

What a dam safety engineer does



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State Engineer for Water Resources

OSBEELS Symposium

September 13, 2019



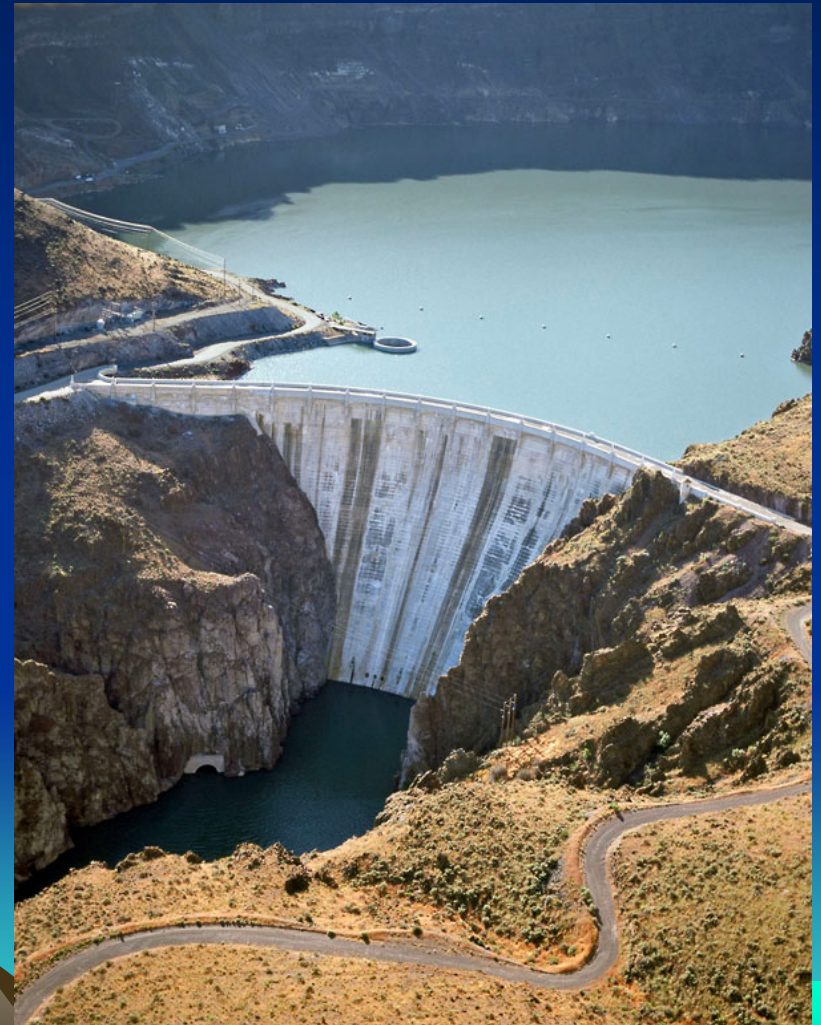
Safety of Oregon dams

- Overview
- Dam safety now
- New Law
- My view of risks
- What's needed
 - Safety and resilience



Responsible agencies in Oregon

- USACE
- USBOR
 - Photo Owyhee dam from BOR
- FERC
- OWRD



State versus Federal Regulation

Hazard Rating	Federal Inspected	State Inspected	Totals
High	66	75	141
Significant	29	149	178
Low	153*	719	872*
Totals	248*	943	1191*

*Numbers based on state, not NID thresholds, also another 12,000 permitted smaller ponds

A stylized silhouette of a mountain range with jagged peaks, rendered in dark brown and black tones, spanning the width of the slide at the bottom.

New Law -HB 2085 Changes

- Law effective January 2020
- Major modification is now construction
- Dam Removal
- Emergency authorities and actions
- Owners Engineers for potentially unsafe
- Timeframe authority for correcting deficiency
- Fee for design review
- RAC, rules should be final in June 2020



State regulated Dams

Arock dam in Malheur Co.

North Fork Rock Creek



Dam Safety Engineering

1. Inspecting Existing Dams
2. Design and Construction Used to be # 1
3. Hazard
4. Risk (FEMA HHPD grant)
5. Action if unsafe (major changes)
6. Rehabilitation
7. Removal (new authorities)



Inspecting dams

For a simple embankment

- Seepage changes
- Spillway
- Crest and freeboard
- Conduit
- Movement
- Holes and roots
- Can you see what you need to see



We see a lot, or try to

Not nice nutria



Handle a flood flow?



Spillways



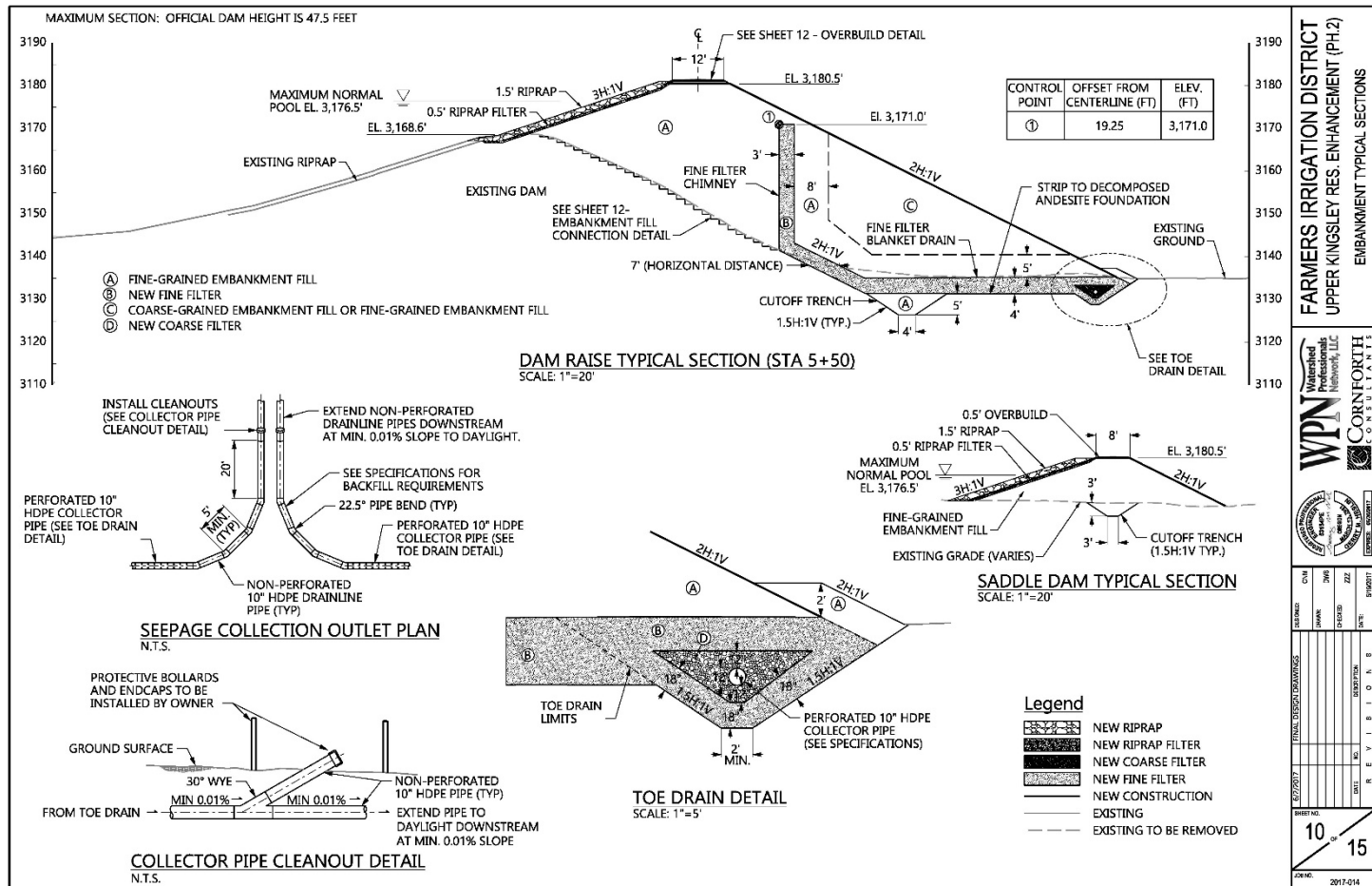
Dams of concern

Restricted water level since 1942



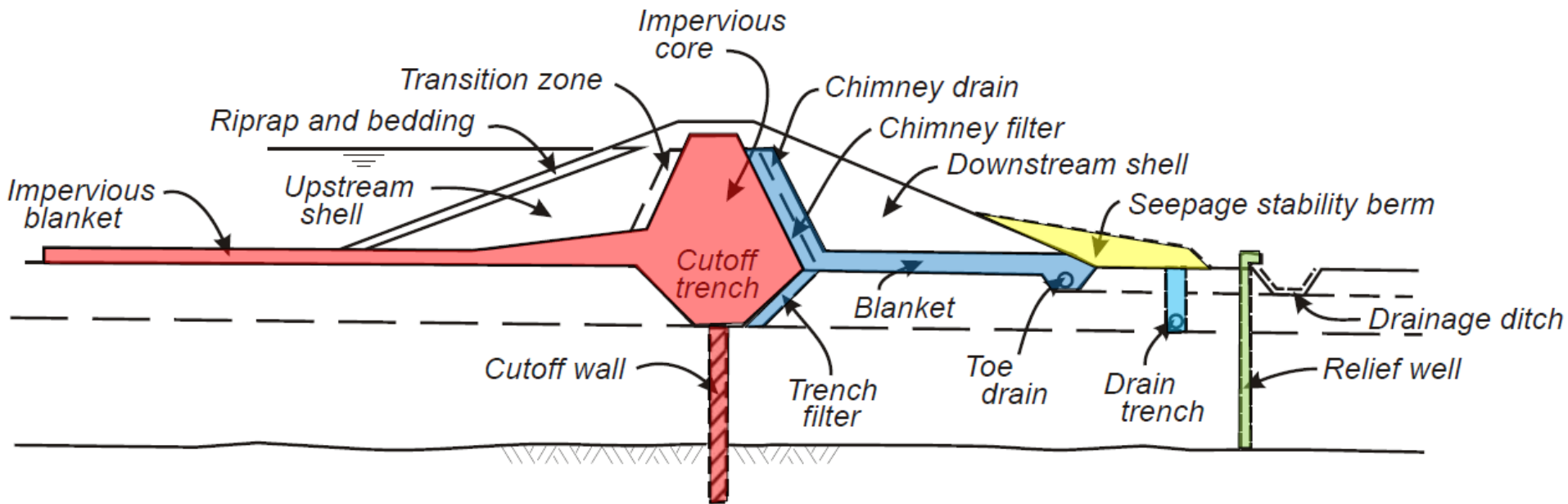
110 foot tall dam, note control building

Review/Approval of construction plans



Key Design Elements

Missing in most older embankment dams



Construction inspections (dam raise) Engineer of Record



Hazard Rating



- If the dam were to fail
- Dam height, storage
- People and property
- High, Significant, Low
- All new dams
- Existing dams
 - as resources permit

Dam Breach Inundation Analysis

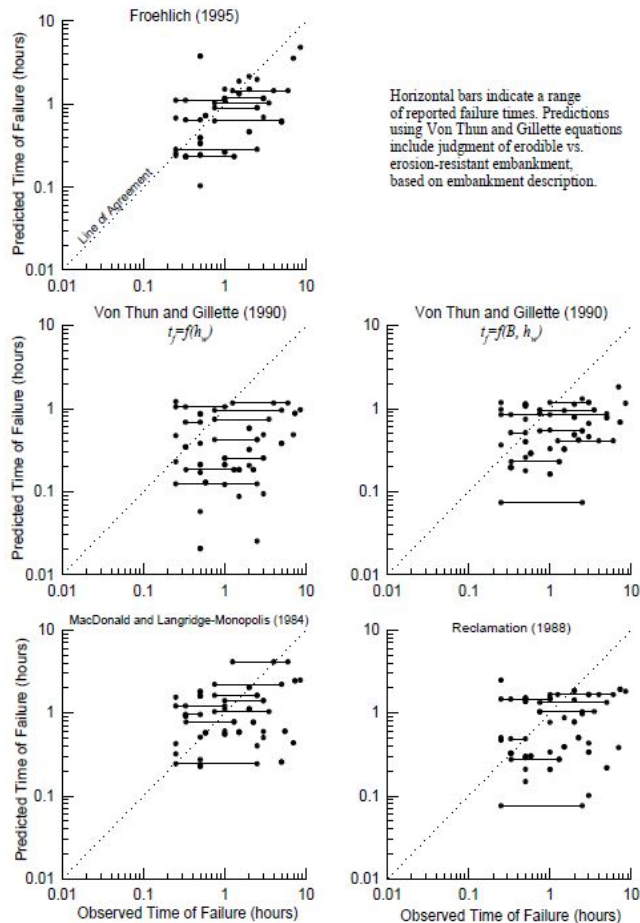
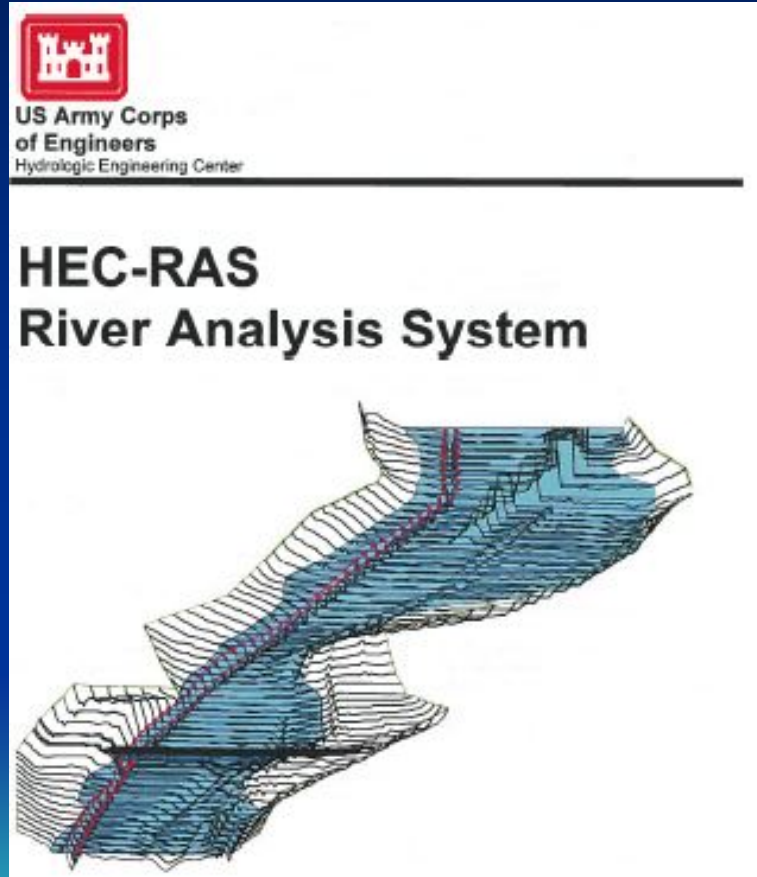


Figure 12. — Predicted and observed time of failure for dams in the case study database.



Risks to Oregon dams

- Flood overtopping
- Internal erosion
- Spillway in flood
- Conduit/ gate
- Seismic deformation
- Landslide
- **Unsafe and Potentially Unsafe**

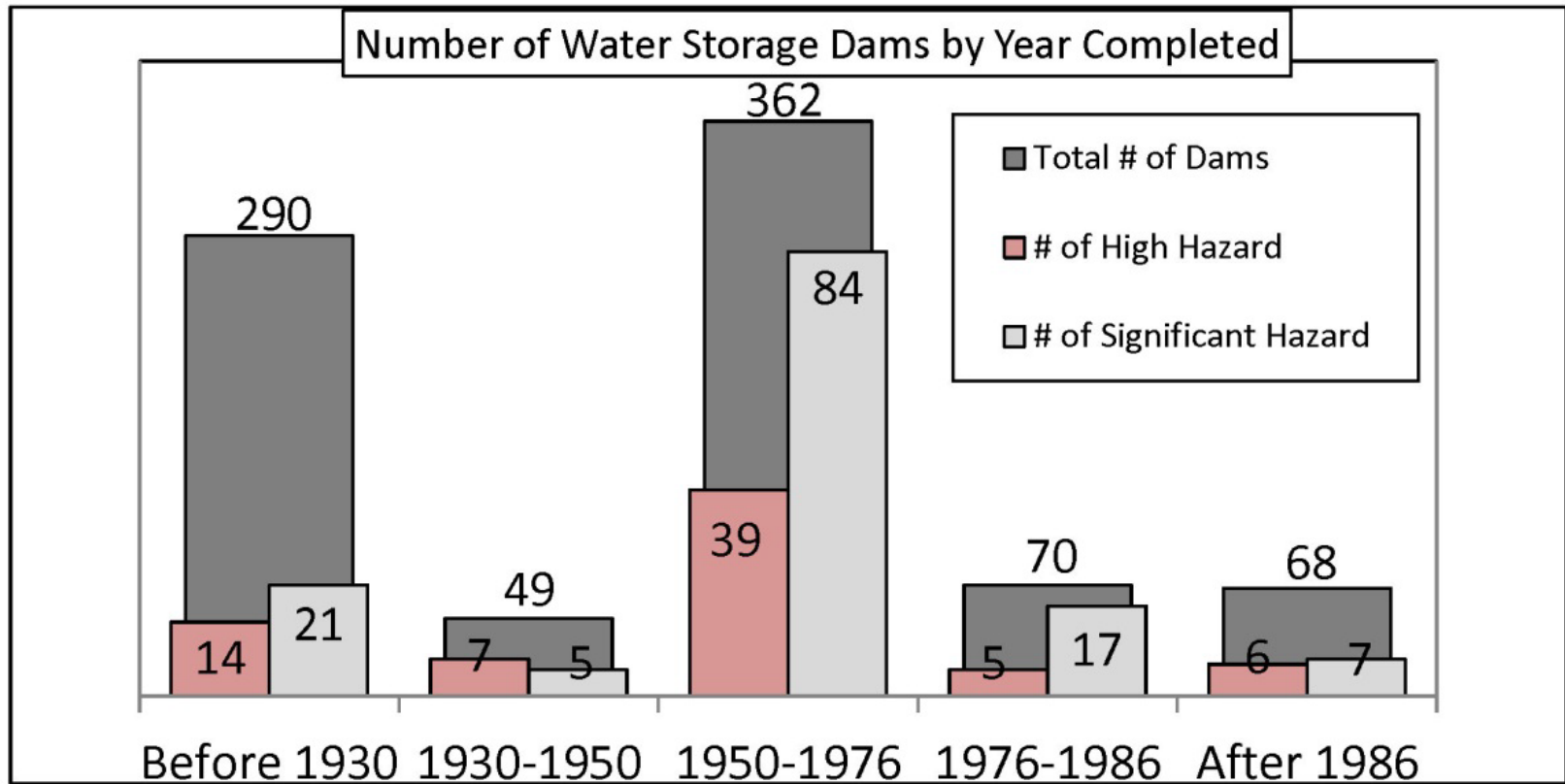


Deterioration

Especially concrete



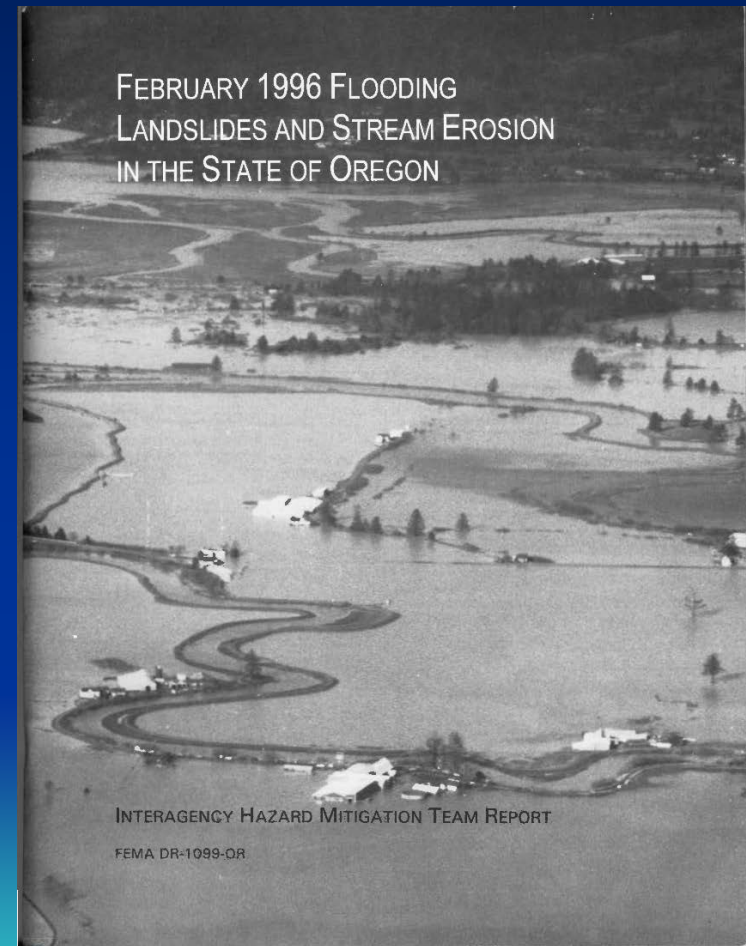
Oregon's Dams Are Older



Major Flood Effects

- Westside in winter
1861, 1948, 1964 and 1996
Only 1861 Extreme
- Eastern Oregon
 - Heppner 1903
 - Only on part of the watershed
- Expect much bigger events

Not close to PMF
(Probable Maximum Flood)



FEBRUARY 1996 FLOODING
LANDSLIDES AND STREAM EROSION
IN THE STATE OF OREGON

INTERAGENCY HAZARD MITIGATION TEAM REPORT

FEMA DR-1099-OR

2007 Moderate flood at dam



Water filled to crest, all boats and logs through interior spillway



Intense wildfire at dam

Change in flood flows likely



Internal erosion



Teton Dam June 1976

Internal Erosion



Homogenous dams vulnerable
Conduits vulnerable
Dispersive soil
Can soil form and maintain a roof
(arching)

Conduits vulnerable
Seepage collars
Compaction difficult
Roof already there

Lawn Lake Dam Failure

Embankment Dam

Estes Park, Colorado

Built 1903, raised 1931

Failed July 15, 1982

26 feet high, 674 acre feet

Lives Lost: 3

Leaking conduit

Pressure above valve



CAULKING PIPE INTO UPPER FACE OF VALVE.

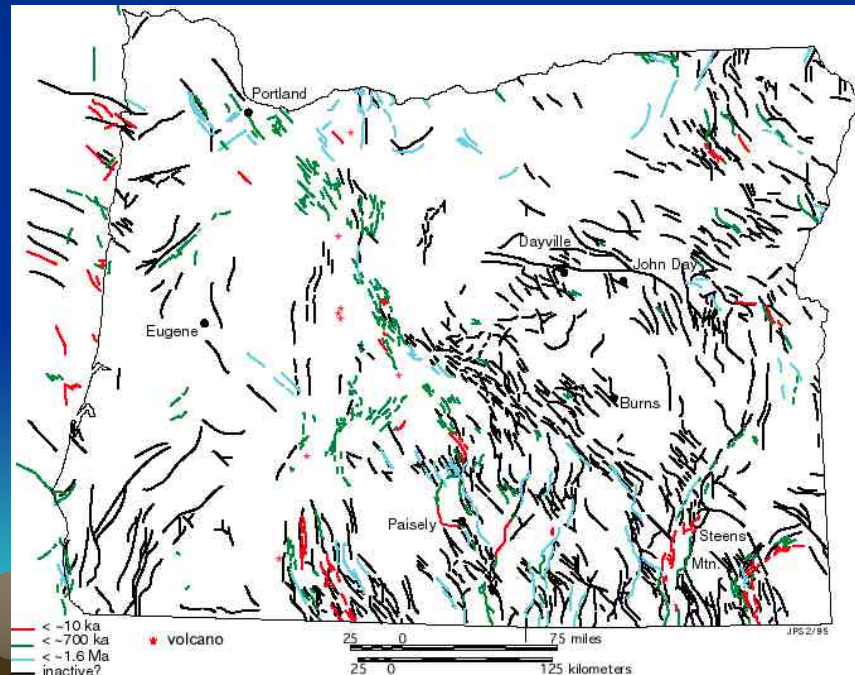
Dam near Salem



Earthquake Deformation



690-020-0036 (5) Earthquake considerations. Seismic site characterization is required for high hazard dams, and may be required for significant hazard dams. A seismic site characterization shall include earthquake sources, ground motion hazard, peak ground acceleration, and recommended ground motions (time histories).



Seismic and static stability

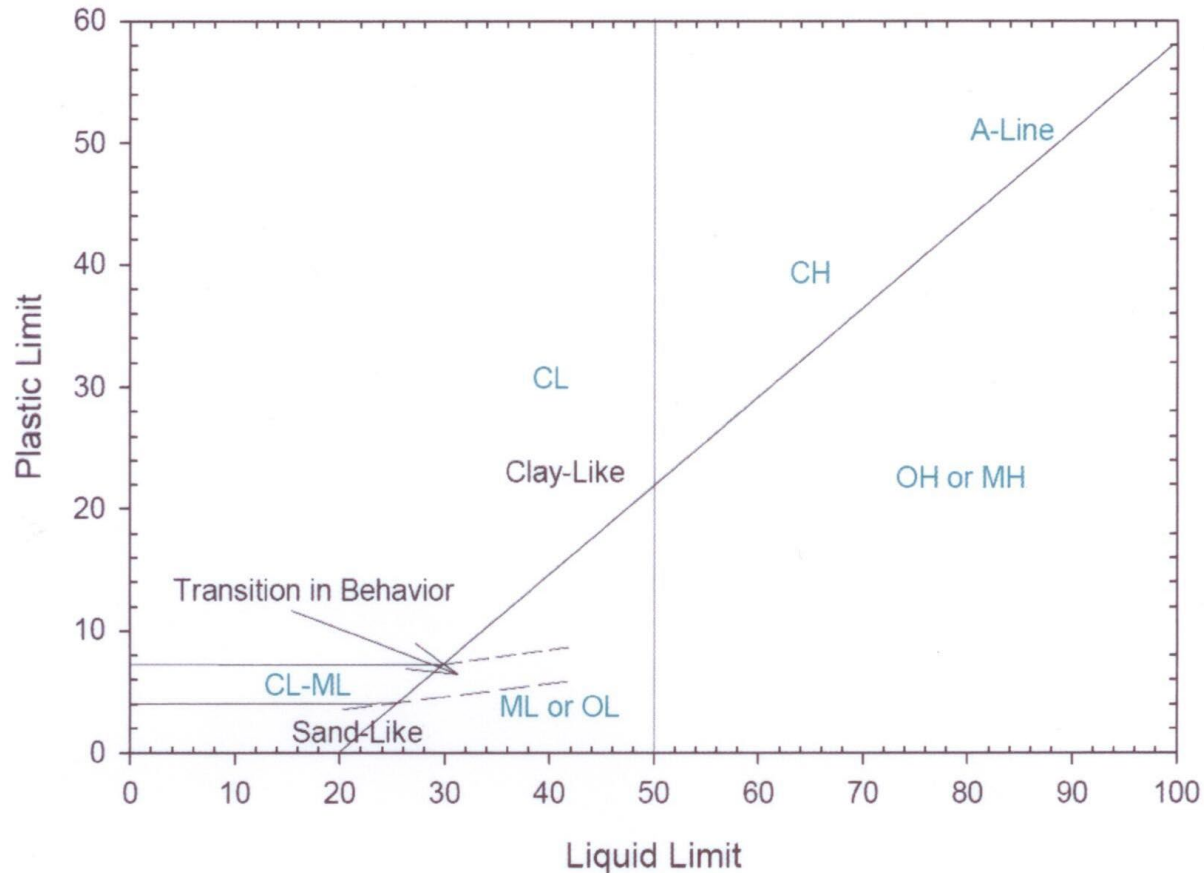


Figure 1.7 Boulanger and Idriss (2004, 2006) liquefaction screening criteria.

Lower Van Norman Dam

Hydraulic fill embankment

40 miles NW Los Angeles

Constructed: **1912-1918**

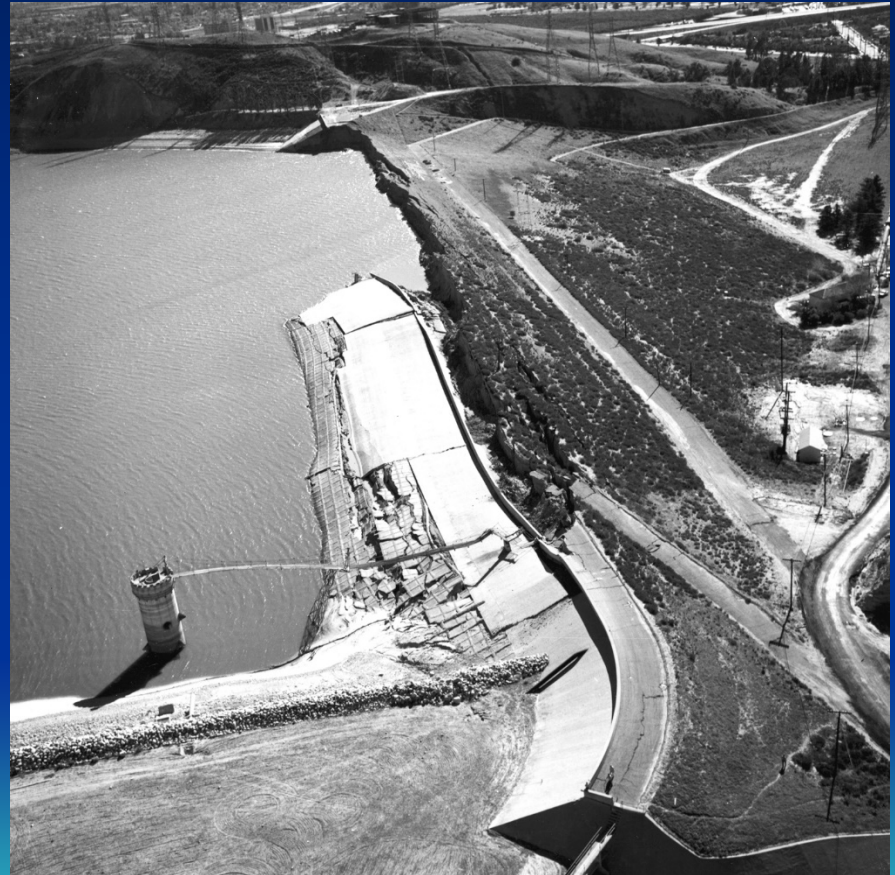
Height **142** feet

Storage **20,500** acre feet

February 9, 1971

Lives Lost: 0

Near miss - 80,000 vuln.



Failure of upstream face

Empirical Crest Deformation

(Swaisgood, 2014, ASDSO)

Table 1. EARTHQUAKE INDUCED DEFORMATION OF EMBANKMENT DAMS
(Excluding liquefaction incidents)

No.	NAME OF DAM	LOCATION	GEO. INFORMATION				EARTHQUAKE DATA				CRUST SETTLEMENT	RELATIVE BEARING CAP.	REFERENCE			
			Year	Dam Type	Cl.	Dr.	Dr.	Dr.	Dr.	Dr.						
1	UPPER MURUMBIA	Japan	1923	E-HF	200	24	1	1	Sep	1923	5.2	18.0	0.12	0.20	1.20, 27, 32	
2	OND	Japan	1934	E-HF	300	41	13	1	Sep	1933	6.2	98.2	0.30	0.27	1.15, 20, 32	
3	CHANDRAPHOL	California	1939	E-HF	100	12	70	10	Aug	1939	5.3	1.0	0.40	0.08	0.55	
4	MALPASSOT	France	1939	E-HF	152	28	10	10	Oct	1938	6	60	0.20	0.08	0.07	
5	COGOTI	China	1939	E-HF	159	86	0	6	Apr	1943	7.9	48.6	0.20	0.38	0.44	
6	SOUTH HAWAII	California	1952	H-F	45	25	18	21	Jul	1952	7.7	153.3	0.06	0.01	0.04	
7	HERGUL	Montenegro	1954	E-HF	219	85	102	17	Aug	1959	7.6	0.7	0.71	1.69	4.83	
8	HIRAKAWA	Japan	1961	E-HF	1000	444	130	0	10	Aug	1961	7.0	20.0	0.31	0.19	0.21
9	MINAMI	Japan	1961	E-HF	1000	230	0	18	Aug	1964	7.5	144.8	0.04	0.06	0.09	
10	PAAL	California	1963	E-HF	50	52	7	18	Dec	1967	5.3	11.3	0.20	0.03	0.04	
11	LA SERRANA	California	1962	H-F	390	75	18	1	Feb	1971	5.6	1.0	0.30	0.13	1.21	
12	GRANDVILLE	California	1962	H-F	1707	235	0	1	Aug	1973	5.9	6.0	0.10	0.01	0.04	
13	EL INFIERNO	Mexico	1964	E-HF	340	146	0	11	Oct	1975	5.9	76.7	0.08	0.04	0.03	
14	LA VILLA	Mexico	1964	E-HF	412	60	70	15	Nov	1975	7.2	20.0	0.04	0.02	0.03	
15	EL INFIERNO	Mexico	1964	E-HF	340	146	0	15	Nov	1975	7.2	22.9	0.08	0.02	0.03	
16	TEREK	Tajikistan	1970	E-HF	200	133	7	14	Apr	1970	5.8	8.0	0.30	0.09	0.10	
17	EL INFIERNO	Mexico	1964	E-HF	340	146	0	14	Mar	1979	7.6	95.0	0.12	0.12	0.09	
18	LA VILLA	Mexico	1964	E-HF	420	60	70	14	Mar	1979	7.6	107.9	0.02	0.02	0.03	
19	VERMILION	California	1954	E-HF	6	1900	50	0	22	May	1960	6.9	23.0	0.34	0.05	0.05
20	LA VILLA	Mexico	1964	E-HF	420	60	70	25	Oct	1981	7.3	90.6	0.09	0.04	0.11	
21	EL INFIERNO	Mexico	1964	E-HF	340	146	0	25	Oct	1981	7.3	54.7	0.05	0.05	0.04	
22	BANDORI	Japan	1963	E-HF	1000	288	52	0	26	May	1963	7.7	444.8	0.08	0.06	0.11
23	ARIZAKI	China	1974	E-HF	1000	220	43	0	1	Mar	1965	7.6	43.0	0.23	0.09	0.18
24	EL INFIERNO	Mexico	1964	E-HF	340	146	0	19	Sep	1965	6.1	75.7	0.13	0.13	0.08	
25	CAVILLIN	Mexico	1964	E-HF	420	60	70	19	Sep	1965	6.1	43.5	0.13	0.13	0.08	
26	LA VILLA	Mexico	1964	E-HF	420	60	70	21	Sep	1965	6.1	43.5	0.13	0.13	0.08	
27	MATARIANA	New Zealand	1963	E-HF	1000	400	86	7	1	Mar	1967	6.3	8.5	0.33	0.13	0.14
28	NAGARA	Japan	1965	E-HF	1000	474	52	7	17	Dec	1967	6.9	28.6	0.27	0.02	0.04
29	ANTHONY	California	1954	E-HF	6	211	58	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	1.4	0.57	0.49	0.31
30	CLARK	California	1954	E-HF	6	251	63	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	5.2	0.49	0.46	0.45
31	LEXINGTON	California	1954	E-HF	6	298	70	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	9.1	0.45	0.45	0.45
32	ELMER J. CHERRY	California	1950	E-HF	6	229	28	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	32.9	0.48	0.11	0.10
33	MAKAI	California	1954	E-HF	6	149	50	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	6.0	0.37	0.05	0.17
34	LEWIS AND CLARK	California	1970	E-HF	1000	420	72	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	20.9	0.36	0.09	0.18
35	SAINT JOHN	California	1967	E-HF	1000	340	146	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	27.4	0.26	0.04	0.17
36	SHI	California	1950	E-HF	6	338	72	0	17	Oct	1969	7.1	9.1	0.40	0.02	0.06
37	STEVENS CREEK	California	1950	E-HF	6	905	37	7	17	Oct	1969	7.1	16.0	0.30	0.02	0.04
38	ALAMITOS	California	1950	E-HF	6	140	37	7	17	Oct	1969	7.1	8.8	0.44	0.02	0.10
39	CAJERO	California	1950	E-HF	6	296	30	7	17	Oct	1969	7.1	12.9	0.38	0.01	0.03
40	ELMER J. CHERRY	California	1950	E-HF	6	79	52	7	17	Oct	1969	7.1	9.2	0.41	0.02	0.15
41	MAKAI	California	1950	E-HF	6	421	60	7	17	Oct	1969	7.1	2.7	0.68	0.08	0.19
42	PANTARANGAN	Philippines	1975	E-HF	1000	731	114	0	16	Jul	1969	7.7	5.0	0.58	0.28	0.24
43	YAN	Philippines	1975	E-HF	1000	427	52	0	16	Jul	1969	7.7	6.2	0.58	0.20	0.20
44	ELMER J. CHERRY	California	1950	E-HF	6	1000	201	0	16	Jul	1969	7.7	17.5	0.38	0.07	0.11
45	GRILL	Philippines	1975	E-HF	1000	351	70	0	16	Jul	1969	7.7	26.0	0.55	0.01	0.01
46	ANALOGAN	Philippines	1975	E-HF	1000	450	120	0	16	Jul	1969	7.7	10.0	0.44	1.52	0.01
47	COGOTI	China	1939	E-HF	1000	200	81	0	28	Jun	1991	5.8	7.0	0.37	0.04	0.05
48	ROBERT MATTHEWS	California	1960	E-HF	6	112	46	0	25	Apr	1992	5.8	64.4	0.07	0.00	0.01
49	WIDE CANYON	California	1960	E-HF	6	678	26	7	28	Jun	1992	5.8	29.8	0.28	0.03	0.03
50	YAGPAPA	China	1975	E-HF	6	128	22	0	28	Jun	1992	5.8	28.9	0.15	0.01	0.01
51	YAGPAPA	China	1975	E-HF	6	140	22	0	28	Jun	1992	5.8	28.9	0.15	0.01	0.01
52	UPPER LAKE MARY	California	1964	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
53	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
54	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
55	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
56	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
57	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
58	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
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61	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
62	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
63	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
64	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
65	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
66	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
67	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
68	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
69	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
70	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
71	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
72	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
73	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
74	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
75	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
76	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
77	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
78	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
79	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
80	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
81	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
82	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
83	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
84	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
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86	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
87	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
88	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7	10.1	0.45	0.44	0.41
89	LA SERRANA	California	1952	E-HF	6	18	18	0	17	Jun	1994	6.7				

Recent Seismic Investigations



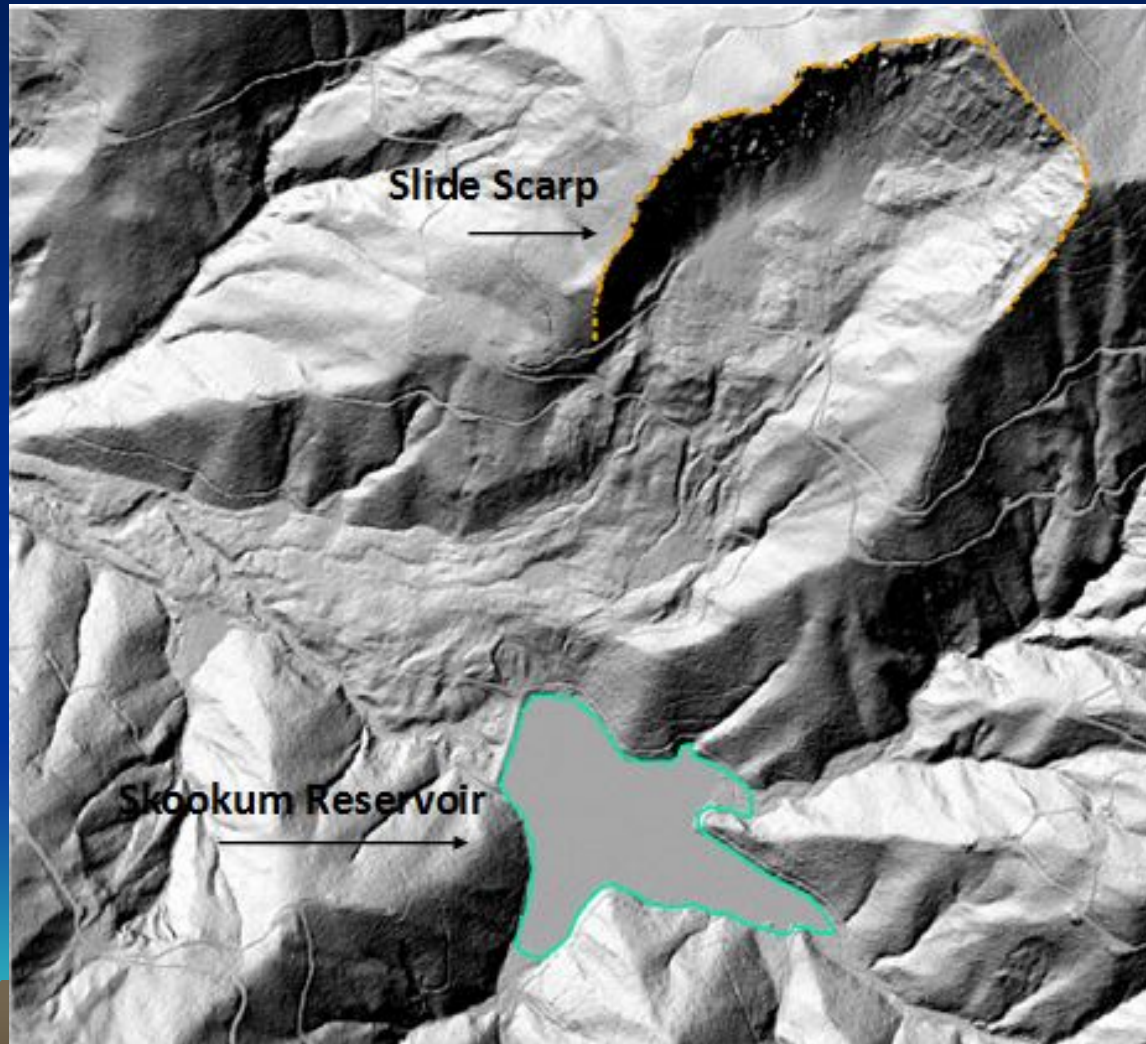
Newport Lower Dam



Bear Creek Dam (Astoria)

**Partial funding from Dam Safety and SB 1069
Coos Bay North Bend lower water supply dam also under discussion**

Landslides on LiDAR



Snow or rock avalanche?



Spillway Stability in Flood



Is this evidence of
“solid rock”?

Oroville dam as spillway



Spillways

Resistant rock



The Risk

- Older dams
- Less Rehabilitation
- Earthquake and extreme flood will occur
- Large Federal have had a lot more attention
- Oregon dams got a D+ from ASCE
- Dam Safety focus - HHPD FEMA grant
- Less engineers involved than many states



Monitoring is critical



Investigation and Analysis

- Drawings may not be accurate
- Many less than homogenous
- Confirm with site investigation
- What is the design flood
- Is the spillway stable
- Risk of internal and conduit erosion
- Seismic – analysis can overestimate
- Workshop on the geotechnical aspects

Funding for Rehabilitation



- Feasibility studies funded
- Rehabilitation funding – public benefits
- Kingsley – FID in progress
- Wallowa in progress
- Dedicated funding?

Rehabilitated dams



Removal of Dams

- **New Authority**
- **When owner chooses**
- **Limited to safety from inundation during removal**



Closing

- Big events drive things
- Recent events moderate
- Dams not as in drawings
- Big engineering needs on State regulated dams
 - Investigation
 - Analysis
 - Monitoring
 - Rehabilitation
- New Law, RAC
- Unsafe and Potentially unsafe
- Lot to do

GEOTECHNICAL WORKSHOP
FOR ALL ENGINEERS
WORKING ON DAMS – February
or March 2020

