

DISTRICT TACKLES HUGE NAVIGATION LOCK GATE REPLACEMENT

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Photos by Scott Clemans; David Mackintosh, John Day Lock and Dam Project; and David Nishimura, Construction Branch

In the early morning hours of Dec. 10, 2010, Portland District launched an unprecedented 14-week, \$42 million project to replace the downstream gates at The Dalles and John Day dams.

The locks were taken out of service Friday morning. Dewatering, installation of bulkheads and fish salvage took place over the weekend, and then the locks were handed over to the contractors.

Workers at The Dalles removed lead paint and installed lifting beams and eyes, and lifted out the two existing 700,000-pound gate sections Jan. 6 and 10. Rehabilitation and repair of the concrete foundation and gate components continues; the new gate sections should arrive on site in mid-February.

At John Day, scaffolding went up around the gate and workers began cutting it into four 500,000-pound sections for removal Jan. 4-12. Workers also prepared the old friction sheaves in the towers for removal; the first was replaced on Jan. 10. The new gate sections are being lifted in and welded together now.

The fast paced and technically demanding work continues through March 23. For more information, visit the District's Internet, Facebook, Flickr, Twitter and YouTube sites.















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