Data Submitted (UTC 11): 1/3/2018 12:00:00 AM
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Comments: Dams in America , Approximately one third pose a "high" or "significant" hazard to life and property if failure occurs. Dams are good for wildlife habitat, Dams are good for Power, Dams are good to stop Pollution, Dams are Good for Recreation, Dams are good for Flood control, Dams are good for Waste Management, Dams are good for Farmers Crops.... There are more than 87,000 dams in the United States, according to the 2013 update to the National Inventory of Dams. BUT..... More than 15,000 of these are..... considered high-hazard potential, ...meaning their failure would result in probable loss of life..... To reduce the chances of a dam failing .....invest in repair and routine maintenance. Dams provide a range of economic, environmental, and social benefits, including recreation, flood control, water supply, hydroelectric power, waste management, river navigation, and wildlife habitat. Dams create reservoirs throughout the United States that supply water for many uses, including industrial, municipal, and agricultural. In addition to helping farmers, dams help prevent the loss of life and property caused by flooding. Flood control dams impound floodwaters and then either release them under control to the river below the dam or store or divert the water for other uses. For centuries, people have built dams to help control devastating floods. Dams provide prime recreational facilities throughout the United States. Boating, skiing, camping, picnic areas, and boat launch facilities are all supported by dams. Ten percent of American cropland is irrigated using water stored behind dams. Thousands of jobs are tied to producing crops grown with irrigated water. The United States is one of the largest producers of hydropower in the world. Dams produce over 103,800 megawatts of renewable electricity and meet 8 to 12 percent of the Nation's power needs. Hydropower is considered clean because it does not contribute to global warming, air pollution, acid rain, or ozone depletion. Dams pie chart showing the breakdown of the purpose/use for dams for Recreation (38.4%), Flood Control (17.7%), Fire and Farm Ponds (17.1%), Irrigation (11.0%), Tailings & Other (8.0%), Undetermined (3.8%), Hydroelectric (2.9%), Debris Control (0.8%), Navigation (0.4%).