

Dam Safety Action Classification (DSAC) Ratings

Dam Safety Action Class (DSAC)			Characteristics
I		Urgent and Compelling (Unsafe)	Critically near failure or Extreme high risk
II		Urgent (Unsafe or Potentially Unsafe)	Failure initiation foreseen or very high risk.
III		High Priority (Conditionally Unsafe)	Significantly inadequate or moderate to high risk.
IV		Priority (Marginally Safe)	Inadequate with low risk.
V		Normal (Adequately Safe)	Residual risk considered tolerable

DSAC Class I (Urgent and Compelling) – Dams where progression toward failure is confirmed to be taking place under normal operations, and the dam is almost certain to fail under normal operations within a time frame from immediately to within a few years without intervention; or the combination of life or economic consequences with probability of failure is extremely high.

DSAC Class II (Urgent) – Dams where failure could begin during normal operations or be initiated as the consequence of an event. The likelihood of failure from one of these occurrences, prior to remediation, is too high to assure public safety; or the combination of life or economic consequences with probability of failure is very high.

DSAC Class III (High Priority) – Dams that have issues where the dam is significantly inadequate, or the combination of life, economic or environmental consequences with probability of failure is moderate to high.

DSAC Class IV (Priority) – Dams are inadequate with low risk such that the combination of life, economic or environmental consequences with a probability of failure is low, and the dam may not meet all essential USACE engineering guidelines.

DSAC Class V (Normal) – Dams considered adequately safe, meeting all essential agency guidelines, and the residual risk is considered tolerable.