

FLAMING GORGE STORAGE UNIT
COLORADO RIVER STORAGE PROJECT, UTAH -- WYOMING

GENERAL

The Flaming Gorge Storage Unit will be the first major storage dam on the Green River, the principal tributary of the Colorado River. The Flaming Gorge Dam and powerplant will regulate the flows of the Green River and will provide marketable power for use in the states of the Upper Colorado River Basin. The Flaming Gorge damsite is located near Dutch John, Utah, on the Green River about six miles south of the Utah-Wyoming Stateline in Daggett County.

The dam will be a concrete arch-type structure with a crest length of 1,180-feet and a height of 490-feet above bedrock. The reservoir will contain 3,930,000 acre-feet of water. The powerplant will include three generating units with a total installed capacity of 108,000 kilowatts. Arch Dam Constructors of Omaha, Nebraska, was awarded the prime construction contract in June 1958 for the Flaming Gorge Dam and powerhouse on a bid of \$29,602,497. Completion of work under the prime contract is scheduled for July 1, 1963.

CONSTRUCTION IN 1959

Diversion of the Green River from its channel and through the completed diversion tunnel took place on November 19. The 1100-foot long tunnel was holed through in February and lining of tunnel to its 23-foot inside diameter was finished in August.

Early in 1959, the contractor began the tough job of rock excavation on the dam abutments. As men and machines removed rock from the keyway areas, they shoved large amounts of excavated materials into the canyon. This accumulation of rock materials created a stockpile which provides much material for placing both the 85-foot high upstream coffer (diversion) dam and the small downstream coffer dam.

On November 19, the excavated material was placed across the Green River as a low rock-filled dike just below the diversion tunnel inlet, and the river was diverted. The rock-fill dike will be widened and raised to form the upstream coffer dam which will be about 85 feet high. Placing of the downstream coffer dam by early 1960 will allow the contractor to dewater the damsite axis area. Dewatering of the damsite foundation area will make possible excavation to bedrock preparatory to placing of the first concrete in the dam structure in the summer of 1960.

Work was begun on the permanent aggregate plant on Henry's Fork near Linwood, Utah, about 15 miles west of the damsite. Erection of the plant was about 50 percent completed during 1959. Progress on this heavy materials separation plant included clearing of the borrow area, erection of structural steel, and installation of machinery and conveyor systems.

High on the abutments at the damsite, construction is underway on the concrete batching plant and cableway towers which will be used for placing concrete in the dam. The batch plant will mix 16-cubic yards of concrete. The two canyon-spanning cableways will have 25-tons capacity each. The single head tower is being erected on the left abutment near the batch plant. The tracks have been laid for the movable towers on the left abutments, and erection of the towers essentially completed. The movable towers will allow pinpointing the placement of concrete at any place in the dam.

Other construction by the prime contractor, included near completion of work on the 4.5 miles of access roads from the Dutch John to several points in the damsite areas; some paving remains to be done at the end of 1959.

Clearing operations in the reservoir area began early in the year under the \$2.4 million contract. Clearing began at the damsite with work progressing upstream in the reservoir area. By the close of 1959, 50 percent of the clearing had been done.

In Dutch John, Utah, the streets, sidewalks, and the utilities; 50 permanent and temporary residences; and the 10-bed hospital were completed. Construction of all Bureau of Reclamation buildings contracted for were completed in Dutch John.

The State of Utah extended a permanent highway from Greendale Junction on State Highway 44 northward toward the Flaming Gorge damsite. Later, this permanent highway will reach to the crest of Flaming Gorge Dam. Presently, a temporary road link from the end of the nearly completed permanent road crosses the Green River on a temporary suspension bridge and connects with the access highway to Dutch John. The temporary bridge and roads, which were opened for use in May 1959, have reduced the road distance between Dutch John and Vernal, Utah, from 89 miles to 47 miles.

LIST OF CONSTRUCTION CONTRACTS ACTIVE IN 1959 (IN EXCESS OF \$100,000)

<u>Description of Work</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
			<u>Award</u>	<u>Completion</u>
Flaming Gorge Dam & Powerplant (Prime Contract)	\$29,602,497	Arch Dam Constr. Omaha, Nebraska	6/18/58	7/1/63
Administration Bldg. Garage and Fire-station and Laboratory for Flaming Gorge Community Facilities	161,052	Witt Constr. Co. Provo, Utah	8/19/58	7/20/59
Highways, Streets, Utilities, and Residences for Flaming Gorge Community	2,672,091	Witt Constr. Co. Provo, Utah	7/25/57	2/24/59

<u>Description of Work</u>	<u>Amt.</u>	<u>Contractor</u>	<u>Dates</u>	
			<u>Award</u>	<u>Completion</u>
Clearing Flaming Gorge Reservoir Site	2,385,000	Herman H. West Co. & Phillips & Jordan Robbinsville, No. Carolina	6/17/59	12/18/61