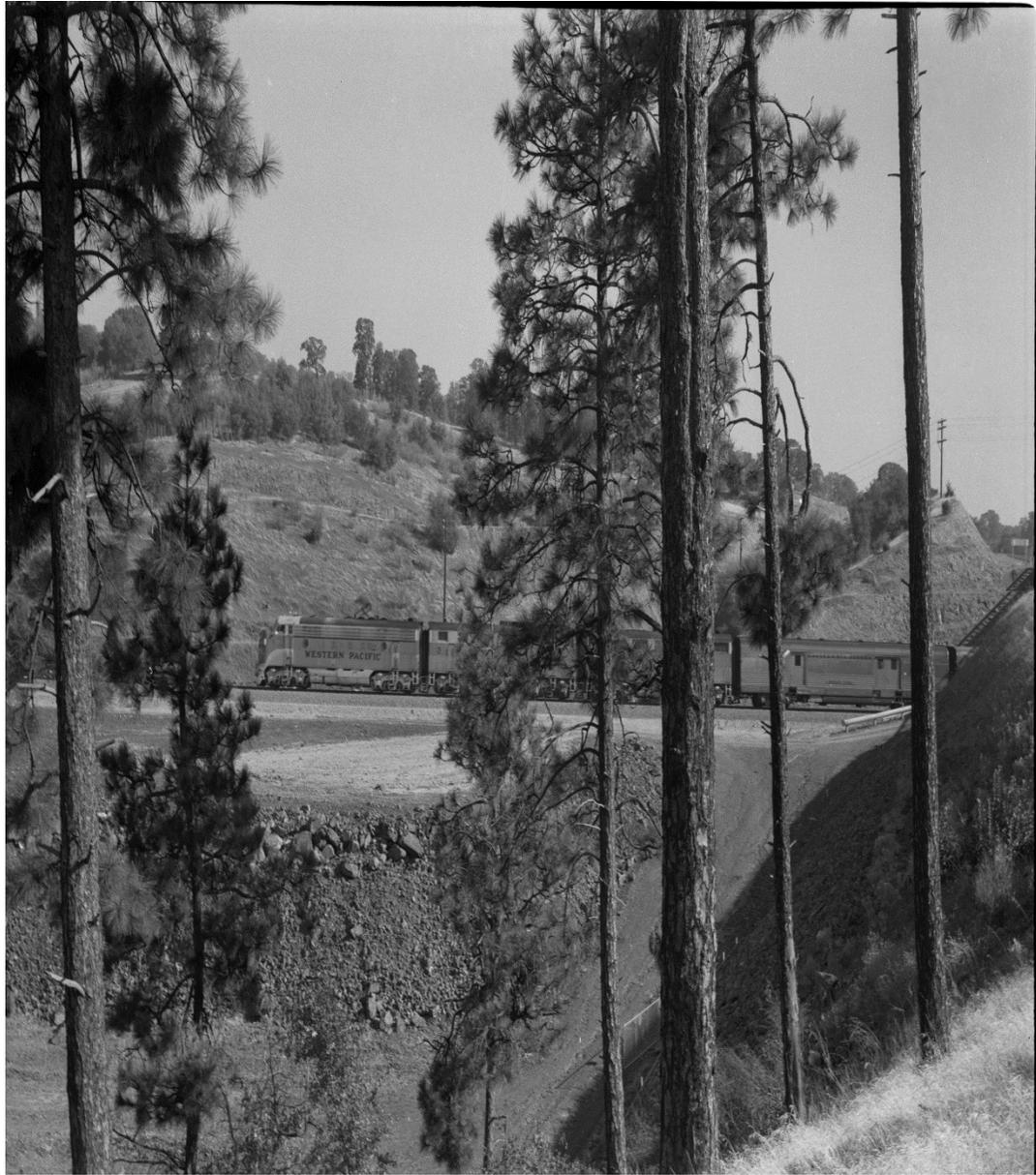
# Using the new alignment Nov. 1962







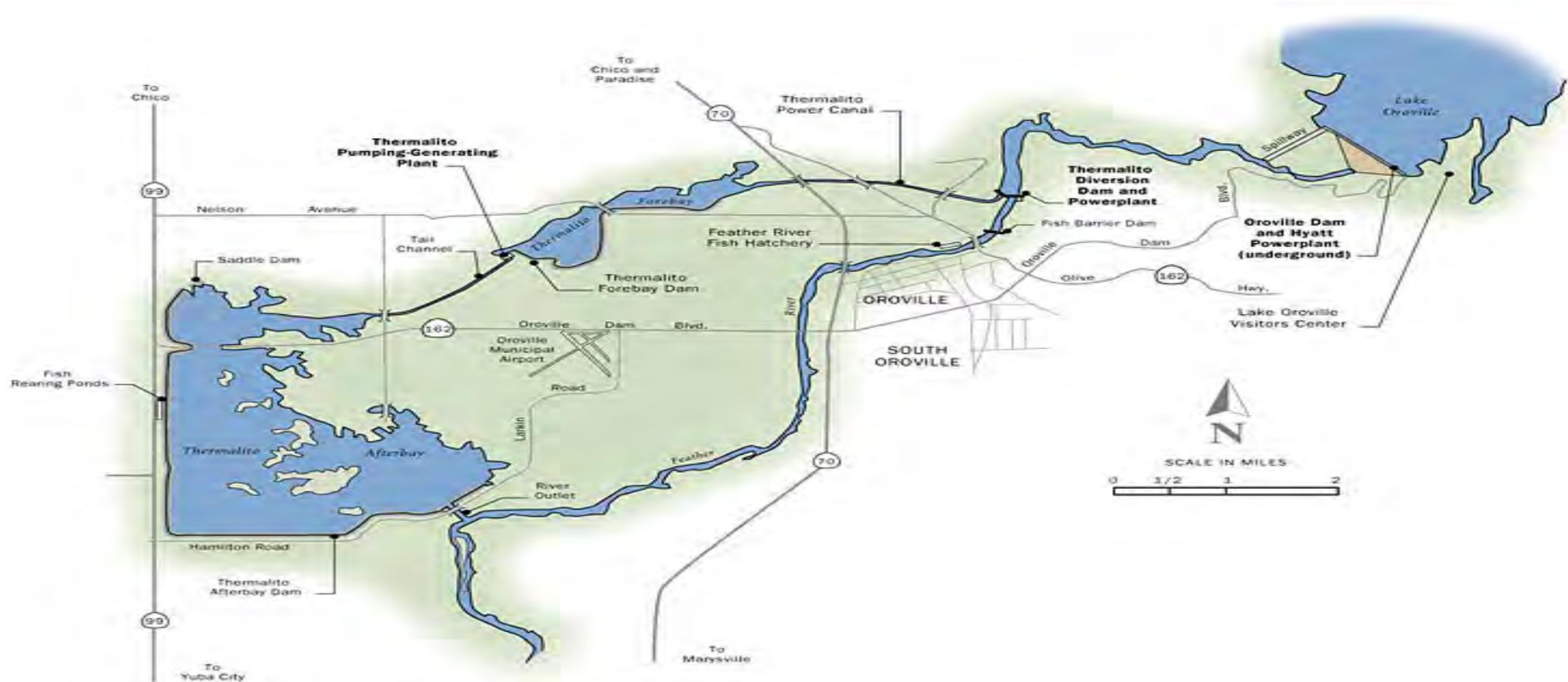






# Oroville Dam area today

## Dam and Downstream Power Plant



# Oroville Dam Today



# CREDITS

- FRRS Archives – Ken Meeker Collection
- WP MILEPOST
- Mike Mucklin
- Frank Brehm
- Eugene Vicknair
- State of California, Water Resources WEB Pages
- Google Maps