FACT SHEET

- HOWARD A. HANSON DAM -

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is steward of the lands and waters at projects it manages for the nation. A Master Plan is a strategic land use management document that guides comprehensive management and development of all project recreational, natural and cultural resources throughout the water resource development project's life.

The Seattle District is revising the Howard A. Hanson Dam (HAHD) Master Plan, originally developed in 1999.

Why update it?

The original Master Plan was developed 20 years ago and doesn't reflect current conditions at the dam. Changes in Corps regulations and community needs necessitate a revision, or update, to the plan.

The Master Plan revision will classify the government lands around the dam based on environmental and socioeconomic considerations, public input and an evaluation of past, present, and forecasted trends. Howard A. Hanson Dam is in a closed watershed and no recreation is at the project. This update's goal is to ensure all current and potential future actions are included in the plan.



Corps employees conducted a herpetological survey in 2018. This data will help shape the Master Plan update.



About the dam

Howard A Hanson Dam is an earthen dam on the Green River, 21 miles east of Auburn Washington. The dam was completed in 1962 and is a multipurpose project that includes flood risk reduction, fish conservation, water supply and ecosystem restoration.

Flood risk reduction is focused on the highly developed Green River Valley. It has prevented an estimated \$21.5 billion in flood damage. HAHD and its reservoir is closed to the public as it lies entirely within the City of Tacoma municipal watershed. Authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1950, the project provides:

- 104,000 acre feet of flood storage
- 24,000 acre feet for fish conservation
- 5,000 acre feet for ecosystem restoration
- 20,000 acre feet of municipal water storage

Fish passage falls under other management actions and is not part of the Master Plan. Prior to building HAHD, upstream fish passage was blocked by a City of Tacoma diversion dam. Tacoma Water has a facility to transport fish above HAHD, but currently does not because no downstream passage is present. The Corps is engaged in building a downstream passage project and actively carries out habitat restoration programs.



Email nwsmasterplan@usace.army.mil to share your perspective, sign up for the mailing list or let us know how you'd prefer to be involved in the Howard A. Hanson Dam Master Plan Update.