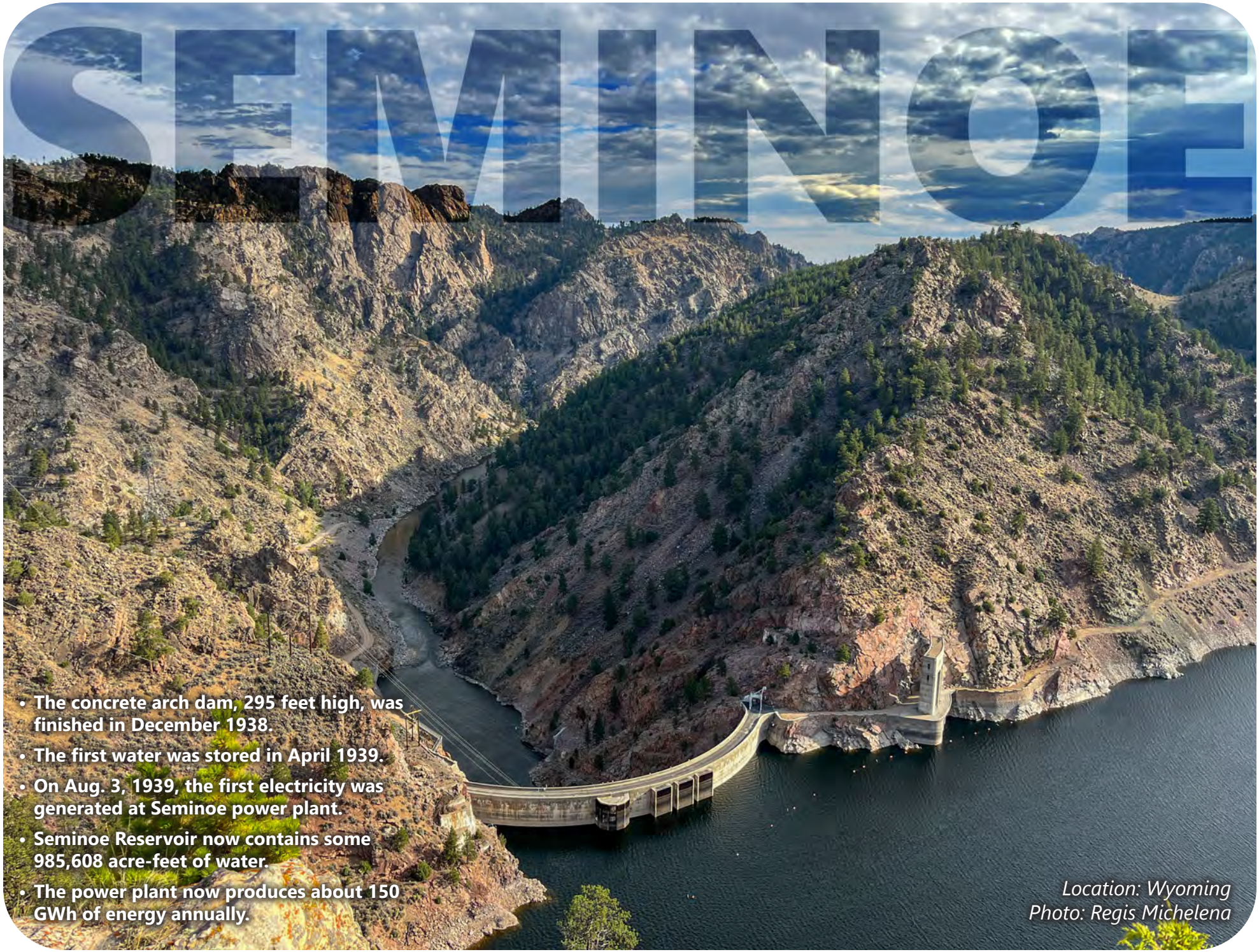
2026 CALENDAR

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Trent Lewis at Gibson Dam spillway.
-Jeff Ticknor



- The concrete arch dam, 295 feet high, was finished in December 1938.
- The first water was stored in April 1939.
- On Aug. 3, 1939, the first electricity was generated at Seminoe power plant.
- Seminoe Reservoir now contains some 985,608 acre-feet of water.
- The power plant now produces about 150 GWh of energy annually.

Location: Wyoming
Photo: Regis Michelena

JAN
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

Jan. 15, 1910: Last concrete placed at Shoshone Dam

Jan. 4, 1921: Shoshone Powerplant excavation begins

Jan. 10, 1951: 1st fill of Horsetooth Reservoir

Jan. 27, 1955: Lovewell Dam construction begins

Jan. 28, 1955: First diversion of water from Norton Dam

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
				Happy New Year 2026	2	3
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18	MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. DAY	20	21	22	23	24
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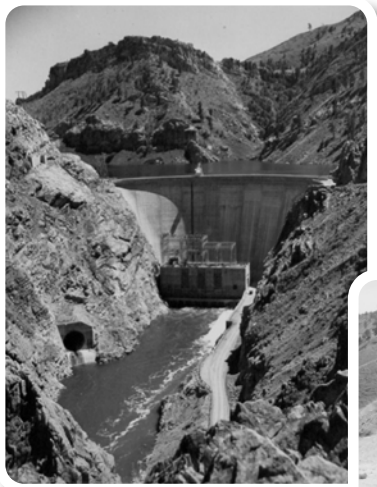

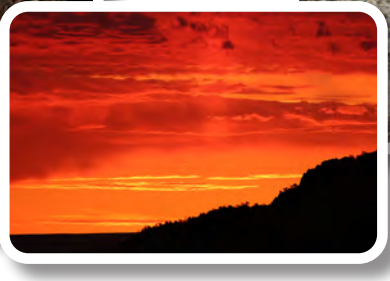

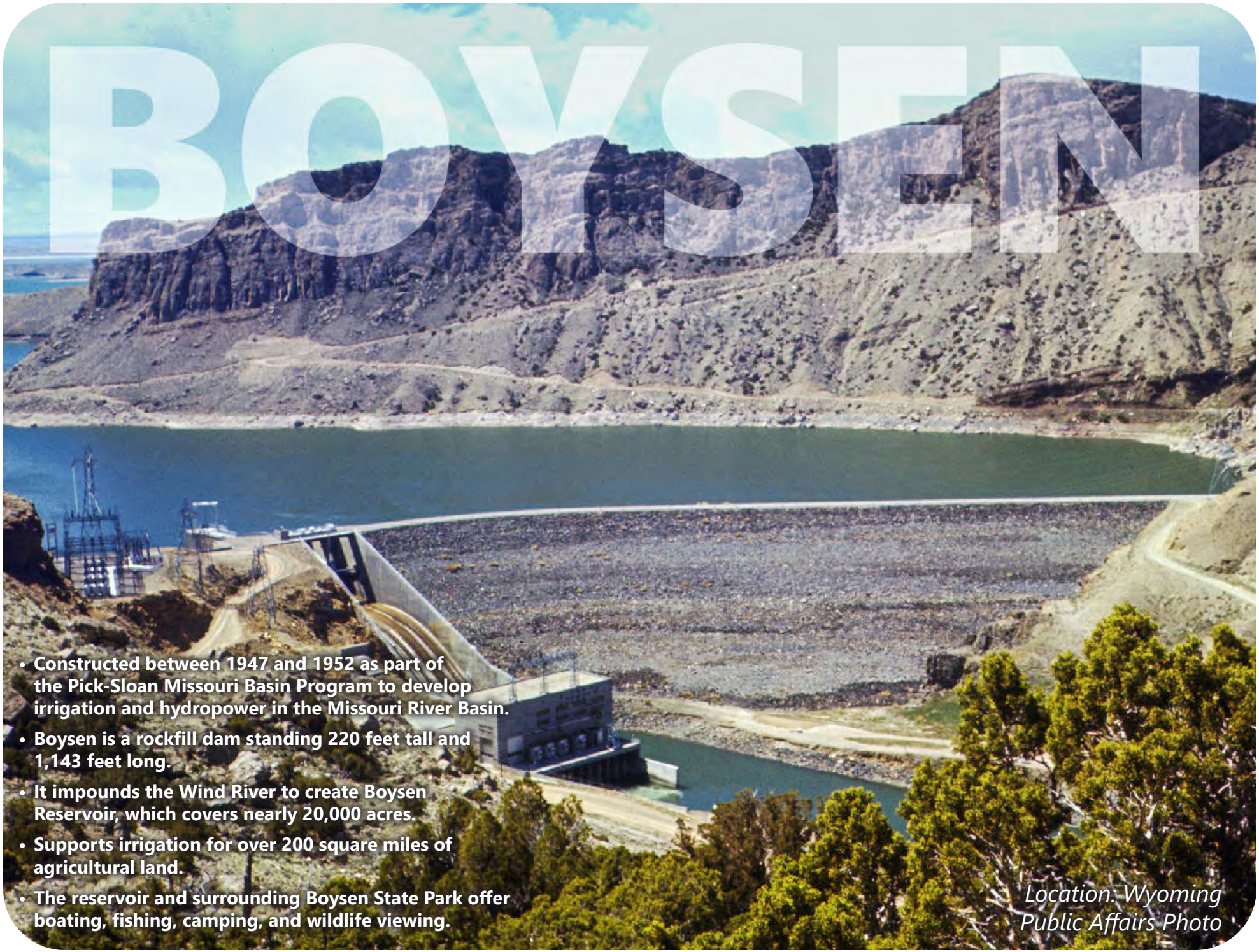

- Constructed between 1947 and 1952 as part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program to develop irrigation and hydropower in the Missouri River Basin.
- Boysen is a rockfill dam standing 220 feet tall and 1,143 feet long.
- It impounds the Wind River to create Boysen Reservoir, which covers nearly 20,000 acres.
- Supports irrigation for over 200 square miles of agricultural land.
- The reservoir and surrounding Boysen State Park offer boating, fishing, camping, and wildlife viewing.

Location: Wyoming
Public Affairs Photo

FEB
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

Feb. 26, 1906: Sun River Project authorized

Feb. 19, 1937: Marshall Ford Dam construction begins

Feb. 25, 1956: Washita Basin Project authorized

Feb. 13, 1963: Twin Buttes Dam completed

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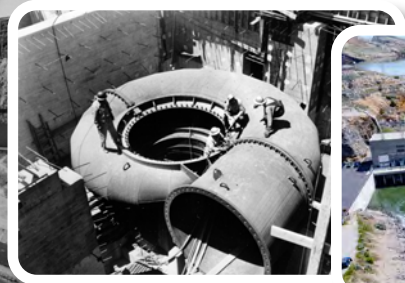
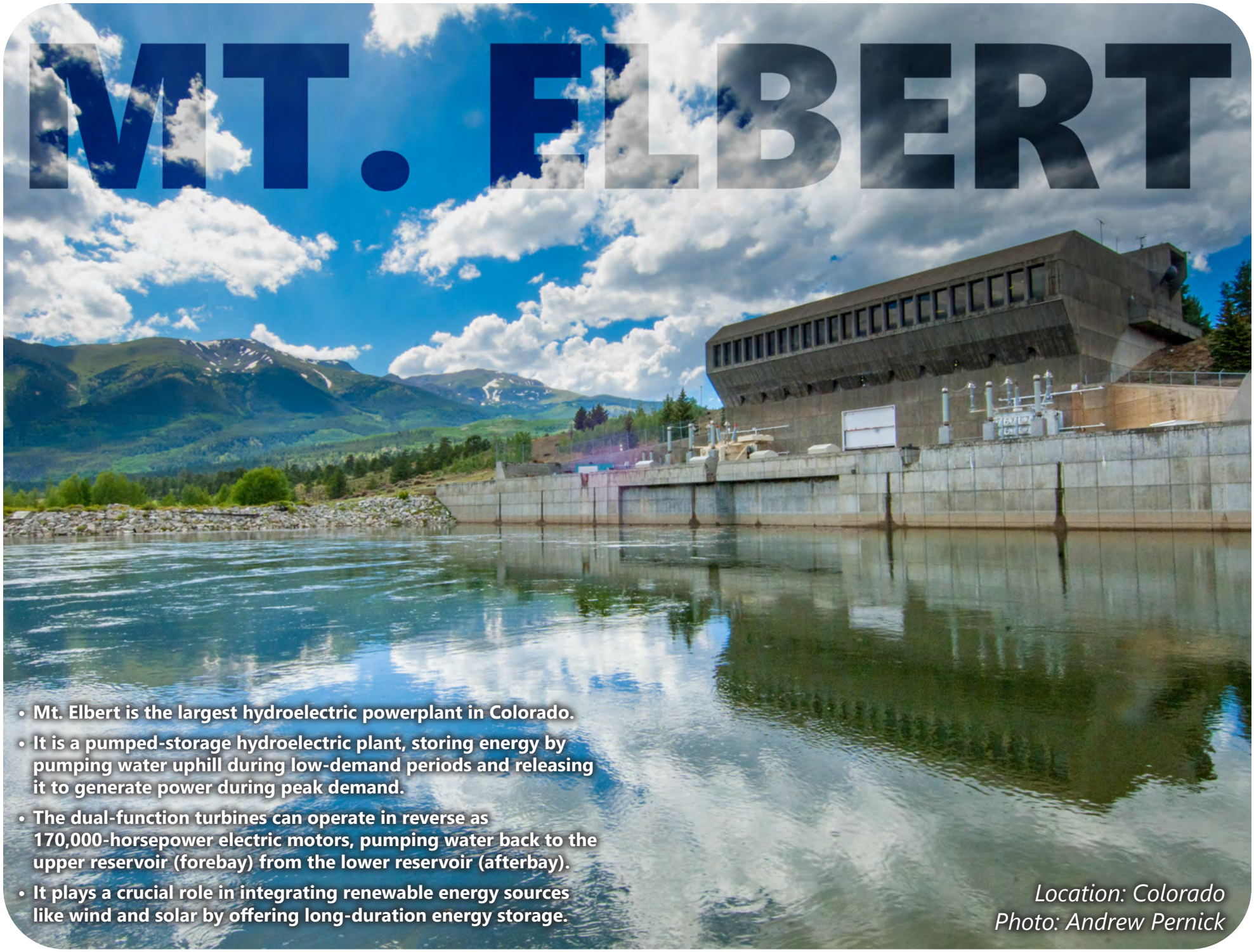


MT. ELBERT



- Mt. Elbert is the largest hydroelectric powerplant in Colorado.
- It is a pumped-storage hydroelectric plant, storing energy by pumping water uphill during low-demand periods and releasing it to generate power during peak demand.
- The dual-function turbines can operate in reverse as 170,000-horsepower electric motors, pumping water back to the upper reservoir (forebay) from the lower reservoir (afterbay).
- It plays a crucial role in integrating renewable energy sources like wind and solar by offering long-duration energy storage.

Location: Colorado
Photo: Andrew Pernick

MAR
2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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29	30	31				

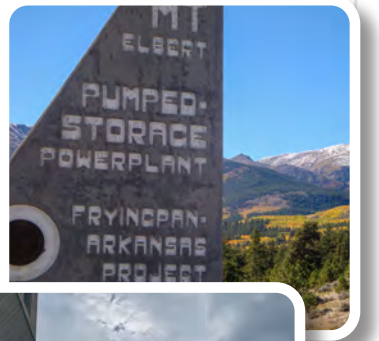
RECLAMATION MILESTONES

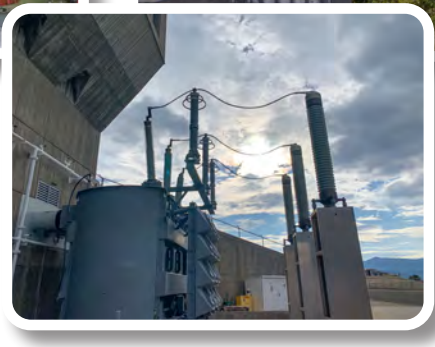
March 1, 1906: Belle Fourche Dam construction begins

March 23, 1908: Corbett Diversion Dam completed

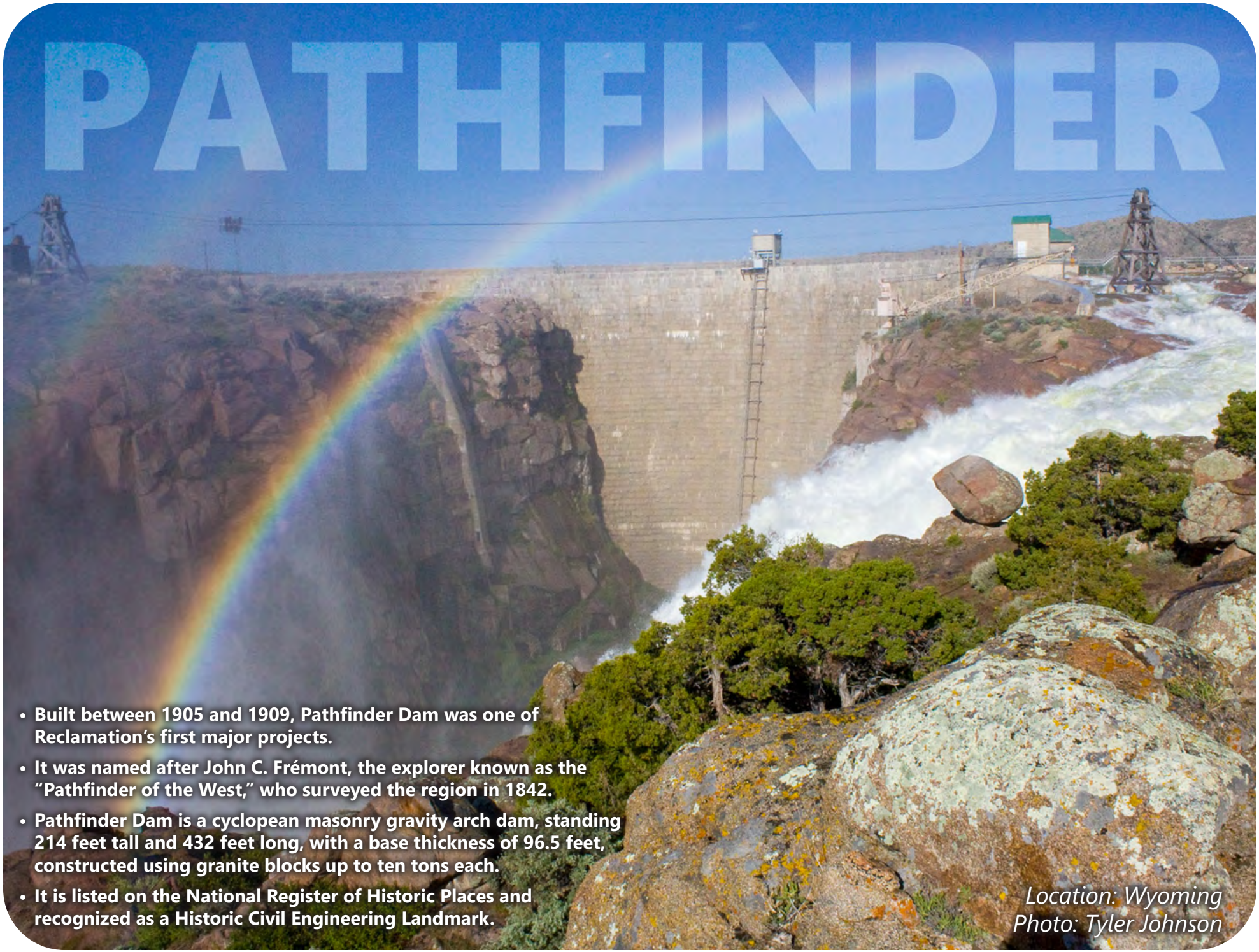
March 25, 1908: Jamestown Dam contract awarded

March 7, 1961: Merritt Dam construction begins





PATHFINDER



- Built between 1905 and 1909, Pathfinder Dam was one of Reclamation's first major projects.
- It was named after John C. Frémont, the explorer known as the "Pathfinder of the West," who surveyed the region in 1842.
- Pathfinder Dam is a cyclopean masonry gravity arch dam, standing 214 feet tall and 432 feet long, with a base thickness of 96.5 feet, constructed using granite blocks up to ten tons each.
- It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places and recognized as a Historic Civil Engineering Landmark.

Location: Wyoming
Photo: Tyler Johnson

APR
2026

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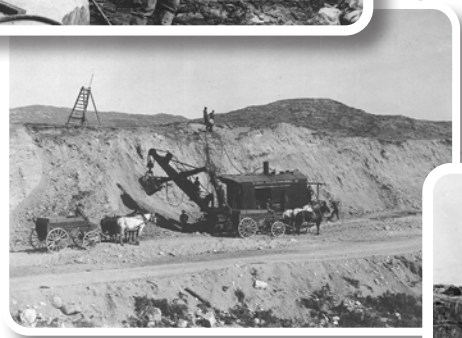
RECLAMATION MILESTONES

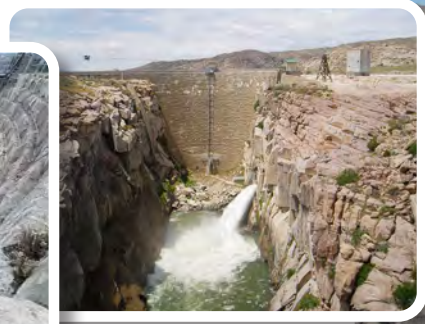
April 18, 1905: Huntley Project authorized

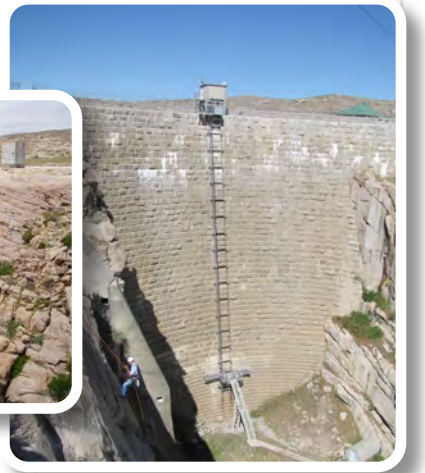
April 1, 1949: Cedar Bluff Unit construction begins

April 19, 1949: Shadehill Dam construction begins

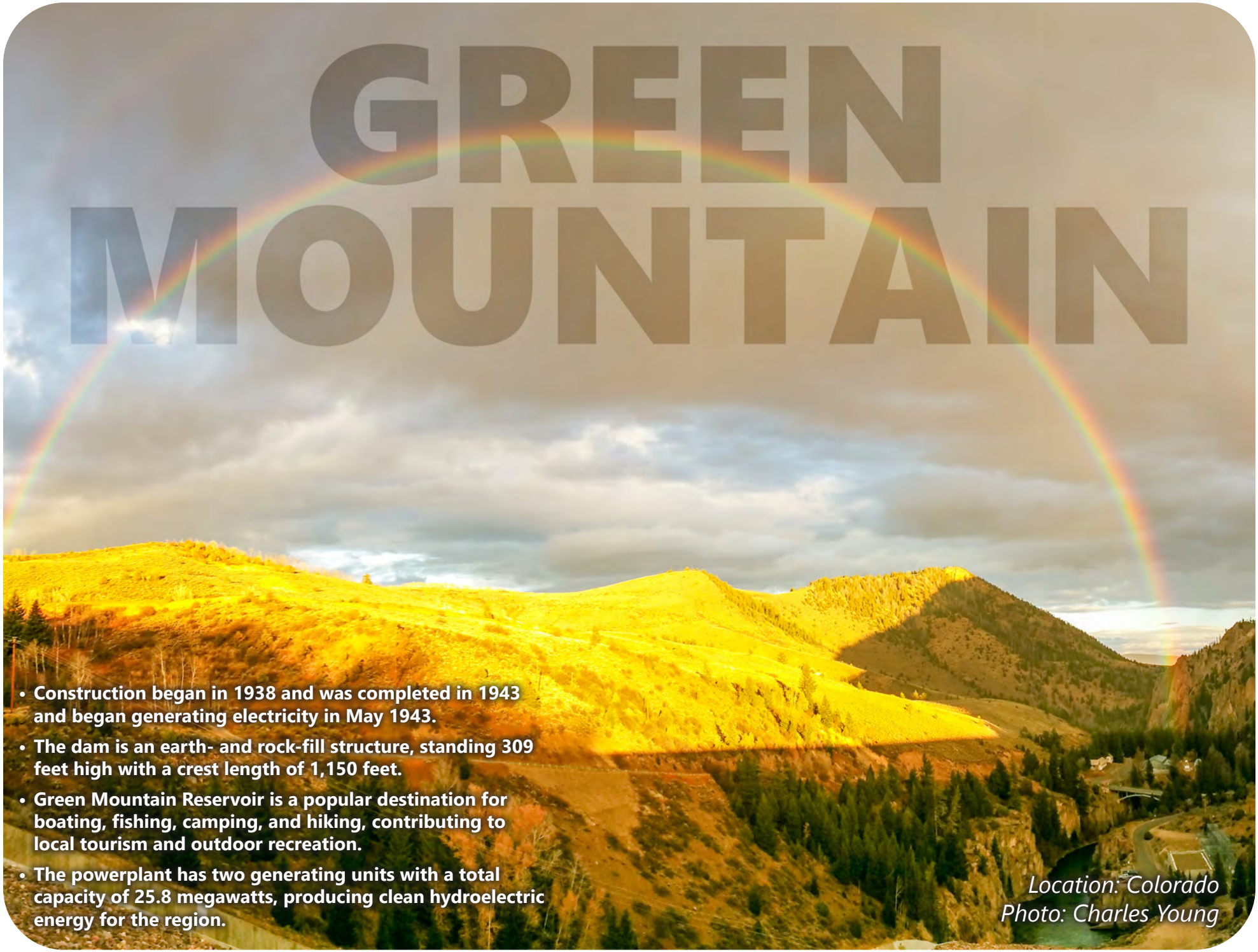
April 30, 1965: Pipeline construction for Norman Project completed







GREEN MOUNTAIN



- Construction began in 1938 and was completed in 1943 and began generating electricity in May 1943.
- The dam is an earth- and rock-fill structure, standing 309 feet high with a crest length of 1,150 feet.
- Green Mountain Reservoir is a popular destination for boating, fishing, camping, and hiking, contributing to local tourism and outdoor recreation.
- The powerplant has two generating units with a total capacity of 25.8 megawatts, producing clean hydroelectric energy for the region.

Location: Colorado
Photo: Charles Young

MAY
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

May 12, 1966: Altus Dam construction resumes after WWII delays

May 18, 1982: Choke Canyon Dam considered substantially complete

May 8, 2008: Federal funding for the Platte River Recovery Program authorized

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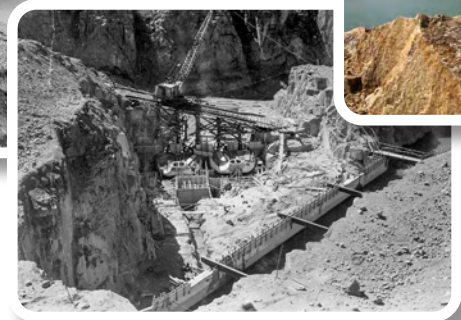
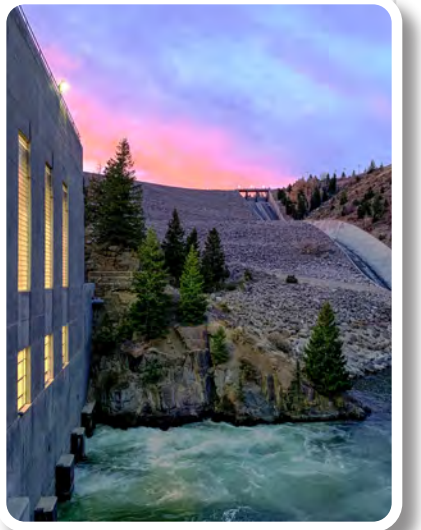
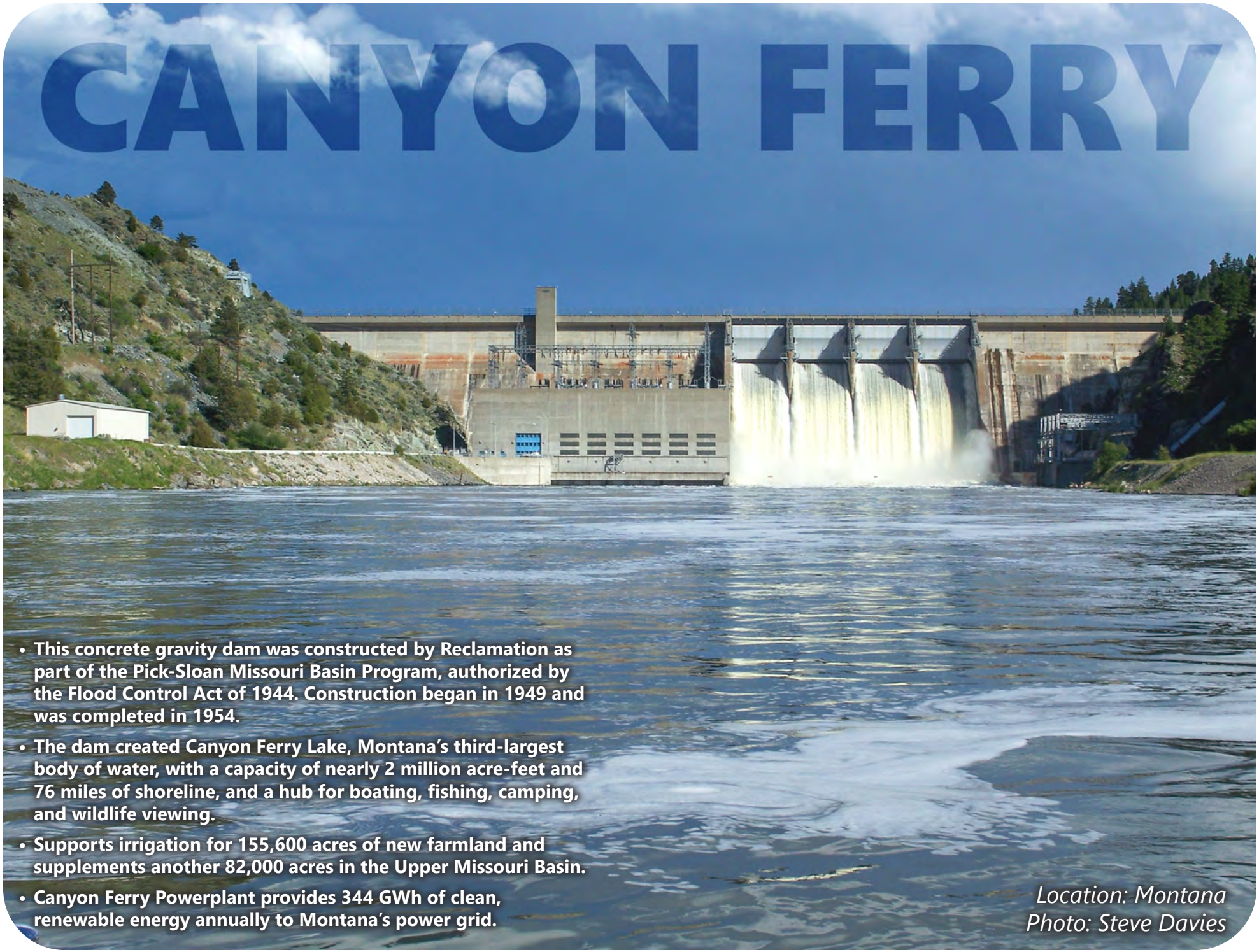




CANYON FERRY



- This concrete gravity dam was constructed by Reclamation as part of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program, authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1944. Construction began in 1949 and was completed in 1954.
- The dam created Canyon Ferry Lake, Montana's third-largest body of water, with a capacity of nearly 2 million acre-feet and 76 miles of shoreline, and a hub for boating, fishing, camping, and wildlife viewing.
- Supports irrigation for 155,600 acres of new farmland and supplements another 82,000 acres in the Upper Missouri Basin.
- Canyon Ferry Powerplant provides 344 GWh of clean, renewable energy annually to Montana's power grid.

Location: Montana
Photo: Steve Davies

JUN
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

June 17, 1902: U.S. Reclamation Service founded

June 12, 1906: Congress made Texas a Reclamation state

June 6, 1914: Construction of Lake Sherburne Dam authorized

June 29, 1972: 1st water from Fryingpan-Arkansas Project delivered

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- **Built between 1905 and 1910, it was originally known as Shoshone Dam. It was renamed in 1946 to honor William F. "Buffalo Bill" Cody, who championed irrigation in the region.**
- **At 325 feet, it was the tallest dam in the world when completed in 1910. A 25-foot extension in 1992 brought its height to 350 feet.**
- **Associated powerplants distribute 91 GWh of clean, renewable energy annually across three states.**
- **Supplies municipal water to six towns and rural areas in Park and Bighorn counties in Wyoming.**

Location: Wyoming
Photo: Dale Lentz

JUL
2026

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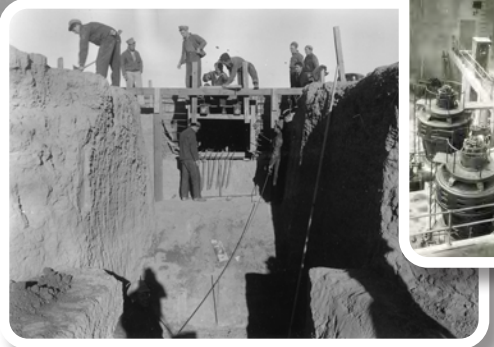
RECLAMATION MILESTONES

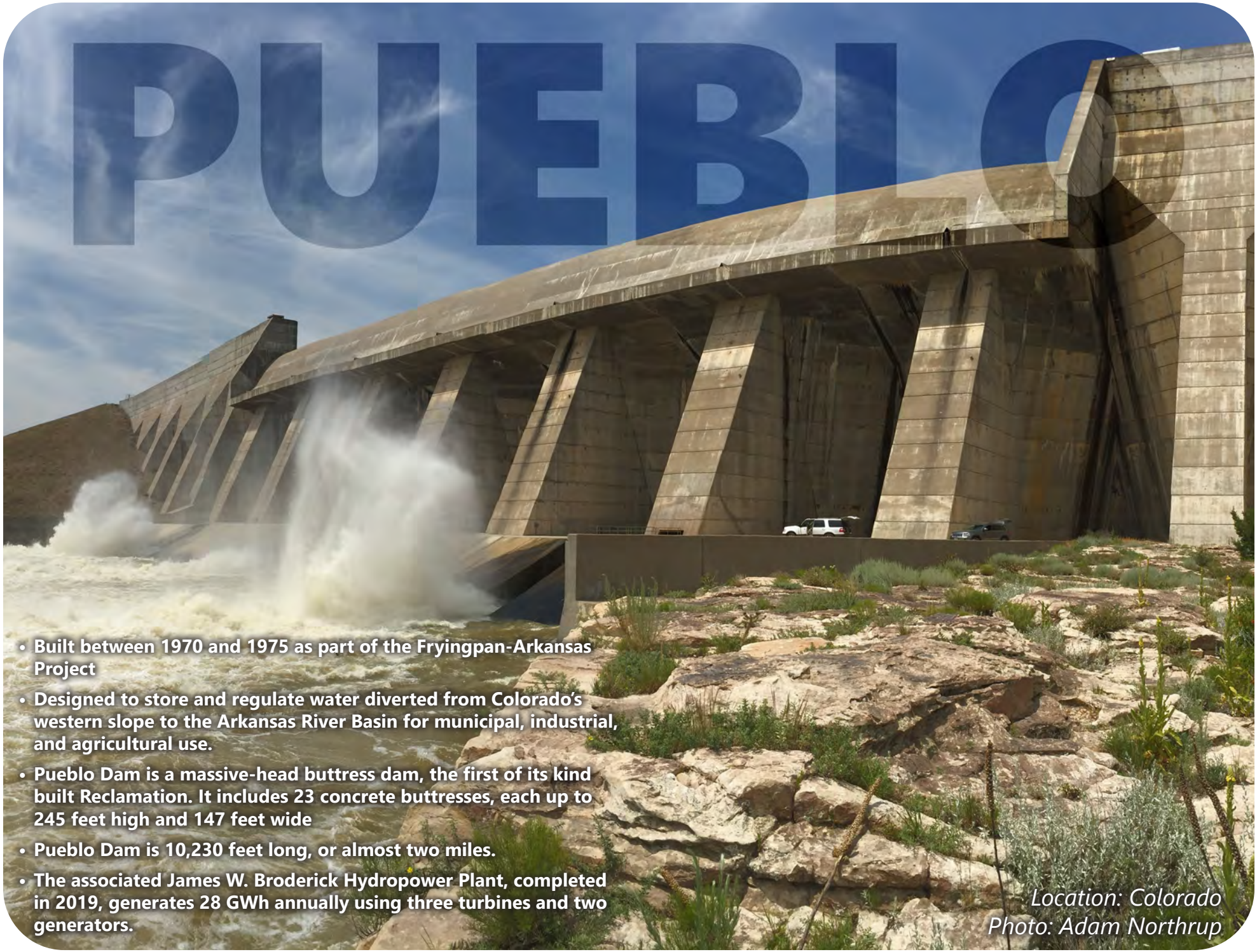
July 13, 1927: Guernsey Dam completed

July 28, 1947: 1st bucket of concrete placed at Angostura Dam

July 6, 1967: 1st water impounded at Shadehill Dam

July 10, 1982: McGee Creek Project groundbreaking





- Built between 1970 and 1975 as part of the Fryingpan-Arkansas Project
- Designed to store and regulate water diverted from Colorado's western slope to the Arkansas River Basin for municipal, industrial, and agricultural use.
- Pueblo Dam is a massive-head buttress dam, the first of its kind built Reclamation. It includes 23 concrete buttresses, each up to 245 feet high and 147 feet wide
- Pueblo Dam is 10,230 feet long, or almost two miles.
- The associated James W. Broderick Hydropower Plant, completed in 2019, generates 28 GWh annually using three turbines and two generators.

Location: Colorado
Photo: Adam Northrup

AUG
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

Aug. 11, 1946: Mirage Flats Project completed

Aug. 22, 1950: Alcova Powerplant authorized

Aug. 7, 1962: President Kennedy dedicated Oahe Dam

Aug. 16, 1962: Fryingpan-Arkansas Project authorized

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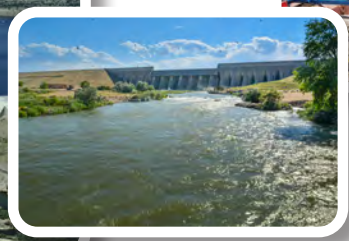

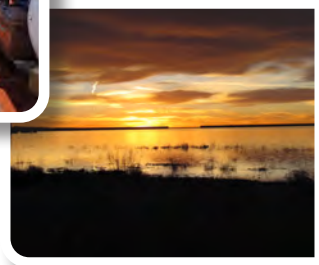

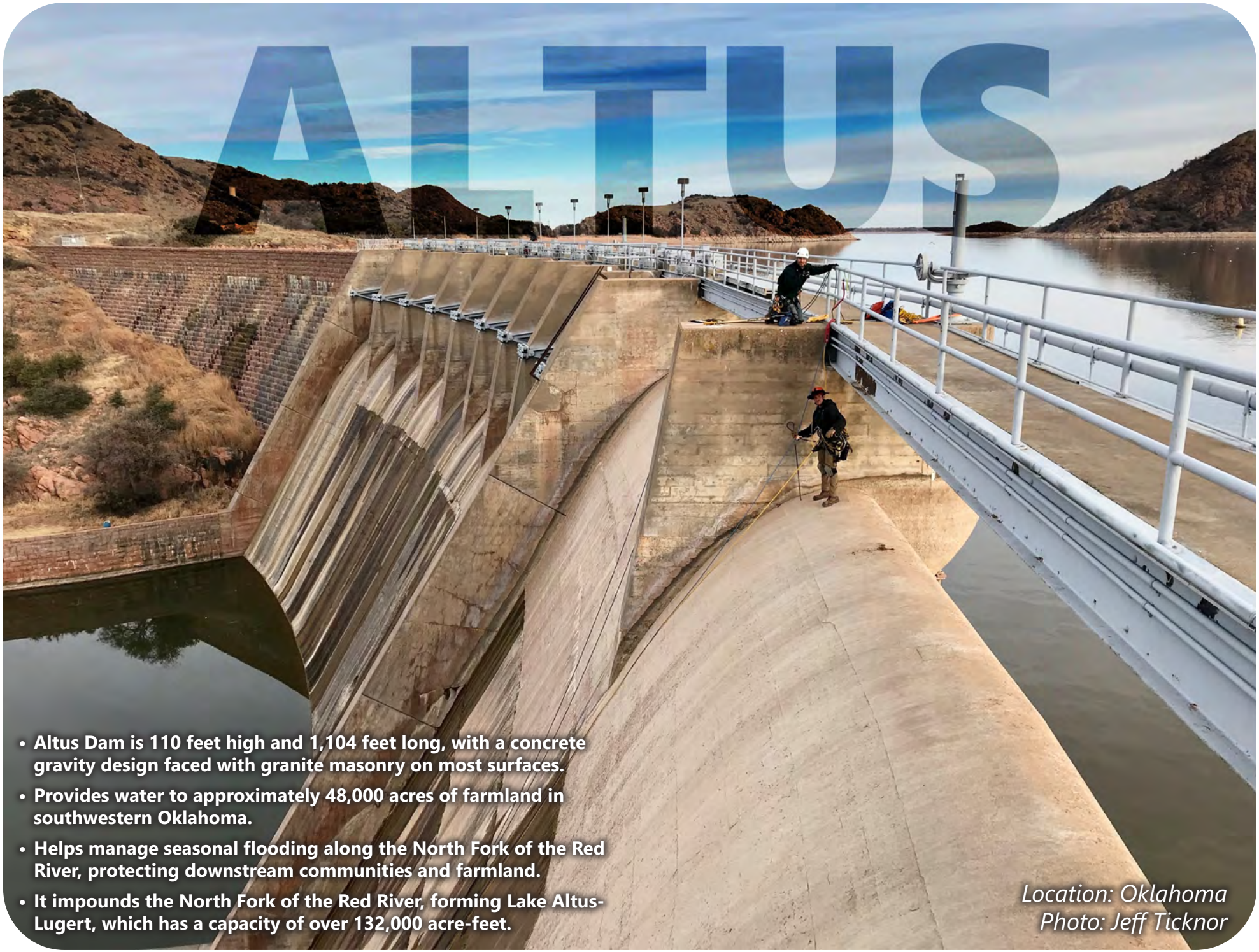

- **Altus Dam is 110 feet high and 1,104 feet long, with a concrete gravity design faced with granite masonry on most surfaces.**
- **Provides water to approximately 48,000 acres of farmland in southwestern Oklahoma.**
- **Helps manage seasonal flooding along the North Fork of the Red River, protecting downstream communities and farmland.**
- **It impounds the North Fork of the Red River, forming Lake Altus-Lugert, which has a capacity of over 132,000 acre-feet.**

Location: Oklahoma
Photo: Jeff Ticknor

SEP
2026

Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
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6	Labor Day	8	9	10	11	12
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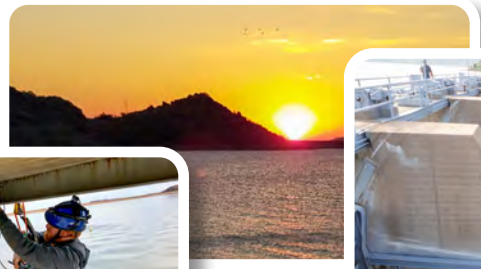
RECLAMATION MILESTONES

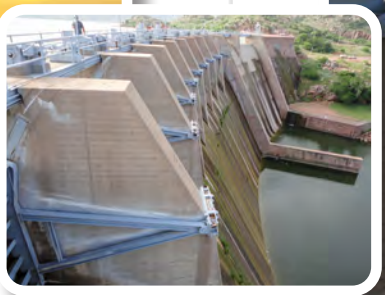
Sept. 5, 1947: Altus Dam dedicated

Sept. 13, 1950: 1st bucket of concrete placed at Canyon Ferry Dam

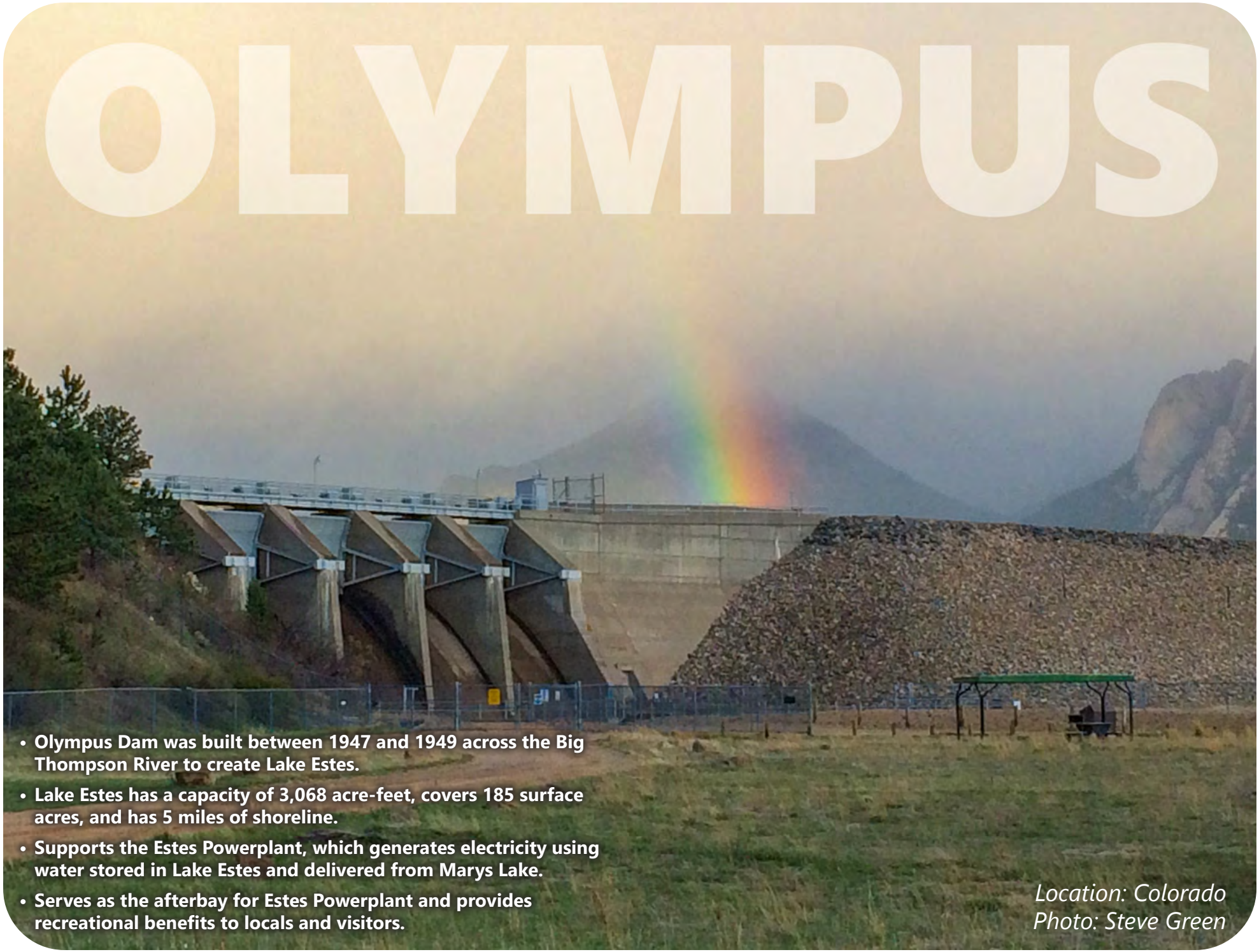
Sept. 20, 1953: Jamestown Dam completed 251 days ahead of schedule

Sept. 21, 1968: Mountain Park Project authorized





OLYMPUS



- **Olympus Dam was built between 1947 and 1949 across the Big Thompson River to create Lake Estes.**
- **Lake Estes has a capacity of 3,068 acre-feet, covers 185 surface acres, and has 5 miles of shoreline.**
- **Supports the Estes Powerplant, which generates electricity using water stored in Lake Estes and delivered from Marys Lake.**
- **Serves as the afterbay for Estes Powerplant and provides recreational benefits to locals and visitors.**

Location: Colorado
Photo: Steve Green

OCT
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

Oct. 5, 1965: 1st storage in Norton Dam

Oct. 27, 1974: Nueces River Project authorized

Oct. 3, 2020: Arkansas Valley Conduit Groundbreaking Ceremony

Oct. 15, 2020: St. Mary Canal Repairs Ribbon Cutting Ceremony

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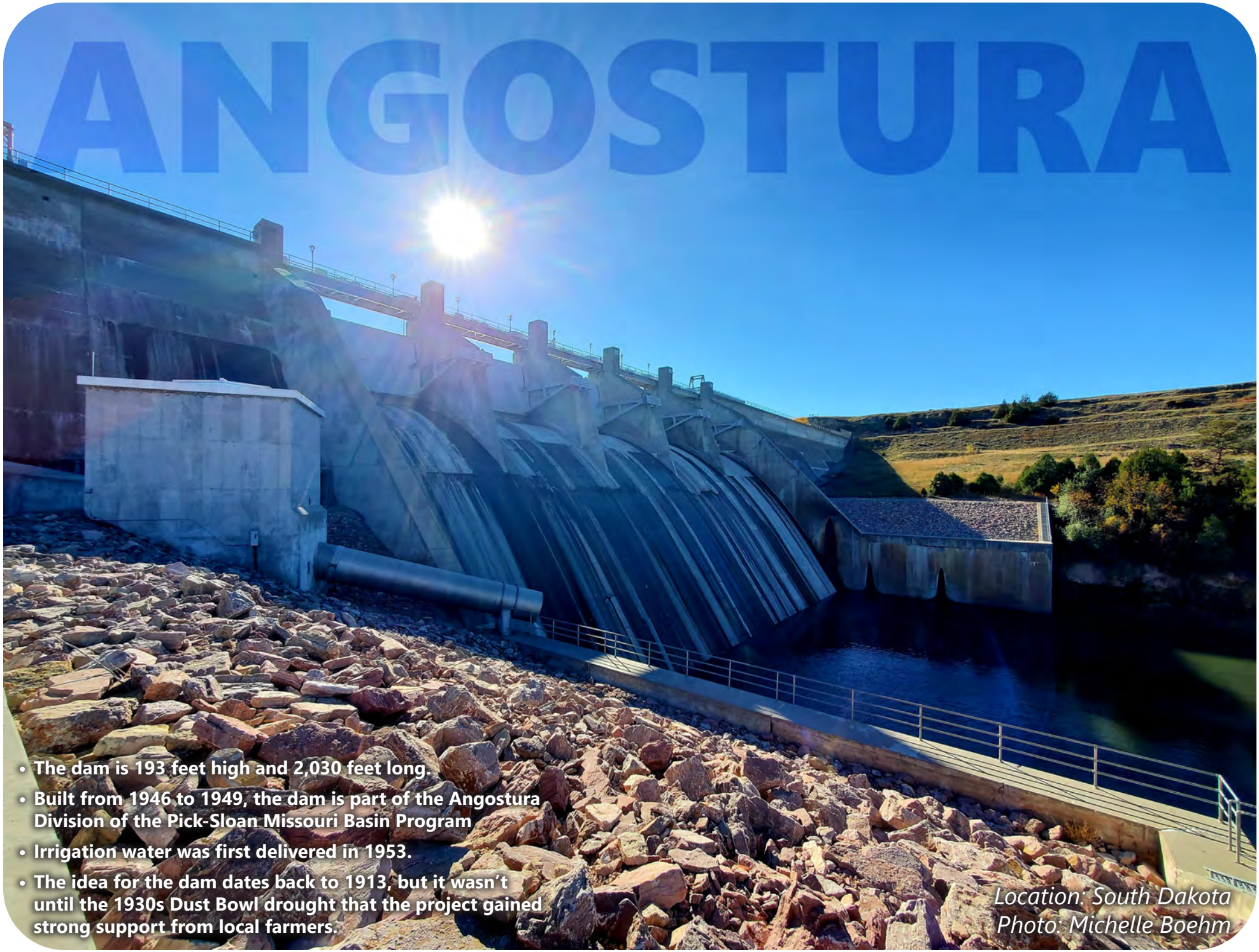
ANGOSTURA



- The dam is 193 feet high and 2,030 feet long.
- Built from 1946 to 1949, the dam is part of the Angostura Division of the Pick-Sloan Missouri Basin Program
- Irrigation water was first delivered in 1953.
- The idea for the dam dates back to 1913, but it wasn't until the 1930s Dust Bowl drought that the project gained strong support from local farmers.

Location: South Dakota
Photo: Michelle Boehm

NOV
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

Nov. 10, 1945: WWII Japanese internment camp on Shoshone Project closed

Nov. 14, 1946: Milk River Project construction completed

Nov. 5, 1952: Boysen Dam & Powerplant completed

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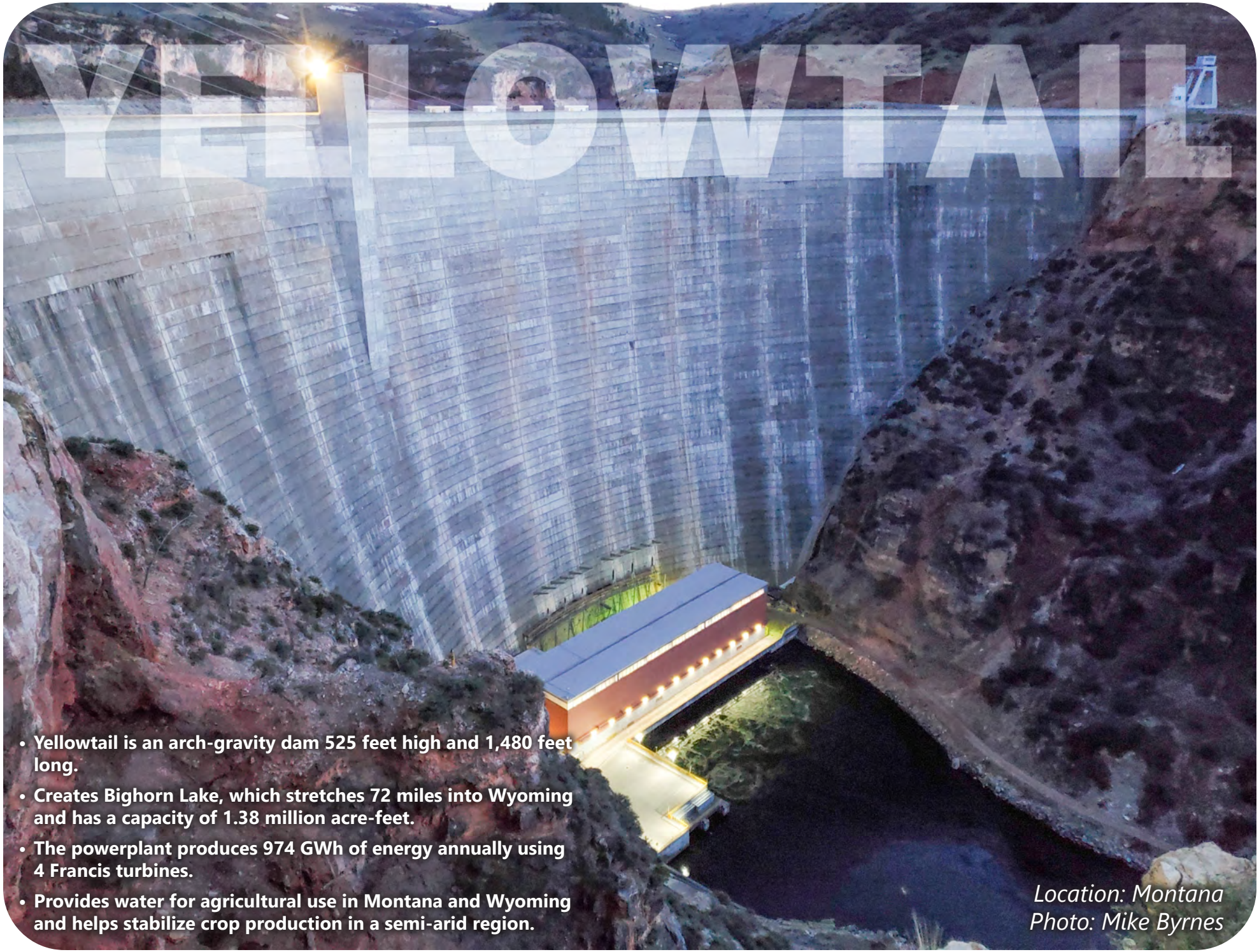

- **Yellowtail is an arch-gravity dam 525 feet high and 1,480 feet long.**
- **Creates Bighorn Lake, which stretches 72 miles into Wyoming and has a capacity of 1.38 million acre-feet.**
- **The powerplant produces 974 GWh of energy annually using 4 Francis turbines.**
- **Provides water for agricultural use in Montana and Wyoming and helps stabilize crop production in a semi-arid region.**

Location: Montana
Photo: Mike Byrnes

DEC
2026

RECLAMATION MILESTONES

Dec. 22, 1944: Flood Control Act became law, creating Pick-Sloan Program

Dec. 8, 1948: Heart Mountain Powerplant begins service

Dec. 9, 1949: Heart Butte Unit completed

Dec. 29, 1950: Canadian River Project authorized

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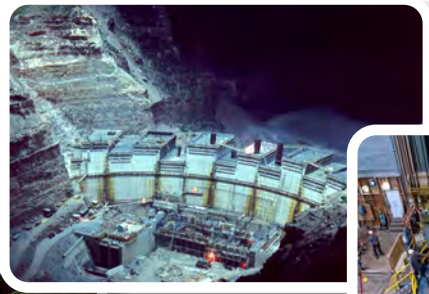

2027

JAN

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FEB

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MAR

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APR

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MAY

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JUN

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JUL

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AUG

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SEP

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OCT

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NOV

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DEC

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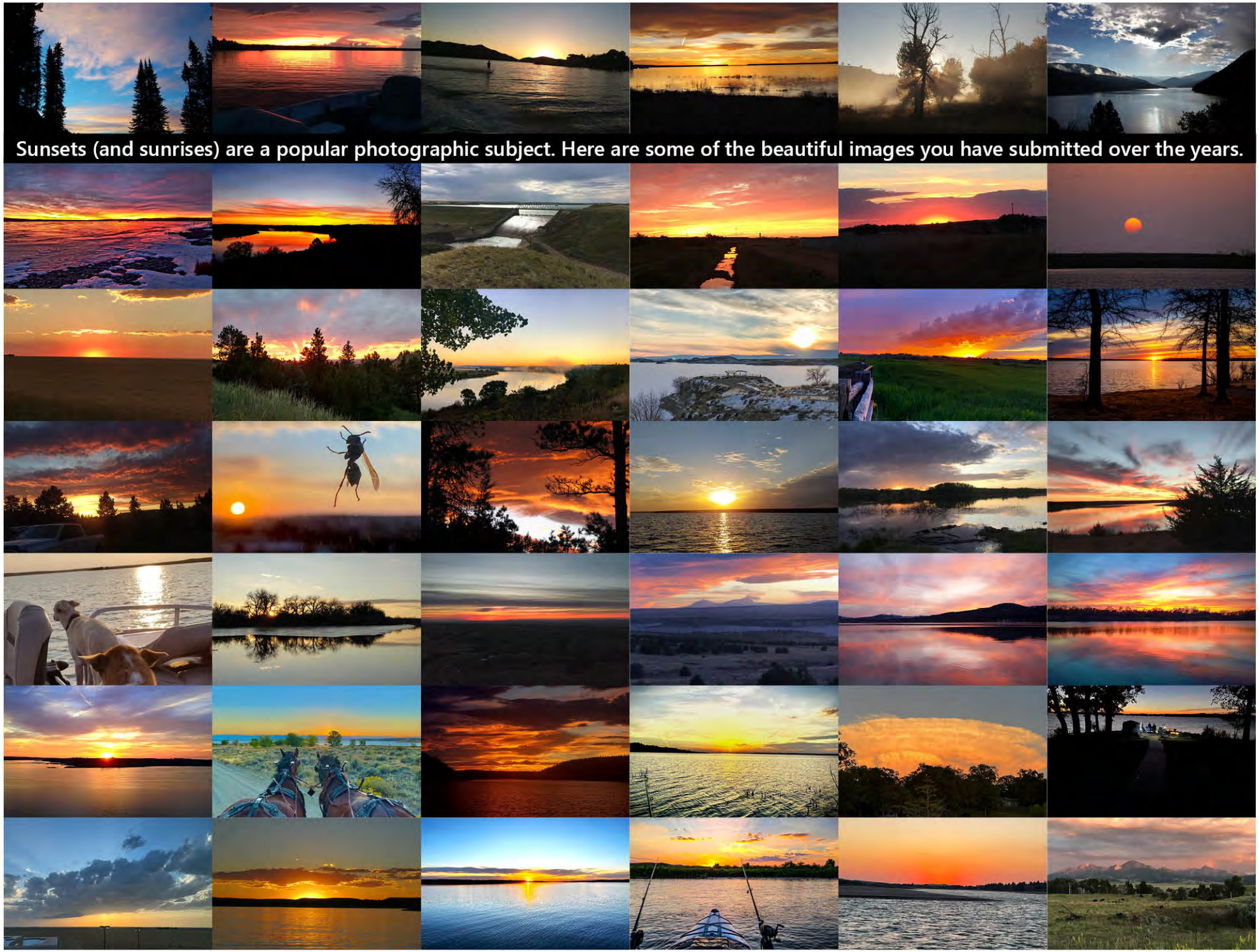

Sunsets (and sunrises) are a popular photographic subject. Here are some of the beautiful images you have submitted over the years.

People being people with other people.