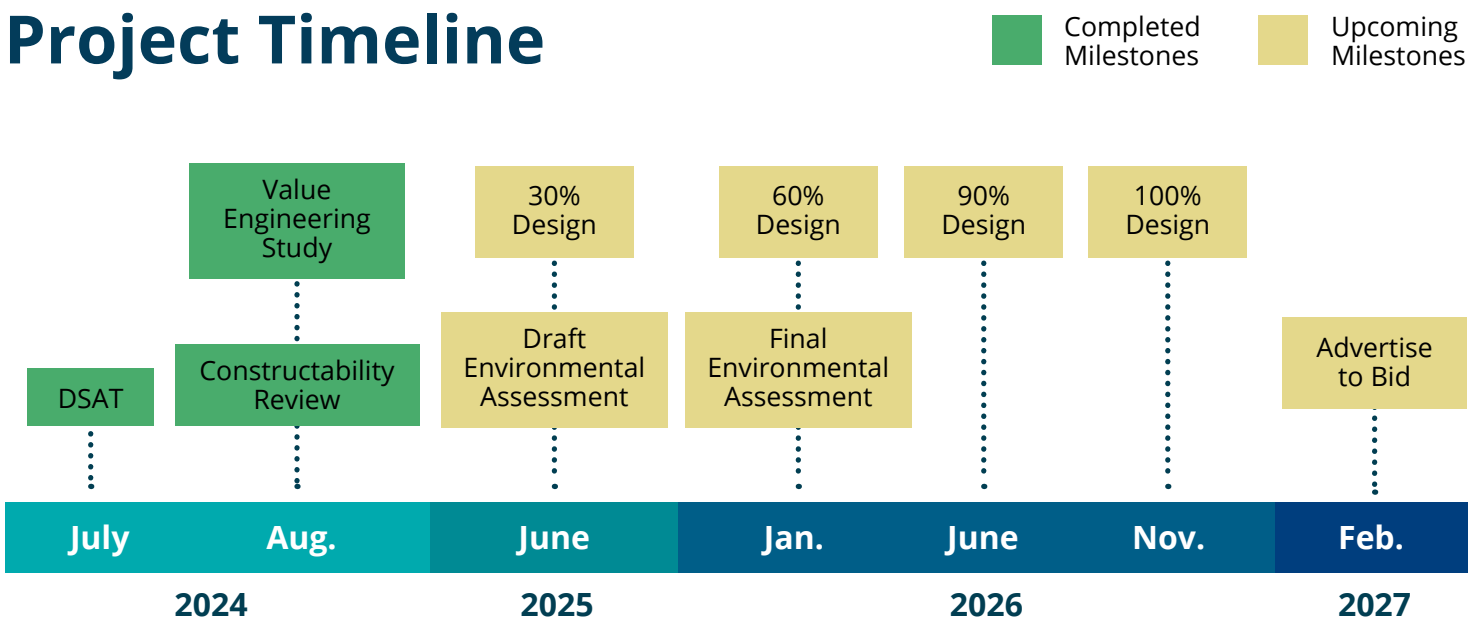
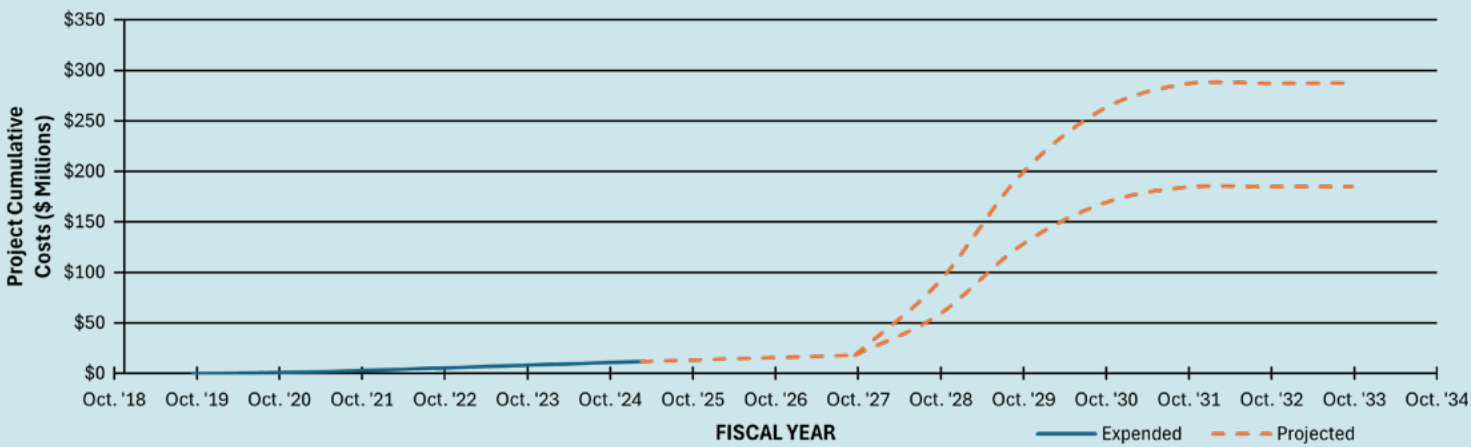


# Project Timeline



## Conconully Dam Modifications: Expended to Date Costs and Projected Costs



# Upcoming Public Involvement Opportunities

The draft environmental assessment public comment period is set for June 10–July 10, 2025.

**In-person public comment meetings:** During the comment period, the public can provide input and participate in the draft EA review and comment process through two public meetings held on June 25. The first meeting will take place from **10 a.m. to 12 p.m. PDT at the Conconully Community Town Hall**, located at 219 N. Main St., Conconully, WA 98819. The second meeting will be from **6 to 8 p.m. PDT at the Okanogan County PUD Auditorium**, located at 1331 2nd Avenue N., Okanogan, WA 98840.

**Virtual Public Meeting Room website:** Will be available to the public 24 hours a day for the entire comment period for browsing project information, downloading documents, maps, and other data, submitting comments, and getting answers to frequently asked questions.

# Living with Dams A Shared Responsibility



## Reclamation’s Safety of Dams program is a model for dam safety around the world.

Reclamation’s goal is to ensure long-term stability of dams to protect lives and property. We regularly assess and monitor our facilities, with an emphasis on dam safety.

Our engineering and inspection teams work to ensure Reclamation dams do not present risks outside our recommended Dam Safety Public Protection Guidelines - December 2022.

Conconully Dam is more than 100 years old and is performing as designed. Reclamation has performed detailed investigations and analyses to evaluate the performance of Conconully Dam in the event of a large earthquake. We are developing construction modifications to reduce risk at Conconully Dam in the event of an earthquake.

Reclamation monitors earthquake activity throughout the Columbia–Pacific Northwest Region. When certain criteria are triggered, Reclamation’s Emergency Management Office coordinates with Okanogan Irrigation District to conduct earthquake inspections for Conconully Dam. Reclamation and OID will work with Okanogan County Emergency Management regarding emergency warnings to ensure timely and informative notifications are delivered to impacted communities downstream of the dam.

**\*Always be aware of your surroundings and take action if needed.**

**\*To ensure you receive timely warnings, sign up with Okanogan County Alerts:**

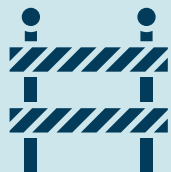
<https://www.okanogancounty.org/government/emergency-management/index.php>



## Whether you live, work, or play near dams, safety is a shared responsibility.



Be aware of the dangers near dams and associated facilities. Flows may change unexpectedly. Obey all warning signs.



Always maintain a safe distance from buoys and barriers.



If you are below a dam, protect yourself—know your flood zones and evacuation routes. In the event of an earthquake, DO NOT WAIT, take action.



# Frequently Asked Questions

## When was the dam built?

Original construction of the dam was completed in 1910 utilizing engineering techniques appropriate for that era. The dam was 70 feet high and contained 359,000 cubic yards of fill. In 1920, the dam was raised 2.5 feet, increasing the capacity to 13,000 acre-feet. Between 1968 and 1969, the crest of the dam was repaired with new embankment materials and riprap. The original open-chute concrete spillway was replaced with a concrete-baffled apron spillway to carry 11,580 cubic feet per second.

## Why wasn't the dam designed for earthquakes in the first place?

Dams designed and constructed in the early 1900s did not include consideration for earthquakes. Little was known at the time about the potential hazard earthquakes can pose to dams. Research performed from the 1970s to present day has greatly increased dam-designer's knowledge about potential impacts from earthquakes. At the same time, our understanding of the regional geology and the potential magnitude of earthquakes has also increased.

## What is liquefaction?

Liquefaction takes place when loosely packed, saturated soil loses its strength in response to strong ground shaking. Liquefaction occurring beneath/within the dam may cause settlement and possible breach of the dam.

## Who is paying for this work?

Under the Safety of Dams Act, costs are shared between the Bureau of Reclamation and associated water users at an 85/15% ratio, respectively.

## How long will construction take?

The length of time for construction will vary depending on the final design details and potential resource constraints. However, we will do as much as we can to limit impacts. Reclamation is currently planning on a total construction window of four to five years that will be followed by one or two years of post-construction and remediation monitoring activities.

## Will irrigation deliveries be stopped or reduced during construction?

Reclamation is committed to maintaining irrigation deliveries during construction. Work on the outlet works conduit will be done during the non-irrigation season. Additionally, placement of the partially constructed conduit into temporary service will be done during the irrigation season.

## Will future Safety of Dams work impact reservoir water levels?

During construction, Conconully Reservoir will be managed within its historical/current operating range of elevation 2250 to 2287.

## Why is a vote needed? What if irrigators do not vote?

The OID has determined that in order to comply with State law, an election of the qualified electors in the OID is needed to grant the OID board the authority to enter into a contract with the United States to commit the OID and its patrons to repayment of the OID's share of the construction costs of the project. There is no minimum number or percentage of qualified OID electors required to participate in the election for the voting process to be valid. Therefore, if a qualified OID elector chooses not to vote, they are effectively allowing other OID electors to make a decision that impacts them.

## How do irrigators vote when they don't know the total cost of the project yet?

At the time of the OID election, voters will be notified about the total estimated costs of the project as well as the terms of repayment for the actual total costs of the project that are subject to reimbursement. It is important to note that a "YES" vote does not require the OID board to proceed with the project regardless of the total cost. The OID board will continue to have the ability to step away from the project and consider other alternatives if they believe the total project costs are too high for the OID and its patrons. As the final design develops, Reclamation will continue to refine the opinion of probable cost and will share these updates with the OID board.

## What if the vote fails? What will Reclamation do next?

If a patron vote failed to authorize execution of a repayment contract, Reclamation will assess whether a non-structural alternative, such as a permanent reservoir restriction, could sufficiently reduce the safety risks associated with the dam. If the OID election does not pass, Reclamation still has a responsibility under the Safety of Dams Act to implement non-structural and/or structural modification alternatives it deemed necessary to sufficiently reduce any dam safety risks. If Reclamation determines it was necessary to proceed in the absence of a repayment contract before starting the SOD modification, the costs incurred will still be subject to the allocation and reimbursement provisions of the Safety of Dams Act. In this scenario, Reclamation would likely seek to negotiate repayment arrangements with the OID afterward. If those negotiations are unsuccessful, it could lead to U.S. Treasury offset procedures.

## What are you doing now to improve dam safety?

Reclamation completed several interim risk reduction measures and is continuing to implement additional measures to improve safety while the modifications are planned, designed, and constructed. High and moderate interim risk reduction priority measures that have already been taken, and actions under consideration or in the implementation phase are listed below.

### Interim risk reduction measures taken:

- Installation of cameras at the dam to allow 24 hours/day monitoring
- Public meetings
- Specialized Emergency Action Plan exercise performed in November 2022
- Emergency text message notification testing complete
- Testing potential on-site borrow material completed to verify suitability for use during an emergency

### Risk reduction measures under consideration or in the implementation phase:

- Installation of a Snotlite site on Starvation Mountain to improve forecasting capabilities/accuracy
- Improved flow monitoring on the West Fork of Salmon Creek to improve forecasting capabilities/accuracy
- Additional modeling of flows/releases during the construction period

