

FY17 Columbia-Snake River Navigation Lock Extended Outage

Progress Update to Navigation Stakeholders

Information about Little Goose's lock status presented during a special teleconference on March 14, 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 9, 2017. For those who were unable to attend that teleconference, here are the latest status updates:

Little Goose Lock and Dam – (March 14 special update) – 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. Initial estimates indicated that a minimum of at least one additional week would be necessary to complete remaining repairs. 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.

The new contractor is now mobilized on the work site and will be working two 12-hour shifts, seven days a week until the gates are returned to service. Knight Construction has started preparations to complete the welding repairs, prior to moving the gates back into place.

We anticipate having an estimated return to service date for the lock after Knight Construction has had time to fully assess on-site conditions and develop a more-refined schedule based upon that assessment.

The District is exercising all available actions to accelerate the remaining repairs and minimize this delay in returning the gate to service.

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. We understand the vital importance of the Columbia and Snake Rivers to the economy of the Pacific Northwest, and will return all locks to service as safely and as quickly as possible.

Regular weekly teleconferences covering work at all locks in the system will continue -- the next system regular update call is scheduled for Thursday, March 16, at 1 p.m. These regular system update teleconferences will occur weekly throughout the duration of the extended lock outage -- we hope you can join us for those calls.

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>.

For more information about the extended outage or to sign up for future email updates, visit our website or email FY17LockOutage@usace.army.mil. You are also welcome to call or email our Public Affairs Offices at the numbers and addresses below.

Walla Walla District Public Affairs Office
(509) 527-7020
cenww-pa@usace.army.mil

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

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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FY17LockOutage@usace.army.mil



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