RECLANATION Managing Water in the West

Sediment Transport during Drawdown of the Copco 1 Reservoir on the Klamath River under Dam Removal Scenarios

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Background To perform hydrologic, hydraulic, and sediment transport studies to support the Secretarial **Determination on Klamath Dam Removal and Basin** Restoration



Background

- Two alternatives (2012 to 2061): – "No Action" and "Dam Removal"
- Dam Removal Scenario:
 - JC Boyle, Copco 1, Copco 2, and Iron
 Gate Dams will be removed by
 December 31, 2020. A free flowing river
 will be established by that date.
 - Reservoir drawdown of JC Boyle, Copco
 1, and Iron Gate Dams will begin on
 November 15, 2019 or January 1, 2020.

Scope of this Study

- Reservoir Drawdown Process of Copco 1
- SRH-2D is used: Two-Dimensional flow and sediment transport model
- The channel incision process as a result of the drawdown
- Sediment delivered to the downstream
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SRH-2D Stands for:

Sedimentation and River Hydraulics – 2D modeling

History

- SRH-W version 1 (2006)
- SRH-2D version 2 (2008)
- SRH-2D version 3 (beta)

Current Release: SRH-2D v2 www.usbr.gov/pmts/sediment/model/srh2d

Habitat / Wetland / ReconnectionRestoration Projects



Lateral Variations; Bank/Levee Overtop



In-Stream Structures (Weirs, Dams, Gates, Cofferdams, Levees ...)



Perched or Multiple Channels



Malpasset Dam Break Modeling



Is Dredging Going to Work?



Copco 1 Modeling

Solution Domain (~ 4 miles)



Mesh: Mixed Quad & Triangles



Current Topo/Bathymetry (Survey Data)



Subsurface Sediments (Two Zones Horizontally)

Subsurface Gradations: Two-Layers Vertically



Subsurface Sediments: Thickness of Top Layer

Hydrology: Three Scenarios (Start on November 15; duration is six month



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Initial Condition

Reservation Elevation = 2603 ft Maximum Drawdown rate = 3 ft/day

Discharge Capacity

Storage Capacity



Sediment Size Classes



Cohesive Sediment Properties



Field Test of Cohesion by ARS:

 $k(cm^3 / N - s) = 0.5, 2.0, 20.0$

 $\tau_{cri}(Pa) = 0.2, 0.25, 2.0$

Sample Results

Typical Channel Incision through Reservoir Sediments due to Reservoir Drawn-Down (Paonia Reservoir in Colorado)



Predicted Incision



Predicted Reservoir Water Elevation and Flow Exiting the Reservoir (average year; medium-erode)



Sediment Concentration Delivered to Downstream ~ 6,000 ppm; duration=1.5 months



Erosion/Deposition Pattern (average year)



Erosion/Deposition Pattern: Zonal View (average year)



Comparison with Pre-Dam Geomorphology



Predicted Bed Elevation alongThalweg(average year)



Conclusions

- An incised channel would be formed as a result of the drawdown.
- Majority of the deposits would be eroded during the 1.5-month drawdown, particularly for the upstream half of the solution domain.
- About 6,000 ppm concentration for 1.5 months would be released downstream.

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 Some deposition is predicted on the old floodplains in the lower half of the modeled domain.



Geomorphic Map of Copco Reservoir Pre-dam geomorphology was interpreted using historical topographic maps



Eroded Depth along Thalweg Compared with Initial Top Layer Thickness (average year)



Existing Condition: 19,000 cfs



Bed Elevation Profile

