

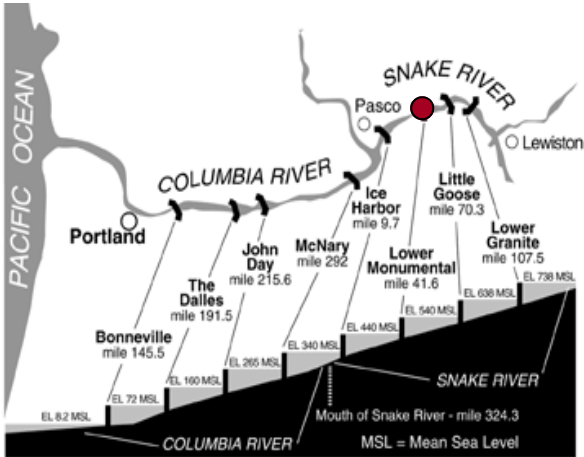
Lower Monumental navigation lock requires major maintenance



Lower Monumental Lock Repairs

Lower Monumental navigation lock and dam receives \$14M in stimulus funds

The Pacific Northwest Waterways Association has led the region in advocating for a new lock gate at Lower Monumental (“LoMo”) for several years. On August 18, 2009, \$14 million from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 (ARRA) was secured for this project. The injection of this stimulus money should allow the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers enough time to design and construct a new downstream lock gate for placement during the planned 16-week Columbia Snake River System extended lock outage that will begin in December 2010.



Background

Lower Monumental lock and dam is located on the Snake River, and is one of eight dams on the Columbia Snake River System operated and maintained by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. It provides for navigation, hydropower, and recreation for residents of Washington, Oregon, Idaho, Montana, and North Dakota.



LoMo is critical to maintaining the economic vitality of the Pacific Northwest. On average, this project supports the movement of over 3.3 million tons of cargo and helps to sustain the largest U.S. gateway for wheat and barley exports. The lock at LoMo is also a key component of the region’s ESA program to protect threatened and endangered salmon. As part of a “spread the risk” policy, roughly half of the juvenile fish are barged downriver. In addition, the hydropower generated at LoMo provides carbon-free energy to our region’s homes and businesses, while also providing recreational opportunities on Lake West.

The Corps determined that the LoMo navigation lock gate is in need of replacement. A gate failure at LoMo would cut off shipments of goods from upriver ports, create a bottleneck on one of the largest export gateways in the United States, and put millions of endangered juvenile salmon at risk. PNWA is pleased to have played a major role in securing the funding necessary to replace this lock gate.