

## ***Frequently Asked Questions Regarding Release of Stored Water from Galesville Reservoir***

### ***What is the purpose of Galesville Dam?***

Galesville Dam is a multipurpose dam. Its primary purpose is to provide water storage for irrigation, fisheries enhancement, and municipal and industrial uses. Other purposes of the dam are flood control, hydroelectric power generation and recreation.

### ***Why is water being released when the water level of Galesville Reservoir is low?***

Water is released from Galesville Dam at all times, at varying rates, throughout the year as called for by its Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) operating license and to fulfill the primary purposes of the dam.

### ***What is the storage capacity of the Galesville Reservoir?***

The total storage capacity of Galesville Reservoir is 42,225 acre-feet of water. One acre-foot is the volume of water that would cover one acre to the depth of one foot, or 326,000 gallons.

### ***Have there been years when Galesville Reservoir wasn't filled to capacity?***

There have been a handful of summers since the dam was constructed when the reservoir was not full. The extent the reservoir is filled going into the summer is dependent upon rainfall and snowmelt run off in the drainage basin above the dam. Forecasters at NOAA's Climate Prediction Center predicted less precipitation and higher than normal temperatures for winter 2018. This prediction is supported by recent snow survey measurements in the basin, which indicate that the runoff from snow melt will be much lower than normal for summer 2018.

### ***What benefit is there for fish habitat?***

The Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife (ODFW) has an allocation of 4,000 acre-feet of water for downstream enhancement of fish habitat. The release of this "fish" water is in addition to water released for contracts and instream water rights. These releases are for periods of low-flow and high water temperatures, normally seen in late summer months.

### ***What determines the amount of water released from Galesville Dam and why?***

The amount of stored water released from the dam is determined based on fulfillment of water contracts, FERC license requirements, ODFW "fish" water and a minimum flow, established by Oregon Water Resources Department. The minimum flow ensures that the instream water rights of downstream users are satisfied.

### ***Why doesn't Galesville Reservoir stay full year-round?***

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers and Douglas County have a Memorandum of Understanding which includes a "no fill" requirement from November 1<sup>st</sup> to January 31<sup>st</sup>. Flood control is provided by maintaining a lower reservoir level from November through January.

### ***How is the stored water in Galesville Reservoir allocated for release?***

Stored water is allocated for release based on the specific type of use and when released, the flow is measured according to the amounts allocated. For example, contracts for irrigation water total 5,212 acre-feet. This water is measured and released making it available to water right holders.

### ***How much water is currently stored in Galesville Reservoir?***

As of May 14, 2018, approximately 25,450 acre-feet of water is available. Of that water, approximately 10,000 acre-feet of water is committed to satisfy water contracts and ODFW "fish" water.