



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Huntington District

Marmet Locks and Dam Replacement Project

January-February 2005

Issue No. 14

This newsletter is provided as a courtesy of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as a way to keep the citizens of Belle, W.V. up-to-date on activities during construction of the replacement lock at Marmet Locks and Dam. The newsletter is intended to provide information on current and future activities throughout the construction of the replacement lock.

If you know someone who would like to receive future copies, complete the form on the back page of this newsletter.



This photo shows one of many lockwall foundations being cleaned and prepared for concrete placement. The rock excavation is approximately 26 feet below the base of the existing lockwall shown in the upper left portion of the photo. Blasting for rock excavations for the new lock chamber was completed in January 2005.

Construction Activities

Work begins on lockwalls

Construction crews were busy during December and January at the Marmet Lock Replacement construction project. By the end of December, Kokosing/Fru-con had completed rock blasting in the main lock chamber. As shown in the photo to the left, rock excavation is now complete, making way for the next phase of the construction project.

The contractor has completed all scheduled blasting for this phase of the lock replacement project. Additional blasting will be required beginning in the summer of 2007. This scheduled blasting will be very limited and will include demolition of the upstream lockwall and excavation of the downstream channel.

The contractor's concrete batch plant has been busy making concrete for the lockwalls. The lockwalls are formed by placing concrete in five foot layers in each of the 70 monoliths until they reach the required elevation for the top of the lockwall. The monoliths will form the wall, but they are basically large, independent concrete blocks. Of the approximately 70 monoliths required for the lockwalls, four are complete. This effort is just getting started, but the contractor plans for the majority of the monoliths to be completed by late fall 2005. This effort will require about 200,000 cubic yards of concrete.

The total construction project is about 40 percent complete, and the contractor is looking forward to a busy summer season.

Information Meeting

The Corps of Engineers will conduct an information meeting regarding the Marmet Lock replacement project **Thursday, March 24, 2005**, at the Corps construction offices located at 1923 West Dupont Avenue. The public is invited to stop by anytime between 4:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

The workshop will provide information about the ongoing construction activities and seek input on how the Corps and contractor can reduce impacts to the surrounding communities. Representatives from the Corps will be available to answer questions. Tours of the construction site will be offered throughout the evening.

Who to contact for information:

Mike Keathley, Project Manager.....304-399-5864
Dennis Hughes, Resident Engineer.....304-949-1935
Jeff Jezewski, Community Liaison.....304-399-5573
Peggy Noel, Public Affairs.....304-399-5551
Marmet Website: <http://www.lrh.usace.army.mil/projects/current/marmet/>

Community Relations

The Corps is pleased to announce Jeff Jezewski has been selected to serve as community liaison for the Marmet Lock Replacement project.

Jeff comes to us from Wayne County, WV. He has a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering from WVU Institute of Technology, Montgomery, WV.

Jeff will be available at the March 24th workshop to introduce himself to the community. In the meantime, you can contact Jeff at 304-360-0292 (mobile).



Jeff Jezewski

Answers to concerns from December workshop

The Corps of Engineers and construction contractor Kokosing Fru-Con hosted an information workshop Thursday, December 2, 2004. At that meeting, several residents expressed concerns regarding issues related to the Marmet Lock Replacement project. The Corps responses to those concerns are as follows:

- The first issue raised by the residents concerned backwater flooding caused by construction. As part of the construction project, the entire Burning Springs Branch within the project limits was redesigned in order to deepen and widen the channel. This will allow the area to hold more water which will also create an area for fish and wildlife. However, the possibility of backwater flooding from the Kanawha River will continue to exist.
- The second item concerned 15th Street drainage issues. Since this is a matter for West Virginia Department of Highways (WVDOH) the Corps contacted them and expressed your concerns. We are happy to report that WVDOH has agreed to clean the drains and catch basins on 15th Street. Additionally, the Corps plans to extend the ditch on the government side of the boundary fence in order to catch and divert additional water away from the street. These efforts by both WVDOH and the Corps should improve the 15th Street drainage problem.
- The third issue concerned removal of existing resident fences parallel with Corps boundary fence is scheduled to begin sometime in April. This work will be at no cost to the residents. Please contact Jeff Jezewski by the March 24th workshop if you are interested.
- The fourth item concerns a schedule change in the construction of the Harbor Headwall cells downstream of 17th Street. The work is currently scheduled to begin in the middle of March.

If you know someone who would like to receive future copies of the Marmet Newsletter, complete the form below and return to **Mike Keathley, US Army Corps of Engineers, 502 8th Street, Huntington, WV 25701-2070** or send us an email requesting to be added to the mailing list.

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