

Weber Siphon Complex — Odessa Subarea

Project Description

The Weber Siphon Complex project consists of construction of second siphon barrels (cast-reinforced concrete pipe) to the Weber Branch and Weber Coulee Siphons. Right-of-way was acquired for the second siphon barrels when the first barrels were constructed. Some acquisition of minor construction right-of-way may be necessary.



Project Benefits

American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 funding will aid in completion of the siphons that will alleviate a bottleneck in the East Low Canal where the canal crosses Interstate 90. When completed, 70 to 100 percent of the 30,000 acre-feet permitted to Reclamation by the State of Washington can be delivered south of I-90. This area, called Odessa Subarea, has significant groundwater declines. The 30,000 acre-feet will allow 10,000 acres (10 percent) of the 103,000 acres currently irrigated by groundwater to move to surface irrigation within the Project boundary.

This will assist in alleviating declining ground water tables and reducing well-pump energy costs. In addition, completion of the siphons firms up the interruptible status of 3,000 acre-feet of municipal and industrial water and approximately 1,550 acres of irrigation contracts; and will allow delivery of an additional 2,000-5,000 acre-feet of municipal and industrial water.

Project Status

On Sept. 30, 2009, a contract was awarded to Mowat Construction Company, of Woodinville, Wash., for \$20.2 million. The project will supply irrigation water to approximately 10,000 acres, which are currently dependent on deep wells that contribute to groundwater declines in the Odessa Subarea. The project will also meet objectives of the State of Washington's Columbia River Water Management Act, which calls for the development of new water supplies while meeting the economic and community development needs of people, and preserving the environment. Construction will be completed December 2011.

Budget Information

Recovery funding: \$36 million

For more information

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