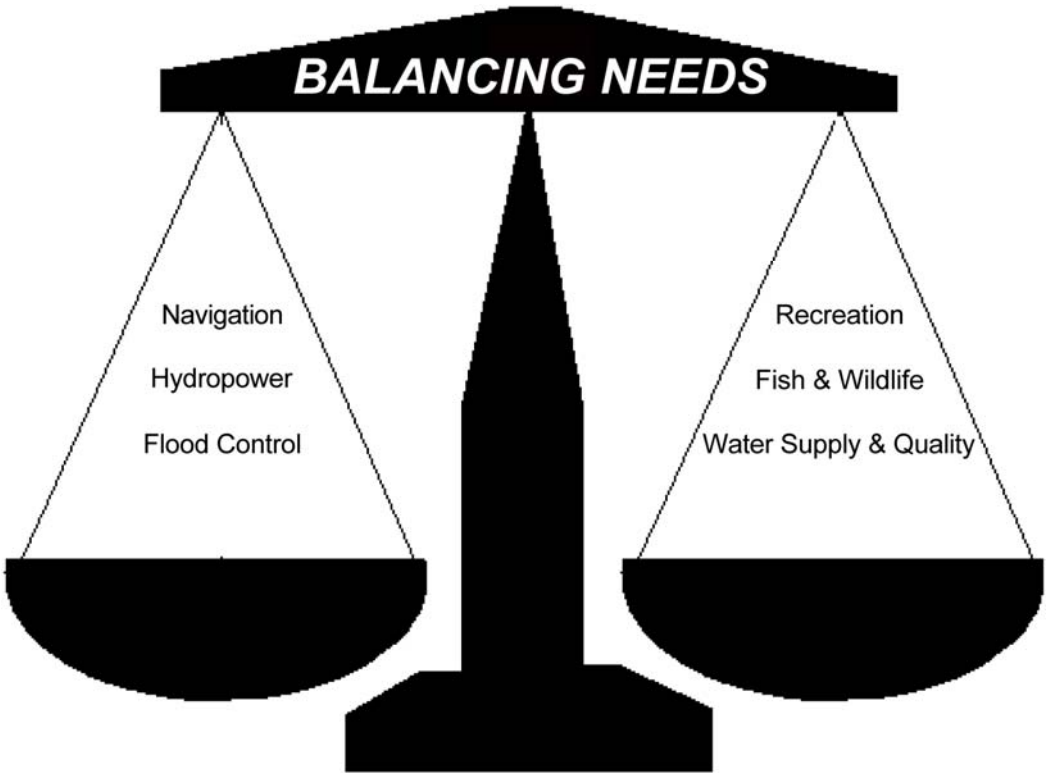
US Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District

Authorized Purposes

Apalachicola, Chattahoochee & Flint (ACF) River Basin Fact Sheet

The Apalachicola, Chattahoochee, & Flint (ACF) River Basin Reservoirs—Lake Lanier, West Point, Walter F. George, George Andrews and Lake Seminole are operated as multipurpose reservoirs, with consideration given to all authorized purposes. Corps hydraulic engineers (basin managers) must balance these competing needs. There is potential for conflict between these purposes, especially during drought conditions.

Basin managers must consider and evaluate many factors to determine the appropriate management of water at each reservoir. In addition, to the constraints of the authorized purposes, they must also consider power contract commitments, hydrologic and climatologic factors, downstream lake and basin wide conditions, potential threats of flood and drought, and reservoir levels. When a drought occurs, inflows to the reservoir are significantly reduced while the challenge to maintain lake levels is significantly increased. The authorized purposes for the reservoirs do not change during a drought; we still must manage for them all, however critical needs throughout the basin must be prioritized during periods of scarcity.

To keep you informed, the Corps has developed a "Drought Information" website at http://www.sam.usace.army.mil. Check it out for latest reservoir level, projections, boat ramp closures, news releases, and more!