

American Falls Concrete Spillway Rehabilitation Project

American Falls Dam, a 94-foot-high composite concrete and earth gravity-type dam on the Snake River in Power County, near the town of American Falls, is undergoing a two-year spillway rehabilitation project. Season one construction began June 1, 2020 and concluded December 7, 2020. The planned construction activities address the need for replacement and repair of deteriorating concrete on the spillway, spillway gate operator decks, downstream dam face, two dam entrances, and stilling basin structures, which have experienced degradation over 42 years in service. Work will resume June 1, 2021.

The replacement of two dam entrances, some dam face repairs, hydro demolition of the entire spillway, and replacement of some of the lower portion of the spillway concrete have been completed. The concrete placements on the remainder of the spillway have been rescheduled for the 2021 construction period. In addition to the spillway work, the rehabilitation of the stilling basin structure, the operator gate decks, and the remaining dam face repairs also will occur. Construction is anticipated to be completed December in 2021.

Flows will resume through the spillway in mid-December and will continue until summer 2021. Reclamation continues to operate American Falls Reservoir consistent with previous years during the 2020 and 2021 construction periods. For up-to-date water storage conditions at the reservoir, information regarding releases from American Falls Dam, and project updates can be found at the project website at <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/ea/idaho/americanfalls/index.html>.

The final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact was completed on May 20, 2019, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act. A supplemental information report was completed in May 2020.