

FY17 Columbia-Snake River Navigation Lock Extended Outage

Progress Update to Navigation Stakeholders

Information presented during conference call with stakeholders on March 16, 2017

Thank you for your continued support and interest in the 2016-2017 Columbia-Snake River System extended navigation lock outage. For those who may be new to this topic, here's a bit of background:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is conducting an extended navigation lock maintenance outage, scheduled for December 12, 2016, through March 20, 2017. The closure affects all Corps navigation locks on the Columbia and Snake rivers, during which time critical, non-routine repairs and maintenance, plus routine maintenance and scheduled improvements will occur.

The project information below was originally provided during a navigation-stakeholder teleconference on March 16, 2017. For those who were unable to attend that teleconference, here are the latest status updates:

All locks – All locks were taken out of service on December 12, and numerous in-lock work activities are being accomplished during this time. Progress continues on-schedule for most locks in the system. As you are aware from past updates, delays due to weather, onsite efficiency, and unforeseen crack repair requirements on the south navigation lock gate, it became apparent Little Goose's gate cannot be returned to service by March 20. More details on the situation at Little Goose is within that project's update, below.

At all navigation sites, in-house work is being completed, and with the exception of Little Goose, we are planning to return all navigation locks to service by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, March 20. That's one minute before midnight on Monday, not Sunday night. A Notice To Navigation Interests will be issued on Monday providing information on the locks returning to service.

Bonneville Lock and Dam –Bonneville completed their navigation lock controls upgrade and reopened the navigation lock to river users on February 9, 2017, as scheduled.

The Dalles Lock and Dam – The lock had several major work projects happening -- replacement of the upstream gate; and for the downstream gate, replacement of the gudgeon, performing adjustments, installing cathodic protection, and upgrading the lock controls and power distribution system. All major portions of work are now completed. In-the-dry commissioning was completed on Friday, March 10. The contractor corrected all findings from the in-the-dry commissioning over the past weekend. On Monday and Tuesday (March 13 and 14), the lock was systematically watered up and stoplogs removed. In-the-wet commissioning and operator training has begun. All components are functioning as expected. The lock is on track to reopen to river traffic, as originally scheduled.

John Day Lock and Dam – Routine maintenance activities include inspecting, cleaning and repairing equipment. Interim repairs have been completed to the downstream gate bearing shoe. More-permanent repairs to the known defect in the bearing shoe design and construction will be planned and coordinated for the next routine maintenance outage cycle(s). As of today, the lock is now at tailwater elevation as we go through commissioning activities to return the lock to operational status. We will be moving the floating bulkhead Friday (March 17) from its present location in the downstream slot back to its berth up river. This move will be supported by our brand new mini work tug that arrived on Tuesday this week. Work is on schedule.

McNary Lock and Dam –Work on McNary's downstream miter gate included: repairs to the gudgeons (top hinge of each gate leaf), replacement of the bottom seal assemblies, and replacement of deteriorated timber

fenders on each gate leaf, and bumpers on the navigation lock walls adjacent to the downstream gate. All contract work was completed on Thursday March 2, one day ahead of schedule. Water-up of the NavLock started yesterday and is scheduled to be completed today. Post-construction operational tests for the downstream miter gate are scheduled to be completed this afternoon. Work at McNary is on schedule.

Ice Harbor Lock and Dam – Critical components of the NavLock machinery and control systems require replacement during the extended closure. The contractor completed operational commissioning and dynamic testing of the new hoist equipment and controls on March 9. This included the final hoist cable tensioning, load balancing of counter weights, and gear alignment. Operation and maintenance training for Ice Harbor staff was completed on March 14-15. The government operational test phase commissioning activities are on schedule to be completed March 10-17. The contractor is working seven days per week, 12 hours per day. Work is on schedule.

Lower Monumental Lock and Dam – Work at Lower Monumental involves the second phase of the downstream gate replacement project, which includes replacing the machinery and control systems that operate the gate. The contractor is currently working seven days per week to remain on schedule. Operational testing was completed Friday, March 3. Installation of the new roof access platforms was completed yesterday, March 15. Painting in the tower machinery rooms is in progress and scheduled to be completed tomorrow, March 17. Operation and Maintenance training for the Lower Monumental staff is being conducted today, with follow-up training scheduled for March 21 through 23. Work is on schedule.

Little Goose Lock and Dam – As previously discussed during the past couple of calls, Little Goose's gate cannot be returned to service by March 20 because of delays due to weather, onsite efficiency, and unforeseen crack repair requirements on the south navigation lock gate.

As reported during our special teleconference update on Tuesday, March 14, the Corps evaluated the remaining work under contract and determined the best course of action to reduce risk and bring the lock back to operational capability as soon as possible was to award a new contract for the completion of the remaining work.

A contract was awarded March 10 to Knight Construction & Supply, Inc., of Deer Park, Washington, and since this date Knight Construction has mobilized to the site and started repairing one weld on the north gate, bolting in place structural supports for the crack found in girder 37, and welding the skin plate in place on the south gate. Following the welding repairs this week, the remaining work at Little Goose will be finalizing the pintle heel assembly to the gate, sliding the gates back in place, connection of the gudgeon linkage and operating cylinders, adjustment of the quoin and miter block, and then begin the commissioning process to check alignment, diagonal tensioning, and operation of the gates. The alignment of the pintle heel is a high-risk work item. There remains a number of critical items to return the gates back into operation safely and reliably, but Knight Construction is working aggressively around the clock, seven days a week to return the gate to service.

The most recent schedule assessment provided today (March 16), indicates an anticipated completion of the gate repairs no later than March 31. The government will require two days following that to water up the lock. The targeted return-to-service date at Little Goose's lock is now April 2 at 11:59 p.m., barring any further complications with the work.

We understand the vital importance of the Columbia and Snake Rivers to the economy of the Pacific Northwest, and realize that commercial lock users need as early a decision as possible on changes to the outage schedule in order to adjust their own plans. We will continue to keep stakeholders informed of work progress and any new information regarding the schedule to return Little Goose's lock to service.

Lower Granite Lock and Dam – Maintenance crews completed the replacement of damaged timber bumpers on the downstream miter gate and continue the installation of new fill/drain valve hydraulic cylinders. Work is on schedule.

This extended lock outage is a coordinated effort between the Corps' Portland and Walla Walla districts and commercial river users.

Again, Bonneville's lock already reopened on February 9. All other navigation locks, with the exception of Little Goose, are planning to return to service by 11:59 p.m. on Monday, March 20. That's one minute before midnight on Monday, not Sunday night. The targeted return-to-service date at Little Goose's lock is now April 2 at 11:59 p.m., barring any further complications with that work.

Further work-progress updates about Little Goose will be provided through these regular weekly teleconferences, which will continue each Thursday at 1 p.m. until the entire lock system is back in service -- we hope you can join us for those calls. The next teleconference for an update on work progress at Little Goose's lock is scheduled for Thursday, March 23, at 1 p.m. Please, reference the attached **FY17LockOutage Stakeholder Teleconference Schedule** for call-in instructions.

For those who cannot attend the teleconference meetings, a written stakeholder update will also be sent the following day via email and posted to the FY17 Extended NavLock Outage webpage <http://www.nww.usace.army.mil/Missions/Navigation/FY17LockOutage.aspx>.

We will also provide interim written updates by email regarding any changes to schedule-specific information, as soon as we can confirm it. Please, be sure you've signed up for outage updates by email. Just send an email to FY17LockOutage@usace.army.mil with your contact information, and we'll add you to the distribution list

As always, you are also welcome to call or email our Public Affairs Offices at the numbers and addresses below.

Portland District Public Affairs Office
(503) 808-4510
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FY17LockOutage

Stakeholder Teleconference Schedule

All dates are Thursdays at 1 p.m. (Pacific)

Monthly – Sept. 8, Oct. 6, Nov. 3

Weekly – Dec. 1, 8, 15, 22, 29

Jan. 5, 12, 19, 26

Feb. 2, 9, 16, 23

Mar. 2, 9, 16, 23, 30

Teleconference Call-in Instructions

Dial: **877-848-7030** Toll-Free

When prompted, enter:

Access Code **4909700#**

Security Code **7020#**

+ Weekly teleconferences will continue until all locks are returned to service

Information presented during teleconference will be distributed via eMail and Web-posted the following day



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