U.S. Department of the Interior Bureau of Reclamation

RECLAMATION Managing Water in the West

Potholes Supplemental Feed Route

Project Description

The Potholes Supplemental Feed Route project consists of modifying existing facilities to allow Reclamation to route water from Pinto Dam to Potholes Reservoir to ensure the water supply for the south end of the Columbia Basin Project. Recovery Act funds would complete the construction phase of the project.



Project Benefits

Reclamation designed the Columbia Basin Project to collect return flows from irrigation of land in the north half of the Project for delivery to the south half. This return flow is stored in Potholes Reservoir. This allows the Project to divert approximately 2.65 million acre-feet from the Columbia River at Grand Coulee Dam, and deliver approximately 3.4 million acre-feet. Since the Project is not fully developed, return flows must be supplemented with direct feed to ensure an adequate supply in Potholes Reservoir. Reclamation feeds water to the reservoir mainly through the East Low Canal.

This project will address capacity issues associated with the East Low Canal through development of an additional or supplemental feed route which is needed to ensure operational reliability. The project provides operational efficiency by recapturing and using return flows and ensures an adequate supply of water to irrigated land.

Budget Information

Recovery funding: \$5 million



For more information

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