



**US Army Corps  
Of Engineers**  
Walla Walla District  
Public Affairs Office

# News Release

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## Emergency lock outage at Ice Harbor Dam

Burbank, Wash. – The navigation lock at Ice Harbor Dam was placed out of service yesterday evening when a vessel exiting the lock impacted with the upstream gate, according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials here.

The cruise vessel *Empress of the North* was authorized to exit the lock heading upstream at about 5:40 p.m. when it hit the gate. Walla Walla District lock operators instructed the vessel to back into the lock until the boat could be inspected for damage.

The navigation lock will remain closed to all river traffic until the cruise vessel can be cleared by the U.S. Coast Guard for removal and the lock dewatered and inspected for damage.

An investigation into the cause of the accident is ongoing. District officials will inform the public of any changes to the navigation lock's operational status.

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