

News Release

News Release 05-12

Date: March 25, 2005

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Locks on the lower Snake River open early after annual maintenance

Walla Walla, Wash., – The Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers operations officials announced the re-opening of the navigation locks on lower Snake River today.

The opening is a day earlier than projected. Locks closed on the Columbia and Snake rivers on March 5 so the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and its contractors could perform annual inspections, repairs and maintenance on the navigation locks at the eight dams between Portland, Ore., and Lewiston, Idaho. The Columbia River navigation locks, including McNary, and Ice Harbor navigation lock on the Lower Snake River opened last week.

On the Snake River, repairs were made to Lower Monumental downstream gate and upstream guidewall. A water stop leak was repaired at Little Goose. Routine maintenance was performed at Ice Harbor and Lower Granite dams.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers coordinates the annual outage with inland shippers and cruise lines.

For more information on McNary, Ice Harbor, Lower Monumental, Little Goose and Lower Granite dams, contact the Walla Walla District Public Affairs Office at (509) 527-7020. Information is also available on the District's website at <u>www.nww.usace.army.mil</u>.

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