The background is a light blue gradient with several realistic water droplets of various sizes scattered across it. Some droplets are at the top, some at the bottom, and some in the middle. They have highlights and shadows, giving them a 3D appearance.

**SILT WILL PREVENT ALL OF US FROM
USE OF THE WATER AND RECREATION
ON BOTH SIDES OF THE DAM**

...AND IT WILL COST US OUR LIVELIHOODS.

YELLOWTAIL DAM WAS BUILT AS A PART OF THE 1944 FLOOD CONTROL ACT.

- THESE DAMS WERE BUILT WITH THESE PURPOSES:
- FLOOD CONTROL
- POWER GENERATION
- IRRIGATION
- SILT CONTROL
- RECREATION


OVER THE YEARS, SILT HAS DECREASED THE ABILITY OF THE PURPOSES OF THE ACT TO BE MET

- EMERGENCY STORAGE FOR FLOODING HAS BEEN REDUCED BY 103,415 ACRE-FEET OF SEDIMENT ACCUMULATION AT AN ANNUAL SEDIMENT ACCUMULATION RATE OF 2,480 ACRE-FEET.



THE ABILITY TO GENERATE CLEAN, GREEN ENERGY WILL BE REDUCED; ESPECIALLY DURING LOW WATER YEARS





OVER THE YEARS SILT HAS BEEN
STORED BUT NOT CONTROLLED.

EXCEPT AT THE KANE RAMP BY VOLUNTEERS



The Kane ramp was restored by volunteers from a local trucking company removing 20 feet of silt in 2007.

Wilson Brothers Construction cleaned it again.

The Big Horn County Fire District #1 brought a truck out and washed the silt off the ramp so that it wasn't slick to improve safety of boat launching.

THERE IS VERY LITTLE INFLOW FROM THE BOYSEN AND BUFFALO BILLS DAMS THAT IS NOT RETURN FLOW FROM IRRIGATION

- MANY YEARS, INCLUDING THIS ONE, THE MOST PROBABLE OPERATING PLAN AT THE 2 WYOMING DAMS WILL BE RELEASING JUST ENOUGH WATER TO COVER LEGAL WATER RIGHT CALLS ON THE WATER FOR IRRIGATION PURPOSES
- THE ONLY WATER THAT ENTERS THE BIG HORN LAKE IS:
 - RETURN FLOWS FROM IRRIGATION AND CANALS
 - EXCESS WATER NOT NEEDED FOR IRRIGATION
 - RUN OFF FROM RAIN AND SNOW BETWEEN THE 2 WY DAMS AND THE YELLOWTAIL DAM

WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

- IRRIGATION?
- NO. LESS THAN 10% IS DUE TO FARMING PRACTICES THAT ALLOW TOPSOIL TO ERODE INTO THE RIVER.
- CONSERVATION DISTRICTS AND USSC HAVE HELPED CLEAN UP ALL THE WATER THAT GOES BACK INTO THE RIVER.
- BY HELPING WITH BEST PRACTICES IN IRRIGATION TO MINIMIZE EROSION OF FIELDS
- AND CLEANING UP DRAINAGE SYSTEMS FROM AGING SEPTIC TANKS, ETC.

THEN WHERE DOES IT COME FROM?

- 90% COMES FROM RUNOFF EROSION FROM BLM CONTROLLED LANDS



HOW MUCH SILT IS THERE?

- ACCORDING TO THE 2007 CORPS OF ENGINEERS SILT STUDY OF THE BIG HORN LAKE, THEY ESTIMATE THAT THERE IS 10 FEET OF SILT AT BARRY'S LANDING AND AT THE MOUTH OF DRY HEAD/ HOODOO/PITCHFORK CREEKS.
- THE CORPS ESTIMATE THAT THE DELTA WILL EQUALIZE AT HORSESHOE BEND AT ELEVATIONS BETWEEN 3620 AND 3627 IN 4 TO 20 YEARS.

SILT DIRECTLY EFFECTS RECREATION

- ONLY WATER STORED IN THE LAKE CAN BE RELEASED TO THE DOWN STREAM FISHERIES.
- IF THE LAKE IS SILTED IN, THE CAPACITY TO STORE WATER IS COMPROMISED.
- MORE SILT = LESS WATER STORAGE SPACE.

SOME AREAS HAVE BEEN CLOSED LIKE THIS ROAD
THAT USED TO GO TO THE KANE CAMPGROUND



THIS IS ALL THAT REMAINS OF THE PARKING LOT AND
CAMPGROUND FACILITIES AT THE KANE RAMP.
NO FAMILY PLAYING HERE.
THE RAMP REMAINS OPEN TO FISHING BOATS.



THE SILT BRINGS MANY ECONOMIC CHALLENGES.


- THE NATIONAL RECREATION PARK ECONOMIC BENEFIT REPORT CONDUCTED BY U.S. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY SAYS THAT IN 2012, 245,831 VISITORS TO BIG HORN CANYON SPENT \$9,821,000 IN COMMUNITIES NEAR THE PARK.
- THE DOWNSTREAM FISHERIES REPORT BETWEEN \$35M AND \$50M IN FISHING TOURISM
- NO PLACE TO STORE WATER=NO WATER TO USE FOR RECREATION ON EITHER SIDE OF THE DAM. NO LAKE. NO CONSISTANT POWER GENERATION. NO DOWNSTREAM FISHERY. NO TOURISM.

SO NOW WHAT? WE HAVE TO WORK TOGETHER TO FIX THIS





STATE OF WYOMING HAS FUNDED 3 PROJECTS TO KEEP FISHING AND WILDLIFE ACTIVITIES WORKING

- DREDGING 2 SILT PONDS ON THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE
CAUSEWAY
 - CONTRIBUTED \$100K TO THE LOG BOOM AT HORSE SHOE
BEND
 - EXTENDED THE RAMP AT KANE
- 

WHAT HAS HAPPENED SO FAR...

- WE HAVE BEEN TALKING ABOUT IT FOR 8 YEARS
- WE HOSTED A TOUR OF THE SOUTH SIDE OF THE LAKE IN 2012 ATTENDED BY LENNY DUBERSTEIN AND ROB HILLDALE OF USBR, DAN PRIDAL OF USACOE, AND BOB CROFT OF FOBHL
- WE HAVE IDENTIFIED POTENTIAL MATCHING FUNDS TO HELP WITH THE ENGINEERING

DAN PRIDAL, U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS:

- TO EXTEND THE LIFE OF ANY RESERVOIR IS VERY IMPORTANT. YT HAS A MAJOR ROLE IN FLOOD CONTROL AND AS A PEAKING POWER GENERATION PLANT FOR WIND GENERATION
- EXTENDING THE LIFE OF YT WILL BENEFIT EVERYONE AND EVERYTHING. THE PUBLIC, TRIBAL, STATE GOVERNMENT, FEDERAL GOVERNMENT AND ALL WHO USE THE WATER FOR ANY USE.
- SINCE ALL WILL BENEFIT ALL SHOULD HELP IN FUNDING THIS PROJECT
- THE COR, USBR, BLM, NPS, WAPA, NRCS, MT, WY AND OTHERS CAN CONTRIBUTE THRU THE PROCESS OF INVESTIGATION, DESIGN, DEVELOPMENT AND CONSTRUCTION
- THE ROLE OF THE SEDIMENT SUB-COMMITTEE NOW IS TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE OVERALL BENEFITS OF EXTENDING THE LIFE OF YT, KEEP WORKING WITH THE BENTONITE COMPANIES AND OTHERS IN NEED OF TOPSOIL AND KEEP US MOVING ON THE PROJECT.

ROB HILDALE, DENVER USBR:

- THE DENVER USBR GROUP CAN HELP WITH THIS PROJECT
- THERE ARE SO MANY BENEFITS TO EXTENDING THE LIFE OF YT RESERVOIR

LENNY DUBERSTEIN, BILLINGS USBR

- I WILL TRY TO PREP THOSE WHO WILL BE DOING THIS WORK WHILE I AM IN DC FOR 6 MONTHS.
- I WILL CHECK ON FUNDING TO START THE SEDIMENT POND APPRAISAL STUDY WHICH INCLUDES BASIC ENGINEERING, ROUGH COSTING, LONG TERM BENEFITS, “RED FLAG” ISSUES AND ETC.
- IF THIS STUDY IS POSITIVE THEN THE FEASIBILITY STUDY WILL BE DONE WHICH INCLUDES NEPA, MORE DETAILED DESIGN AND ENGINEERING, CONSTRUCTION COST, ETC NEEDED TO PRESENT IT TO CONGRESS FOR FUNDING.

BOB CROFT, FOBHL

- THE SEDIMENT SUB-COMMITTEE WILL CONTINUE TO EDUCATE THE PUBLIC ON THE BENEFITS OF EXTENDING THE LIFE OF YT.
- CONTINUE WORKING WITH THE BENTONITE COMPANIES NEEDING TOPSOIL FOR CURRENT AND PAST MINING RECLAMATION OPERATIONS.
- HELP TO LOCATE FUNDING WHEN THE NEED ARISES.
- I VISITED WITH PATRICK ERGER OF THE GREAT PLAINS USBR AND TOM SAWATZKE DEPUTY AREA MANAGER OF THE MT-USBR ABOUT THE NEED TO KEEP ALL OF THE PROJECTS OF THE BIG HORN RIVER SYSTEM ISSUES GROUP ALIVE WHILE LENNY IS GONE. EVEN THE HELP OF THE PROFESSIONALS THAT HAVE MOVED FROM AREA TO REGIONAL ASSIGNMENTS, WHO HAD BEEN WORKING WITH US ON THESE PROJECTS.

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- THIS IS A LARGE PROJECT WITH LARGE REWARDS; DO YOU AGREE?
- WHAT SOLUTIONS CAN YOU SUGGEST?
- CAN YOU HELP LOBBY YOUR CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION FOR THE FINAL EXPENDITURE?
- CAN YOU RAISE MONEY OR ENLIST COMPANIES TO VOLUNTEER EQUIPMENT AND OPERATORS TO HELP IN THE PROCESS?
- DOES MT FISH, WILDLIFE AND PARKS HAVE INTEREST IN DONATING TO SILT MITIGATION?