

WAPATO DIVERSION UPDATE:

SHORT-TERM REPAIRS COMPLETE

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), in coordination with the Yakama Nation, is designing and constructing improvements to the Wapato Diversion on the Yakima River, about two miles south of Union Gap, Washington. The project is being developed over several years and consists of two main stages:

1. A series of recently completed short-term repairs.
2. The design and construction of long-term rehabilitation which will include improvements for downstream fish passage (i.e., fish screening), upstream fish passage, operator safety, sediment continuity, debris handling, flooding reduction, and irrigation operations and maintenance.

Owned and operated by the BIA, the Wapato Diversion serves the Wapato Irrigation Project (WIP), on the Yakama Indian Reservation. The 108 year-old structure allows the diversion of 2,029 cubic feet per second (CFS) into the WIP Main Canal and is the primary water supply for the 142,000-acre irrigation project.



FOR MORE INFORMATION:



To learn more about the Wapato Diversion project, scan the QR code or visit wapatodiversion.com.

Questions and comments can also be emailed to wapatodiversion@dowl.com.

SHORT-TERM REHABILITATION

The short-term rehabilitation addressed immediate structural, safety, and reliability issues to allow time to design, secure funding, and permit the long-term rehabilitation. Additionally, the data collected during the short-term repairs will be essential in informing the planning and design of the long-term rehabilitation project.

Construction on the short-term repairs began in September 2023 and was completed in March 2024.



The short-term rehabilitation successfully addressed the deficiencies outlined on the back of this flyer.

THE SHORT-TERM REHABILITATION ADDRESSED THE FOLLOWING ISSUES:

OPERATIONAL DEFICIENCIES

Several irrigation headgates and sluice gate stems were bent, and the gates did not seal properly. One of the sluice gates was no longer functional. Additionally, not all irrigation headgates had powered gate actuators, and neither sluice gate had electrically powered actuation equipment.

ELECTRICAL CONTROLS

The existing electrical system was operating well beyond its service life and did not meet safety requirements. Several of the components had failed and were not operational.



DOWNSTREAM EROSION

While the short-term rehabilitation project was underway, an extensive scour hole was discovered downstream of the west diversion dam. The scour exposed the diversion foundation and undermined the concrete apron and fish ladder. An emergency repair plan was developed and executed to repair this scour hole, consisting of a mass concrete placement of approximately 1,350 cubic yards of concrete.



CONCRETE DETERIORATION

The headworks concrete is severely damaged. BIA completed localized repairs to extend the service life of these structural elements while a more permanent solution is developed.

