



Linderman Dam Restoration Project



Linderman Dam is located in Teton and Fremont counties, Idaho, surrounded by rugged and steep canyon cliffs. Spanning the width of the river, the dam was built in the late 1950s by local farmers to provide irrigation water to farmland above the canyon. It was largely dismantled in 1972 for the construction of Teton Dam. After the 1976 failure of Teton Dam, the river resumed its previous course, and the footings of Linderman Dam were exposed. The structural remains are located on the Teton River approximately seven miles upstream from the Teton Dam site, just downstream from the Milk Creek confluence. Successful project completion will eliminate the safety hazards; improve passage for aquatic species, including native Yellowstone cutthroat trout; rehabilitate the river to a more natural and passable elevation profile; and maintain upstream pool elevation for irrigation demands.

Floating the Teton River

Safety is a top priority for Reclamation. This restoration project will eliminate the safety hazards created by the remaining components of the Linderman Dam structure.

Safety hazards are as follows:

- hydraulic drop at the existing structure
- hydraulic roller downstream of the structure
- eroded concrete and exposed vertical pipes protrude into the river flow

- A horizontal concrete beam in the center of the former dam extends across the river at about the level of the water surface during average base-flow conditions

Licensed outfitters floating the Teton River may experience minimal impacts. Coordination will continue with these outfitters and project cooperators throughout construction.

Construction may temporarily prevent downstream passage. In some circumstances, recreators may be required to exit the river and re-enter downstream to continue with the float.



The public should use extreme caution around the construction area. There are four signs in place to advise the public of the current hazard. Signs are located at Spring Hollow, two upstream of Linderman Dam, and one at the dam site. Additional cautionary signage is posted at upstream river access locations.

Construction

Reclamation crews built a natural riffle downstream of the existing structure in the Teton River in 2021. The existing dam components that protrude above the inundated concrete dam crest will be removed when annual inspections of the newly constructed riffle are completed. Any repairs needed for the riffle will be done at that time. Phase two construction is anticipated to begin in Aug. 2023 and conclude in Oct. 2023. Individuals recreating may experience minimal impacts during the construction window. Construction dates will be updated on our website and with the outfitters.

Stay informed

For up-to-date information, please visit <https://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/ea/idaho/linderman/index.html>.

If you have any questions, please contact:

- Erika Lopez, public affairs specialist, eralopez@usbr.gov, 208-378-5101
- Arien Chavez, project manager, amchavez@usbr.gov, 208-678-0461 x27
- Michael Hilliard, assistant area manager, mhilliard@usbr.gov, 208-678-0461 x34