## Swift Reservoir Fish Facility Project

PACIFICORP PacifiCorp Energy Pacific Power Rocky Mountain Power

The Swift Reservoir Fish Facility, located on the uppermost reservoir of PacifiCorp's Lewis River Hydroelectric facilities, is designed to allow fish moving downstream to make their way to the ocean safely. The goal is to re-ignite migratory fish runs above the three dams.

The facility will do this by creating flow conditions to attract outmigrating fish, typically juvenile salmon and steelhead, and adult steelhead. Once the fish are collected, they will be sorted at the facility for transport to the lower Lewis River downstream of Merwin Dam near the city of Woodland.

The work is being completed as part of the operating licenses granted to PacifiCorp and the Public Utility District No. 1 of Cowlitz County by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission in 2008 after a lengthy settlement process involving more than two dozen agencies, tribes and local groups.

The fish passage project will cost the utilities about \$60 million, and is among the most prominent work underway. But this project is only part of an ongoing commitment that encompasses wildlife enhancement, recreation and flood management.

The Swift Reservoir Fish Facility project has four main parts:

- Floating Surface Collector
- Net system
- Mooring tower
- Access trestle







## How does the project work?

Juvenile fish, the offspring of the salmon and steelhead that spawned upstream, will come downstream through the reservoir as they are drawn toward the ocean.

Given the attraction to downstream current, the juvenile fish will move towards the floating surface collector which re-circulates water to simulate a lake outlet. The net system and the floating surface collector will attract these fish, which are typically 3 - 6inches long at this stage in life, into a collection area. The fish are collected and gently transported from the facility on specially designed trucks via the access trestle. The juvenile fish are then trucked around the dams and released downstream of Merwin to continue their journey to the sea.

The floating surface collector will be located just off the south end of the Swift Dam, anchored by the mooring tower and connected to the dam by an access trestle. The mooring tower and access trestle are supported on piles, and the floating surface collector rises and falls with the reservoir level.

## **Construction timeline**

The project began in April 2011. The floating surface collector is being assembled near the boat ramp of Swift Forest Camp. In the spring of 2012, it will be floated to the mooring tower. The tower is being built simultaneously with the collector. The project should be in operation by late 2012.

For more information about our habitat restoration projects on the Lewis River, please visit **pacificorp.com/lewisriver**.