



# Risk of failure of the Oroville dam

Sentinel-1A / C-SAR / GRD / IW SV acquired on 5 February 2016 at 14:14:52 and 14:15:17 GMT  
Sentinel-1A / C-SAR / GRD / IW SV acquired on 11 February 2017 at 14:15:18 GMT

Author(s): Sentinel Vision team. VisioTerra, France - [svp@visioterra.fr](mailto:svp@visioterra.fr)

Keyword : land, emergency, energy, draught, flooding, climate, dam, lake, California, USA.

2D

3D

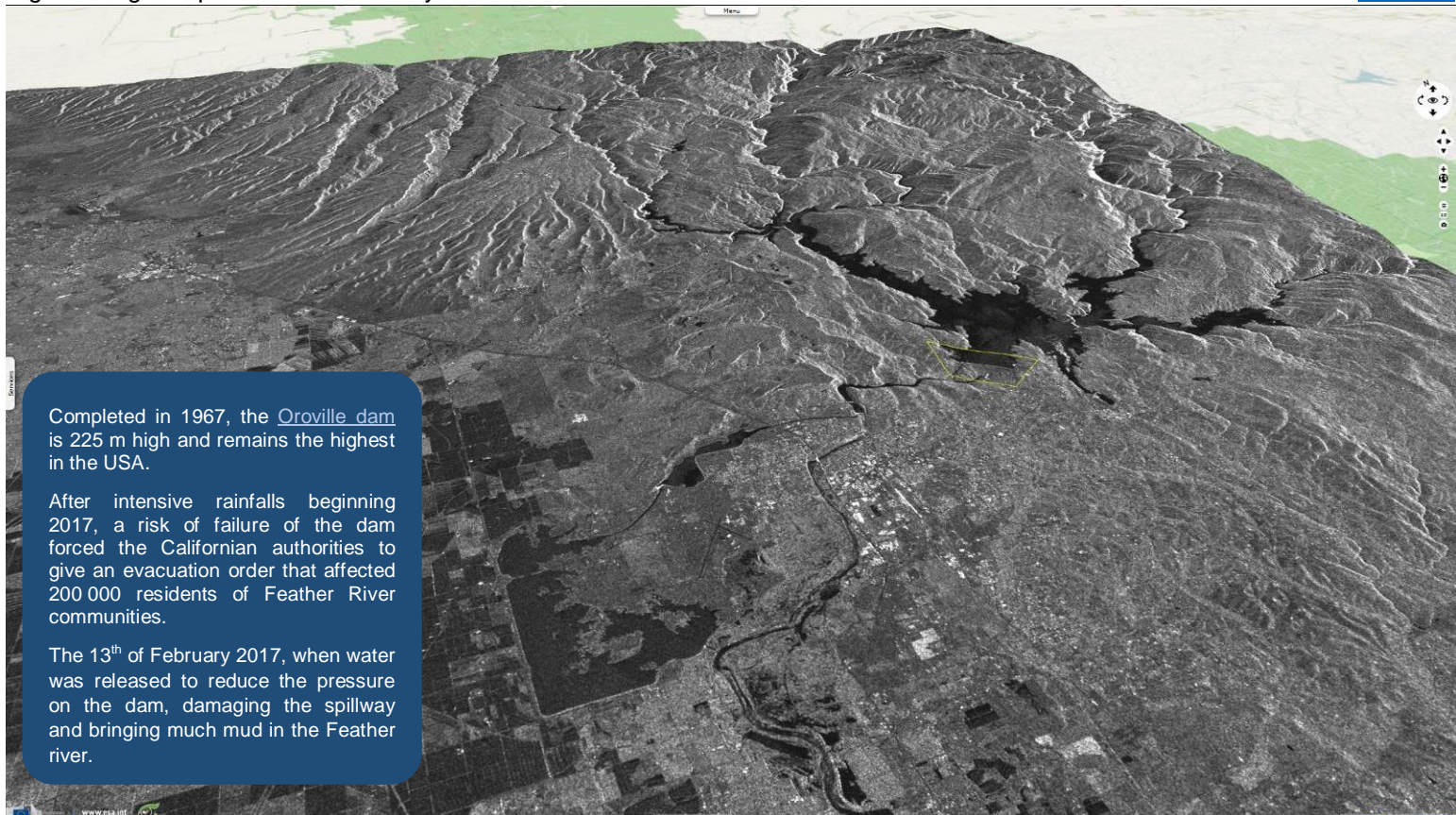
[3D view](#)

Fig. 1 - Image acquired on 5 February 2016, Lake Oroville over Oroville city



Fig.2 - Image acquired on 11 February 2017

[3D view](#)



Completed in 1967, the [Oroville dam](#) is 225 m high and remains the highest in the USA.

After intensive rainfalls beginning 2017, a risk of failure of the dam forced the Californian authorities to give an evacuation order that affected 200 000 residents of Feather River communities.

The 13<sup>th</sup> of February 2017, when water was released to reduce the pressure on the dam, damaging the spillway and bringing much mud in the Feather river.

Fig.3 - Image acquired on 05 February 2016, close up on the Oroville dam

[2D view](#)

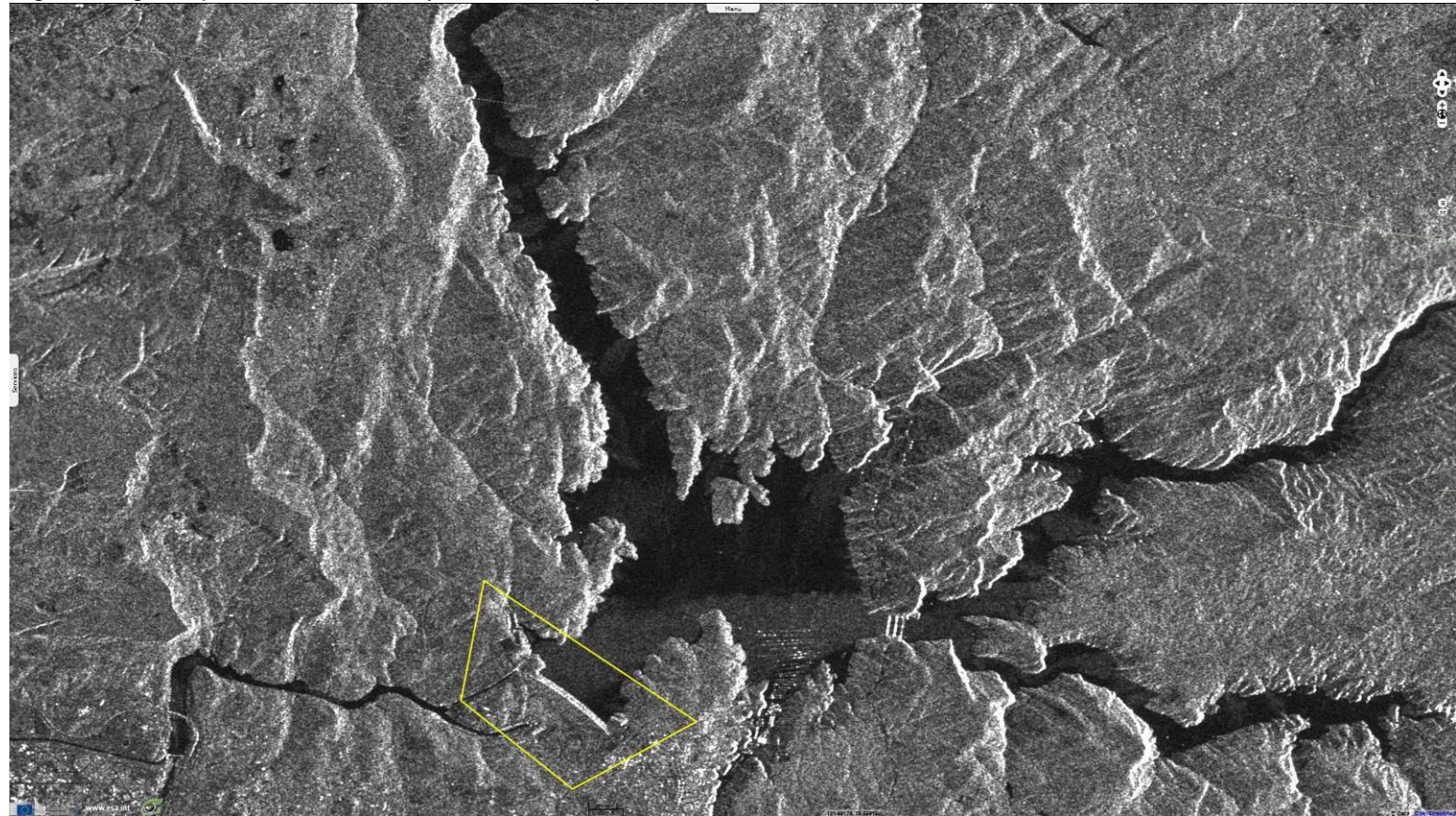
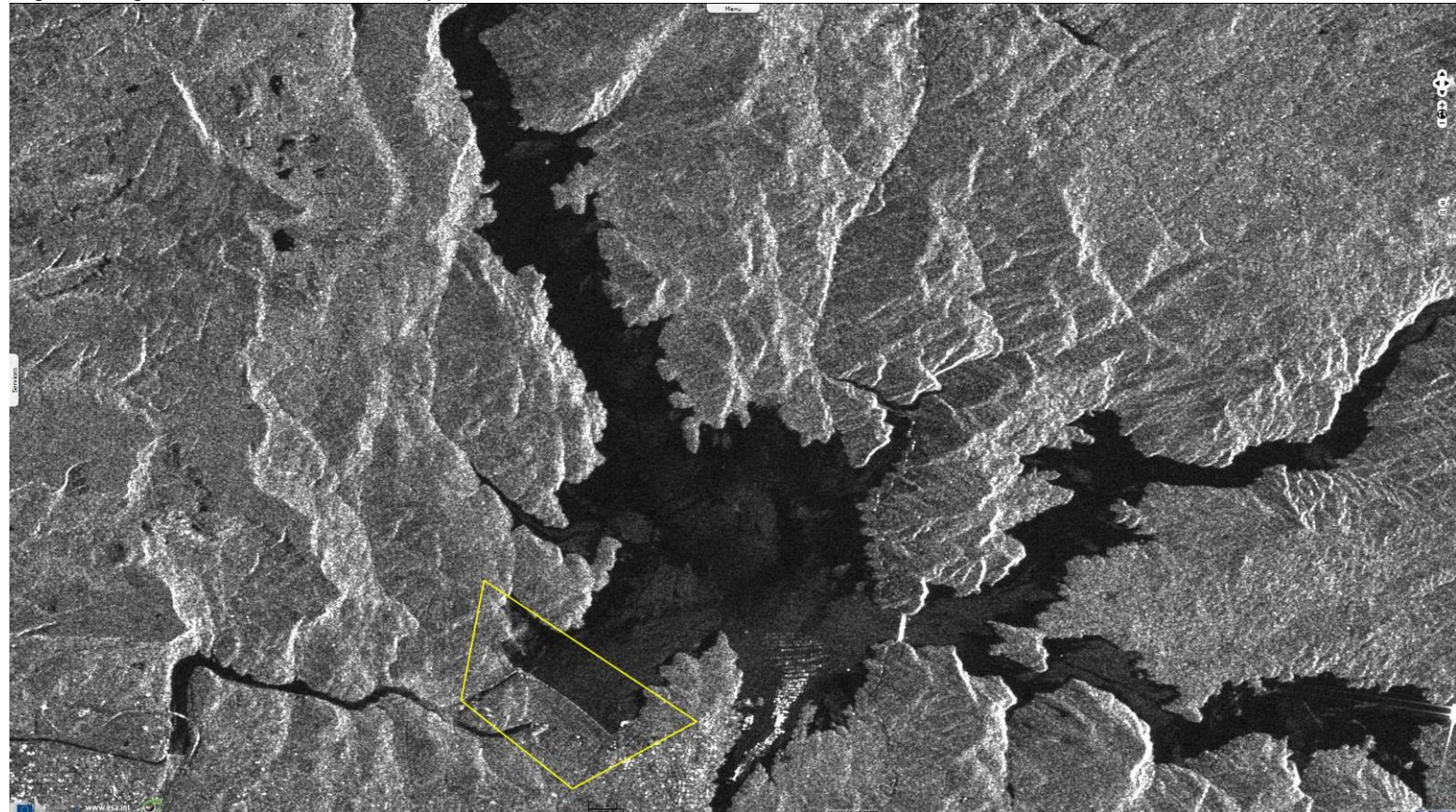


Fig.4 - Image acquired on 11 February 2017

[2D view](#)



*The views expressed herein can in no way be taken to reflect the official opinion of the European Space Agency or the European Union.*

More on European Commission space:



More on ESA:



[S-1 website](#)

[S-2 website](#)

[S-3 website](#)

More on Copernicus programme:



[SciHub portal](#)

[Cophub portal](#)

[Inthub portal](#)

[Colhub portal](#)

More on VisioTerra:



[Sentinel Vision Portal](#)

[Envisat+ERS portal](#)

[Swarm+GOCE portal](#)

[CryoSat portal](#)

Proba-V portal