



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
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News Release

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Ice Harbor Dam navigation lock slated for temporary closure

WALLA WALLA, Wash. – The navigation lock at Ice Harbor Lock and Dam, located at Snake River mile 9.7, will be closed to all river traffic Thursday, March 9, from 7:30 a.m. until 5 p.m.

The temporary closure is needed to create safe conditions for divers who will be in the water at the navigation lock to check and clean gate seals and tainter valve trash racks in preparation for placing the floating bulkheads March 11, said Walla Walla District navigation officials. This work and the bulkhead placement are being done to prepare Ice Harbor's lock for dewatering during the maintenance outage for periodic inspection, scheduled for March 11-25.

Five Walla Walla District navigation locks will be closed during the annual maintenance outage – McNary Lock and Dam, on the Columbia River near Umatilla, Ore., and four others in Washington on the lower Snake River – Ice Harbor Lock and Dam near Burbank, Lower Monumental Lock and Dam near Kahlotus, Little Goose Lock and Dam near Starbuck and Lower Granite Lock and Dam near Pomeroy. Maintenance, inspection and repair work will take place at the locks during the outage.

The federal inland navigation channel provides access for water-bourne commerce via the Snake and Columbia rivers. The channel runs from the Pacific Ocean more than 400 miles inland to ports near Lewiston, Idaho.

For more information, call Ann Glassley, at (509) 527-7115 or Jim Bluhm at (509) 527-7114. Public Notices and other navigation lock information are available on the Walla Walla District Web site at www.nww.usace.army.mil/html/offices/op/t/navdata/default.html.

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