

With the new 'partial siphon' design of the penstock (with pilings as its support structure), I would encourage all parties involved to consider the south side of the spillway as the project location. Locating the project on the south side would solve other problems as well:

- Substantial reduction in costs for construction and maintenance of access roads for this project. There are two roads available on the south side; one is paved and the other is gravel. The gravel road that parallels the base of the dam is designed for heavy construction equipment. It is made with 2" minus gravel with at least two turnout/passing areas large enough for heavy equipment.
- Elimination of probable repair cost of the north side access road, Spillway Road, from heavy truck/equipment traffic.
- Increased margin of safety regarding highway traffic by using an access intersection with high visibility as opposed to making a left turn on a 'blind curve' on Shoreview Drive onto Spillway Rd..
- A reduction in (annual?) debris removal cost from the penstock opening since the opening would be positioned further from the typical debris field that form during the winter months.
- Habitat restoration costs from clearing landscape for staging areas. Note the south abutment area has existing clear fields for staging areas. They are mowed periodically.
- Downstream temperature violations during October could be resolved by a penstock located on the south side allowing for greater flexibility of accessing a coldwater pool for a temperature selection valve (possibly similar to the temperature selection valve at Cougar Reservoir on the McKenzie River sub-basin?). One possibility is the diversion canal that was used while the dam was in construction. It diverted Row River from its natural streambed and would be an excellent coldwater source. The other possibility would be to find the original river streambed and see if it would provide a coldwater source.
- Protection of the existing riparian corridor on the north side of dam.
- Reducing the impact on the foraging behavior of the resident Bald Eagle.
- Reducing the impact on the endangered rattlesnakes within 100 feet of the construction area.
- Reducing the risks from earthquakes. Since Dorena Dam was not build based upon any earthquake design criteria, see video clip on earthquake risks or Eugene's Hazard Report.