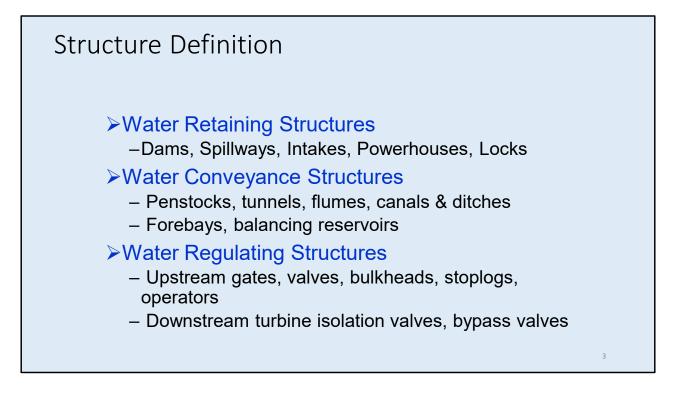


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 Waterpower Hydro Basics
Harnessing the Water
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The overriding **goal** of a hydro project **is to provide power**, and the fuel for that power is **"falling" water**, so every structure must be arranged and **designed with this in mind**.

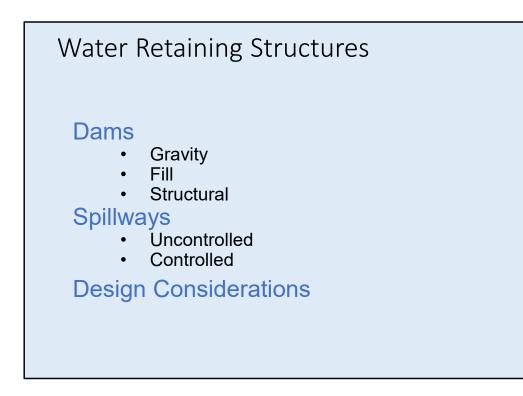
We are going to talk **about three major structures** today – those that **retain** the water, those that **convey** the water, and those that **regulate** the water.

The selection of each type of structure is a key element of the design for any hydropower project and can take years of **planning**, **investigations**, and **studies**.

The selection process is <u>iterative</u> as the type of retaining structure selected often dictates the type of conveyance structure that then narrows the regulating structures available for use and vice versa.

Though engineering behind the structures is similar from site to site, no two hydro projects are identical.

Gravity rules.



# Water Retaining Structures - Dams



- Gravity Structures
  - Rely on mass
  - Concrete, RCC, masonry
- Fill Dams
  - Rely on frictional resistance of materials and mass
  - Earthfill, rockfill, hydraulic fill, levees
- Structural
  - Rely on their structural configuration
  - Arch dams, buttress, flood walls

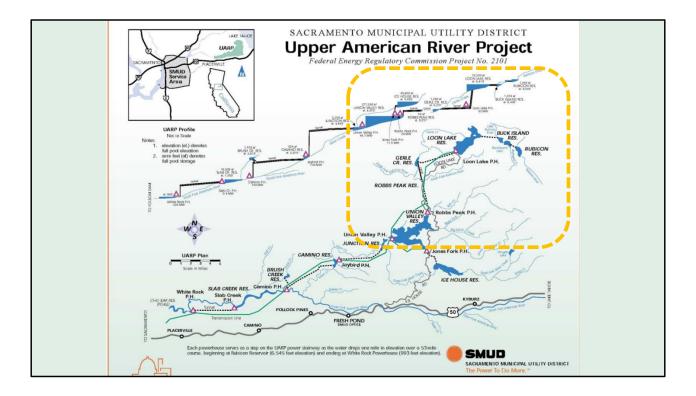
### Dam vs. Levee

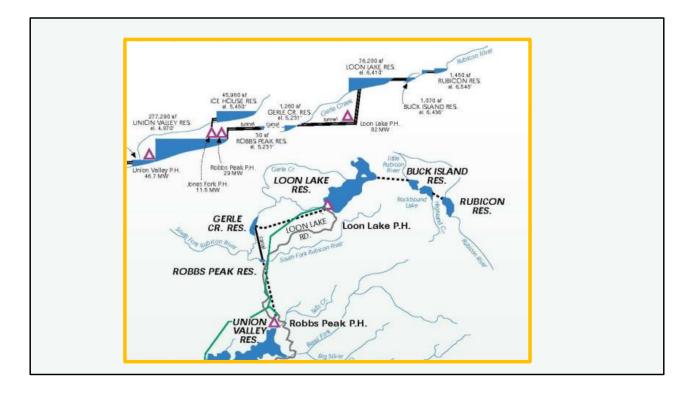
<u>Dams</u> means any **artificial barrier** that has the ability to **impound** water, wastewater, or any liquid-borne material, for the purpose of **storage or control** of water.

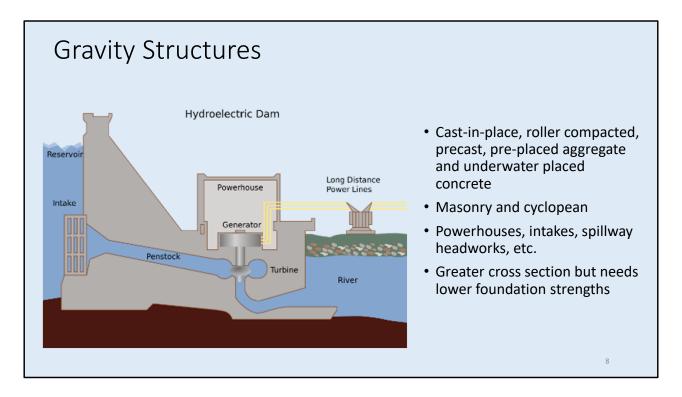
<u>Levees</u> an **embankment** whose primary purpose is to furnish **flood protection** from seasonal high water and which is therefore subject to water loading for periods of **only a few days or weeks** a year (USACE, 2000)

Dam engineering is an evolving science.

Dam type selection is a complex process that must incorporate **site** conditions, project **needs**, material **availability**, and **foundation** characteristics to name a few.







Gravity structures: the name says it all.

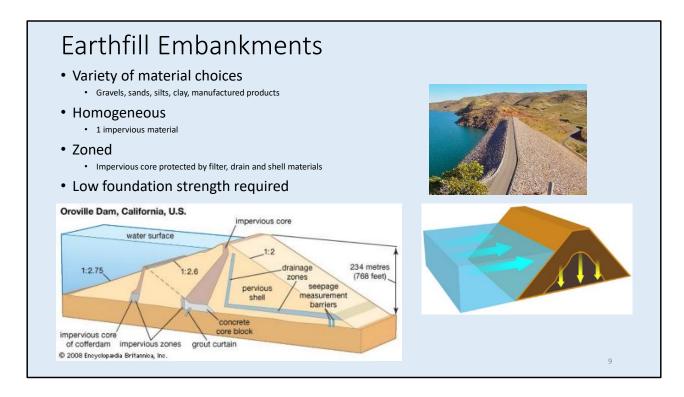
Typically built in blocks called **monoliths** anywhere from 50-ft to 90-ft wide. Monoliths are **independently stable**. Heights are limited by foundation characteristics.

Temperature effects must be addressed for large concrete gravity structures.

Structure **shape** is important – abrupt changes in section shape should be avoided.

Cyclopean masonry entails large irregular stone blocks embedded in concrete RCC = Roller-Compacted Concrete

Many times, structures are incorporated into gravity dams including **powerhouses**, **intakes**, and **spillways**.



Two sub-categories of fill dams:

- Earthfill
- Rockfill

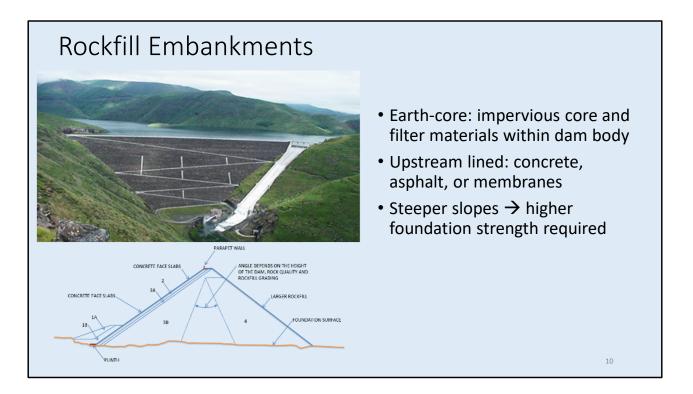
**Seepage** through the embankment, foundation, and abutments must be **controlled** and **collected**.

Freeboard and erosion protection is a major consideration for earthfill dams.

**Zoning** of a dam and the construction method dependent upon local **availability** of materials.

Material parameters and compaction are critical to earthfill dam performance.

Typical **slopes** range from 4H:1V to 2.5H:1V (H=horizontal, V=vertical). For reference, 4H:1V is 14 deg and 2.5H:1V is nearly 22 deg.



Similar to earthfill, but materials generally **more stable** typically resulting in steeper slopes, commonly 1.6 to 1.75H:1V, but up to 1.3H:1V (**38** deg).

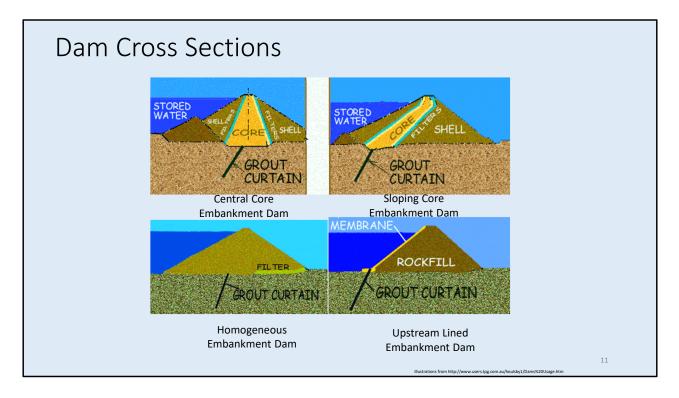
Final slopes dependent upon foundation characteristics as well as rockfill characteristics.

Typically placed in lifts and compacted, just like earthfill.

ECRD = Earth-Core Rockfill Dam CFRD = Concrete Face Rockfill Dam

CFRD terminology:

- Face Slab = reinforced concrete panels on the slope.
- Plinth = reinforced concrete toe slab upon which the face slabs are founded and anchored to rock.



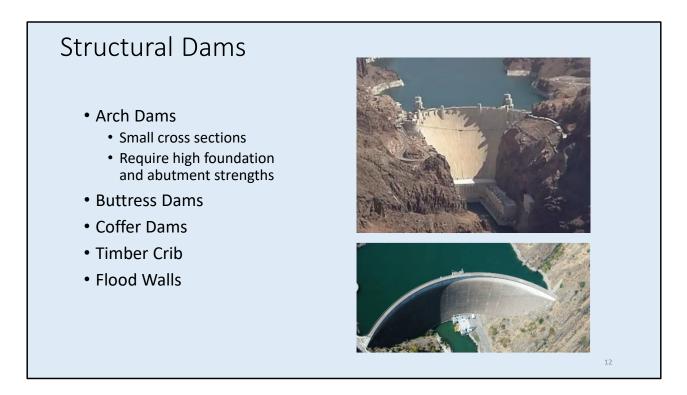
As many varieties as there are materials available.

Some fundamentals for fill dams:

- Water barrier: impervious core, upstream lining, etc.
- Seepage barrier: grout curtain, cutoff wall, slurry trench, etc.
- Filters: measures to control seepage gradients and prevent internal erosion of materials (types include chimney drains, blanket drains, toe drains, finger drains, etc).
- Shell materials to support and protect the core and to maintain stability

**Piping** – occurs when the seepage forces overcome the resistive force of the soil resulting in the 'washing away' of fines and the formation of conduits or pipes within the material. As fines wash away, flow increases and more fines wash away, increasing flow further, thereby washing more fines away, etc.

Note: many fill dams **incorporate the cofferdam into the final design section.** Cofferdams are temporary dams constructed in advance to allow dewatering of the site and proper construction of the permanent facilities including dams, powerhouses, locks, etc.



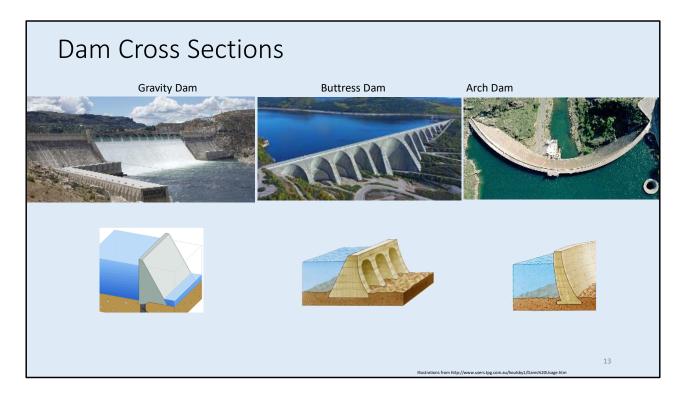
Rely on their structural configuration to pass the water loads into the foundation.

Arch dams carry a major portion of their **loads horizontally into the foundations** on either side of the dam, called abutments.

Arch dams are typically designed with **curves** in two directions – horizontally and vertically.

Other structural dams rely on the structural strength of the components in combination with the dam's weight to resist the water loads.

Structural dams require **strong foundations** and abutments as well as careful consideration and treatment of **seepage**.



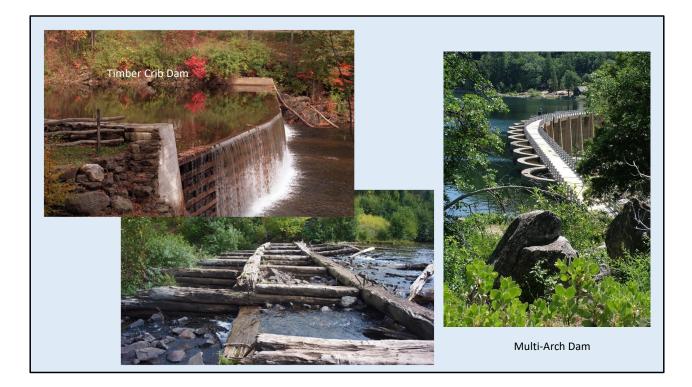
Seepage control is very important for gravity and structural dams as well.

Typically, **drainage curtains** are employed to reduce **uplift pressure**.

Uplift pressure results from the **hydrostatic** forces **caused by seepage** at the foundation line (or lift line or within the dam body itself).

Uplift is very hard to predict **but can be measured**.

Drains can only be effective if **appropriately maintained**.



# <text>

# **Energy dissipation is extremely important!**

# Spillways:

Structures **designed to release surplus** water or floodwater that cannot be contained in the reservoir. Hydrologic data needed includes:

- Water surface profiles and stream flow data (USGS typically)
- Reservoir elevation-area-capacity curves
- Tailwater rating curves

The importance of properly designed spillways cannot be understated – many dam failures have been attributed to improperly designed or undersized spillways.

Spillway setting and capacity requirements set by hazard classification of the dam.

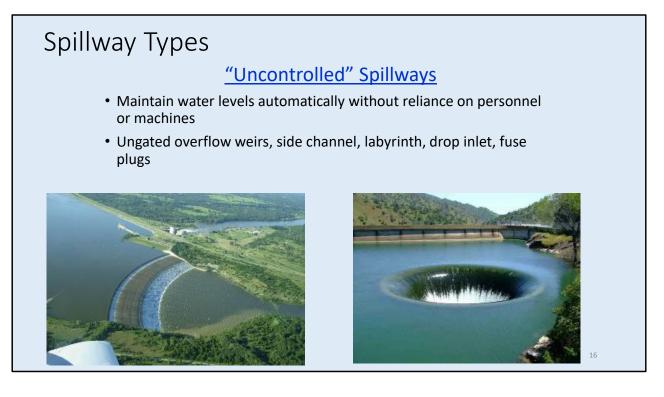
In addition to providing sufficient capacity, the spillway must be **hydraulically and structurally adequate** and must be located so that spillway discharges do **not erode** or undermine the downstream toe of the dam.

As with seismic issues, flood magnitudes are being redefined and are generally increasing in size **often times yielding an insufficient spillway** capacity at older facilities.

Classified according to mode of control as free (uncontrolled) or gated (controlled) spillways;

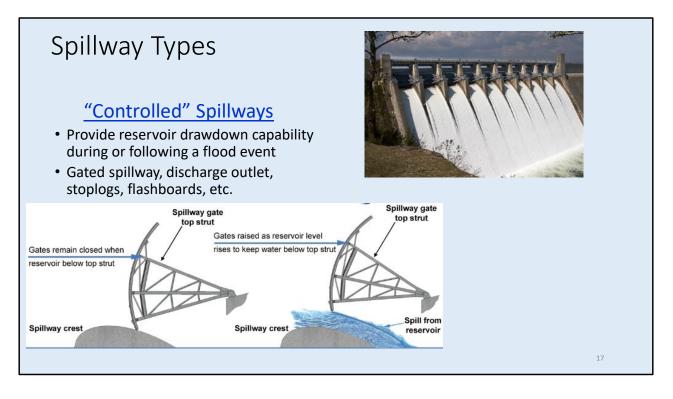
Also **classified**: according to function as main **service**, **emergency** and **auxiliary** spillways;

Also **hydraulic criteria**, i.e. type, as overfall, side channel, chute, shaft, siphon and tunnel spillways



### Spillway Components:

- **Control** Structure: regulates the outflows from the reservoir, limiting or preventing outflows below fixed reservoir levels and regulating releases when the reservoir rises above that level.
- Discharge **Channel**: flow released through the control structure is conveyed to the streambed below through the discharge channel.
- **Terminal** Structure: provided at the base of the discharge channel to dissipate the energy of the spilled water.



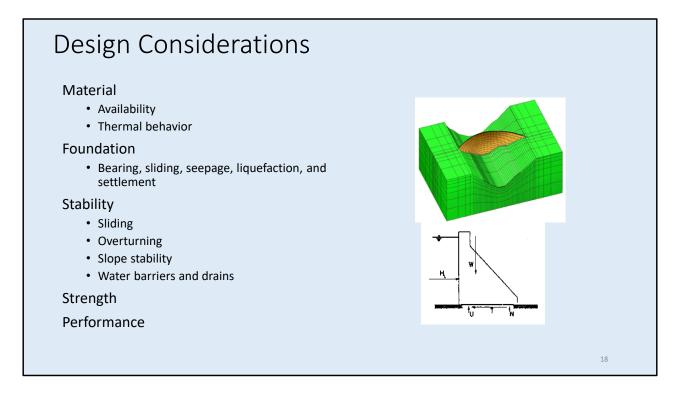
Spillway design is governed by hydraulics. Common terms include:

• Ogee: the term given to an overflow spillway shaped to maximize the discharge efficiency – also referred to as S-shaped.

- Cavitation: the formation of a water vapor cavity that results in a highpressure jet when the cavity collapses – particularly significant where water velocities exceed 80 ft/s.
- Aeration: the introduction of air near the flow surface to reduce the potential for cavitation.

• **Plunge** Pool: water bodies provided to **absorb the energy** of falling water from overfall spillways, etc.

- **Deflector/Flip** Buckets: structures designed to **redirect** the spillway discharge flow **upwards** (normally not more than 30 degrees) to minimize the need for additional downstream streambed protection works.
- Stilling Basins: structures of specific width and length to force the hydraulic jump to occur within the basin, again to minimize the need for additional downstream streambed protection works.



Material **availability**: local materials for aggregates, rockfills and their strengths. Also affect the way of placing and construction schedule.

**Thermal** effects: Seasonal temperatures and heat of hydration, like a cake in the oven, causing large strains before material reaches strength causing cracks. Can last for years.

**Bearing**: Pressures transferred to foundation should be well within its capacity. Shape can affect structural design, needs close collaboration between disciplines, local foundation failure mechanisms must be checked, sometimes leads to foundation treatments and reinforcements.

<u>Liquefaction</u> is the sudden large **decrease** of the shearing **resistance** of a cohesionless soil (such as sands). It is caused by a collapse of the soil by shock or other type of strain and is associated with a **sudden but temporary increase of the pore-filled pressure**. It involves a temporary **transformation** of the material into a **fluid** mass. Hydraulic fill dams may vulnerable to this type of failure as well as some foundations.

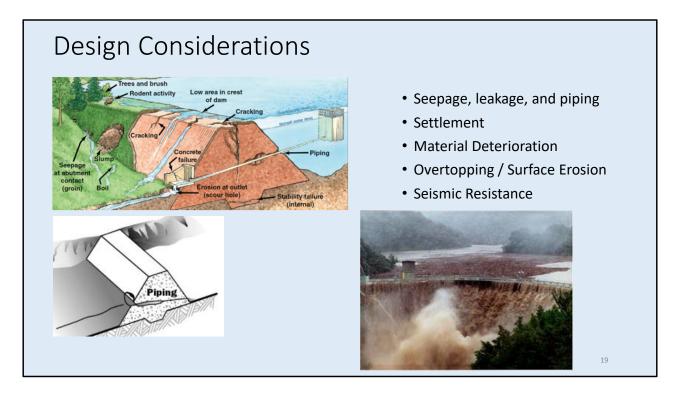
**Stability** analysis is dam type dependent. Common analyses include **overturning**, **sliding**, **and floatation**.

FoS calculated as the ratio of resisting/capacity. Depends on load probability of occurrence.

Sliding  $\rightarrow$  displacement, for very high return periods MCE, dams/structures are allowed to displace  $\rightarrow$  performance based design.

Overturning avoid tipping over, can be local.

Stability is looked at global level (whole dam), local level (blocks, lifts), likelihood of unstable portion to compromise structure.



Settlement causes large relative displacements that compromise the structural integrity. Granular materials can accommodate more easily to settlement than rigid structures like concrete.

Materials can deteriorate over time leading to a weak link in the load path.

Seismic resistance is a **big issue** for both new and old dams.

Historically, seismic design was not sophisticated, and many times **was not even considered in older** designs.

Seismicity studies have become **more advanced** and many dams thought not to be in seismic zones in the past must now be evaluated and **retrofitted to meet the new seismic standards**, which can be very costly.

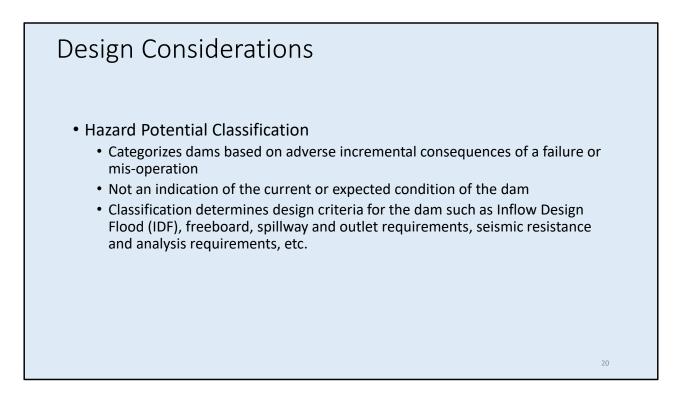
### Seismic Analysis Terms:

• Maximum Design Earthquake (MDE): maximum earthquake event for which the structure is designed to withstand. Now called SEE = Safety Evaluation Earthquake → prevent sudden release of the reservoir, and damage is

# acceptable

• Maximum Credible Earthquake (MCE): the maximum earthquake event that may occur at a given site.

• Operating Basis Earthquake (OBE): an event for which the facilities are designed to resist and remain in operation.



### Inflow Design Flood (IDF)

The maximum flood against which a structure is protected.

## Probable Maximum Precipitation (PMP)

The **greatest depth of precipitation** for a given duration, given area, given location, and given time of year, with no allowance for long-term climatic trends.

## Probable Maximum Flood (PMF)

The maximum runoff condition resulting from the **most severe combination** of hydrologic and meteorologic conditions (i.e., snowmelt, PMP, etc.) that are considered reasonably possible for the drainage basin under study.

Need to look at antecedent or subsequent flood events as well.

[	Dam Downstream Hazard Potential Classifications					
	CATEGORY <sup>1</sup>	LOW	SIGNIFICANT	<u>HIGH</u>		
	Direct Loss of Life <sup>2</sup>	None expected (due to rural location with no permanent structures for human habitation)	Uncertain (rural location with few residences and only transient or industrial development)	Certain (one or more extensive residential, commercial or industrial development)		
	Lifeline Losses <sup>3</sup>	No disruption of services - repairs are cosmetic or rapidly repairable damage	Disruption of essential facilities and access	Disruption of critical facilities and access		
	Property Losses <sup>4</sup>	Private agricultural lands, equipment and isolated buildings	Major public and private facilities	Extensive public and private facilities		
	Environmental Losses <sup>5</sup>	Minimal incremental damage	Major mitigation required	Extensive mitigation cost or impossible to mitigate	21	

Notes: are based upon project **performance** and do not apply to individual structures within a project.

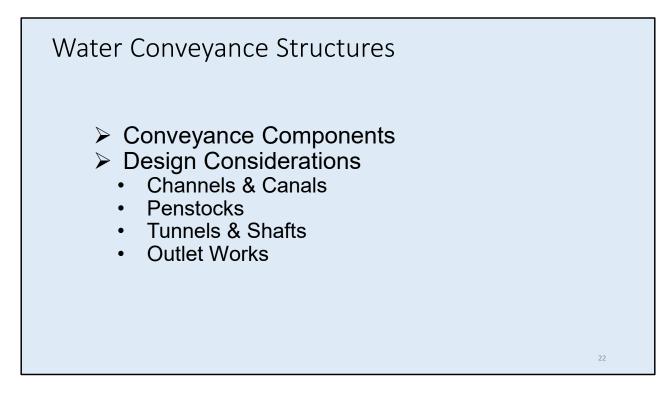
I. Categories are based upon project performance and do not apply to individual structures with the set upon inundation mapping of area downstream of the

project. Analyses of loss of life potential shall consider the extent of development and 2alsosiated potential hass dimensional take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account the extent of development and associated potential shall take into account

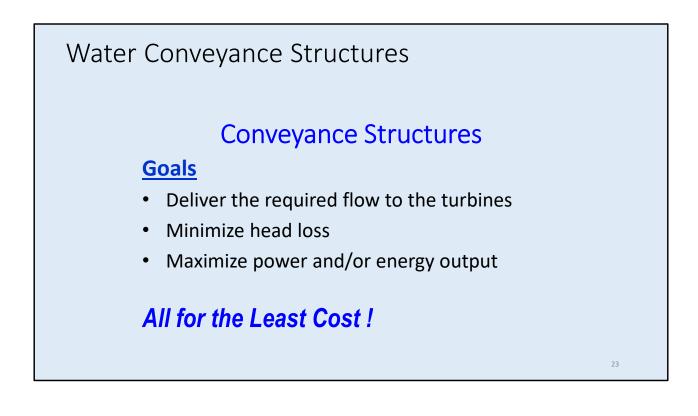
<sup>3</sup>omdirect the power slipping, each hythe attensuetion of lifeline services due to project failure, or operation, i.e., direct loss of (or access to) critical medical facilities or loss of water or power supply, communications, and supply, communications, and

downstream property and indirect economic impact due to loss of project services, 4i. Directory and indirect economic impact due to loss of project services, 4i. Directory and indirect economic impact due to loss of project services, property and indirect economic impact due to loss of project services, i.e., impact on navigation industry of the loss of a dam and navigation pool, or impact upon a community of the loss of wat Epvironmental pippert downstream caused by the incremental flood wave

produced by the project failure, beyond which would normally be expected for the 5 m Fagilite mental impart downstroam Gauge of by the inferiors ental flood wave produced by the project failure, beyond which would normally be expected for the magnitude flood event under a without project conditions [sic, see USACE ER 1110-2-1155, Appendix E].



Include also diversion structures needed during project construction.



# **Conveyance Components**

- Channels & Canals: manmade streams or rivers
- Forebays: water storage for operation regulation
- Intakes: control inflow and block debris, fish, ice, etc. from entry



Channels & Canals:

- Typical lining options: clay, concrete, membranes, asphalt, etc.
- Uplift relief and drainage beneath the lining is an important consideration.
- Typically convey high flows to low head plants, want to minimize losses; i.e., low velocities, large sections, smooth surfaces.
- Need to balance hydraulic design with field application.

**Forebay**: storage for load **acceptance** (surplus water) and load **rejection** (surplus storage). like an **approach** channel or small lake, allows for **regulation**.

**Intake** elevation is key – can be dictated by **capacity** needs, submergence requirements for mitigating air entrainment, temperature levels, silt levels, water quality, etc. Oftentimes intakes are **multilevel** for this reason.

Intake **geometry** is also key – need uniformity of **flow velocity and direction**. Model studies, both physical and CFD, are often done to confirm the geometry in advance.

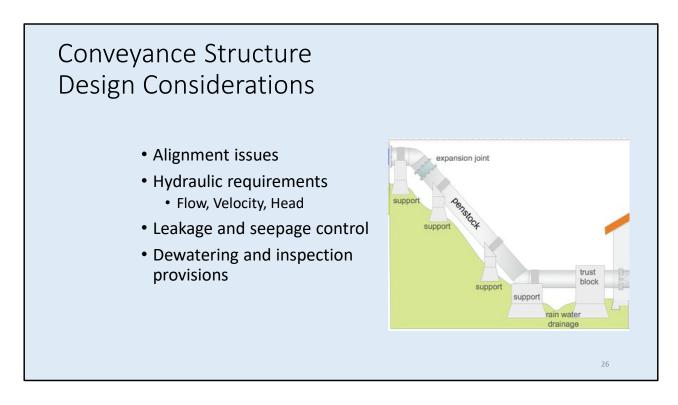
# Conveyance Components

- Flumes: open conduit, normally elevated, for conveying water
- **Penstocks:** pipe to convey water under pressure
- Tunnels & Shafts
- Surge Chambers: for pressure fluctuations in water conductors







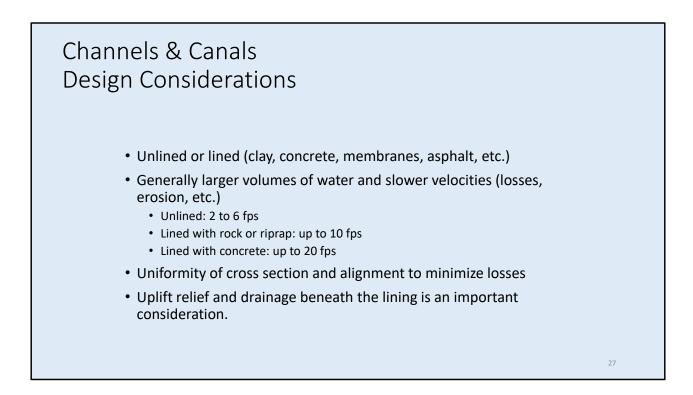


If the project is regulated by the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (**FERC**), the project features are to be **inspected** every five years.

Intake setting (**submergence**) and shape is important. Also, protection against **debris** and sometimes wildlife entering the conveyance structures is normally required.

Conveyance structure design must account for **pressure variations** caused by unit operation. These can sometimes be **severe**.

Loads generated by the flowing water must be taken into account where changes in direction take place. Directional changes also result in additional losses. This causes also loads for trust support deign.

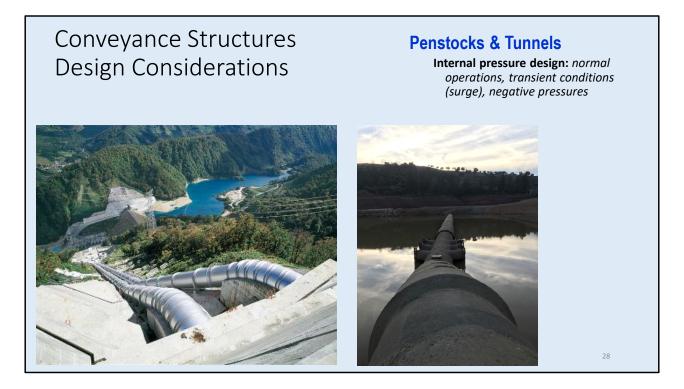


Lining requirements for tunnels and shafts must be carefully reviewed for items such as head loss, leakage, and hydraulic jacking as well as for support needs both during construction and long-term operation.

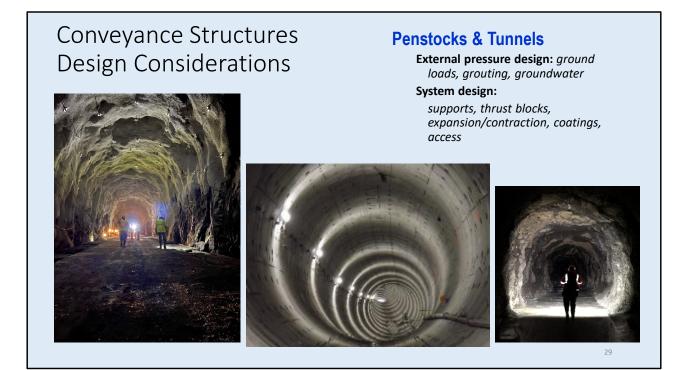
The need and type of **tunnel lining** is governed by the **rock mass characteristics**, jointing, available rock cover, leakage control, reduction of losses, etc.

**Interaction** between the **tunnel lining** and the **surrounding rock** must be considered in the design of the lining.

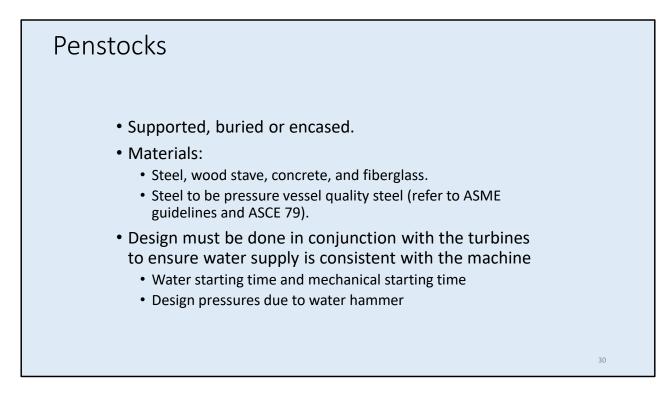
**Steel liners are typically adopted to control leakage**, where insufficient rock cover exists, or where the tunnel pressures are high and may result in stability issues in the surrounding geology.



When **dewatering** existing structures or designing new ones, careful consideration must be given to the '**reverse conditions**' that will occur following the dewatering of a tunnel, shaft or buried penstock.



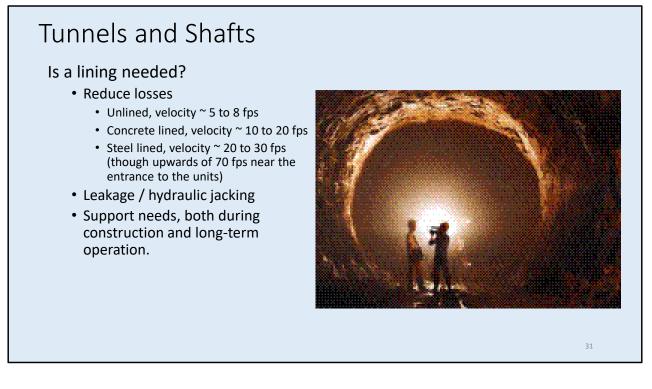
When **dewatering** existing structures or designing new ones, careful consideration must be given to the '**reverse conditions**' that will occur following the dewatering of a tunnel, shaft or buried penstock.



Common penstock **materials** include **steel**, **wood** stave, **concrete**, and **fiberglass**. Typically, steel **penstocks** are made with **pressure vessel quality** steel (refer to ASME guidelines and ASCE 79).

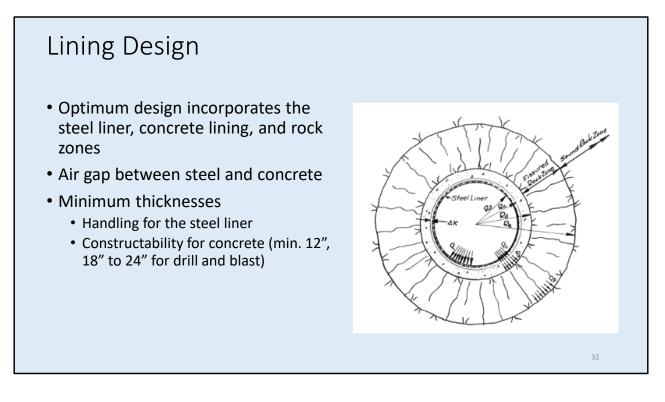
Typically, only **fine-grained carbon steel plate** intended for use in pressure vessels should be used for penstocks.

Penstock **design** must be done in **conjunction** with the **turbines** to ensure water supply is consistent with the machine (water starting time and mechanical starting time) and the design pressures are appropriate (**water hammer**).



**Hydraulic jacking** – pressurization of the rock to a point where the **pressure in the joints and fractures exceeds the weight of the rock** and essentially 'floats' the rock.

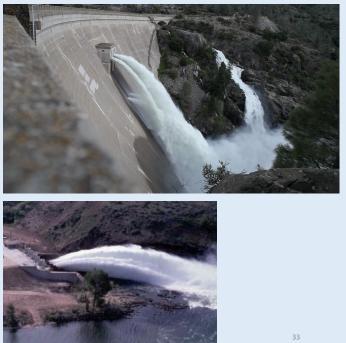
Rock bolts used to stabilize surrounding material, installed with patterns depending on site characteristics (boreholes used for inspecting conditions). Like reinforcing the rock mass.



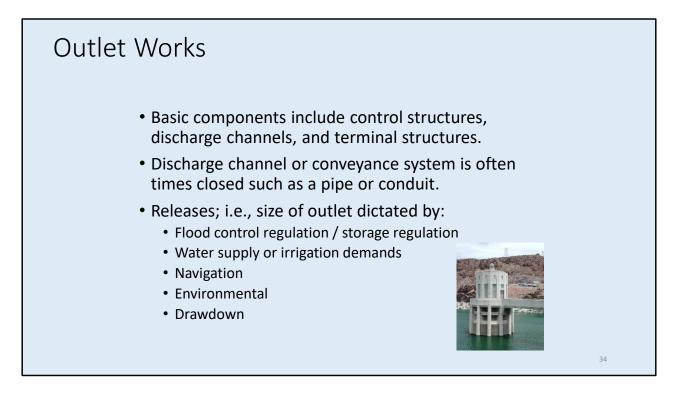
Important to design each component as the load is shared. For example, when the water pressurizes the steel liner, steels takes some load, then concrete behind takes some portion, and supporting rock also takes part of the load. All working together. Weak zones can be challenging, design must adjust along the tunnel alignment. Inter-disciplinary coordination key.

# **Outlet Works**

- To allow the release of water to satisfy river flow requirements when the power plant is not in operation
- Temporary diversion during initial filling
- To allow for lowering of reservoir for inspection and repairs
- To provide additional spill capacity



Mainly control structures.



Some sample drawdown requirements:

- Capability to release the upper 10-ft of the reservoir at full pool in ten days;
- Within four months, be able to release the stored water from full pool to a depth equivalent to 20-ft above the pre-project "full channel" elevation; and
- Capability to release 90% of the storage volume in four months.

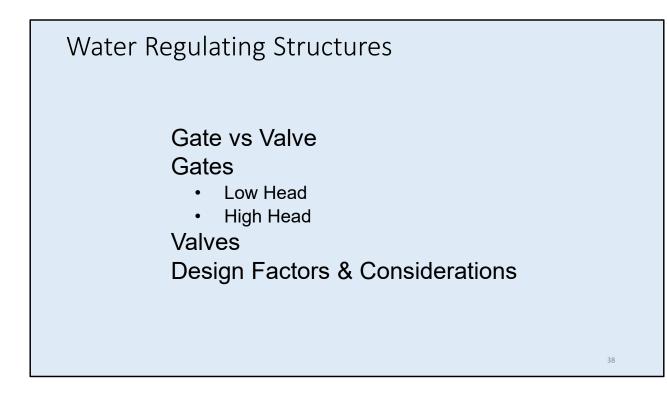
# **Outlet Works**

- Reservoirs are subject to sedimentation
  - Leads to loss of storage volume for water supply, hydropower generation, flood storage, etc.
  - Impacts pool depths that can affect navigation and recreation
  - Restricts flow of sediment downstream sometimes leading to scour downstream and prevents replenishment of downstream bottomlands
- Submergence important
- Trashracks may be needed

# **Outlet Works**

- Water quality related issues may include:
  - Temperature
  - Oxygen concentration
  - Turbidity
  - Minimum flow requirements
- Water below the outlet works is considered "dead storage"

### **Outlet Works** • Energy dissipation is extremely important Troshracks • Common velocities: EL 1136.67 EI. 1088.3 • Concrete lined conduits = 65 fps EL 1036.6 • Steel lined conduits = 160 fps Paradox-actes 874.41 • Air must be supplied downstream of the EI.935. gate to prevent cavitation and damage to conduit due to high velocity flow 1 porta 37



# Water Regulating Structures

# **Goals**

Regulate the flow Provide needed flow range and accuracy Installation, removal, and maintenance ease



All for the Least Cost !



# Water Regulating Structures

# <u>Gate</u>

Closure device in which a leaf (closure member) is moved across the fluidway from an external position

# **Valve**

Closure device in which the closure member remains fixed axially with respect to the fluidway and is either rotated or moved longitudinally

Principal differences:

### Gates:

- Located in a free standing structure;
- Guides and sealing surfaces are attached to an independent structure;
- Hydrostatic pressures are external; and
- Lower fit tolerances.

### Valves:

- Located in, or at the end of a pressurized conduit;
- Have bodies that incorporate sealing surfaces to transfer load;
- Interior of the valve is pressurized;
- Sealing, seating, and mating surfaces require fine machined tolerances.

Control of flow in closed pipes such as penstocks conveying water for hydropower is also done by valves, which are different from gates in the sense that they come together with the driving equipment, whereas gates require a separate drive or hoisting equipment.

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