

## Holter Cut at Big Creek Lakes

On 7/19/08 I was doing a regular patrol at Big Creek Lake. I noted the headgate was closed on the dam but water was not coming over the spillway, as would be expected this time of year. The water was down about a foot in the reservoir. At the spillway water could be heard coming through the “Holter Cut” a small auxiliary dam to the north of the large concrete dam. It was clear that the upper part of this concrete structure had partially failed. Water was gushing through. It appeared the rest of the structure was holding and would not catastrophically fail. The dam was inspected by Terri Anderson and David Jones on 7/21.



Holter cut leaking

### Monitoring of temporary repair July 2-4 2009

A new dam was not constructed in May this year as planned. The old dam has been temporarily repaired with plywood and truck tarp material to get through one more irrigation season. Materials used: ¾” plywood, four native poles, blue tarp, heavy used truck tarp, deck screws. The poles are set at a 20 degree angle. Braces can be seen by looking through the hole in the dam. Despite the lightweight construction the temporary repair is holding with very minimal leakage. Photos were taken but I am not able to access them.

September 3, 2009

While coming back with Nick on a trail maintenance trip to Pack Box Pass we met Mark Woods from BCLRA on the trail below the dam. Mark was packing supplies to the unoccupied wall tent camp. The tent was up all summer.

Nick and I made some temporary trail repairs that should facilitate stock support for the dam construction this fall: At 8.5 miles we improved a difficult muddy crossing of a turnpike damaged by an overturned root wad, at 7 miles we cleared a 175’ bypass next to deeply eroded tread, at 5 miles we placed barrier rocks near a steep drop off. Also we cut recently fallen trees.

### Construction of new concrete dam at the Holter Cut September 18-19, 2009



Building forms

David Jones, the engineer was on site. There were 10 workers on site. No helicopter flights during these 2 days. David said they thought they would have poured today. The work took longer than expected. They plan to pour on 9/21.

On 9/18 in wilderness, I met: 10 dayhikers, 1 day rider, 1 day rider, 1 packer (dam related) with 5 head, 4 trail crew members. Nobody had been to the dam or seen helicopters.

On 9/19 in wilderness I met 4 trail crew members who were repairing a dangerous section of trail in the narrows – in part to facilitate use of stock needed to accomplish the dam work.

September 18-19, 2009  
Continued



Box flown in to carry materials and tools

Post project inspection  
October 21, 2009  
Continued



View of cache box suspended over dam on logs

Post project inspection  
October 21, 2009

I inspected the site after the work was completed. The concrete work looks good and sound, the forms have been pulled. There are concerns about the amount of material left behind (wood & rebar). Also the box used to fly in materials has been installed directly above the new dam perhaps to be used as a cache. I saw nobody at the site or on the trail.



Looking down in to the cut



The tool box flown this fall is now covered with the truck tarp used this summer, apparently to be used as a cache this winter.



Example of material left behind – 20' rebar

Post project inspection  
October 21, 2009  
Continued



Tent site location



Stock holding area near camp



Driftwood piles were cleanly burnt

There are additional photos in:  
<J:\sfiles\office\northzone\dams\210ct2009\holtercut>.  
Some additional site cleanup is needed.  
Someone needs to talk to BCLRA about the cache.  
Bill Goslin

