Project Meeting
Scoggins Dam/Hagg Lake
March 22, 2017

Investing in a safe, secure and reliable water supply

The Tualatin Basin Water Supply Project Partners have been working with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to develop a new water supply for Washington County for more than 15 years. Initially, the goal was to raise Scoggins Dam and enlarge the lake to meet the region’s long-term water needs. However, in 2010, Reclamation’s safety evaluation found that the facility—although safe and operating as designed—required significant seismic modifications in order to protect public safety and secure the water supply in the event of a major earthquake.

Recent developments include:

• Joint Project is moving forward, thanks to new federal law and funding. In 2016, Congress reauthorized Reclamation’s Safety of Dams program and granted Reclamation new authority to integrate dam safety improvements and additional project benefits, including additional storage.

• Design alternatives are being narrowed down. This new authority and an increase in federal funding allow Reclamation and CWS to work together to address safety as well as the long-term water needs of the region.

• Engineering and environmental review begins soon. In 2017, Reclamation and CWS will begin the engineering and environmental review of several options at two primary locations:

  Strengthen existing dam: Reclamation is leading the dam safety engineering and environmental review of strengthening and raising Scoggins Dam in its current location.

  Construct a new downstream dam: CWS is coordinating the engineering and environmental review of a proposed new concrete dam downstream of the Stimson Mill.

Both alternatives will be designed to withstand a major earthquake and provide additional water. CWS is working closely with Reclamation’s Dam Safety Office to coordinate the engineering and environmental reviews necessary to select a preferred alternative for design. The target date for that decision is by the end of 2019, with construction likely to begin no earlier than 2023.
Impact area of downstream dam option

What can you expect to see in 2017?

Engineers and scientists will begin studying the downstream dam location later this spring including drilling near the proposed dam location; gathering field data on natural and cultural resources; and working with Stimson Lumber. The work will not impact traffic on Scoggins Valley Road or access to Hagg Lake.

Clean Water Services and Reclamation are committed to providing neighbors with the most up-to-date information about design options being considered to protect public safety, secure our region’s water supply and meet future needs. Join us for the project meeting to learn more.

If you are unable to attend, please feel free to contact Tom VanderPlaat at 503.681.5107 or vanderplaatt@cleanwaterservices.org for more information. Also, look for project updates at tualatinbasinwatersupply.org.

Likely benefits of a downstream dam

- Address seismic hazard
- Additional water storage capacity
- Potential cost savings
- Located in narrower portion of valley
- Proven construction material
- Increase recreational opportunities

Likely challenges of a downstream dam

- Inundation of larger area, including homes, mill and other properties
- New location, requiring more fact-finding (geotechnical, water rights, water quality protection, etc.)
- Potential schedule impact