

Hydro Dam Repair Schedule Update

December 20, 2018

Due to recent heavy rain and inflows, flood releases from Canyon Dam and the identification of additional needed repairs, ongoing rehabilitation to the various dams and spillway gates in the Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority's (GBRA) 90-year-old hydroelectric system have been delayed.

As anticipated, there is a continuing need for ongoing temporary repairs to preserve the 90-year-old hydro lake system until the new replacement spillgates can be designed, funded and constructed.

Prior to October, GBRA crews were able to work steadily with the lower water flows. Generally, flows through the system of less than 1,000 cubic feet per second (cfs) provide for more favorable and efficient work conditions. Currently, the spillgates are routinely engaged to accommodate the higher river flows slowing work conditions further.

The delays in completing current repairs are hindering the ability to progress to other dams. Current estimates project GBRA crews will continue to work into Summer 2019 with lake elevations impacted through the recreational season.

Below is a status update on planned repairs. This revised schedule assumes no additional delays due to weather.

Nolte Dam/Meadow Lake

Although planned work at this site is within days of completion, inspections performed throughout the course of the project have revealed the need to conduct additional work at all three spillgates at Nolte Dam. Repairs will replace safety mechanisms which enable ongoing maintenance until replacement gates can be installed. The revised work timeline is estimated to take an additional 5 months barring additional weather delays. The lake's elevation will remain lower until repairs are completed.

Lake McQueeney

Delays resulting from elevated inflows and rain have extended repairs by an estimated 2 months. Initial estimates project repairs will take at least 9 months. The revised work timeline is now expected to continue into Summer 2019. The lake's current lower elevation will remain in place for the duration of the repair work.

Lake Placid (TP-4)

Similar to additional repairs identified at Nolte Dam, TP-4 will have additional work scheduled. Repair work will begin after crews have finished at Meadow Lake and Lake McQueeney. The revised work timeline is estimated to take four months to complete. Lake Placid's elevation will be lowered by 18 inches.

Lake Gonzales

Repairs are projected to begin in May 2019 after the completion of work at Meadow Lake and take 5 months to complete.