

Spokane River Basin

The Spokane River Basin covers 6,640 square miles in northern Idaho and northeastern Washington. Principal tributaries are the St. Joe and Coeur d'Alene Rivers, which flow into Coeur d'Alene Lake. The Spokane River, the lake's outlet, flows westerly for 100 miles and empties into Franklin D. Roosevelt Lake behind Grand Coulee Dam. Above Coeur d'Alene Lake, the basin is mountainous and heavily forested. Below the lake, the Spokane River flows through a deep valley along the edge of a rolling plateau with little forest cover. The major portion of the flood plain is agricultural land.

Spokane River, Spokane

Emergency Bank Protection Project - Section 14 - Completed (Seattle District)
An emergency shore protection project has been constructed to prevent damage to Upriver Drive, a city of Spokane arterial road which is on the right bank of the Spokane River. The unprotected bank was in danger of failure without some form of protection. The project consists of 600 feet of bank protection of rock slope and quarry spall filter. The project was conducted at the request of the city of Spokane, local sponsor, and accomplished under the authority of Section 14 of the 1946 Flood Control Act. Construction was completed in December 1987. Total project cost was \$201,450 (\$122,138 federal).

Spokane River and Tributaries, Idaho and Washington

Flood Control Study - Terminated (Seattle District) In 1965 and 1966, both the Senate and House Public Works Committees requested review of a report to determine advisability of improving flood control and other factors along the Spokane River and its tributaries. The water resource needs and problems are flood control, water quality, navigation, irrigation, recreation, and fish and wildlife enhancement. Preliminary studies of many potential alternatives have been made and two interim reports prepared: Placer Creek, Idaho (flood control), and Metropolitan Spokane Region urban study. Other studies include an investigation of two methods of flood control on Hangman (Latah) Creek near Tensed, Idaho, and Tekoa, WA, and a feasibility study of channel improvement in the St. Joe River near the mouth. Shoaling is hindering commercial navigation and recreational boating. In cooperation with the U.S. Forest Service, which is conducting a Wild and Scenic Rivers Study on the St. Joe, consideration is being given to retaining the river in an undeveloped state. A reconnaissance review was made of a multi-purpose storage site at Enaville on the Coeur d'Alene River. Feasibility of improving the Coeur d'Alene Lake outlet was also studied. These improvements would yield flood control, low-flow augmentation, power, irrigation, recreation, and fishery benefits either separately or as a system. The reconnaissance studies revealed improvements projects along Hangman Creek, St. Joe River, and Coeur d'Alene River were not economically

feasible. Studies of the Spokane River Basin have not been funded since 1977 and are currently inactive.

Metropolitan Spokane Region Water Resources

Completed Urban Study (Seattle District) In 1973, the Spokane River and Tributaries study was expanded to give major emphasis to urban problems in the metropolitan Spokane area to include urban runoff and flood control, water supply, regional water quality, wastewater management alternatives, and related water resource needs. Completed in 1976, the study provides Spokane with a long-range plan for water resource management.

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