

Final Public Notice

Notification is hereby given to the public that the Glen Lake Irrigation District has requested funding from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA)'s High Hazard Potential Dam (HHPD) Program to rehabilitate Glen Lake Dam. This notification is provided pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Executive Orders 11988 – Floodplain Management, Executive Order 11990 – Wetland Protection, Federal agency implementation procedures described in 44 C.F.R. Part 9 and FEMA Directive 108-1. Funding from FEMA's High Hazard Potential Dam program will be utilized to implement cost-effective dam safety projects that result in safer and more resilient communities. This project would incorporate a sustainable design that would add improvements to the dam to increase the useful life of the structure and minimize risk in future events.

The President of the United States has issued Executive Orders that require Federal Agencies to focus attention on the environment, human health and safety when considering the funding of an action. Executive Orders 11988 – Floodplain Management and 11990 – Wetland Protection require federal agencies to avoid to the extent possible the long- and short-term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains/wetlands and to avoid direct and indirect support of floodplain/wetland development wherever there is a practicable alternative. With this public notice, FEMA is informing the public that the proposed rehabilitation of Glen Lake Dam would occur in areas that are mapped within the 100-year floodplain and will potentially have temporary impacts on the wetlands.

Glen Lake Dam is located at (48.86456, -114.95818), in Lincoln County within the Kootenai River Basin in northwestern Montana in the Tobacco Valley. The dam is located approximately 8 miles southeast of Eureka, Montana, and about 70 miles north of Kalispell. The dam and outlet works are located on the west side of Glen Lake, the outlet structure discharging to Glen Creek and a tributary of the Tobacco River that ultimately flows to the Kootenai River. The location of the dam plays a significant role in providing a primary water supply source for the agriculture community.

The Glen Lake Irrigation District proposes to replace the existing reinforced concrete inlet structure, gate structure, corrugated metal pipe (CMP) outlet pipe, and install a filter diaphragm. The existing reinforced concrete outlet wall will be salvaged and retained. By making these improvements to the dam, the proposed actions will provide a structurally sound and durable outlet pipe, precise control of reservoir releases, restore reliable gate operations, reduce risk of uncontrolled releases or system failure, support agricultural water supply long-term and ensure compliance with state and federal dam safety standards. Construction activities would be in accordance with all applicable federal, state and local laws, regulations and ordinances.

There are no practicable alternatives outside the floodplain or wetlands for this proposed project. Work that will be performed in the floodplain will occur only in the reinforced concrete intake

structure area. The dam owner anticipates no impacts to the 100-year floodplain. However, there will be short-term disruptions to shoreline habitat and riparian areas near the outlet channel. These short-term wetland impacts will be mitigated by implementing best management practices (BMPs) such as construction fencing to demarcate sensitive areas, erosion and sediment control measures, and timely revegetation and/or stabilization of disturbed ground. There will be no permanent loss to wetlands near or in the project area. All work will be performed during low-water levels in Glen Lake to minimize dewatering efforts and direct impacts to Glen Lake.

A public comment period for the proposed project described in this notice will remain open for 15 days from date of publication. If no substantive comments are received, the proposed project may proceed no sooner than 15 days after the comment period closes. Interested persons may obtain more detailed information about the proposed project by contacting by emailing fema-r8ehp@fema.dhs.gov or by mail sent to the Denver Federal Center, P.O. Box 25267, Denver, Colorado, 80225, subject line: Glen Lake Dam Replacement Project.



