



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Walla Walla District

Lower Monumental Lock & Dam

Powerhouse Capacity: 810 Megawatts

Location: Snake River, River Mile 41.6,
near Kahlotus, Wash.

In-Service Date: May 1969

Normal Operating Pool: 537.0-540.0 feet

Spillway: 572 feet long, 8 gates

Authorization: The project was authorized by the River & Harbor Act of 1945.

Progress: Construction of the project began in June 1961, and it became operational in 1969. The entire project is considered complete. Construction of the additional generating units started in 1975, and was completed in 1981.



Project: The project includes Lower Monumental Dam, powerhouse, navigation lock, two fish ladders, a juvenile fish facility (JFF), and appurtenant facilities providing for navigation, hydroelectric generation, recreation, and irrigation.

Lower Monumental Dam: The dam is located at the head of Lake Sacajawea, the reservoir created by Ice Harbor Dam. It is 3,791 feet long, with an effective height of about 100 feet. The dam is a concrete gravity-type dam, with earthfill abutment embankments.

Reservoir: Lake Herbert G. West extends up the Snake River for a distance of 28.1 miles to the tailwater of Little Goose Dam. It has a surface area of 6,590 acres

Generators: The powerhouse has six 135,000-kilowatt units. Power generated during fiscal year 2007 was 1.7 billion kilowatt hours.

Navigation Lock: This is a single-lift lock, 86 feet wide by 666 feet long and a 100-foot vertical lift. More than 3.05 million tons of commodities were passed through the navigation lock during 2007. The cargo primarily consisted of grains, petroleum products, fertilizer and wood products.

Fish Passage: There are two fish ladders for migrating adult salmon and steelhead to use. In 2007, a removable spillway weir or "fish slide" was installed to improve conditions for juvenile fish passage at the dam. During 2007, more than 900,000 juvenile salmon and steelhead were collected at the Juvenile Fish Facility. About 10,500 fish were bypassed back into the river, and about 890,000 were transported for release past Bonneville Lock and Dam.



Lands: There are 8,335.5 acres of project lands surrounding Lake Herbert G. West. There are 7,024.0 acres of Corps-managed lands that are utilized for public recreation purposes, wildlife habitat, wildlife mitigation, and water-connected industrial development. Lake West offers seven day-use areas, five areas offering camping, five boat launch areas, and one designated swimming beach. Total visitation on Lake West for the during 2007 visitation at Lower Monumental's recreation areas was 119,552.

People: About 50 Walla Walla District employees work at the Lower Monumental Project. They serve as electricians, lock operators, mechanics, welders, riggers, painters, utilitymen, heavy equipment operators, biologists, park rangers, environmental resource specialists, administrative support staff, maintenance workers and engineers. Together, they ensure the safe and continuous operation of the project.



Budget: During fiscal year 2007, total expenditures were about \$8.06 million for the Lower Monumental Project.

References: Report of the Secretary of the Army on Civil Works Activities, Fiscal Year 2007, Department of the Army Corps of Engineers Extract Report of the Walla Walla District.



For more information contact:

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