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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Corps Addresses Rumors of Lake Seminole Drawdown

MOBILE, Ala.—The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Woodruff/ Lake Seminole Project Office is receiving calls and e-mails concerning a rumored drawdown at Lake Seminole. The calls and e-mails reported that the lake would be drawn down as much as 10 feet. These reports are untrue and the lake will not be drawn down.

“There is speculation that the rumors probably got started in response to the large crane that was moved into place at Jim Woodruff Dam in May to make repairs on the dam,” said Memphis Vaughan, Jr, Woodruff/Seminole Site Manager. “The crane is being used to replace the girders on the spillway bridge,” said Vaughan. The repairs to the spillway bridge include replacement of the steel girders that have been affected by corrosion and deterioration over the last 50-plus years. The work on the spillway bridge is projected to be completed in October 2011,” said Vaughan.

The work on the spillway bridge does not require any changes to the lake levels or to levels downstream. “Lake Seminole is expected to continue to operate in its normal range throughout the summer. Low river levels below the dam are due to dry conditions on the system and are unrelated to any work occurring at the dam,” said Vaughan.

Recreational opportunities are presently abundant at Lake Seminole. The Corps s urges those using the lake to use their personal flotation devices when on or around the water. Users are also urged to use caution when boating near the dam. For questions or concerns regarding Lake Seminole, contact the Corps at 229-662-2001 or visit the website at: <http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/op/rec/seminole/>.

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