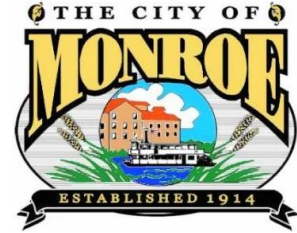


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RELEASE DATE:

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CITY'S SLUICE GATE REPLACED AFTER HIGH WATER EVENT

MONROE, OREGON, April 9 — On Monday, April 5, City staff discovered the gate to the City of Monroe's sluice way, located on the west bank of the Long Tom River adjacent to the Mill dam, had failed during the last high-water event. This gate blocks water to the now removed turbine wheel that powered the old mill. When Fern Ridge Dam reduced its water flow to top off the reservoir, the water pouring through the now open sluice way lowered the water level behind Monroe's mill dam, enough to expose the City's water intake. This temporarily disabled the City's ability to make water.

Interim City Administrator Steve Martinenko immediately contacted Chris McWhorton with the United States Geological Survey (USGS) who requested the United States Army Corps of Engineers' assistance to increase the water discharge at Fern Ridge Dam, the Long Tom River's water source for Monroe.

Also, the City of Harrisburg's Public Works Director, Chuck Scholz, was asked for assistance with getting a new sluice gate fabricated and sent his staff to help Monroe's Public Works team.

By Tuesday afternoon, April 6, the river's water level began to rise due to the increased water discharge from Fern Ridge. Monroe's Public Works team was able to make water for the City again. At no point did the City's water reservoir level fall below reserves.

The next morning, at 8:15 a.m., Wednesday, April 7, Forslund Crane Services out of Albany lifted the new sluice gate into place with City of Monroe's Public Works team and City of Harrisburg's Public Works staff working together to install it. An hour later, water was flowing over the dam once again and the water treatment plant was producing water to bring the tank levels back to normal.

The City of Monroe's Interim City Administrator, Steve Martinenko, acted quickly and engaged the resources necessary to minimize the impact of this event. Resolution of this event would not be possible without the great teamwork and fast action of our local, regional/state, and federal partners including the City of Monroe's Public Works team, the City of Harrisburg's Public Works Director Chuck Scholz and his staff, USGS, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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City of Monroe and City of Harrisburg's Public Works teams working together to install new sluzice gate.
City of Monroe image.



Looking west, a view of the dam and the Long Tom River with the repaired sluzice gate in place. Water is flowing normally over the dam and through the fish ladder.
City of Monroe image.