0701

Comment ID: 0701
Author Name: Richard P. Sandoz
Organization: Property Owner

Dear Sirs:
It is vitally important for the economy and property values of the area which surrounds Lake Lanier remain healthy.
The best ways of keeping a healthy economy and preserving the lake as a fully functioning recreathional area is to keep water in the lake! Please allow the lake to reach its fullest possible level in the shortest possible time; certainly before the beginning of June. Please allow the lake to reach 1073 ft in elevation if weather conditions can accomodate. Please do not release any more than the absolute minimum amounts of water for downstream wildlife i.e. mussels and none at all during times of drought.
Thank you,
Richard P. Sandoz

0702

Comment ID: 0702
Author Name: Julie Starling
Organization:

Hello Corp,

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;
-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River;
-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;
-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.
please please add more water back into our lake! it affects everyone!

0703

Comment ID: 0703
Author Name: Allen DuPont
Organization:

To whom it may concern:

As a homeowner living on Lake Lanier, I have been extremely disappointed with the Corps' mismanagement of the lake in the past few years. As it currently stand, the lake is in a desperate situation and is expected to reach a new record low in the coming weeks. Action must be taken as soon as possible to revise the current Water Control Plan to prevent the lake's currently dismal condition from ever happening again in the future.

To do so, I strongly urge you to implement the following changes to the current Water Control Plan:

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1.

-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River.

-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought.

-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

I sincerely hope you at the US Army Corps will make the above changes.

Thank you,
Allen DuPont

0704

Comment ID: 0704
Author Name: Allen DuPont
Organization:

To whom it may concern:

My husband and I have lived on Lake Lanier for the past 10 years. In that time, we have enjoyed the Corps' management of our precious lake; However, I have been extremely disappointed with the Corps' mismanagement of the lake in the past few years.

As it currently stands, the lake is in a desperate situation and is expected to reach a new record low in the coming weeks. Action must be taken as soon as possible to revise the current Water Control Plan to prevent the lake's currently dismal condition from ever happening again in the future.

To do so, I strongly urge you to implement the following changes to the current Water Control Plan:

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1.

-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River.

-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought.

-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

I sincerely hope you at the US Army Corps will make the above changes.

Thank you,
Lisa DuPont

0705

Comment ID: 0705
Author Name: Jim Purdy
Organization:

I think the priorities for water in Lake Lanier should include recreation and the level maintained closer to full pool year round. Also would suggest the full level be increased to 1073.

0706

Comment ID: 0706
Author Name:
Organization:

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;
-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River;
-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;
-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

Comment ID: 0707
Author Name: Vicki Bentley
Organization:

0707

I support updating the manual to increase water holding in Lake Lanier in order to increase water supply. Water supply, water quantity, and water quality are important concerns to me and my family.

However, I DO NOT support the idea of increasing the lake level of full pool to 1073'. I live in a lake front house, with a heavily forested strip of USACE land between my yard and the lake's edge. I estimate that raising the full pool level might result in the deaths of as many as 20 trees along the shoreline. I do not believe that USACE will have the funding to remove any trees killed by an increase in the level of full pool. Thus, I will have to pay for tree removal, or else suffer further damages to my property (I already have experience in this matter!!!)

Comment ID: 0708
Author Name: Vicki Bentley
Organization:

0708

I am currently President of two historical societies. Occasionally, historical and/or acheological sites are brought to my attention. I do my best to alert the proper authorities when this happens.

Since a change of staff, I now find that contacting someone in charge of Cultural Resources at the Resource Manager's Office for Buford Dam is so difficult as to be basically impossible.

I wish to see the new manual provide a better guide for protecting cultural resources, especially guidelines for staff that makes public participation in protecting these sites less difficult.

0709

Comment ID: 0709
Author Name: Richard DeWitt
Organization:

Save Lake Lanier from the fate of Lake Meade at the Hoover Dam area. Cities down stream of Lake Lanier should work more on providing more of their own water needs than solely relying on lake water. The economy in the north Georgia near Lake Lanier should also be considered , not just the communities down sream.
I repeat....Same Lake Lanier from the fate of Lake Meade !

0710

Comment ID: 0710
Author Name: Mike Sullivan
Organization: City Council for City of Sugar Hill

I understand that the FLINT river has little to no reservoir capacity. In times of drought, this can result in an extra burden being put onto the Chattahoochee river. There are more reservoirs needed, hopefully the Flint river can have reservoirs built to help the ACF river basin in times of drought.

0711

Comment ID: 0711
Author Name:
Organization: Self

During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;
-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River;
-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;
-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

0712

Comment ID: 0712
Author Name:
Organization:

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;
-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River;
-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;
-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

0713

Comment ID: 0713
Author Name: Bob McLeod
Organization:

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;
-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River;
-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;
-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

0714

Comment ID: 0714
Author Name:
Organization: Gibbs Landscape Company

We need to study alternatives to the current operating plan. Existing operations seem to have uneccessarily draines lake lanier. The corp should not be constrained by legal arguments about its authority to change existing operations. We need to study altenatives to determine the best use of the resrvoir. Three million residents in north Georgia rely on lake lanier and the Chatahoochee as their mian drinking water source. Lake lanier is also a resource that supplies water to business and industry including the landscape industry which results in 8 billion dollar economic impact to the state of Georgia. We ned to study options and keep as much water in Lanier as possible.

Comment ID: 0715
Author Name:
Organization:

0715

I have lived all my life on Lake Lanier. The current condition of the Lake is indescribable!!!!! I know that only God has control over the drought, but it is a shame and a disgrace that the mistake of releasing too much water was made and that too much water is still being released for muscles in Florida. This is our drinking water source and a very huge recreation source to our area. Please, please, please stop the nonsense and use some common sense.

Comment ID: 0716
Author Name: John H
Organization:

0716

I believe we have entered a critical point in this issue of water demands of those downstream. I understand that levels of the lakes below Atlanta are near full pool. Why are we discharging so much still? Lanier is 20' down now entering into December whack typically can be very wet. Let's hold on to what we get and release the bare minimum...and let's visit what the bare minimum actually is.

Thanks,

John H

Comment ID: 0717
Author Name: Mr and Mrs John McCarthy
Organization:

0717

Just saying what everyone else is saying that is impacted by the lack of a current manual for Lake Lanier. Shoreline erosion, economic impact, water supply - the whole basin needs to be re-manualed. The manual should be a total plan, not just for the lake. Water usage all the way to Apalachicola needs to be included.

EPA/EPD Eco all the buzz about regulating water, building more storage and we have the ability here on Lanier to hold more water - a 25MM gallon lake by adding 2 ft to Lanier with minimal impact.

Comment ID: 0718
Author Name:
Organization:

0718

I call attention to the fact that recreation is an important resource for the lakes and cannot be enjoyed if the water level is dangerously or prohibitively low.

0719

Comment ID: 0719
Author Name:
Organization:

Imperative to protect and maintain water flow into Appalachicola Bay

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0720

Comment ID: 0720
Author Name: Sid Riley
Organization: Jackson County Times

The low levels are converting what was once lake front property on Lake Seminole into swamp front worthless properties. Yet you still charge full annual fees for docks and boat houses when you can only get a boat to the site when the lake is flooded. Your management (or mismanagement) has caused property values to drop and citizens to lose money. Also, I appreciate the similar losses those people in Apalachacola are experiencing due to damage to the bay.

Florida residents are paying a disporportionate cost for the water problems.

0721

Comment ID: 0721
Author Name: Arthur Mazyck
Organization:

You have all the facts relevant to the case. I would simply like to speak as a householder in the area of the Bay and River. Most people like me are very much concerned that decisions which will have bad results may be made. I urge you to listen to the concerns of the citizens of the Apalachicola Basin. Their concerns should take precedence over the concerns of upstream interests.

0722

Comment ID: 0722
Author Name: janice harris
Organization:

my family has owned property on lake eufaula for more than 40 years. over the years we have enjoyed fishing, swimming, boating and various water sports. this property on the lake has been a getaway/vacation for my immediate and extended family and friends. i feel very strongly the water level should remain as it has in the past for the enviroment, wildlife and recreation.

0723

Comment ID: 0723
Author Name: Jim Aspinwall
Organization:

Please change the winter pool level up 2 feet from the manual for better drought control. Floods only happen every 50 years or so. Send Fl. water on an as needed basis instead of directed flows by the manual. In other words, decrease flows when it rains in the south of the dam.

0724

Comment ID: 0724
Author Name: D Head
Organization: boater

The Corps' actions have cost the boating industry Millions of dollars on Lanier.
Even a simple minded person like myself can see that such a small drainage basin can't be expected to keep the whole system up.
When Lanier ever gets back to full pool (1071 or 1073) implement a policy of what comes in is what goes out. Keep Lanier full! If there is a drought, THERE IS A DROUGHT!
If our area becomes the desert southeast, a full Lanier can support Atlanta's need far longer than a Lanier 20 feet down!

I know probably nothing will change, but thanks for allowing the venting!

Comment ID: 0725
Author Name:
Organization:

0725

During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;

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-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;

-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

Comment ID: 0726
Author Name: Vince Foody
Organization:

0726

It is very important to keep the West Point Lake Level between 633 and 635 to maintain the safety of boaters, the quality of water, and the economic well being of the local economy.

Comment ID: 0727
Author Name: Mike Sullivan
Organization: City Council for City of Sugar Hill

0727

The Endangered species act needs to be updated. It is one thing to put endangered species ahead of new development. It is quite another to say that during a drought, endangered species takes priority over 3 million people having access to running water. Atlanta has experience economic turmoil due to loss of jobs due to the 2007-08 drought. Companies went bankrupt, people lost their jobs. The Governor of Alabama said that Atlanta was making much to do about nothing. Loss of basic sanitation due to lack of water is an extremely scary thought, and at what point do people outside of Atlanta start to care?

Comment ID: 0728
Author Name: Mike Sullivan
Organization: City Council for City of Sugar Hill

0728

There is a requirement of 750 cfs south of Morgan Falls Dam. The Corp should be more willing to analyze the need for this requirement and to be more willing to lower that requirement if possible.

0729

Comment ID: 0729
Author Name: Mike Sullivan
Organization: City Council for City of Sugar Hill

I understand that the FLINT River has little to no reservoir capacity. In times of drought, this can result in an extra burden being put onto the Chattahoochee River. There are more reservoirs needed, hopefully the Flint river can have reservoirs built to help the ACF river basin in times of drought.

0730

Comment ID: 0730
Author Name: Carole Rutland
Organization: RiverWay South

I am executive director of a non-profit organization called RiverWay South which includes counties in the ACF basin south of West Point and stretch to Apalachicola Bay in GA,AL, and FL. I work with 65 separate counties.

Many of these counties are defined as some of the most economically distressed in our nation. RiverWay South is working to help these counties develop without harming the unique cultural heritage and riverine environment... including the rivers' waterways. We are bringing communities back to the river as a focal point for sustainable economic development because we know that people who experience the river are far more likely to protect the river.

It is extremely important for the ACF communities that water flow levels remain consistent and are controlled with a capacity to support river related activities at a sustainable level. We would support reasonable navigation which at the same time protects riverine resources and also allows boats to travel from Columbus to the Gulf and back again.

It is important to the very existence and life of many of these communities they be considered before altering flow plans. Lives of citizens as well as the protection of natural resources need to be coordinated

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0731

Comment ID: 0731
Author Name: Phil Sutton
Organization: Hall County Board of Commissioners

-During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1;
-Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River;
-Management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought;
-Raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

0732

Comment ID: 0732
Author Name: linda k. hendrix
Organization:

atlanta needs to be made to repair its' outdated sewer system. too much water from the lake is used to flush city of atlantas'sewer system! recreation is the least entity that has been hurt due to low lake levels. does anyone not know or care how many businesses have been hurt or even ruined because of (not only a drought)poor water/lake level management? human error in the form of a faulty gauge (not noticed) was only one of many things we have on record which has helped to put lake levels in jeopardy.thank you for the oppotunity to let us voice our comments.

0733

Comment ID: 0733
Author Name: ron miller
Organization: home and boat owner

For the 3rd year we have been unable to enjoy the lake. Water levels have make it too dangerous for swimming and boating. Like so many of our legislators dictates I can not understand how they can dictate minimum water releases to go down streem which do not take into consideration water coming into the lake. Present legislation (like so much of other legislation) potentialy leads to disaster. If present conditions continue the lake will be dry and benefitting no one.

0734

Comment ID: 0734
Author Name:
Organization:

The Endangered species act needs to be updated. It is one thing to put endangered species ahead of new development. It is quite another to say that during a drought, endangered species takes priority over 3 million people having access to running water. Atlanta has experience economic turmoil due to loss of jobs due to the 2007-08 drought. Companies went bankrupt, people lost their jobs. The Governor of Alabama said that Atlanta was making much to do about nothing. Loss of basic sanitation due to lack of water is an extremely scary thought, and at what point do people outside of Atlanta start to care? At the end of the day, Water Supply is the most basic, fundamental purpose of the Chattahoochee river. Water Supply overrides transportation (navigation), recreation, and power. While it does not override Flood control, it in no way competes with this other purpose. Water Quality is also important. While drinking water is important to Atlanta, so is it to other cities along the river as well.

On Morgan Falls:
There is a requirement of 750 cfs south of Morgan Falls Dam. The Corp should be more willing to analyze the need for this requirement and to lower the requirement if possible.

Thanks,

Comment ID: 0735
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

0735

Conspicously lacking in the dialogue between the 3 States is the "C" word -CONSERVATION! It only seems to be invoked in the Atlanta area during droughts, then dies off. A strong public relations campaign encouraging CONSERVATION in all localities proximate to and effected by the the ACF, in addition to adding conservation criteria as a prerequisite to increase flow to an area. For example, if the good people in Atlanta Metro or Apalachicola are crying for more flow, consideration for increasing flow would not be considered until CONSERVATION standards are met. This provides for public by-in and certainly education towards an evaporating limited supply of water.

Comment ID: 0736
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

0736

NO MORE DREDGING! The Florida river, Apalachicola has no demand for deep water navigation. The detriments to the environment vastly outway the benefits. NO DREDGING.

Comment ID: 0737
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

0737

A baseline of health of the species in the Apalachicola Bay, particularly those harvested for food needs to be done. The existing health and abundance of harvested seafood needs to be measured and correlated to the flow of fresh water from the Apalachicola River.

Comment ID: 0738
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

0738

Again a measurement of the health of the species (particularly those harvested for seafood) in the Apalachicola Bay needs to be done. This measurement then needs to be correlated to the flow (amount) and quality of the water coming the Apalachicola.

0739

Comment ID: 0739
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

Please revisit these standards. The seafood industry in Apalachicola, FL is suffering from lack of flow and high salinity.

0740

Comment ID: 0740
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

Please folks! One public hearing in Florida and the rest elsewhere. Even though we're downstream, we need to have more public participation, perhaps targeting the Chattahoochee, FL area, or Blountstown, FL. The concerns regarding the Apalachicola River are varied among the different river towns.

0741

Comment ID: 0741
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

Both a public relations on water CONSERVATION and having specific standards as criteria for increased flow during droughts needs to be employed. CONSERVATION!!!

0742

Comment ID: 0742
Author Name: Tim Arnold
Organization:

There is no doubt as a Civil Engineer from Gerogia Tech that the limited watershed of the Lake Lanier basin is just as fragile, if not more, than any other part of the ACF basin. Lake Lanier has served as a mjor water resource for Atlanta metro for many years with no push back. Now that we're in drought mode, everyone is complaining about releases. Today, the lake is a huge economic generator for many people. To allow the lake the be dropped and ruin people's investments in business' and properties is ludicrous.

The COE needs to devise a plan that can look beyond drought times and settle the ACF basin issue for all interested parties. Adding elevation to the lake is probably prudent due to the future added water demands.

The new Water Contol Manual Update must consider population and business growth for the metro-Atlanta area as priority One.

Comment ID: 0743
Author Name:
Organization:

0743

The Atlanta area is experiencing an economic turmoil due to loss of jobs from the recent drought. The Governor of Alabama has said Atlanta is making a big deal about nothing. Companies in our community have gone bankrupt and people have lost their jobs. The idea of losing basic sanitation due to lack of water is a very scary thought.

The endangered species act needs to be reformed. I totally agree endangered species should be put ahead of new development. However, putting endangered species above 3 million people having access to clean running water is ridiculous. Water supply is the main purpose of the Chattahoochee River. Water supply should override recreation, transportation and power.

I am very worried over the future of my community's water supply. I live within a few miles of the Chattahoochee River and Lake Lanier. I think it's crazy that myself and my neighbors are worried we may not have access to enough clean running water in the near future.

Comment ID: 0744
Author Name: Mark Manning
Organization:

0744

The Endangered species act needs to be updated. It is one thing to put endangered species ahead of new development. It is quite another to say that during a drought, endangered species takes priority over 3 million people having access to running water.

0745

Comment ID: 0745
Author Name: rob lehman
Organization:

Wouldn't it be better to raise the full pool level a few feet to offset such water loss in times of drought or less than normal rain fall? Wouldn't this help with our increasing demand downstream and in our neighboring states? Seems like a fairly logical solution.

0746

Comment ID: 0746
Author Name:
Organization:

People need to wake up and look around we are wasting our natural resources! Theirs to many politicians and greedy developers making decisions that will impact my kids and their kids. They are only looking at today and not seeing there's a tomorrow. There needs to be some type of community oversight with the Corp of Engineers process and planning.

0747

Comment ID: 0747
Author Name: Michael Ceigler
Organization:

In my opinion we need to manage the expectations of the recreational and commercial fishing users of water in the ACF basin. More specifically, the legally required flow on the Apalachicola river should be proportional to the total amount of water in the storage facilities in the ACF basin.

0748

Comment ID: 0748
Author Name: Michael Ceigler
Organization:

Adding storage capacity on the Flint River will increase the total water storage capacity in the ACF basin. It will reduce the need to empty storage facilities on the Chattahoochee River to meet the minimum flow requirements of the Apalachicola River.

0749

Comment ID: 0749
Author Name: Charles Cataldo
Organization: Arris Group

Please consider the huge importance of Lake Lanier when you update the Water Control Manual for this resource. The many citizens of North Georgia rely heavily on this valuable resource & we hope with great anticipation that the Water Control Manual will be updated to keep the water level in this lake to be no more than 10ft. below full pool. This is our main water supply & we just can't prioritize oyster fishing for a given geographical region over the running water needs of so many people in Georgia. Please consider also the fact that the southern end of the basin has received much more rain the past year than the northern part of the basin in N. Georgia. Thanks for taking my comments.

0750

Comment ID: 0750
Author Name: RHONDA Y MITCHELL
Organization: MITCHELL MARINE, INC.

Maintain a minimum lake level of 633 to 635 ft. I beleive with the technology available today and the knowledge of employees of the Corps of Engineers that this level could safely be maintained without the overwhelming risk of flooding downstream. This lake is our livelihood!! In times of drought we can't afford for there not to be water in our lake. In 2007, during the drought and the months leading to the drought, I feel West Point Lake was mismanaged. We should not have been nearly as low as we were!!!! This put many businesses out of business and brought many of us to our knees!! Look at the economical impact study of West Point Lake. Low water is economically very hard on many of the businesses around this area.

0751

Comment ID: 0751
Author Name: Charles Cataldo
Organization: Arris Group

With the current 750cfm requirement south of the Morgan Falls Dam I sincerely hope the Corps will re-evaluate this requirement. It is my belief that this requirement may updated and relaxed such that it takes a significant load off the basin north of Morgan Falls Dam. We believe this a key component to the overall well being of the basin.

0752

Comment ID: 0752
Author Name: Charles Cataldo
Organization: Arris Group

The Flint River needs a new reservoir badly, especially for times of extended drought. A well designed and implemented Flint River reservoir should be a key factor in taking some load off of the Chattahoochee River and the entire basin.

0753

Comment ID: 0753
Author Name: Allan Mitchell
Organization: Mitchell Marine, Inc.

A minimum water level needs to be maintained!!!

The lake should be kept around 633 to 635.

Especially during times of drought there should be no more flowing out than there is flowing in!! If the dam was not built, the mussels and sturgeon would not be getting anymore than the good Lord was flowing down the river anyway.

0754

Comment ID: 0754
Author Name: Charles Cataldo
Organization: Arris Group

Please consider the dire reliance of North Georgia on the northern part of the basin, espcially the valuable Lake Sidney Lanier. This lake has been depleted due to extended drought in N. Georgia and increasing local demand of over 3 million citizens that rely on Lake Lanier for their water supply. This lake is our "lifeblood" and we hope that the Corps will act fast to reform the current Endangered Species Act. The citizens of North Georgia need this in a most dire way not only to sustain life for us, but for our local economy. Thank You.

Comment ID: 0755
Author Name: Will Poston
Organization:

0755

The loss of the water in Lake Sidney Lanier has caused disasterous effects. It is threatening the very survival of the people who depend on the water shed to survive in the surrounding Atlanta area. It has also created both financial reprocusions and safety hazzards for the people who live on Lake Lanier and around Lake Lanier.

The original mandate of the 1950's should be amended to allow Lake Lanier to refill itself from the water flowing into the basin and when after reaching the full pool level again, then allow the water coming in to the lake to flow down stream as it would have normally without a water shed. The demand for water in this area is much greater than when the lake was built in the 1950's.

I believe that people are much more important than the mussels downstream. These mussels will survive just as they would have without letting all the water flow down stream. The mussels will adapt.

Our very survival is threatened without the necessary water that the Atlanta area needs. All the water sheds below us are full. Why isn't this water alocated to accommodate this crisis for the Atlanta area?

Comment ID: 0756
Author Name: Mildred S. Burdette
Organization:

0756

There is a dire threat to the quality of the water going into West Point Lake. A massive 35-million-cubic-yard landfill is under construction on Blue Creek, a Troup County, Georgia tributary of the lake. Common sense and scientific evidence overwhelmingly agree that the leachate from the landfill will inevitably contaminate the water of the lake. The toxins from the landfill are myriad and lethal. It is urgent that the potential pollution from this private mega-dump be prevented at its source. No monitoring will be effective in detecting or preventing poisons which will cause irreparable harm to people as well as the biolife. Once the 500-mile shoreline of the lake is compromised, cleanup will be impossible.

Comment ID: 0757
Author Name:
Organization:

0757

The Apalachicola estuary and bay need to be part of the ACF system. I recommend changing the word "basin" to "system." Maintaining both the estuary and bay is vital for environmental, recreational (just like Lake Lanier), commercial (oyster, shrimp, and seafood) in both Apalachicola and the Gulf Coast states.

Comment ID: 0758
Author Name:
Organization:

0758

Because of the information listed, maintaining the productivity of the estuary and bay is essential and should be part of the plan/manual.

The description given about the bay should also include statements about the numbers of other salt water species that depend on the bay, estuary, and river as part of their life cycle (fish breeding grounds, etc.) This system not only supports Gulf Coast wildlife, but the Gulf Coast sport fishing and commercial fishing industry as well.

Comment ID: 0759
Author Name: Billy R. Mayes
Organization: Dothan Utilities

0759

We have concerns about the equitable and optimal use of the Chattahoochee River and good stewardship of the water resources of the region. We have several comments we would like to have considered and implemented during the update to the subject water control plan as follows:

1. Fresh looks at the entire process to be accomplished to ensure all needs of the river basin are considered. If we only look at a couple of the issues, the major issues will not be addressed and conflicts will continue to worsen.
2. That what if analyses are conducted to determine how additional reservoirs adding additional storage volumes would benefit the entire river basin. Those desiring to consume the existing facility volume should provide the funds to support their needs and add additional structures to continue to provide equitable use of the river.
3. Existing gauging stations are updated and additional gauging stations are installed to determine the condition and flows of the river basin on a continuous basis. New locations need to be established to ensure that good data is obtained and true conditions of the river basin can be determined. These stations, at minimum, need to include rain sensors, river levels and flows, water temperatures and other water quality parameters.
4. SCADA system to be installed to continuously monitor the condition of the river basin with real-time data from all the stations, withdrawal locations and permitted effluent locations. Monitoring data to be used in model to help determine daily, weekly, monthly and annual adjustments to the flows and levels in the river basin. Soil moistures need to be considered in the model.
5. Evaluate the need to increase reservoir volumes at Westpoint, George, Andrews and other locations to help meet the needs of the river basin.
6. Water quality stations along the river should be used to alert users and others of potential concerns and issues (including temperature issues).
7. Good science needs to be used to determine fish and wildlife needs.
8. How are the agricultural demands going to be factored in the update and the model?
9. What if analysis needs to be conducted on the river basin should all storage be depleted.
10. Hydropower needs to continue to be one of the authorized activities.
11. George W. Andrews Lake and dam needs to be listed for water supply purposes.

Comment ID: 0760
Author Name: Mary Lou Dabbs
Organization:

0760

From the presentations I saw at the meeting held in LaGrange, it seems that the Chattahoochee has to pull more than its share of the water control function of the basin. It seems that there are missed opportunities for additional water storage on the Flint River that could relieve some downstream issues that seem to drain our lakes (West Point and Lanier) dry.

0761

Comment ID: 0761
Author Name: Mary Lou Dabbs
Organization:

I understand that the balancing of the lake's purposes is a complicated issue, and that weather is unpredictable, but an extra 7 feet of winter drawdown on West Point Lake combined with a dry spring causes increased 'low level' problems. If the system could be set up to be more flexible and subject to change based on recent weather patterns, slightly higher levels could be maintained. If they're not, we may not have any 'life or property' to protect within the basin, because economic conditions will have driven everyone away!

0762

Comment ID: 0762
Author Name: Mary Lou Dabbs
Organization:

Unless West Point Lake is maintained at a level of 633-635 it cannot fulfill its congressionally mandated purpose of "general recreation." The low lake levels have a negative economic impact on LaGrange and nearby towns when fishing is compromised. Fishing tournaments and sailing regattas cannot be held safely at the lower lake levels. Especially in the recent downturn in economic conditions, these issues become even more critical, as does the ability of low income and minority families to supplement their food supply with fish from the lake.
As a local resident I believe that the "recreation" focus of this lake means much more than 'just for fun', and an adequate supply of water is essential to the welfare of our community!

Comment ID: 0763 0763
Author Name: James H. Phillips
Organization: Middle Chattahoochee Water Coalition

November 20, 2008

District Engineer

US Army Engineer District, Mobile

PO Box 2288

Mobile AL 36628-0001

Subject: Update of the Water Control Manuals for the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint River Basin.

The Middle Chattahoochee Water Coalition, Inc. (MCWC) is a public/private multi-state partnership. Our primary concerns are equitable and optimal use of the Chattahoochee River and good stewardship of the water resources of the region.

We have several comments we would like to have considered and implemented during the update to the subject water control plan as follows:

Fresh looks at the entire/ process to be accomplished to ensure all needs of the river basin are considered.
That what if/ analyses are conducted to determine how additional reservoirs adding additional storage volumes would benefit the entire river basin.
Existing gauging stations are updated and additional gauging stations are installed to determine the condition and flows of the river basin on a continuous basis. New locations need to be established to ensure that good data is obtained and true conditions of the river basin can be determined. These stations, at minimum, need to include rain sensors, river levels and flows, water temperatures and other water quality parameters.
SCADA system to be installed to continuously monitor the condition of the river basin with real-time data from all the stations, withdrawal locations and permitted effluent locations. Monitoring data to be used in model to help determine daily, weekly, monthly and annual adjustments to the flows and levels in the river basin. Soil moistures need to be considered in the model.
Evaluate the need to increase reservoir volumes at West Point, George and other locations to help meet the needs of the river basin.
Water quality stations along the river should be used to alert users and others of potential concerns and issues (including temperature issues).
Good science needs to be used to determine fish and wildlife needs.
How are the agricultural demands going to be factored in the update and the model?
What if/ analysis needs to be conducted on the river basin should all storage be depleted.

We would welcome the opportunity to work with the USACE and other stake holders in determining options that will serve the entire ACF basin.

Sincerely,

James H. Phillips

President

Middle Chattahoochee Water Coalition

Comment ID: 0764 0764
Author Name: Fran Bonner Habeeb
Organization:

The Corps must change their controls to ensure the lake provides the necessary means to it's constituents. During the rainy season, the Corps should allow Lake Lanier to reach full pool no later than June 1. Additionally, Lake Lanier should not be drawn down for mussels and other endangered species in the Apalachicola River. Also,
management triggers must be in place for Lake Lanier withdrawals during times of drought. Lastly, they should raise Lake Lanier's full pool from 1071 ft above sea level to 1073 ft, thereby adding an additional 26 billion gallons of water to the lake.

0765

Comment ID: 0765
Author Name: Tom Sweet
Organization:

I sincerely would like to comment on the scoping process but could not find a section on your site where we can respond to your request for scoping comments.
The brick, mortar, wood, and water of the 12 ACF Federal projects are given...they are what they are, Federally authorized and established. The 8 Federal project purposes in play at individual projects are what they are...they have already been set by Federal legislation...no scoping input opportunities here either!
I can only comment that the manner in which your "comments" webbsite has been set up is indicative of the cause for failure of your water management system development and operation. You only allow for comments on individual Projects, individual Project Purposes, individual NEPA Processes, individual Environmental Resources, and Shoreline Management as an isolated factor in the "scoping" process. Nowhere do you ask for or accomodate comments that are integrative or systemic in nature. The Corps planners plan, the engineers design, the construction folks build, then the operators do what they want, with what they have. Several times during this process, they all need to get together at the same time, look at the same "scope", talk to each other, and proceed with input from stakeholders. We don't need more failure which is inevitable from updated WCMs which were flawed in the first place. We need new integrated, innovative, creative, fresh WCMs!!

0766

Comment ID: 0766
Author Name: Cathy Cunningham
Organization: Realtor

I am a Realtor and property owner living on Lake Lanier for almost 6 years now and we desperately need your help in making this lake what it once was....Please do whatever you can to change the laws to protect our investments. This has also effected my husband's occupation as he is in the Boating industry. We as residents of Lake Lanier are begging for a change in the use of the water that is being distributed.

0767

Comment ID: 0767
Author Name: Byron Galway
Organization:

Keep water in our lake and don't send it all downstream.

There are many reasons to keep water in the lake, from drinking water for Atlanta to local business around the lake, which gas a huge economic impact on Georgia's local, regional and state-wide economic health.

The Corp has al;ways been great about handling flood control, but not always so great in handling drought. We need a cohesive plan to keep water in the lake during droughts. Billions of gallons of Lanier water was released without any thought as to the long term implications.

KEEP WATER IN OUR LAKE LANIER!

0768

Comment ID: 0768
Author Name: Holley Powell
Organization:

My husband and I own The Dam Store, Inc. which is a tackle and guide service store. We purchased the store 2 years ago and have seen a drastic drop in revenue to the low water levels and lack of ramp availability. I am also a realtor and lake home values have plummeted. This lake is a wonderful resource that is being abused and something has to be done. The drop in water levels has affected countless business owners and property owners. In these difficult economic times, lake businesses are suffering needlessly because there is something that can be done - stop giving away all the water! No bailouts here - just do what is right!

Comment ID: 0769
Author Name: Walter Anderson
Organization: City of Berkeley Lake

0769

The facts would suggest that the impact of conserving water in Lake Lanier for consumption and recreation does not constitute a large percentage of the water flowing into Florida from this watershed. As a result, I think the Atlanta local use (both drinking water and recreation) should be emphasized more than the downstream issues in managing water flow through Buford Dam.

Comment ID: 0770
Author Name: Walter Anderson
Organization: City of Berkeley Lake

0770

Navigation is an important economic driver in this region. Increasing flow from Lake Lanier to compensate for a lack of river maintenance (e.g. dredging) is a short term solution for navigation at the expense of other regional values (e.g. drinking water, drought management, recreation). This tradeoff pits one region's needs against another region's needs as a function of lack of funding for the fundamental problem (lack of dredging). I would suggest that water flows from Lake Lanier NOT be used to compensate for a lack of maintenance of downstream facilities.

0771

Comment ID: 0771
Author Name: bruce longshore
Organization: na

The imbalance of water release from Lake Lanier has created an incredible hardship on the economic viability for areas located near lake lanier.

There have been numerous droughts before and the release from the lake during the past two years have been unprecedented during a drought.

The recovery of the water basin will face significant challenges with the current release practices.

In this period of economic crisis we do not want to continue to contribute to those that depend on their basic survival.

I suggest the water released from Lanier would be dependent on the rainfall down stream and the release of water is slowed when rainfall exceeds the input from the water basin.

0772

Comment ID: 0772
Author Name: Lionel Graves
Organization:

For the last decade, and possibly back to 1980 it is clear that the average annual rainfall in the Lake Lanier catchment area is frequently not attained. The reliance on the storage in Lake Lanier tends to be at its greatest when rainfall is least. Unfortunately the capacity at Lanier is a huge part of the ACT system, while its catchment is extremely small Obviously reliance on Lanier in the long term is unsustainable. Immediate consideration should be given to creating water storage along the Flint River, and in the long term sea water desalination for users in the lower part of the system will probably be required.
Clearly this does not solve the problem in the next few years. It is currently projected that Lake Lanier will reach its lowest level ever within the next few days, and with no major rain events forecast for this Winter will begin next year in similar stressed condition. Nobody can predict what might happen to the Lake levels next year, but common sense would dictate that in these circumstances maximum conservation be employed. It is disconcerting to those of us who live by the Lake that we are in that maximum conservation mode while those downstream are not,(actually they continually demand additional supplies). Have they not heard that the well is running dry?
With a major metropolis dependent on Lanier for its water supply there must be sufficient discharge to sustain human life, but otherwise dischrges should be limited to what nature provides, and what the system would supply under natural conditions. Lake Lanier was not created to allow farmers to have a constant flow of water, nor for fishermen in Florida to keep constant salinity in Appalachicola Bay. Before the Lake came into existence everyone survived. It is likely that current conditions will revert to "normal" sometime in the next year or two, but the Corp should be allowed to manage the reserves in the same way that the State of Georgia is at present. In other words Lake Lanier should not be expected to support the ever expanding demands from the lower parts of the system.
Perhaps they should take note of the situation in the Murray-Darling Basin of Australia where "normal" conditions have not occurred for almost twenty years. If Lanier suffers ever a small portion of that situation there will be no water at all for any users below the Lake (or no Lake as it would be by then). Surely it is time to use common sense, that is that Lake Lanier is not an eternal spring.
During drought conditions discharge should be limited to the amount entering that Lake to the extent this is feasible. Life should be the controlling factor in discharges, not commercial interests. Yes everyone has the right to attempt to make a living, but surely human existence takes priority? Without the Lake farming and fishing survived.
In summary, my recommendation is that the Corp of Engineers be allowed to reduce flows from Lake Lanier down to average inflow (perhaps over a month time span) during drought conditions, and that in these conditions the only criterion that would permit higher discharges is to sustain the drinking water supply down river (and only provided all user are under maximum conservation rules)

Lionel Graves

0773

Comment ID: 0773
Author Name: Walter Anderson
Organization: City of Berkeley Lake

This is an outdated mandate that fails to incorporate system-wide needs and requirements. Glad that a new manual is being produced!

0774

Comment ID: 0774
Author Name:
Organization: Realtor

The level of our beautiful Lake Lanier or what was our beautiful Lake Lanier is so depressing to all of us. I am hoping and praying that the U S Army Corps of Engineers will take all measures necessary to bring our lake level back to a normal level that we can all live with today. The lake level has affected my business severely. I am hoping that between now and Springtime that if we do have the rain and the water level reaches a pool where the beauty of our lake is restored the water level will be consistent and we get our lives back to normal..this has affected so many businesses and so many people from making a living it's just awful.

0775

Comment ID: 0775
Author Name: James Cole
Organization:

I am a homeowner and have been thoroughly digusted over the condition of the lake level here. My home value has dropped tremendously because of the level although my property tax remains the same. We must make a change in the laws and make it quickly. Our investments depend on it. If we don't make these changes now we may never see this lake and it's value return.

0776

Comment ID: 0776
Author Name: Gene Obermeyer
Organization:

When the source of the water reduces you need to lessen the amount of water you send down the basin.

Comment ID: 0777 0777
Author Name: capt guy h firor
Organization: the dam store inc

as a homeowner and 30 year veteran of marine industry on lake lanier, i am seeing everything i ever worked for evaporate with every drop of water leaving lake lanier. we have a lakefront home on shoal creek that has been on market for almost 2 years, even with a deep water dock still in operation.
just drive down friendship/holiday rd and imagine what the 2009 atlanta boat show is going to be like.think disaster.
please dont kill off the industry that drives north georgia. no water means no ramps means no fishermen or familiy vacations.
lake lanier is the jewel in your portfolio. please don't destroy it.
capt guy firor
buford, ga

Comment ID: 0778 0778
Author Name: Philip Burton
Organization:

While one could write a book on the dynamics of the ACF basin and the need for new rules and management practices I would like to briefly point out just a few of the reasons the priorities and current management of the ACF must change. 1. Population and current concentrations such as Atlanta near the ACFs headwaters with over 3.5 million people alone is a challenge for Lake Lanier along with its current project purposes. 2. Hydropower while cheap and clean power; cannot continue to be sold at the expense of drinking water and quality of life many have come to enjoy and should only be sold as a bi-product without multi-year contracts and penalty clauses in favor of hydropower purchasers. 3. Recreation and boating along with all its income chains as become a large industry for the state of Georgia, which ranks in the top 15 states both for recreation spending and boat registrations making it a multi-billion dollar industry and providing jobs for thousands in the state. Over 65 percent of this industry is located in the northern 1/3 of the state of Georgia. 4. Navigation while in the early years may have been a viable option for the transportation of freight. It has become an impractical way to ship goods in todayFs busy commerce and the needs for quick and timely delivery of goods with our roadways now available to better handle almost all of the consumers needs and being much more cost effective. 5. Need for quick reaction to drought and changes in the operation of the ACF chain and the need to make minimum releases from all of its reservoirs as soon as a drought conditions exist and a lake reaches a certain level. The need to protect all lakes in the system but with special consideration given to Lake Lanier and its establishment of becoming the lake of last resort with the smallest watershed yet with the greatest demands being placed upon it should drought condition last for multiple years. 6. While 50 plus years ago the project purposes where warranted and had merit but those purposes and needs have changed and the management must adjust and have greater and more flexibility to react to the needs that the ACF basin serves. Lanier alone supplies water to over 60% of GeorgiaFs population along with the smallest water shed of only 1040 square miles. The comments above may seem too basic in nature but touches in a broad sense the absolute need for a change in the current management and the mismanagement of our lakes during times of drought under the current management plans and authorized purposes and the changes of this basin over the last 50 years.

Comment ID: 0779
Author Name: Brian Adams
Organization:

0779

Please consider taking additional steps to ensure higher levels for Lake Lanier. I understand that we are in a drought, but common sense should apply by not releasing much more water downstream than flows in to the lake. Lake Lanier has a tremendous financial impact on north georgia, not to mention precious life sustaining drinking water. As Lake Lanier continues to drop, it never ceases to amaze me that each time I drive over the Chattahoochee river- it appears to be nearly overflowing. This should make for an interesting investigative news report. Thanks for your consideration and please protect this valuable resource.

Comment ID: 0780
Author Name: Davenport, Robert
Organization:

0780

Presently with the lake being 20 feet below full pool presents numerous negative attributes including safety due to submerged or projecting objects, un-sightly shoreline, and lake accessibility issues from both current dock permits and in operable ramps. I understand the effect of drought but see no reasonable explaination for why downstream stakeholders in the basin should receive the benefit of our impoundment capacity. In my view, the downstream basin should only receive a portion of the actual throughput the lake receives from natural resources. Downstream FPS flow should not be more than the inflow Lanier receives. We appreciate your management of our precious resources and pray you will determine a more appropirate plan that is scienfifically based and maintains a naviagable, safe, recreational resource on Lanier. Kindest regards,

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0781

Comment ID: 0781
Author Name: Elizabeth Cobleigh
Organization:

The water supply is very low. My boat has been beached on shore since Sept. 2007 with us anble to move to to water as the water is now 50 feet away from our dock. This is unacceptable as we have been told that the water level will not rise for at least another year

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0782

Comment ID: 0782
Author Name: michele coleman
Organization:

the lake is at its lowest point since i have lived here and no one even mentions it anymore--all boating and fishing in this north end has ceased--really you can wolk across the lake now? how toi we recoop from this situation? micki coleman

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Comment ID: 0783
Author Name: Susan Bassett
Organization: Boardwalk Realty

0783

The Apalachicola Bay is a national as well as local natural resource that is one of the most precious gifts we have been given. We must, with the best science available, including that of first doing no harm, preserve its natural state to as large a degree as possible. We must be good stewards of this resource, and I ask those in our government agencies to fight for what is right for this bay and all it impacts. We can so easily lose it, and this is not what I want to see happen as a Floridian, as a business person in this area, and as a citizen of this great country.

Comment ID: 0784
Author Name: David Vaughan
Organization:

0784

Acknowledge the importance of fishing, boating and other recreation on Lanier; of property ownership on or near the lake; of health and safety issues for people who live, work and play on Lanier; and of aesthetic considerations. There are many arguments about the original purposes for Lanier, but the primary objective cannot be denied, and that was to build a lake, not a big, ugly, useless, empty hole in the ground.

Maintain and protect Lanier in accordance with that overriding principle. Enormous sums have been invested by local governments, businesses and individuals in reliance on that stated objective and the reasonable expectation that Lanier would be maintained and protected in accordance with it. Quit ignoring the interests of property owners; the economic losses resulting from not doing so may constitute an unlawful taking without compensation.

Comment ID: 0785
Author Name: David Vaughan
Organization:

0785

Eliminate the mandatory requirement for 5000 cfs at Woodruff Dam. This results in drawing down upstream lakes, especially Lanier, even when it is not needed. The same may apply to the 750 cfs required flow at Peachtree Creek. Any other arbitrary requirements should also be eliminated as well.

Comment ID: 0786
Author Name: David Vaughan
Organization:

0786

Raise the full pool for Lanier to 1073. This will cause a temporary inconvenience for a few people [including my family], but it will increase the storage capacity significantly. Moreover, the lake will seldom stay at this level for a significant length of time. Average levels are usually two feet or more below full pool anyway, so any inconvenience will be minimized.

Couple raising the lake level with redefining management zones for Lanier. A new Zone 1, in which levels could vary freely, should be between 1070 and 1073. A new Zone 2, in which discharges should be carefully monitored and regulated, should be between 1067 and 1070. In a new Zone 3, between 1065 and 1067, discharges should be permitted only in compelling circumstances and in accordance with established guidelines. Below 1065, discharges should be prohibited unless there is a threat to life or health.

Comment ID: 0787
Author Name: David Vaughan
Organization:

0787

Stop relying solely on the existing watershed for water supply. Explore alternatives such as an expanded watershed, other bodies of water [e.g., Tennessee River, as well as other creeks and rivers], and subterranean water. We should pursue other sources of water even if we have to buy it.

Require Atlanta to seek alternative sources of water and reduce the amount that they are permitted to withdraw from the system. Let the users and developers there pay for it.

Comment ID: 0788
Author Name: David Vaughan
Organization:

0788

Recognize that all of the problems that Lanier has suffered, and continues to suffer, are magnified on the north end of the lake. The reductions in the lake level have eliminated many acres of the north end of the lake, and made many more unusable, all without substantial contribution to the volume of water that is available for use or discharge. Moreover, the adverse impacts on recreational use, safety and aesthetics are far greater on the north end. Special attention should be paid and special measures undertaken to address the specific needs of the north end of Lanier.

If there is no other practicable way to protect the north end, split the lake by building another dam at or near Browns Bridge. Maintain the water level of the new Little Lake Lanier at a constant level of 1071, and any additional water that is available could be discharged into the main lake and managed there.

0789

Comment ID: 0789
Author Name: carrie segrest
Organization: marinemax

Please stop taking water from Lake Lanier. You are not only hurting business, you are hurting everyone that lives in Georgia. The economy is already bad enough, draining the lake doesn't help one bit.

0790

Comment ID: 0790
Author Name: Jerry W. Carter
Organization:

Dear Sirs,

I am not sure that I am in the correct section, but here goes. I find it appalling that boat owners, large and small, have had to endure the low levels of Lake Lanier just to pass along water to those who are not conserving, and are not in need of additional water. I have been a boat owner for over 30 years. These past few years have not been a total disaster, but very close. There are parts of Lake Lanier that are just not navigatable. Some of my fondest memories are being with my family on Lake Lanier and I would love my son and daughter to be able to use the lake. I do not feel that will be possible. The low levels of this lake are not due to droughts. It is due to our government decidng what is best. Our government should not be the sole decision maker in this case. I could understand if there was a need for water down stream, but frankly, show me the need. We are just allowing water to pass through the lake for no apparent reason. Please, take another look at this and make a decision based on need, not a government mandate.

Jerry W. Carter

0791

Comment ID: 0791
Author Name:
Organization:

My life depends on the water in our lake. Please make changes so that we can get our water level back and never have this happen again.

Thank You

0792

Comment ID: 0792
Author Name: Frank Dennis
Organization: Marine Max

I depend on the lake and the people it attracts for my income in the boat sales business. Please consider the economic effect you are having by destroying our lake and reducing it to a dead sea.

0793

Comment ID: 0793
Author Name:
Organization:

I am an avid boater on Lake Lanier and i just wanted to comment that the Corps needs to do whatever it can to keep as much water in Lake Lanier as possible.
I realize there are many demands from Al and FL for this same water, but no one need should overshadow another.
If we in GA are undergoing water use restrictions due to low levels in Lanier, everyone down stream affected by this should also have water use restrictions.
Thanks You

0794

Comment ID: 0794
Author Name: MORGAN GLENN
Organization:

Please fill Lake Lanier back up, if the lake drops any further all of us in the marine industry will be looking for new jobs.

0795

Comment ID: 0795
Author Name: blake Whitney
Organization: tax payer resident

Increase full pool to 1071

0796

Comment ID: 0796
Author Name: Ken Johnson
Organization: MarineMax

The low lake level has affected our boating customers to the point that they don't use there boats anymore. this alone has everyone that work on holiday road worried that their job will soon be gone. The low lake level has cut my pay check in half for the past two years.

Marine max has already layed off over half my staff.
Please do something before all our jobs are gone!!

Sincerly,

Ken Johnson
Service Manager
MarineMax
Buford, Ga.

0797

Comment ID: 0797
Author Name: Greg
Organization:

For decades Lake Lanier was one of the best lakes in the southeast.

Mismanagement of the water levels through the droubts has all but destroyed the lake.

Property values have fallen, navigation and water activities have become dangerous, regular events - including events that bring revenue and national exposure to the Lake - have been cancelled, the gereral appearance of the lake is declining.

This is also the water supply for communities around the lake. Water availablity and quality is becoming an issue.

There has gotten to be a significant impact to the wildlife of the lake. Areas fish and other animals used are now gone.

There have been regular floods in areas not far from us. We ship gas and oil around the country surely we can find a way to manage water. Help floods in one area and low levels in another.

We need faster reaction to situations. No time for sit around and have lots of studies. Not advocating blind actions but the people in the Sr. Management positions should be there becasue of ability to make logical, rapid choices.
Thanks....

0798

Comment ID: 0798
Author Name: Greg
Organization:

Southeast and central US regions with floods and we are in need.
We ship oil and gas around the US surely we can find a way to move water from areas of surplus to areas of need.

Pleae do something and do it soon.

0799

Comment ID: 0799
Author Name: Troy Zavitz
Organization: Marinemax of Georgia

As a sales consultant in the marine industry this one issue has cost us dearly in lost revenue. If the water level of Lake Lanier is not expected to rise in the very near future then authorize to extend the current boat ramps to a useable state.

0800

Comment ID: 0800
Author Name: Scott Cunningham
Organization: Marine Max

As a resident and business man dealing with the lake levels I must say with regret that this has been the most devastating disaster that has occured to the counties involved. It has not only hurt property values but also the Boating industry as well. My livelyhood has been dramatically reduced and my customers are suffering due to the lake levels. If the situation doesn't improve the counties surrounding this situation will have revenue disappear and may not fully recover from this disaster. The law must be changed and changed immediately to protect this lake and it's purpose for existence. We are pleading with the forces that be to help us now.

0801

Comment ID: 0801
Author Name: Harald Sundal
Organization: Boater/Brokerage

I have been boating on Lake Lanier for a few years now after moving from Martinez, GA where I used Clarks hill. I have been deeply disappointed in the way that You have handled and managed the level of Lake Lanier.

I can't think of any business that hasn't been hit by the low level of the lake. When combined with the economic conditions there may not be many businesses that survive.

It is appaling that we started out with the lake level several feet below normal due to errors on the corps part in having incorrect water levels, indicated versus actuals.

It is my belief that failure of many of the businesses is a direct result of your actions or lack of action.

Harald Sundal

0802

Comment ID: 0802
Author Name: Steve Burrell
Organization:

We have been severly affected by the consistant drop in water levels. With the growing population and demand for water, coupled with drought conditions, it doesn't make any sence to send enormous amounts of water downstream. Other lakes in our region, like lake Oconee, are near full pool even with the drought. We need change to occur quickly or Lake Lanier will be little more than a mud hole.

0803

Comment ID: 0803
Author Name: Harry Cardillo
Organization:

We must insure a more adequate/consistent full Lake as we are jeopardizing our Economy and Recreation in Northern Georgia. How can we as Boaters/Users help this situiation before it is too late?

0804

Comment ID: 0804
Author Name:
Organization:

During drought conditions the lake should be allowed to reach full pool by June 1st. Also I question the about of water released for the mussels and othe endangered speices. When it is not determined how much water needs for them to survive.
What did they do when drought conditions occurred before Lake Lanier was formed. They survived.
How can it be stated that so much flow must go by Peachtree Creek in Atlanta when there isn't a device to monitor the flow. Seems to me the forst thing that needs to be done is get a devise to check the flow so we do not allow more water out of the lake then is necessary.

Comment ID: 0805
Author Name:
Organization:

0805

The economy effect of Lake Lanier on the region is very high. When the lake is allowed to reach the level at which it is now impacts everyone near the lake. Home owners, businesses around the lake and businesses in the cities near the lake. This is a year around problem. the lake is used the year around.

Comment ID: 0806
Author Name:
Organization:

0806

As I stated earlier how can you say you need so much water flowing at Peachtree Creek when you have no monitoring device at the creek. Also what is going to happen to the quality of the lake when the level gets so low the dilution factor in not what it should be. What happens when Gwinnett starts dumping 140 million gallons of sewage into the lake. The pipe is so many feet below the water level but that was calculated on 1971 not at 1050. That is a big concern. What will the dilution factor be?

Comment ID: 0807
Author Name:
Organization:

0807

Georgia has been on water restrictions for several years. We decreased the amount of water being used. We certainly can do better and this is an area we all need to work on to improve. However I feel Florida and Alabama also need to be on water restrictions. We do not hear that they have been restricked in any way. They need to conserve the water as well as the Geogians.
The water demands of this area is great and if everyone doesn't work at conserving water we all are in trouble.

Comment ID: 0808
Author Name: Barry Lucas
Organization:

0808

The Water Control Manual update should be revised to reflect that water supply is the most important use of Lake Lanier. Do we have to exhaust our water supply and have a crisis for the importance of this issue to become painfully obvious? In my opinion there should be no consideration for maintaining a full lake for recreation purposes. Likewise, in my opinion any requirements to protect endangered or threatened species should come second to protecting the water supply for the residents of North Georgia. The same holds true for power generation - there are many ways to produce power and support electricity demands through the power grid; but there is only a very finite amount of fresh water to supply the 4 million plus residents of North Georgia. That water is stored in Lake Lanier. With the environmental regulations in place in this country today, it will be practically impossible to replace this resource with another option, such as constructing a state owned or locally owned reservoir. And if managed properly, Lake Lanier can continue to supply the water needs of the Atlanta/North GA region for the forseeable future. But it must be managed as a water supply resource - not as a safety net for mussels and sturgeon. Those animals have survived for hundreds of thousands of years, and through severe droughts long before the lake was built. They don't need your man made lake to survive. But the tax paying citizens of Georgia do need the lake to survive, and to advance as a region economically. Make water supply for North Georgia the number one priority of the Lake Lanier management plan.

Comment ID: 0809
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

0809

Water supply is currently the most important need for the citizens of Forsyth County. Currently due to the water wars we are prohibited from providing reliable water supply for our growing area. We have been trying to get permission to get an intake and withdraw water from the lake for over 20 years. If the lake did not exist we would be allowed reasonable water for consumption from the river. Currently we are being forced to look for water from the river below the dam and pump it 19 miles back to our existing plant at an estimated cost of 20 million dollars. We have 20 square miles of the lake in our county but yet we cant get a permit from the Corps. I use to say that was un-American but now when I say that people tell me this could only occur in America. The lake has helped cause the people to move here and use it for recreation but at the same time we are not allowed the water to meet those demands.

Consideration must be given to counties around the lake who need water and are being denied there riparian rights to water. Counties down stream are taking all the water they need. We do not have to have storage contracts at this time just reasonable access to the water like everyone else. Currently water is being taken by systems with excess supply and being sold to other systems at an unfair marked up price. Current actions by the CORPS is contributing to this unfair practice.

Consideration should not be given to maintain the trout below the dam as this is not a natural environment that environmentalist are always asking for. This is an artificial trout stream, the species being stocked are not native fish. Releases from the dam to maintain temperature should not be allowed.

Forsyth County has made multiple official request for a storage contract for water from the lake and that should be considered in this plan update.

You should not only be looking at the current demands on the river in this study. Consideration should be given looking at future population projections and water demands from the river.

Comment ID: 0810
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

0810

Navigation on this section is no longer a high priority and may be altering the natural environment.

0811

Comment ID: 0811
Author Name: Lorin Ward
Organization: MarineMax

Dear U.S. Army Corp Official,
As a local resident, private boat owner, MarineMax employee and local business patron, I am a firm stakeholder in the water levels of Lake Sidney Lanier. My wife and son depend on my income as a boat salesman and our livlihood is granted by the public access and safe usage of Lake Sidney Lanier for recreational purposes. Please do all that is necessary not only to preserve our lake but to allow it to replenish itself to full pool lake levels for the sake of recreational businesses in the area.
Thank you for taking my individual interests into consideration!
Regards,
Lorin Ward

0812

Comment ID: 0812
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

We must hold back as much water as possible in Lake Lanier during drought times. Water supply is the highest need.

0813

Comment ID: 0813
Author Name: SCOTT FERRIS
Organization: MARINEMAX

I'VE BEEN SELLING BOATS ON THE LAKE FOR A LIVING FOR THE LAST SIX YEARS. THE LAST TWO YEARS HAVE BEEN VERY BAD FOR ME DUE TO THE WATER LEVEL AND NOT BEING ABLE TO SELL TRAILERABLE BOATS. I HAVE CHILDREN AND PARENTS THAT DEPEND ON ME. PLEASE HELP ME BY MAINTAINING A HIGHER WATER LEVEL

0814

Comment ID: 0814
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

Releases above natural river flows should not be made when the lakes are in action zones 2-4. for any of these needs: flood control actions, fish spawn operations, maintenance and repair of turbines, emergency situations such as drownings and chemical spills, drawdowns due to shoreline maintenance, releases made to free stuck barges, and other circumstances. The fish survived before the dams were built the natural flow should suffice.

0815

Comment ID: 0815
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

Over harvesting by the commercial fisheries should be reviewed as the possible decline in the species besides the salinity of the bay during droughts. The bay should not be expected to produce extreme numbers if fish for harvesting as is currently being taken Releases of water from reservoirs during drought times should not exceed natural low flow conditions to protect the bay. Also the impacts of the unnatural cuts between the Bay and to Ocean should be considered as a possible source of salinity in the bay.

0816

Comment ID: 0816
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

A 5,000 cfs minimum flow from the Jim Woodruff Dam to the Apalachicola River in support of water quality and water supply has not been proven to be necessary. It seems that this number far exceeds the natural low flow numbers.

Discharges along the rive can and have be improved and thus can reduce the needed 750 CFS.

0817

Comment ID: 0817
Author Name: GENE JONES
Organization:

West Point Lake should have it's water level maintained at 635 during the summer and while it may need to be lower during the winter, I believe that 628 is too low!!!!! It definately needs to remain above 630 at all times. 633 to 635 would be wonderful. The lake level definately needs to be maintained better during the spring so that the fish can spawn.

The lake needs to be better managed for the Congressionally authorized purposes. General recreation was one of the purposes. While I understand that flood control was also one of the purposes, dropping the lake as low as it has been, seems really wasteful. 628 is really too low!!!!!

0818

Comment ID: 0818
Author Name: mike venable
Organization: local resident

The cove I live on has been dry for the past 3 summers, I have a damaged dock from a tiny creek that washed out the dirt holding up the dock, Im still paying dock fee's even the cove is dry,and I have been paying marina fee's on top of that so I can enjoy my boat,and that is very expensive,and is not in my budget.

Comment ID: 0819
Author Name: DAVID STOLFO
Organization:

0819

THE LAKE GOING DOWN SO LOW HAS REALLY HURT ME AND MY FAMILY. I SELL SEA RAYS AT BALD RIDGE MARINA.MY CUSTOMERS WONT BUY B/C THEY HAVE NO WATER AT THEIR DOCK. ALSO THEY CANT LAUNCH.MY CUSTOMERS WHO ALREADY BOUGHT FROM ME WONT BOAT B/C THEY ARE SCARED THEY WILL HIT SOMETHING AND HURT THEIR BOAT. WE ARE LOOKING AT SELLING OUR HOUSE IN BUFORD, AND MOVING BACK TO TN WHERE WE CAME FROM. IT IS JUST NOT GETTING BETTER. MY CUSTOMERS HAVE INDICATED IT IS NOT THE ECONOMY, OR FUEL PRICES, IT IS THE LAKE LEVEL. I AM AT 30% OF MY NORMAL INCOME.I WAS VERY DISAPPOINTED TO LEARN USACOE LET TOO MUCH WATER OUT, AND THEY LAKE HAS BEEN WAY DOWN EVER SINCE. FIX THIS PROBLEM PLEASE...THIS IS NOT HELPING!!!

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

0820

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SEP 24 2008
Office of the ASA (CW)
Washington, DC

September 18, 2008

The Honorable John Paul Woodley, Jr.
Assistant Secretary of the Army - Civil Works
108 Army Pentagon
Room 3E446
Washington, DC 20310-0108

Dear Secretary Woodley,

As the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers updates its water control manuals for the Apalachicola-Chattahoochee-Flint (ACF) and Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa (ACT) River Basins, we are writing to express our deep conviction that water quality and supply be an expressed priority of the Army Corps in this process.

Since the operating manuals for these basins have not been formally updated since the 1950s, it is imperative that these manuals are made current, taking into account the water supply shortage that has been facing many communities in Georgia. Given that three and a half million people in the Metro Atlanta area depend on Lake Lanier for drinking water and that Lake Lanier provides the bulk of the storage capacity for the entire ACF Basin, the Army Corps should consider a plan that acknowledges the complex dynamics of the system and the refill probabilities of each reservoir in the basin.

The Georgia Congressional delegation has been united in a bipartisan effort to ensure that the Army Corps reviews and updates the operating procedures and manuals for the ACF and ACT Basins. It is imperative that the Army Corps conduct a thorough analysis of the operations of the ACT and ACF Basins looking for alternative methods to improve the management of these precious water resources.

As this process moves forward, we are seeking assurance in writing that the Army Corps will indeed approach this process with the objective of crafting operating manuals for both the ACT and ACF Basins that will maximize benefits for all users, including those concerned with municipal water quality and supply.

Thank you, and we look forward to your response and views on this important issue.

Yours truly,

Tom Price
Member of Congress

John Linder
Member of Congress

Paul Broun
Member of Congress

Nathan Deal
Member of Congress