



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Walla Walla District

News Release

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Contact: Public Affairs Office

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REMINDER: McNary ‘open house’ set for July 19

UMATILLA, Ore. – Don’t miss your chance to get an inside look at McNary Lock and Dam during a one-day “open house” event set for 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturday, July 19.

Park rangers and operations staff at the dam invite the public to join them for a variety of tours, educational programs and activities. Guided tours include an up-close look at a hydroelectric generator inside the powerhouse, the navigation lock, the Washington shore fish viewing room, the juvenile fish facility and the Pacific Salmon Visitor Information Center. Displays will include heavy equipment and tools used by dam personnel, as well as vehicles and boats commonly used by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers staff.

Members of the following departments will be available to talk to the public about the work that they do: administration, technical support, electrical, mechanical, general maintenance, Hydropower Plant Apprentice Program, Juvenile Fish Facility, resource maintenance and operations.

Visitors will also be able to speak with a representative from the Bonneville Power Administration, which markets the power produced by Corps of Engineers dams in the Northwest.

“Activities and displays are planned to interest children of all ages...even the grown-up ones,” said David McDermott, natural resources manager at McNary. “This is a rare opportunity to see inside the dam and find out more about what it takes to keep a huge dam like McNary running and providing so many benefits to the region.”

Visitors can choose what they want to see and do during the open house. Those wishing to see the Washington shore fish viewing room and the navigation lock should check in with park rangers at the north entrance of the dam on the Washington side. Visitors who want to participate in a powerhouse tour, the JFF, equipment displays and kids activities should check in at the powerhouse gate on the Oregon shore. Visitors should be sure to wear closed-toe, sturdy shoes while touring work areas of the dam.

“If non-U.S. citizens missed the pre-registration deadline announced last month, they can still participate in the open house activities taking place outside secure areas,” said McDermott. “The visitor center, kids’ activities, vehicles and heavy equipment and tool displays will be accessible to everyone.”

Parking is available at both check-in areas. Visitors will not be allowed to bring in purses, bags, cameras, briefcases and similar items into secure areas of the dam. These items cannot be checked in with the security guards and should be left in visitors’ vehicles. Visitor center access at the dams is subject to change without notice.

For more information about this event or other recreation opportunities at McNary Dam, call (541) 922-2268.

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