

Prado Park Lake is a 60-acre, man-made lake located within the 2000-acre Prado Park, in the southern part of Chino Basin near the junction of Highway 83 (Euclid Avenue) and State Highway 71. Water levels in Prado Park Lake are maintained through discharges of recycled water from Inland Empire Utilities Agency's (IEUA) Regional Plant No. 1. Approximately 8 million gallons per day (MGD) of recycled water are discharged to the lake by IEUA. This recycled water flows out of the lake through its outlet structure, and, after a short distance, flows into Chino Creek, Reach 1. The lake supports fishing activities, human-powered boating, and wildlife.

Prado Park Lake is actually situated at the confluence of two drainage channels – the Euclid Avenue storm channel and the Grove Avenue storm channel. During low-flow conditions, urban runoff from these two channels flows under the lake through pipes and discharges into the lake's outlet structure. However, these pipes are undersized and, during large storm events, they cannot handle the storm flows. Consequently, storm water is discharged directly into the lake. In 1991 and in 1998, nutrient rich storm water entered the lake, which resulted in suppressed dissolved oxygen levels and fish kills. In such situations, the lake has to be completely drained, and the fish and residual contaminant materials removed. Prado Park Lake was placed on the 303(d) list in 1994 due to elevated nutrient levels as a result of the 1991 fish kill incident; elevated bacteria levels were also identified as a source of impairment based on best professional judgment. Follow-up sampling in 1998 confirmed high bacterial indicator levels.