



**US Army Corps  
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Walla Walla District  
Public Affairs Office

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# News Release

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## Temporary lock outage at Ice Harbor Dam

**Burbank, Wash.** – The navigation lock at Ice Harbor Lock and Dam will be temporarily out of service tomorrow to provide safer conditions for divers working near the dam, according to an operations official from the Walla Walla District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Divers will be working between 7 a.m. and 3 p.m. to retrieve a turbine blade section that broke away from a generator last week. The approximate underwater location of the broken blade is in front of the powerhouse on the downstream side of the dam. All power generation, south shore fish pumps and navigation lockages must be shut down to reduce water turbulence while divers rescue the broken piece. The dive team is responding on short notice and added Saturday to their already-filled workweek to help the District recover the blade section. Once retrieved, maintenance crews should be able to reattach the piece inexpensively, saving taxpayers the million-plus potential cost of totally replacing the generator's turbine blades.

“The Corps always puts safety first, and we really appreciate the public's cooperation and understanding when we have to close a lock to accommodate these important maintenance needs,” said Wayne John, District operations division chief.

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