

# Chehalis Basin Strategy: Reducing Flood Damage and Enhancing Aquatic Species

---

*October 30, 2013 Technical Workshop  
Engineering Presentation  
Dam and Fish Passage Design*



# Introduction

- Objectives
  - Present preliminary dam and fish passage research findings
  - Receive input regarding dam and fish passage configurations
  - Receive suggestions for additional research needs
- Presentation
  - Task 1.1.1 Dam Design Study
  - Task 1.1.2 Fish Passage Design
  - Q&A/Discussion

# Task 1.1.1 Dam Design Study Research

---

*Chehalis Basin Strategy: Reducing Flood Damage and  
Enhancing Aquatic Species*



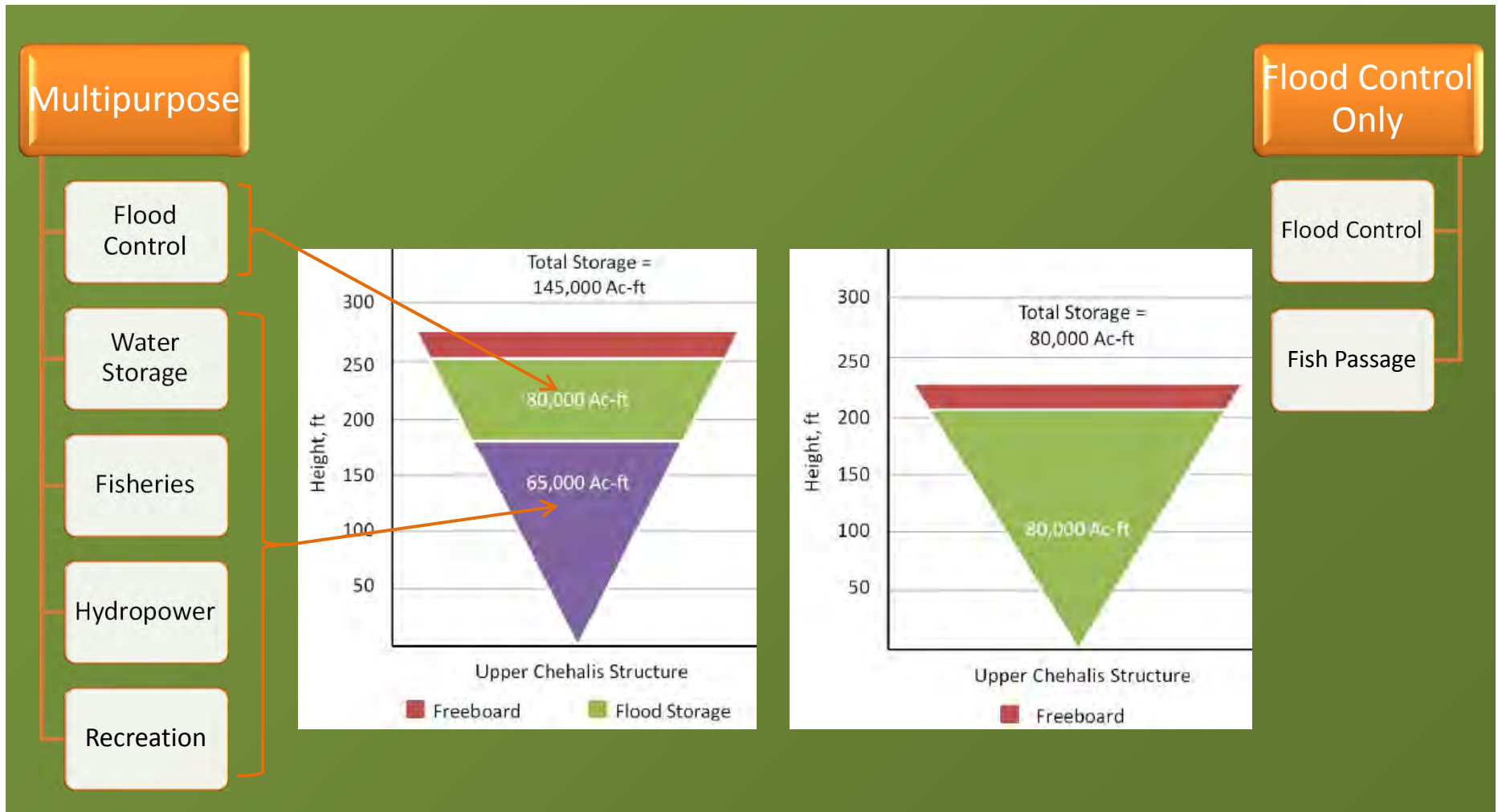
Keith Ferguson, P.E. (Presenting)  
Elena Sossenkina, P.E.  
Travis Ford, P.E.  
Andrew Little, EIT  
John Ballegeer, P.E.

# Outline

- Background Information
- Site Visit Findings
- Dam Structure Findings
- Hydraulic Structures
  - Open Slots
  - Fish Passage
  - Flood Control Outlets
  - Auxiliary Spillways
  - Debris Management
  - Other Considerations
- Design Criteria and Data Needs
- Schedule



# Chehalis Dam Alternatives



# Ranking and Similar Projects

Dam Height (from previous evaluations)

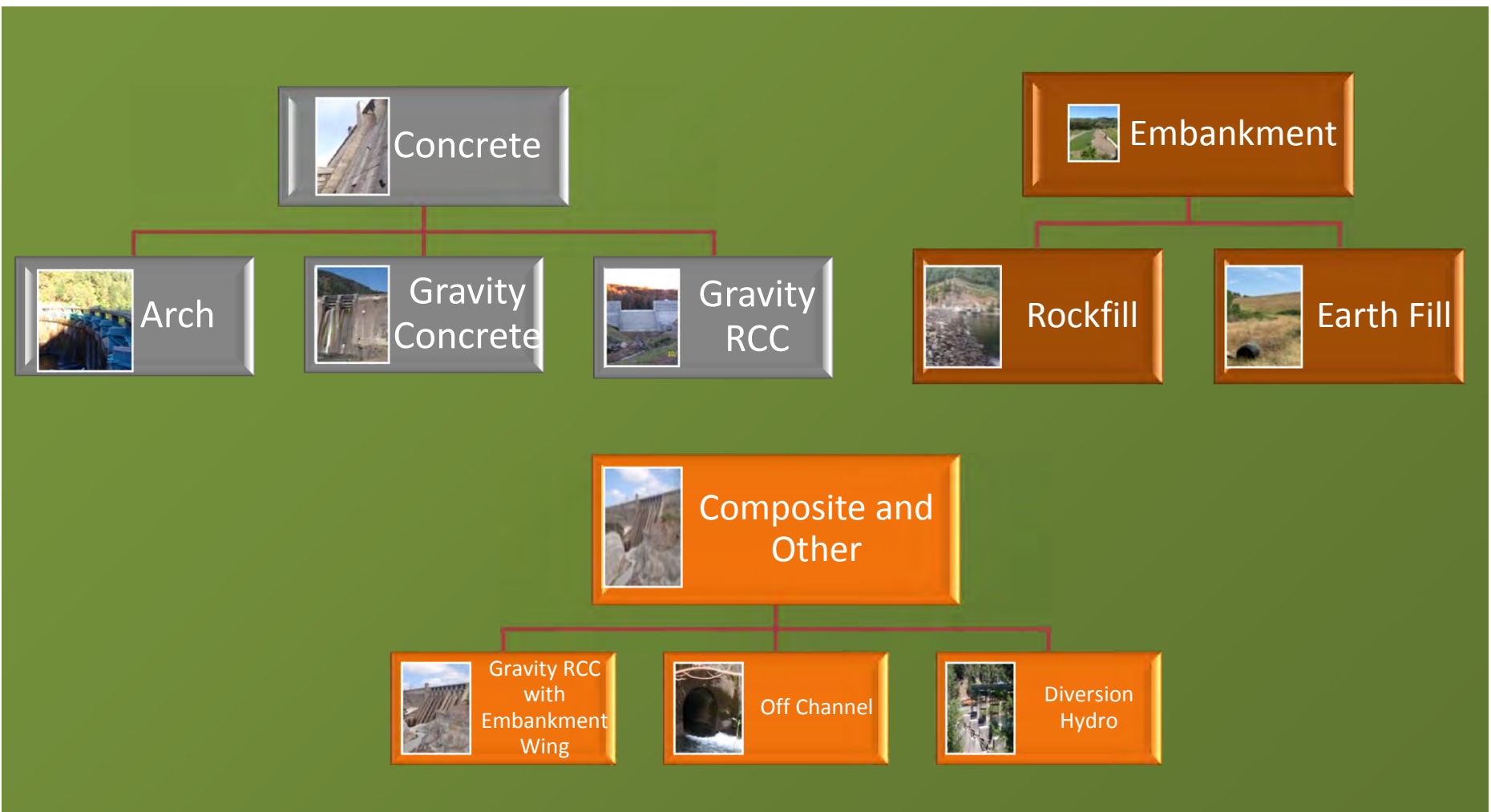
Flood Control Only = 238 feet

Multipurpose = 288 feet

- National
  - A Dam over 290 feet would be in the top 100 dams (out of about 80,000) in the United States with regards to height. Above 290 feet would put it in the top 0.1%.
- International
  - Rockfill and Concrete (RCC) up to 1,000 feet high being constructed



# Dam Types



# Key Site Considerations

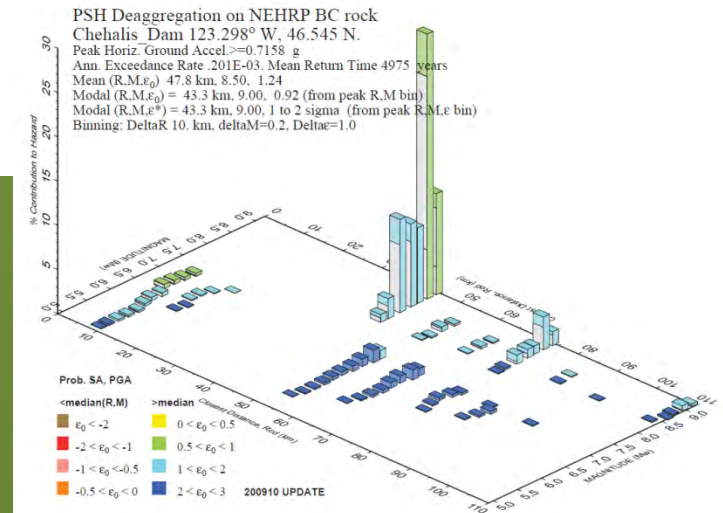
## Seismic Hazards

- 1/2,500 year - .56g pga
- 1/5,000 year - .72g pga

## Landslide Hazards

- Landslide debris at the dam site on both banks of the Chehalis River and in the reservoir
- Construction and long-term risks

## Foundation Conditions

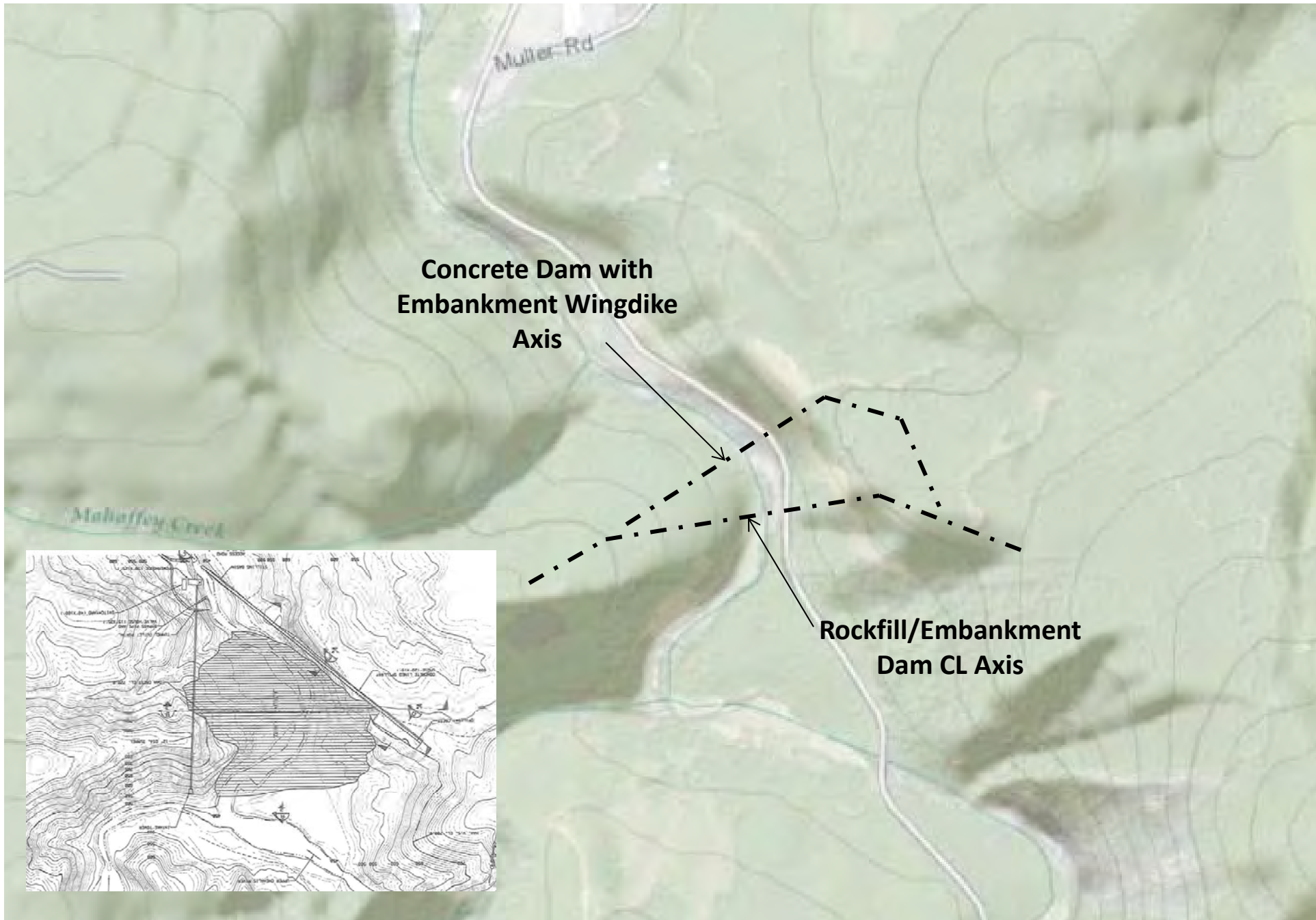






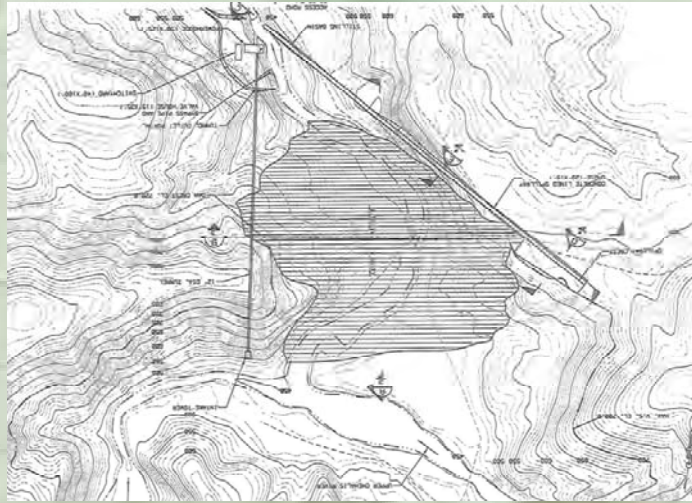
Aerial View





**Concrete Dam with  
Embankment Wingdike  
Axis**

**Rockfill/Embankment  
Dam CL Axis**



# Site Visit

September 30 - October 1, 2013

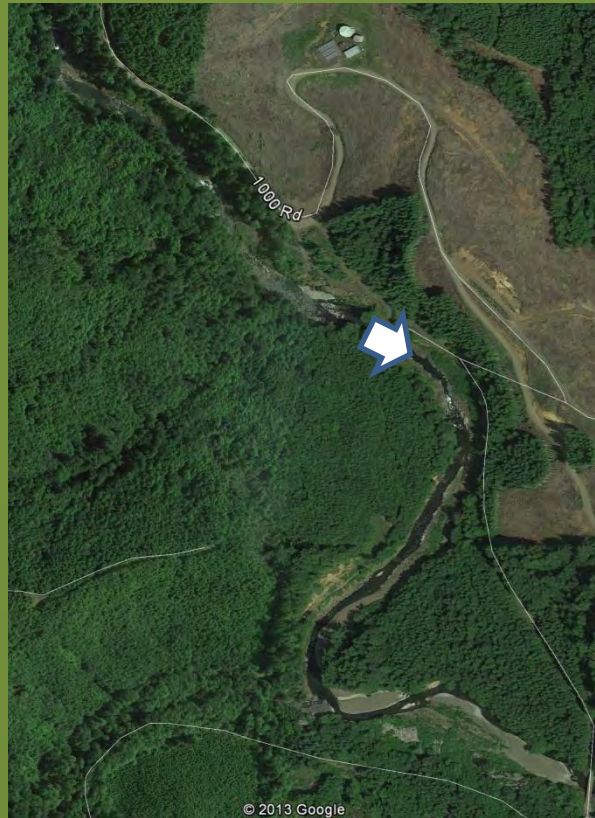
## AERIAL KEY





# Site Visit

September 30 - October 1, 2013





# Site Visit

September 30 - October 1, 2013

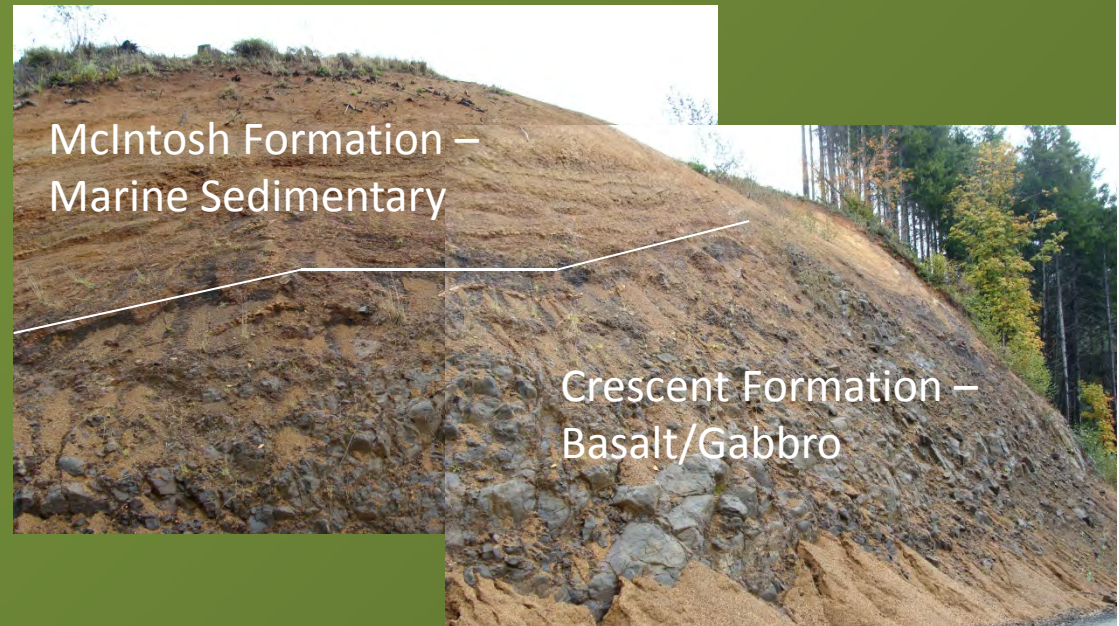
## AERIAL KEY





# Site Visit

September 30 - October 1, 2013



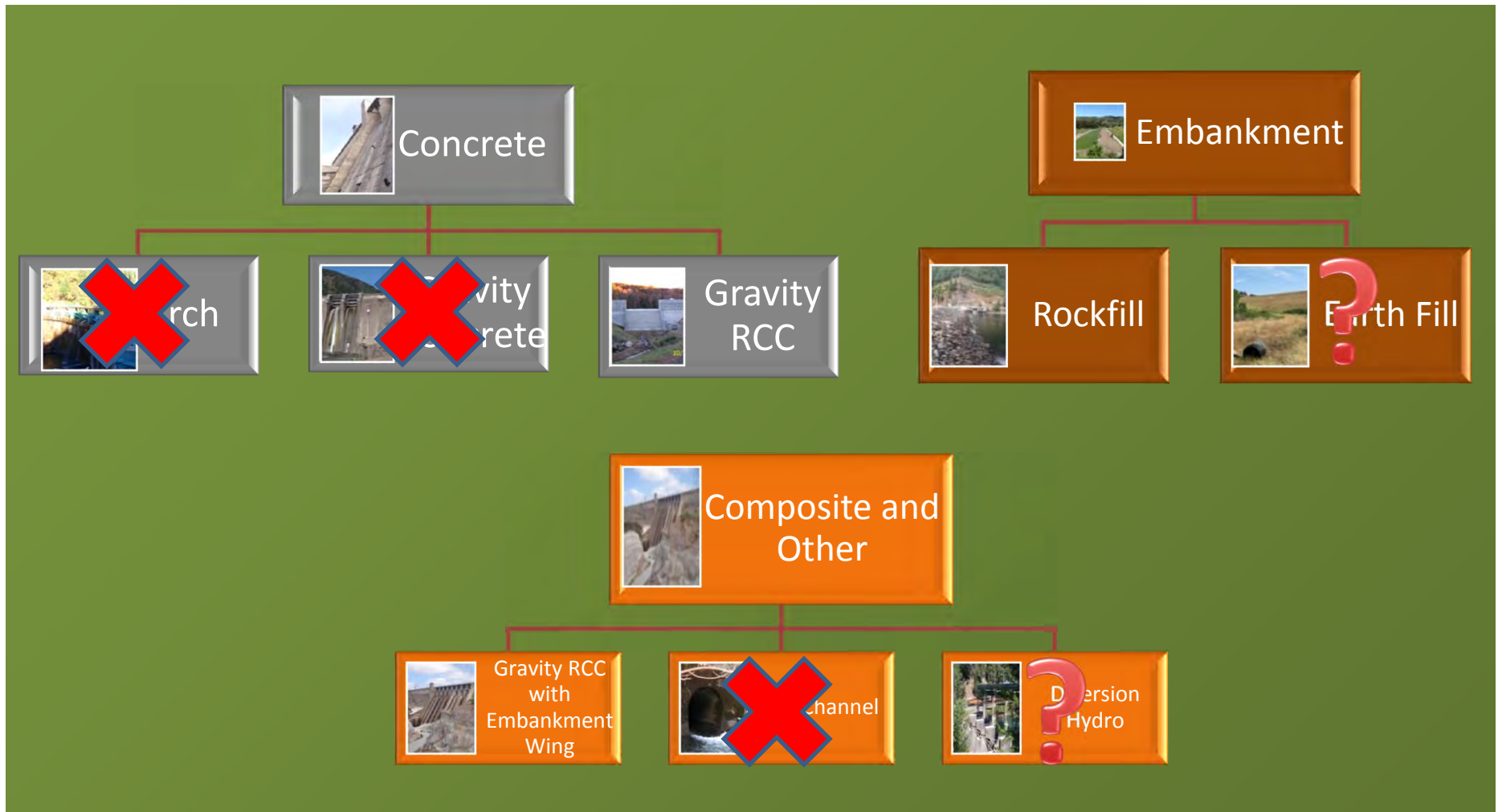


# Site Visit

September 30 - October 1, 2013



# Dam Type Findings





# Roller Compacted Concrete Dams



- Speed of construction
- Cost
- Integrated structural elements
- Effective seepage barriers
- Crack control strategies



# Concrete Dam

## • Advantages

- Most flexible range of flood operations
- Most flexible range of fish passage options
- Lowest cost outlet works with maximum water quality operations and effectiveness
- Fastest construction schedule

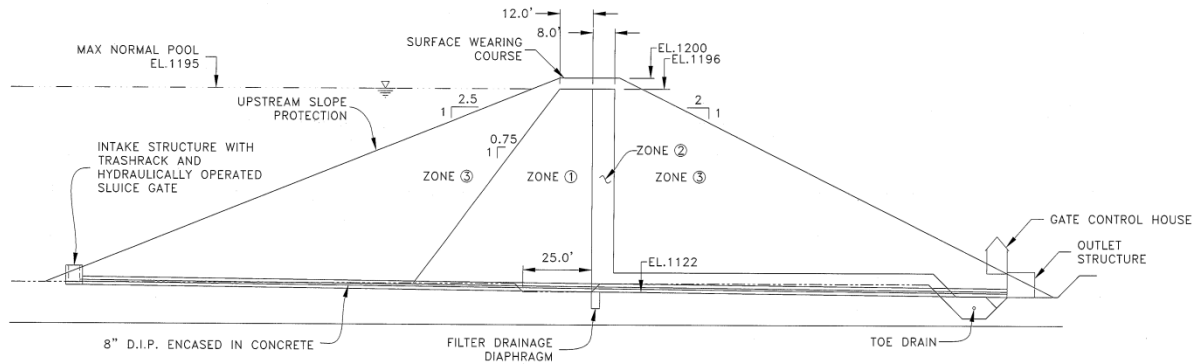


## • Challenges

- Requires “rock” foundation at reasonable depth
- Construction materials



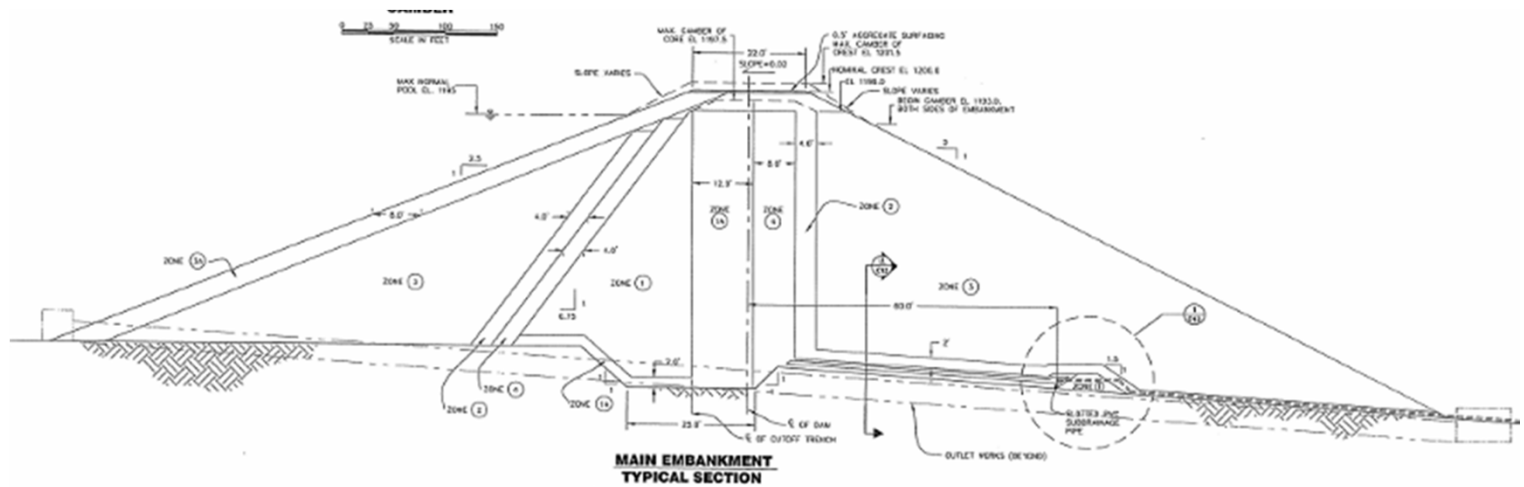
# Central Clay Core Rockfill Dam



**AUXILIARY EMBANKMENT TYPICAL SECTION**

**EXPLANATION**

- 1. ZONE ① - CORE
- 2. ZONE ② - FILTER/DRAIN MATERIAL
- 3. ZONE ③ - ROCKFILL



**MAIN EMBANKMENT TYPICAL SECTION**







# Rockfill Dams

- Advantages

- Good seismic response
- Very cost effective for dams over 150-feet-high
- Good dam for “rock” sites with clay source

- Challenges

- Flexible flood operations
- Limited fish passage options
- Intermediate construction duration
- Construction materials
  - Core
  - Filters/drains
  - Rockfill

# RCC/Embankment Composite Dam



Location: Folsom, CA

Operator: USACE/USBR Joint  
Federal Project

Dam Type: Concrete and  
Earthen

Length: Main 1,400 feet

Height: 340 feet

Gated Concrete Spillway



# Findings – Dam Types

- Good Rock Site
- Gravity RCC Dam
- Central Clay Core Rockfill Dam
- Composite RCC and Embankment



# Open Slot Dam





# Miter Gates – The Dalles



Location: The Dalles, Oregon  
Operator: USACE – Portland District

Dam Type: Concrete Gravity

Length: 8,875 feet

Height: 80 feet

Lock Gates

# Horizontal Slide Gates



Location: Panama

Gate Type: Horizontal Roller  
Slide Gates

Height: 90 feet

Weight: 700+ Tons

ENR Construction Magazine

---

# Findings – Open Slot Dams

- Open Slot – limited to very low head applications
- Gated Slots – limited to 80 to 100 feet
- Gated Slots not designed for flood overtopping

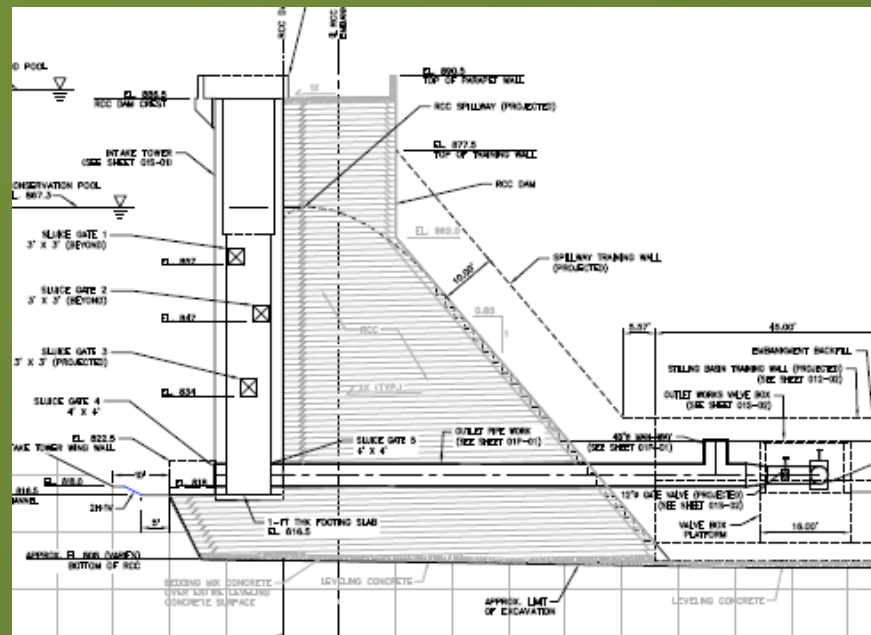
# Hydraulic Structures

Open Slot Dam

Fish Passage

Auxiliary Spillway

Flood Control Outlet



Gates

Valves

Stoplogs

Approach  
Canals and  
Channels

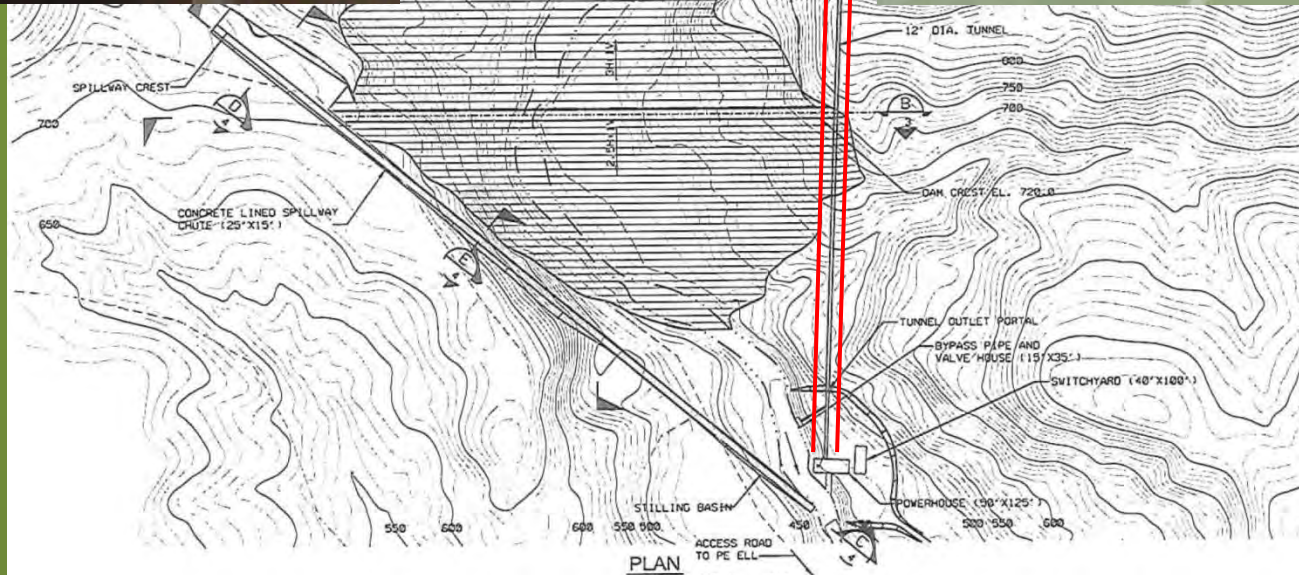
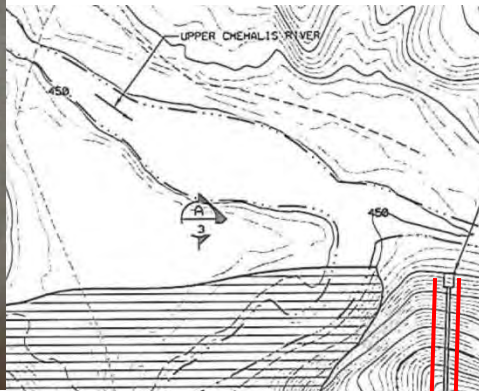


Fish Passage Outlet Tunnel Moose Creek Dam, USACE, Alaska





# Fish Passage Outlet Tunnel





# Regulated Outlet Gates – Radial and Sluice Gates

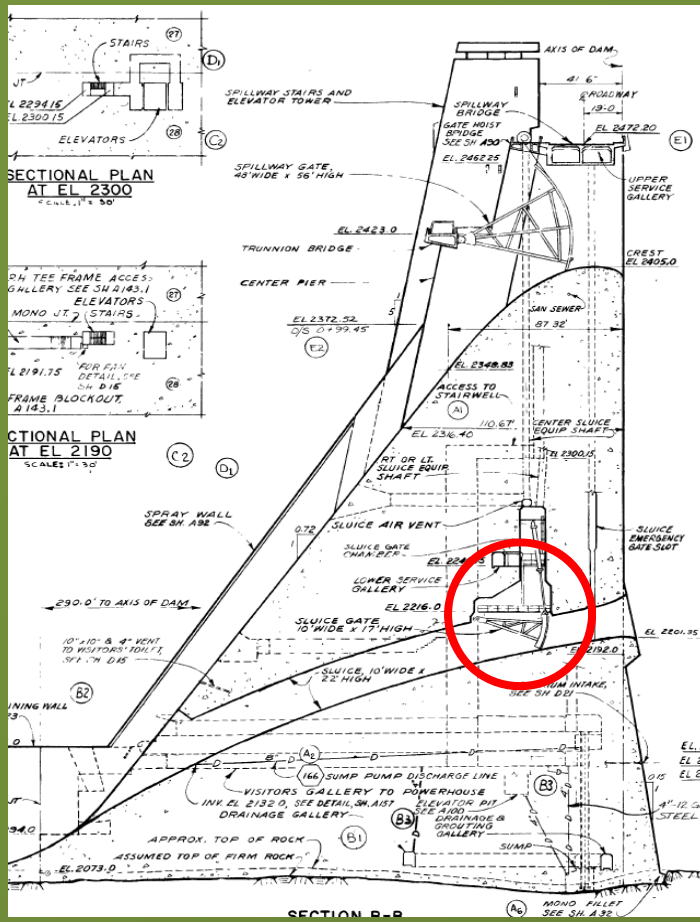


Project: Dworshak Dam, ID  
Location: Orofino, ID  
Operator: USACE Walla Walla District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity

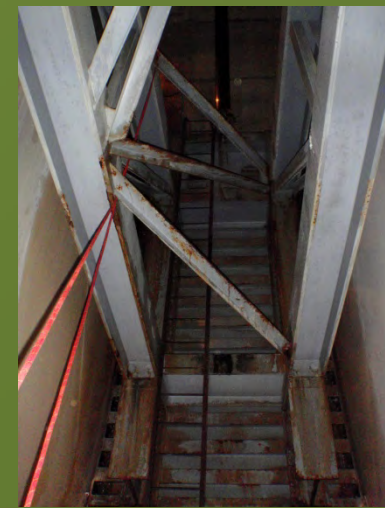


Length: 3,287 feet  
Height: 717 feet  
Gated Concrete Spillway  
RO Depth: 250 feet

# Regulating Outlet Gates or Sluice Gates



Project: Libby Dam  
Location: Libby, MT  
Operator: USACE - Seattle District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 3,055 feet  
Height: 422  
Gated Concrete Spillway  
RO Depth: 258





# Vertical Outlet Gates



Project: Libby Dam  
Location: Libby, Montana  
Operator: USACE – Seattle District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 3,055 feet  
Height: 422 feet



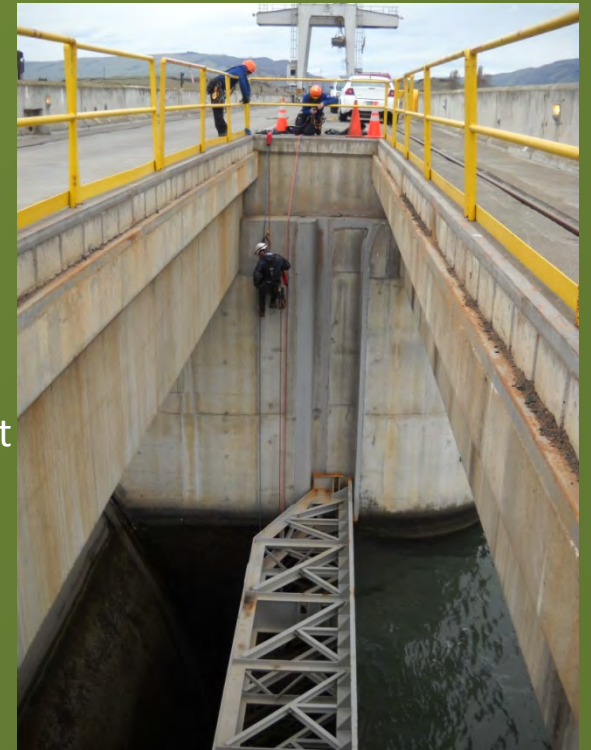
Project: Lower Granite Dam  
Location: Pullman, WA  
Operator: USACE – Walla Walla District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 3,200 feet  
Height: 100 feet

# Bulkheads and Stoplogs



Project: Nimbus Dam  
Location: Folsom, CA  
Operator: USACE/USBR  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 1,093feet  
Height: 87 feet

Location: The Dalles, Oregon  
Operator: USACE – Portland District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 8,875 feet  
Height: 80 feet



---

## Findings – Fish Passage

- Concrete Dam – Opening in base of dam is easiest but may be limited to FC only.
- Abutment Tunnels could be applicable to Concrete or Rockfill alternatives with limited permanent pool.

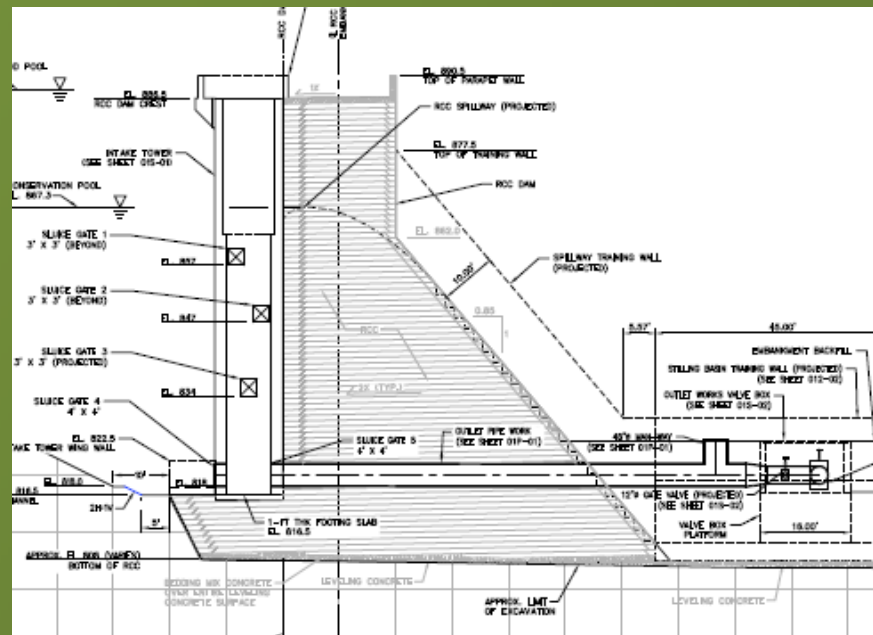
# Hydraulic Structures

Open Slot Dam

Fish Passage

Auxiliary Spillway

Flood Control Outlet



Gates

Valves

Stoplogs

Approach  
Canals and  
Channels



# Intake Towers - Freestanding

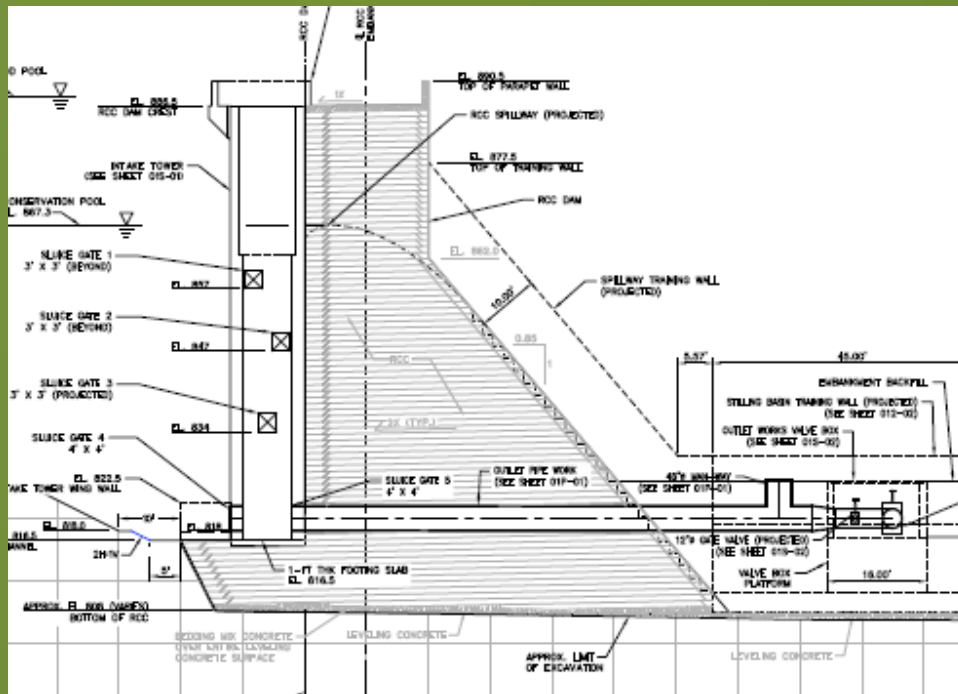


Project: Hills Creek Dam  
Location: Eugene, CA  
Operator: USACE Portland District  
Dam Type: Concrete and Earthen  
Length: 2,235feet  
Height: 304 feet  
Gated Concrete Spillway and Intake Tower



Project: Blue River Dam  
Location: Eugene/Blue River, OR  
Operator: USACE Portland District  
Dam Type: Rock Fill  
Length: 1,265 feet  
Height: 270 feet  
Gated Concrete Spillway and Intake Tower

# Intake Towers – Upstream Face of Dam



Project: New Big Cherry Dam  
Location: Big Stone Gap, VA  
Operator: Town of Big Stone Gap  
Dam Type: Roller Compacted Concrete

# Morning Glory Spillways



Project: Grayrocks Dam  
Location: Wheatland, WY  
Operator: Basin Electric Power Cooperative  
Dam Type: Earthfill  
Length: 2,400 feet  
Height: 100 feet  
Gated Concrete Spillway and Intake Tower



Project: San Pablo Dam  
Location: El Sobrante, CA  
Operator: East Bay Municipal Utilities District  
Dam Type: Concrete and Earthen  
Length: 2,235 feet  
Height: 304 feet  
Gated Concrete Spillway and Intake Tower



# Top Seal Radial Gates



Project: Oroville Dam  
Location: Oroville, CA

Operator: California Department of Water Resources

Dam Type: Earthfill

Length: 6,920 feet

Height: 770 feet

Gated Concrete Spillway

Project: Folsom Dam  
Auxiliary Spillway  
Under Construction



# Findings – Flood Control Outlets

- Many configurations possible
- Seismic loads will be challenge for free-standing tower and large gates
- Both controlled and uncontrolled operations
- Debris management a significant consideration



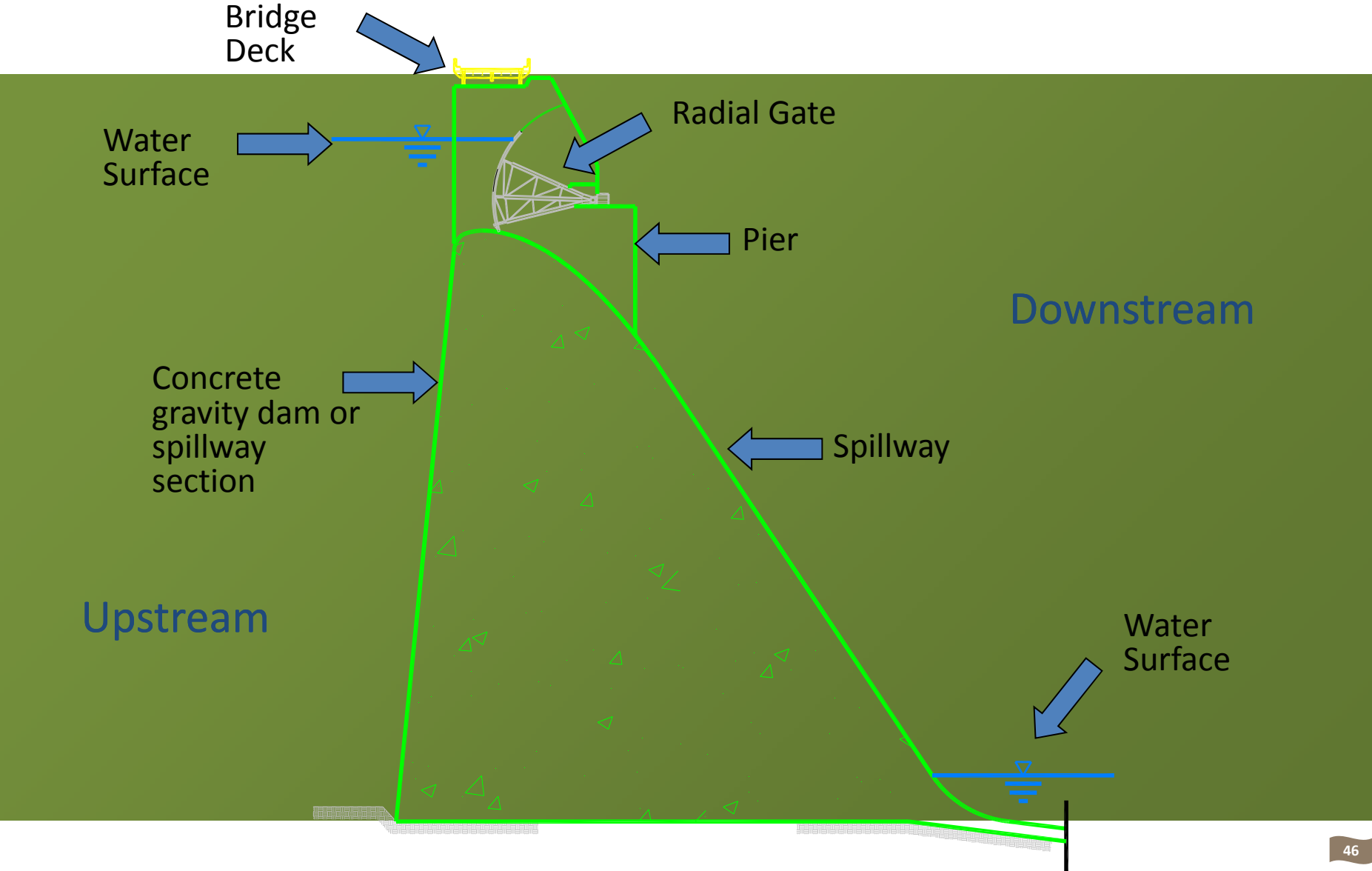


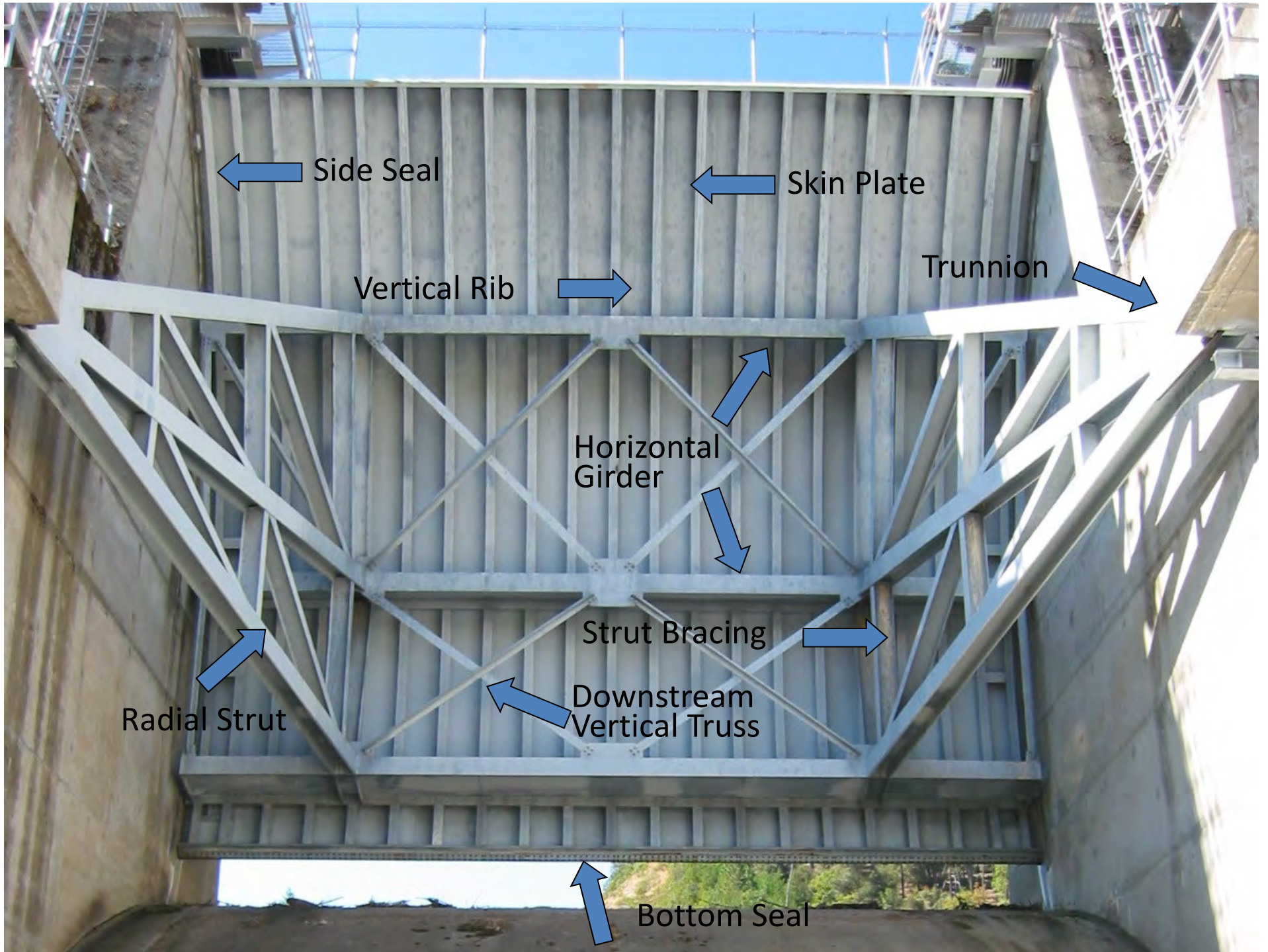
# Overflow Spillway

- Over Center of Dam (Concrete Alternatives)
- Abutment (Rockfill Alternatives)



# Radial / Tainter Gate





Side Seal

Skin Plate

Vertical Rib

Trunnion

Horizontal Girder

Strut Bracing

Radial Strut

Downstream Vertical Truss

Bottom Seal



# Vertical Spillway Gates – Albeni Falls Dam



Location: Oldtown / Priest River, Idaho

Operator: USACE – Seattle District

Dam Type: Concrete Gravity

Length: 775 feet

Height: 90 feet

Gated Concrete Spillway

## Findings – Auxiliary Spillway

- Will be a dam safety requirement
- Sized based on Inflow Design Flood (IDF) routing
- Controlled or uncontrolled configurations
- Seismic loads will be significant challenge
- Debris control will be significant consideration

# Debris Control

---





## Typical Debris Accumulation during Large Flood Event at Howard Hansen Dam, Washington





---

## Debris Guard Gates at Moose Creek Dam, USACE, Alaska





Moose Creek Dam, USACE, Alaska





Moose Creek Dam, USACE, Alaska



6 AUG 2008



# Screened Intakes

Project: Tiger Creek

Location: Pioneer, CA

Operator: Pacific Gas and Electric

Dam Type: Concrete Gravity Arch

Length: 448 feet

Height: 120 feet

Gated Concrete Spillway



# More Project Examples

---





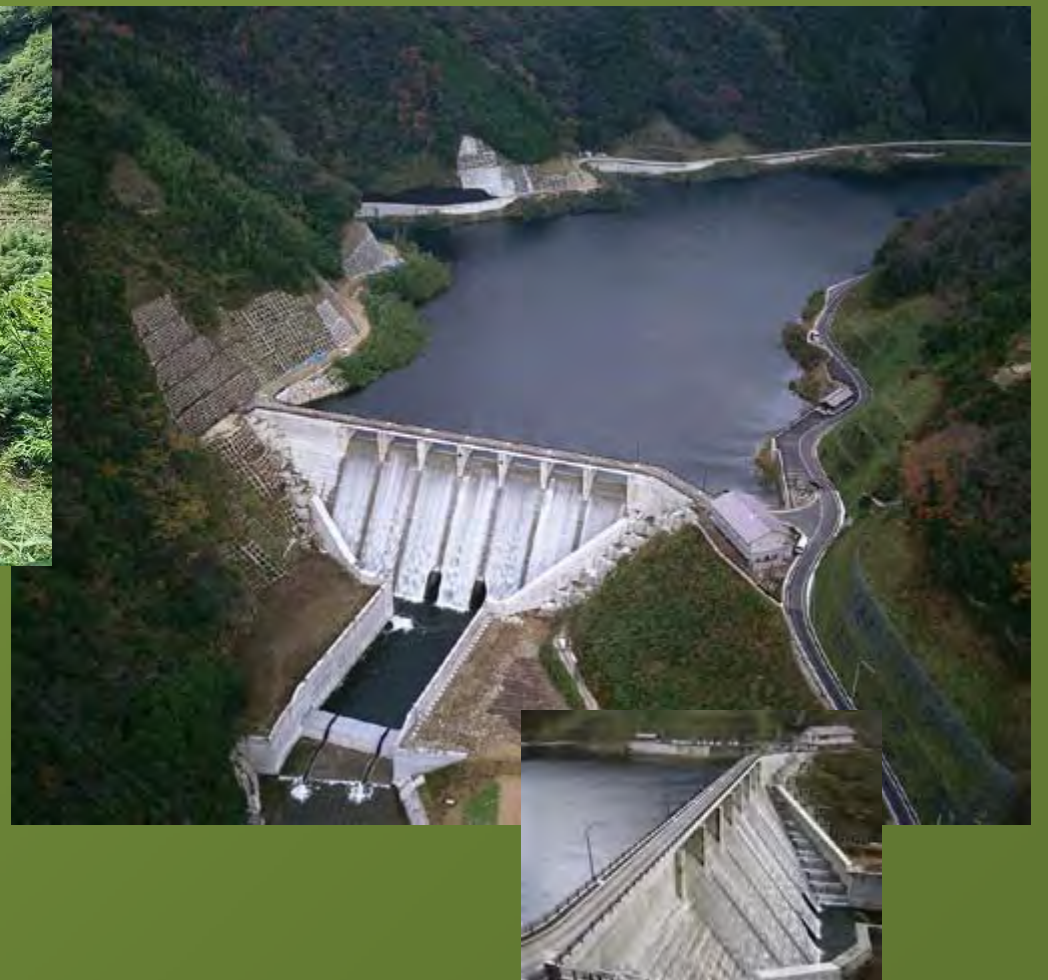
# Flood Control Only – Morris Dam



Location: Leicester, NY  
Operator: USACE – Buffalo District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 1,028 feet  
Height: 230 feet  
Low level conduits and Overflow Spillway

# Flood Control Only

## Masudagawa Dam- Japan

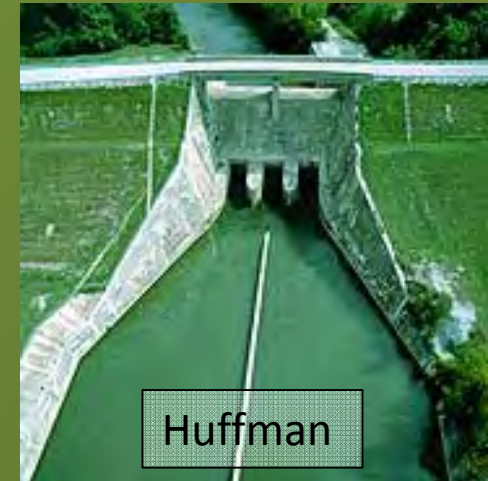


Location: Masuda, Japan  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 554 feet  
Height: 157 feet  
Overflow Spillway

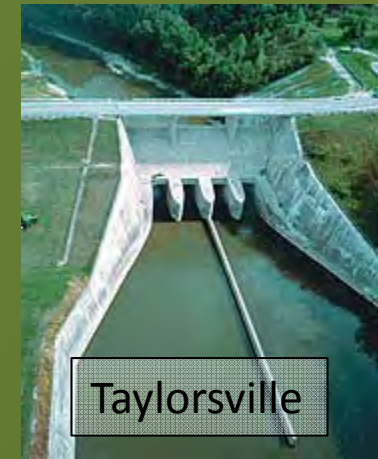
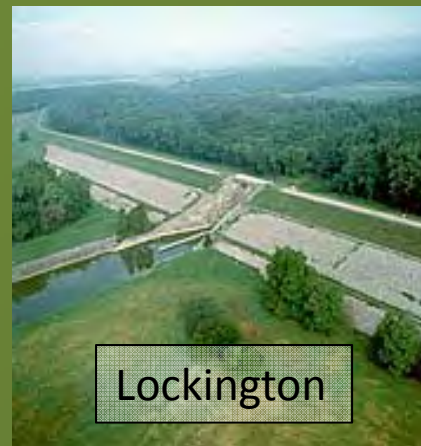


# Flood Control Only

## Miami Conservancy District – 5 Dams



Location: Southwest, OH  
Operator: Miami Conservancy District  
Dam Type: Earth Embankment  
Length: 1,210 – 6,400 feet  
Height: 65-110 feet  
Low level conduits and Overflow Spillways





# Multipurpose Detroit Dam

Location: Salem, OR  
Operator: USACE – Portland District  
Dam Type: Concrete Gravity  
Length: 1,523 feet  
Height: 463 feet  
Low level conduits and Overflow Spillway



# Research Input and Next Steps

- Additional Research Suggestions?
  - Need final input by November 4<sup>th</sup>
- Next Steps
  - Dam Configuration Brainstorming Workshop – week of December 4<sup>th</sup> or 11<sup>th</sup>
  - Draft Dam Design TM for review – February 28, 2014

# Task 1.1.2 Fish Passage

---

*Preliminary Fish Passage Design Criteria and  
Background Research*



Mike Garello, P.E.



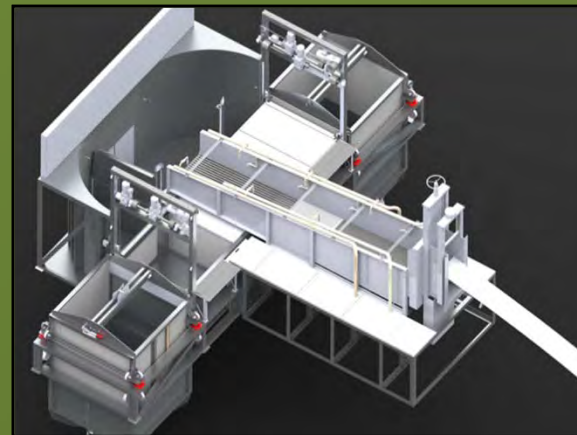
---

# Outline

- Background and Facility Research
- Case Studies
- Fish Passage Options
- Design Criteria
  - Anticipated Species
  - Migration Timing (Periodicity)
  - Hydrology During Anticipated Migration Periods
  - Fishways, Screens, Bypasses, and Fish Holding

# Background and Facility Research

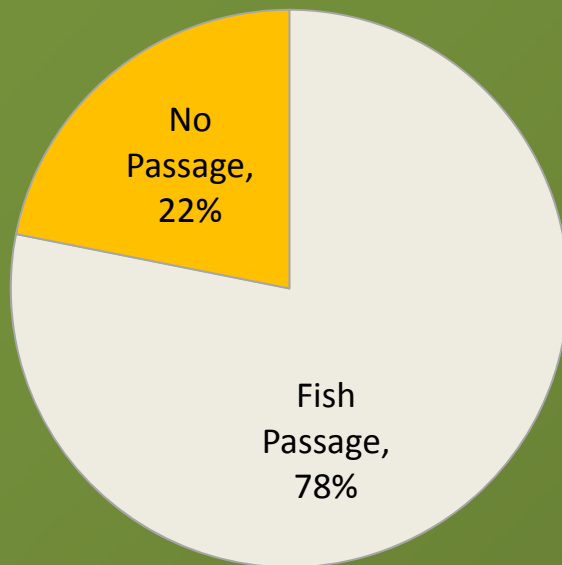
- Most projects at high head dams in Pacific Northwest use CHTR for upstream passage
  - Baker River, Cowlitz River, Lewis River, Pelton-Round Butte, Cougar, and Cushman
- Hatcheries often used in tandem with passage



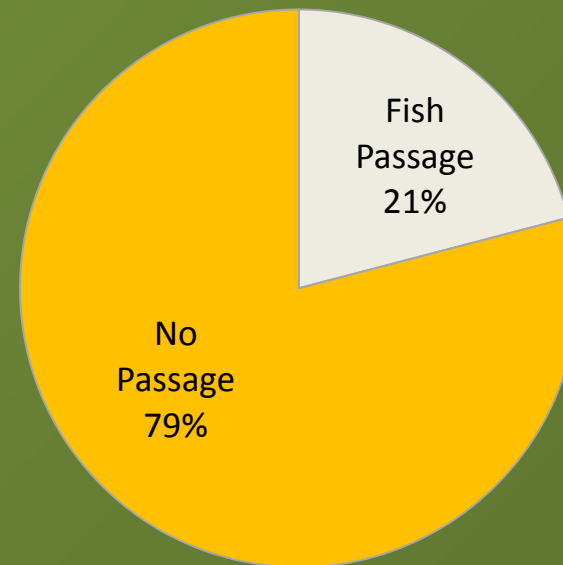
Cushman Surface Collector and Fish Handling Equipment.  
Figures by Tacoma Power

# Background and Facility Research – Western US

- Results - case studies of 32 dams between 50 and 150 ft within WA, OR, ID, and CA



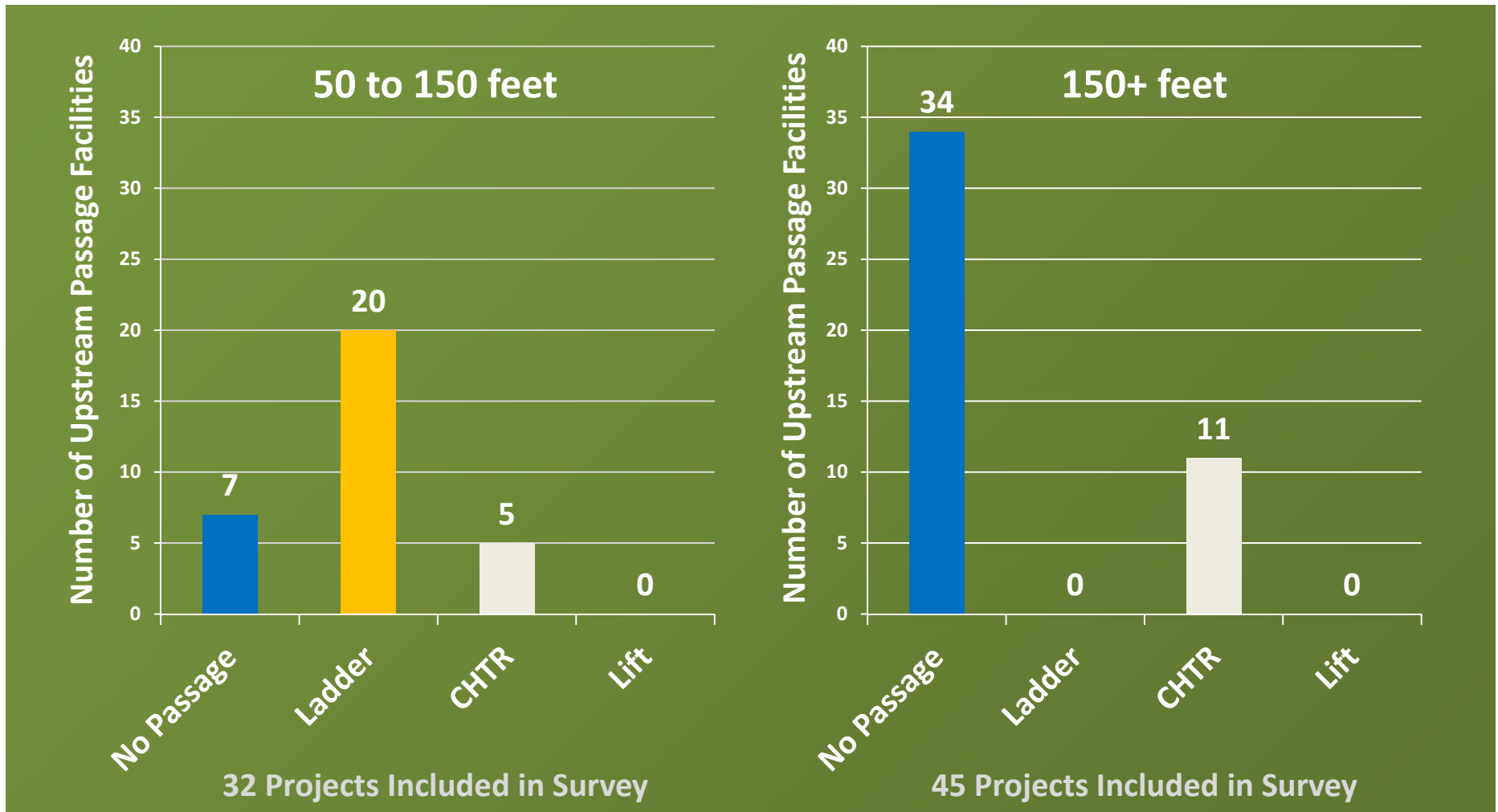
- Results - case studies of 45 dams over 150 ft within WA, OR, ID, and CA



**94% (50 to 150 ft) and 75% (150+ ft) of WA Dams in the list of case studies are associated with a “Mitigation Hatchery” or pay into a hatchery supplementation program.**



# Background and Facility Research – Western US



# Background and Facility Research – Key Northwest Example Fish Passage Projects

- Lower and Upper Baker Dams on Baker River, WA
- River Mill, Faraday, and North Fork Dams on Clackamas River, OR
  - 1.9 mile fish ladder around Faraday and North Fork Dams
- Pelton and Round Butte Dams on Deschutes River, OR
  - Abandoned 2.84 mile fish ladder
- Merwin and Swift Dams on Lewis River, WA
- Mayfield and Cowlitz Falls Dams on Cowlitz River, WA

# Deschutes River, OR - Project Overview

- Dams: Downstream to Upstream
  - Reregulating Dam - hydraulic height 25 ft
  - Pelton Dam - hydraulic height 204 ft
  - Round Butte Dam - hydraulic height 425 ft
- Current Facilities
  - Upstream Passage: CHTR from below Reregulating Dam to reservoir above Round Butte Dam
  - Downstream Passage: Forebay collector with CHTR to below Reregulating Dam (\$108 Million)
  - Mitigation hatchery



Selective Water Withdrawal Tower and collection facility. Figure by PGE



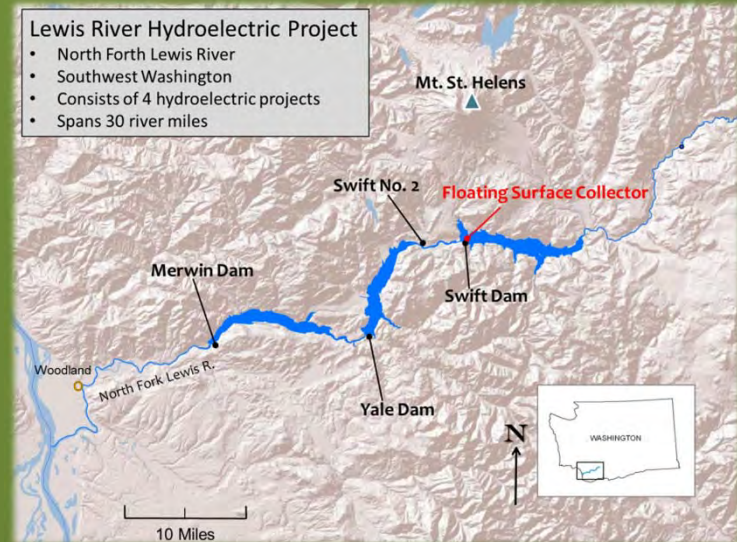
# Pelton-Round Butte - History

Passage abandoned in the late 60's and early 70's primarily due to juvenile D/S migration problems in reservoir U/S of Round Butte and U/S ladder attraction problems

- 1956 – U/S passage CHTR facility constructed D/S of Rereg Dam
- 1957 – Completed 2.84 mile fish ladder from below Rereg to above Pelton
- 1958 – Rereg Dam and Pelton Dam construction completed
  - D/S passage: skimmer w/ horizontal, inclined plane perforated plate
- 1964 – Round Butte Dam constructed with passage facilities
  - U/S passage: fish lift
  - D/S passage: skimmer w/ vertical traveling screens, trucked downstream of Rereg or bypassed D/S of Round Butte
- 1966 – Begin hatchery mitigation for fish losses
- 1968 – Fish ladder abandoned, reverted to original CHTR facility
  - Began using fish ladder for hatchery rearing
- 1969 – Round Butte D/S passage facilities abandoned
- 1973 – Round Butte lift abandoned
- 1973 – Round Butte Hatchery constructed
- 2009 – Round Butte D/S CHTR facility completed, collected fish transported D/S of Rereg

# Lewis River, WA - Project Overview

- Dams: Downstream to Upstream
  - Merwin Dam - hydraulic height 230 ft
  - Yale Dam - hydraulic height 309 ft
  - Swift Dam - hydraulic height 400 ft
- Current Facilities
  - Upstream Passage: Currently Constructing CHTR from below Merwin Dam to reservoir above Swift Dam (estimated \$50 Million)
  - Downstream Passage: Floating forebay collector with CHTR to below Merwin Dam (\$60 Million)
  - Mitigation hatchery



Swift Floating Surface Collector. Photo and Figure from PacifiCorp

# Lewis River, WA - History

- 1931 – Merwin Dam completed
  - Included U/S CHTR passage facility
- 1953 – Yale Dam completed
- **1957 – Merwin CHTR abandoned**
  - Returns were not sustainable enough to warrant continued CHTR operation, possibly due to lack of D/S passage
- 1958 – Swift Dam completed
- 2005 – Begin introducing 2,000 adult salmon annually to watershed above Swift Dam
- 2012 – Swift D/S passage: CHTR of juveniles via floating surface collector to location D/S of Merwin Dam
- 2014 – Merwin U/S passage: expected completion date of CHTR, collected fish transported U/S of Swift Reservoir





# Cowlitz River, WA - Project History

- 1963 – Mayfield Dam constructed
  - U/S passage: lift
  - D/S passage: louvers guide fish to bypass pipe
- 1968 – Mossyrock Dam constructed
  - D/S passage: “Merwin” trap
- 1969 – Mayfield U/S passage lift abandoned, CHTR and hatchery constructed below Mayfield
- 1973 – D/S passage traps at Mossyrock Dam abandoned
- 1993 – Cowlitz Falls Dam constructed
- 1996 – Cowlitz Falls D/S passage via surface collection flume to sorting facility and then released below Mayfield Dam
- 2012 – New forebay collector currently under design

# Cowlitz River, WA - Project Overview

- Dams: Downstream to Upstream
  - Mayfield Dam - hydraulic height 230 ft
  - Mossyrock Dam - hydraulic height 366 ft
  - Cowlitz Falls Dam - hydraulic height 120 ft
- Current Facilities
  - Upstream Passage: CHTR from below Mayfield Dam to Tilton River upstream of Mayfield Dam and upstream of Cowlitz Falls Dam
  - Downstream Passage: Surface collection flume at Cowlitz Dam with CHTR to downstream of Mayfield Dam. Two louvered intake facilities at Mayfield Dam with bypass pipe to river downstream
  - Mitigation hatchery



Mayfield CHTR and Hatchery. Photo from Google Maps

# Fish Passage Options

- Upstream
  - Fishways
  - Lifts, Locks, and Elevators
  - CHTR – Collect, Handle, Transfer, Release (“Trap and Haul”)
  - Bypass Facilities
- Downstream
  - Forebay Collectors
  - Surface Spills
  - Bypass Facilities
  - Turbine Passage
  - CHTR - Downstream



# Fish Passage Systems for Flood Only and Multi-Purpose Dams

Passage Options	Flood Control Only	Multi-Purpose
<u>Upstream Passage</u>		
Fishways	Limited by Forebay Fluctuation	Yes
Lifts, Locks, Elevators	Yes	Yes
CHTR	Yes	Yes
Bypass Facilities	Yes	Yes
<u>Downstream Passage</u>		
Forebay Collectors	Limited by Forebay Fluctuation	Yes
Surface Spills	Only when Coupled with Bypass Facility	Only when Coupled with Bypass Facility
Bypass Facilities	Yes	Yes
Turbine Passage	N/A	No
CHTR	Yes	Yes

# Design Criteria

- Fishways: leap heights, pool lengths, entrance design, flow requirements, juvenile criteria
- Screen criteria: approach and sweeping velocity
- Bypass systems: conduit and outfall criteria
- Fish Holding: pool volume and water quality
- Temporary/interim Passage Facilities

---

# Design Criteria Process

- Identify target species and life stages
- Establish periodicity of target species and life stages
- Determine design flows for each target species and life stage



# Anticipated Fish Species

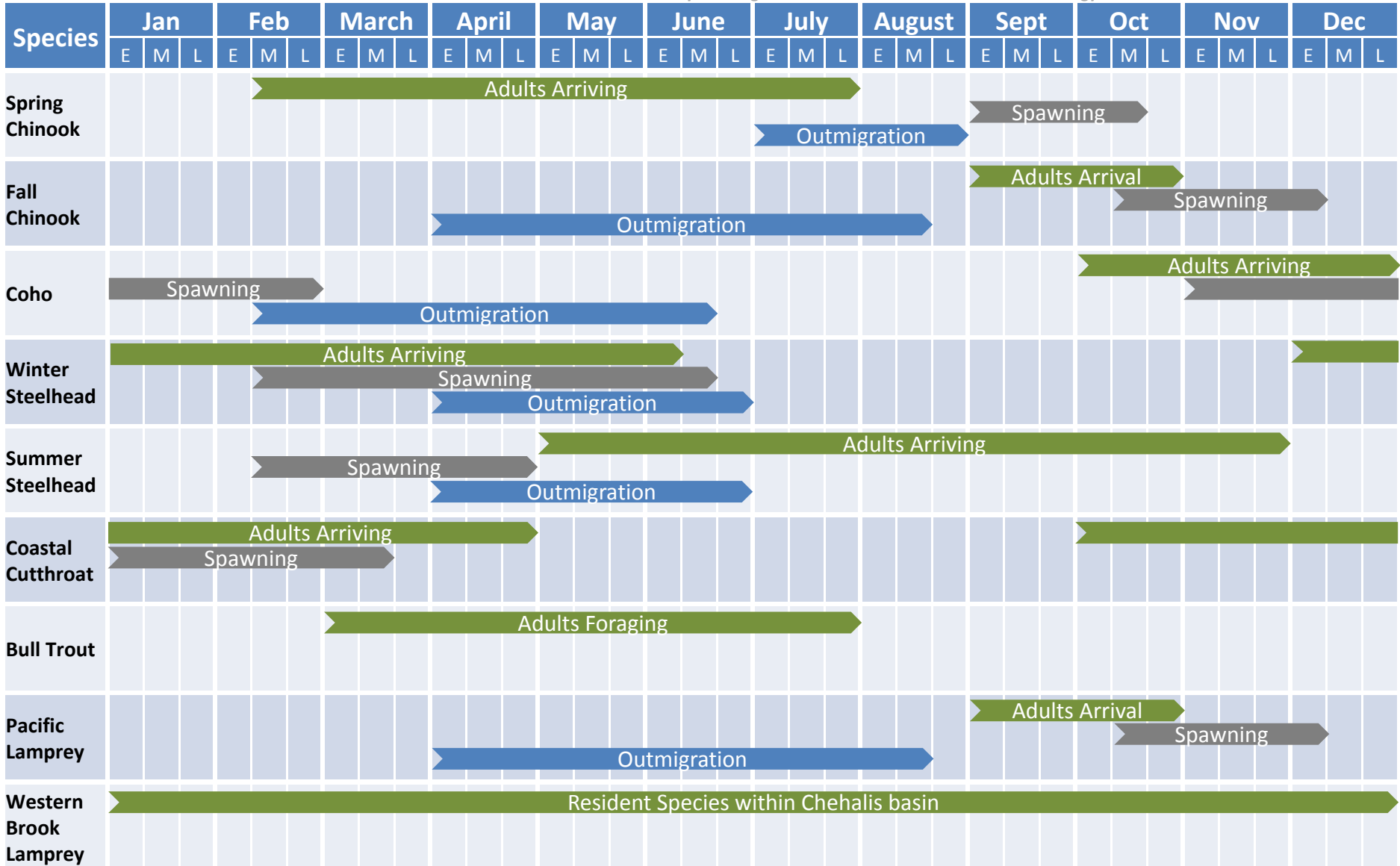
GRAY = Further Discussion Ongoing

SPECIES	UPSTREAM	DOWNSTREAM
Chinook salmon (spring and fall run)	Adult/Juvenile	Juvenile
Coho salmon	Adult/Juvenile	Juvenile
Steelhead	Adult/Juvenile	Adult/Juvenile
Pacific Lamprey	Adult	Ammocoetes / Macrophthalmia
Western Brook Lamprey	Adult	Ammocoetes / Macrophthalmia
Bull Trout	Adult/Juvenile	Adult/Juvenile
Coastal Cutthroat	Adult/Juvenile	Adult/Juvenile

# Migration Timing (Periodicity)

E = Early  
M = Mid  
L = Late

Source: WA DOE and WDFW. 2004. Chehalis River Basin WRIAs 22 and 23 Fish Habitat Analysis Using the Instream Flow Incremental Methodology.



# Hydrology –

## During Anticipated Time of Migration

Orange = Project Minimum and Maximum Fish Passage Design Flows

SPECIES	Min Design Flow (cfs)		Max Design Flow (cfs)	
	NMFS (95% Exceedance)		NMFS (5%)	WDFW (10%)
Spring Chinook	32		1072	724
<b>Fall Chinook</b>	<b>15</b>		482	278
<b>Coho</b>	21		<b>1941</b>	<b>1348</b>
Winter Steelhead	86		1835	1256
Summer Steelhead	17		710	374
Coastal Cutthroat	34		1921	1342
Bull Trout	30		895	592
<b>Pacific Lamprey</b>	<b>15</b>		482	278
Western Brook Lamprey	20		1467	967
Annual Statistics	20		1467	967



# Design Criteria – Fishways:

RED = Upstream Juvenile Passage Criteria

ITEM	SPECIFIC CRITERIA DESCRIPTION	AGENCY
Entrance Head Differential	Maintained between 1 and 1.5 ft (Maximum of 0.13 ft or 0.33 ft depending on fish size, could require separate adult and juvenile entrances)	NMFS & WDFW NMFS
Ladder Pool Head Differential	1 ft maximum (0.7 ft or 1 ft maximum depending on fish size)	NMFS & WDFW NMFS
Attraction Flow	Minimum 5% to 10% of high fish passage design flow	NMFS
Energy Dissipation Factor	Maximum of 4 ft-lb/ft <sup>3</sup> -sec (Maximum of 2 ft-lb/ft <sup>3</sup> -sec)	NMFS & WDFW NMFS
Pool Dimensions	Minimum 8 ft long, 6 ft wide, and 5 ft deep	NMFS
Depth Over Weir Crests	1 ft minimum	NMFS & WDFW
Ambient Lighting	Preferred throughout with no abrupt lighting changes	NMFS & WDFW

Note: Not a complete list of design criteria, only basic design criteria is presented.

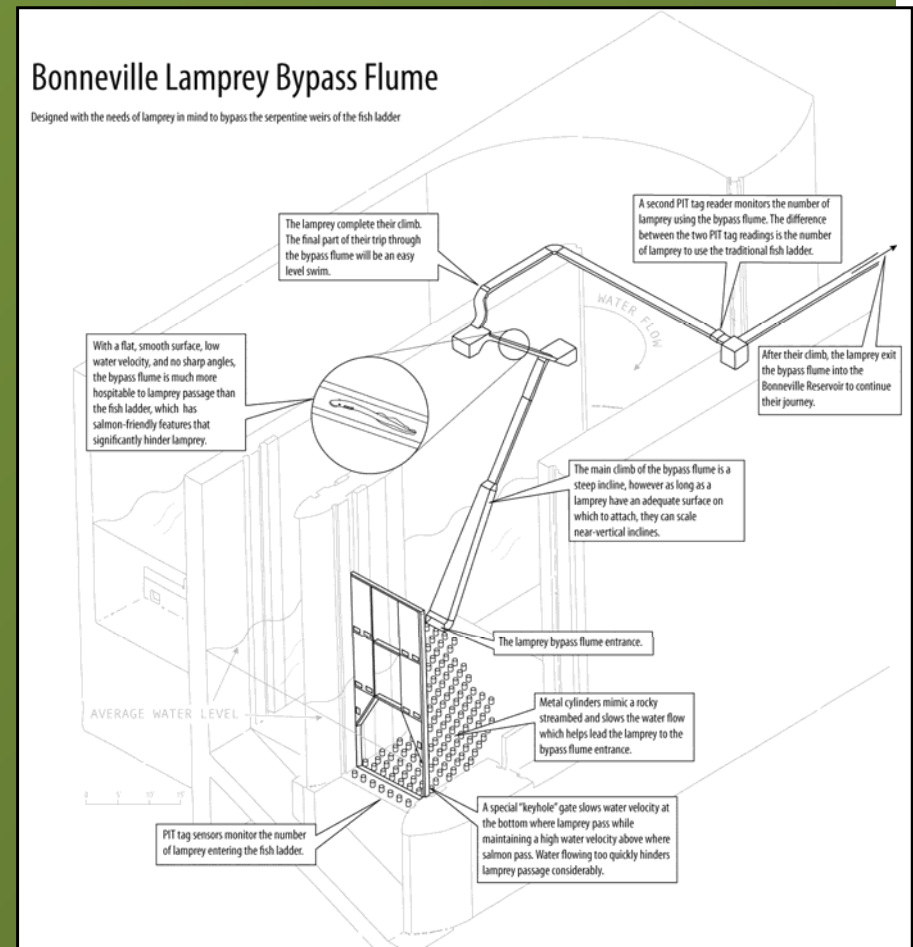
# Cutthroat and Bull Trout

- No official agency guidance
- Potential options for design:
  - Adopt similar design criteria as juvenile salmon and steelhead, or
  - Can be developed from species specific locomotion characteristics
- Further discussion is required to determine passage requirements and acceptable design criteria

# Lamprey Passage



- Best Practices to Reduce Adverse Effects (USFWS)
- Modify design and construction activities to consider lamprey life history requirements
- Screening criteria developed for salmonids may or may not be appropriate
- Maintain flow velocities less than 5 to 6 ft/s
- Provide structures with rounded corners.
- Provide smooth ramps in and out of passage structures
- In some cases, separate passage facilities are required.





# Design Criteria – Interim Passage During Construction

- Required if construction of an artificial impediment is scheduled during periods when migrating fish are present
- Interim passage facilities must meet all regular facility design criteria unless approved by NMFS

# Research Input and Next Steps

- Additional Research Suggestions?
  - Need final input by November 4<sup>th</sup>
- Next Steps
  - Technical Committee review:
    - Fish Passage Design and Operation Criteria Interim Report – October 28<sup>th</sup> – November 8<sup>th</sup>
  - Fish Passage Alternatives Interim Briefing Report – November 29<sup>th</sup>
  - Fish Passage Alternatives Preliminary Feasibility Report – Jan 10, 2014