

Potholes Supplemental Feed Route

Project Description

The Potholes Supplemental Feed Route project (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. American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funds will 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

Project Status

A \$1,000,000 grant was provided to Grant County to work on the Road 16 NE crossing in July 2009. This work has been completed. In September 2009, a \$675,547 contract was awarded to M.J. Hughes Construction, Inc., of Gresham, Oregon for work on the Pinto Dam Energy Dissipator and Brook Lake Weir. The weir work is complete and work on the dissipator has started. In March 2010, a \$705,850 contract was awarded to Associated Underwater Services, Inc., Spokane, Wash., to fabricate and install the 4X4 gate. These improvements are modifying existing facilities to route water from Pinto Dam to the Potholes Reservoir. Construction will be completed March 2011.

Budget Information

Recovery funding: \$5 million

For more information

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