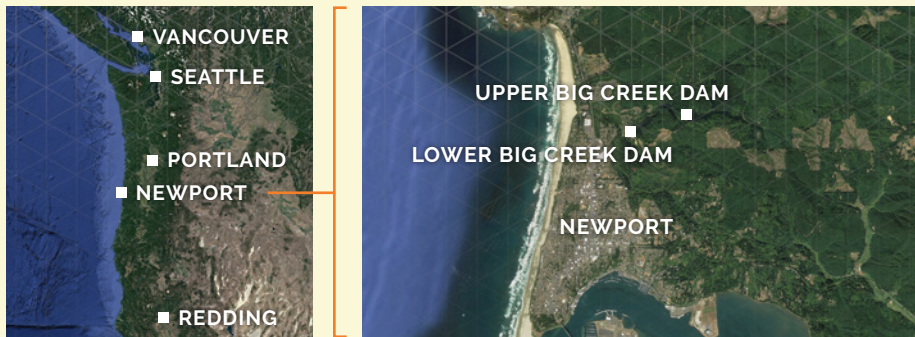




Big Creek Dams Improvement Project



The Big Creek Dams are located in the City of Newport, on Oregon's Central Coast.

STATEMENT OF NEED

- If the dams fail due to seismic vulnerability:
- Newport's sole water supply will be impaired for years
 - Bridge failures and landslides will block access roads to and from Newport.
 - The City will be isolated for long periods of time adversely affecting the population, regional economy and environment

SOLUTION

Obtain the funding to design and construct a Big Creek replacement dam.

Background Information Current Situation

Construction

- Earthen dams
- 1951: Big Creek Dam #1 (Lower Dam)
- 1969: Big Creek Dam #2 (Upper Dam)

Reservoir (Water Storage) Capacity

1200 acre-feet of water
(390 million liquid gallons)

Water Usage

- Winter (year-round residents):
2.5 million gallons/day
- Summer (peak tourist season):
3.5 million gallons/day

Water Supply At Capacity

- The Big Creek Reservoirs are Newport's sole water supply
- Reservoirs support today's residential and tourist needs, but are functioning at maximum capacity; restricting Newport's future growth and negatively impacting its economy
- Current water supply is not sized to accommodate future demand or growth
- Reservoirs are unable to store sufficient water to avoid critically-low water levels during peak demand times

Seismically Unstable Water Infrastructure

The soils below either dam could fail during a major seismic event, causing significant damage to and/or failure of the dams.

As of 2013, **two of the top three most-critical, high-hazard dam projects** in the State of Oregon according to Oregon's Dam Safety Engineer are **the Upper Big Creek Dam and the Lower Big Creek Dam.**

Seismic Threats

1. Cascadia Subduction Zone (CSZ)
2. Crustal Faults within 62 miles (100km) of the Big Creek Dams
3. A significant tsunami is likely to follow any seismic activity of 7.0 magnitude or above

IN THE NEXT 50 YEARS
1 IN 3 CHANCE OF A BIG CASCADIA EARTHQUAKE

1 IN 10 CHANCE OF A M9+ CASCADIA EARTHQUAKE

Oregon State University professor Chris Goldfinger,
The New Yorker, July 20, 2015



CRUSTAL FAULT	MAXIMUM MAGNITUDE	DISTANCE AWAY
Yaquina Faults	6.1	1.9 mi
Waldport Fault	6.4	13.0 mi
Stonewall Anticline	6.8	21.7 mi
Daisy Bank Fault	7.3	28.0 mi
Alvin Canyon Fault	7.2	32.3 mi
Wecoma Fault	7.3	32.3 mi
Turner and Mill Creek Faults	6.6	48.5 mi
Happy Camp Fault	6.6	51.6 mi

Parameters for Faults within 62 miles (100 km) of the Big Creek Dams, USGS 2014

SAVE OUR SUPPLY

September/2022



Potential Impacts of not replacing the Big Creek Dams

Community & Human

- More than **10,000 year-round residents** (in Newport's 6000 households) and 2.5 million tourists could be without a public water supply for at least one year
- Almost **7,500 jobs** would be significantly impacted or lost, reducing income for citizens in the region
- There is potential for **loss of life**
- The City's **health care facilities** and many **businesses** may be unable to operate without water
- Seniors and families** may not be able to remain in their homes long-term

Environmental

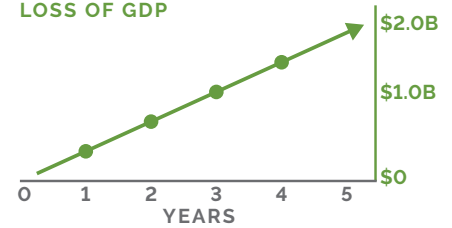
Crucial infrastructure, property and land would be at risk of being heavily disturbed or destroyed.



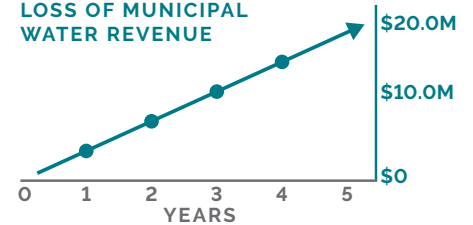
Economic

The economic impact of a water supply loss will only continue to grow over time.

LOSS OF GDP



LOSS OF MUNICIPAL WATER REVENUE



Project Projections

Estimated Costs

The City has an opportunity to combine local, state and federal resources to complete the dam project, while minimizing the tax burden on Newport citizens.

EXPENSE	COST RANGE
Dam solution implementation (construction of new dam and decommissioning existing dams)	\$47-56M
New access roads, ecological restoration, other necessary amenities and infrastructure	\$10-13M
Watershed restoration at Big Creek	\$2.5-7.5M
Design, Construction, and Escalation Contingencies	\$38-42M
Total Costs	\$97-118M

Estimated Timeline

PHASE	DESCRIPTION	DURATION	TIMELINE
1	Design Concepts for New Dam	2 Years	2023-2025
2	Design, Permitting, Bid Period	3 Years	2025-2027
3	Construction	4 Years	2027-2030
Total Project Duration		6-9 Years	Present-2030

The project costs were originally estimated in 2018 and have been updated in September 2022. Estimated costs include escalation at a high period of volatility in 2011 and 2022. All estimated costs are subject to change based on actual progress of the project. The timeline provides an understanding of the project duration. Funding availability will dictate the actual progress of the project.

- Partial or complete disruption to the City's water supply will negatively affect the operation of local industries such as tourism, fish processing, brewing & distilling, and oceanographic research & education
- Businesses and citizens will relocate to other communities

NEXT STEPS

Additional research, environmental permitting and design work is needed before construction of the project can begin. Without state and federal support, the City cannot complete the work.

- A. Pursue funding**
- B. Replace the dams**