

## July 25 public information meeting on recent Libby Dam operations



The recent spill test and flood control operations at Libby Dam will be discussed July 25 when the Army Corps of Engineers holds a public information meeting in Libby. The meeting will take place at 7:30 p.m. in Ponderosa Room at City Hall in Libby, Mont.

High temperatures and increased snowmelt had caused Lake Koocanusa to fill over 15 feet between June 14 and June 24. By midnight June 24, Lake Koocanusa was less than 10 feet from full.

Libby Dam began releasing water through the spillway gates on June 25 in a scheduled test to measure how a range of spillway releases at Libby Dam would affect the levels of total dissolved gas in the river downstream.

By early afternoon of the first day of the test, it became necessary to make a transition from the spill test to flood control operations to slow refill of the reservoir. Along with a maximum powerhouse discharge of 24,400 cfs, water volume through the spillway gates increased over the next several days. Total discharge reached 40,000 cfs by the afternoon of July 1 and was maintained at this level through the morning of July 3. Though it was not possible to continue the spill test as it was designed, monitoring of gas levels and fish conditions continued. In addition, groundwater and well monitoring continued as scheduled.

On hand to discuss Libby Dam operations and answer questions will be representatives from Libby Dam, the Seattle District Office and the Reservoir Control Center in Portland. For further information, please contact Mick Shea, Libby Dam project manager, at 406-293-7751.