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WATER QUALITY

WATER QUALITY

Water Quality (Water Resources)

Comment ID: 24
Author Name: Unknown
Organization:

water quality

Comment ID: 45
Author Name: Gail Carmody
Organization: Fish and Wildlife Service

Water Quality -- We urge the Corps to closely examine the effects of reservoir operations on water quality in the WCM update, including ongoing and potential future effects to dissolved oxygen (DO), temperature, pH, conductivity, nutrient and organic material dynamics, and various industrial and municipal discharges. In general terms, the Service is most concerned about low DO in project tailwaters and restoring a pattern of flow magnitude that over time emulates the seasonality, magnitude, frequency, duration, and rate of change of natural flows. Low DO levels have been recorded by the Corps downstream of West Point Dam. According to monitoring data collected downstream of West Point Dam from 1999 through 2001, DO did not always exceed state standards during the monitoring periods. DO exceeded the Georgia State standard of 4 mg/L (instantaneous) for only about 35 percent of the monitoring period in 1999 (monitoring from 6/15-9/14), 30 percent of the monitoring period in 2000 (monitoring from 7/25-9/30), and 4 percent of the monitoring period in 2001 (monitoring from 6/8-10/5) (Georgia Power Company 2002). Low DO levels have been associated with minor fish and mussel kills downstream of W.F. George Dam as well (personal communication, Rob Weller, GA DNR, 11/14/2008). We recommend that the Corps make a concerted effort through this WCM update to determine how to ensure that its releases from all five ACF dams meet or exceed DO and other applicable water quality standards.

Comment ID: 67
Author Name: Jeff Lukken
Organization: Mayor of LaGrange

Water quality has suffered greatly as a result of the Corps rapid ill1d frequent fluctuations of the lake. Compliance with the Clean Water Act by the Corps under current operations is at best highly questionable, if in fact it is being achieved.
This year local sta1ceholders were stu1med to find out that the largest ill1d first federal impoundment south of one of the largest urbanized areas in the country, was only receiving the most minimal of attention. State testing regimes are only one time monthly, 6 months of the year, at only 2 locations. That is grossly inadequate to address water quality concerns for ill1 impoundment of almost 28,000 acres of surface waters.
In tile Summer of 2008, the City of LaGrange, Troup County, the West Point Lake Coalition and the West Point Lake Advisory Council of the Chamber of Commerce lolled other local interests began an extended Water Quality test regime for the la1ce that is far more in depth ill1d extensive thill1 any currently underway by state of federal resources.
The Chlorophyll a benchmark for water quality is set at artificially high level at 27 Mgl, far in excess of what appropriate still1dards are for southern lakes. Local efforts are underway to compel GAIEPD to improve tile standard and to bring West Point La1ce in line with other southern lakes.
Most recently local stakeholders were alerted by information revealed in the local test program that the Total Nitrogen standard for the lake may be in violation of the standards set for the lake under the Clean Water Act. Third party environmental engineers and scientist working with the City are deeply concerned
that the lowering of lake levels may further damage WQ in the project. We believe that constant fluctuation of lake levels may be damaging the ecosystem and water quality within the project.

Further examples of this occurred in 2007 under lOP operations when West Point Lake was drained to near record lows during extremely warm weather. Algae blooms were experienced by the City of LaGrange's water intakes and processing operations. This was a clear indicator that nutrient levels at that time were likely at high level's, but testing of ChIor a and phytoplankton populations by state and federal agencies were inadequate to see and understand the effects of Corps operations on Water Quality. As of October 2, 2008, Total Nitrogen south of Franklin exceeded to water quality standards with a reading of 6 mg/L. Scientists and environmental engineers working with the City of LaGrange are concerned that the lowering of the lake for flood control or to meet downstream flows under the RIOP may be detrimental to water quality and exacerbate these apparent violations of the Clean Water Act.

Comment ID: 68
Author Name: Dick Timmerberg
Organization: West Point Lake Coalition

Water quality has suffered greatly as a result of the Corps' rapid and frequent fluctuations of the lake. Compliance with the Clean Water Act by the Corps under current operations is at best highly questionable, if in fact it is being achieved.
Ibis year local stakeholders were stunned to find out that the largest and first federal impoundment south of one of the largest urbanized areas in the country, was only receiving the most minimal of attention. State testing regimes are only one time month, 6 months of the year, at only 2 locations in a very large reservoir, approximately 26,000 surface acres.
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Corps operations that result in fluctuations in elevation must be limited and the lake must be stabilized at higher elevations. The relationship between adequate water quantity in the impoundment for waste assimilation and the need for adequate surface area can no longer be ignored by the Corps. An operations alternative must be developed that assures WQ standards are met, and that the WQ standards are at proper levels for the project. Simply put, the Corps must operate the project in a manner that assures compliance with the Clean Water Act.

Comment ID: 69
Author Name: Jeff Brown
Organization: Troup County Chamber of Commerce

At the same time adequate testing and study of the impacts on water quality at West Point associated with lOP and RIOP operations were never completed. There was no "in depth" assessment of how the implementation of these two operating plans would affect water quality and maintain that the Corps was in compliance with the Clean Water Act. All indications are that during the initial implementation of the lOP and RIOP that Water Quality was compromised as a result of the improper implementation of these two operating plan modifications. The further use of the plans, without adequate study and science to ascertain they are not damaging water quality or the ecosystem on West Point Lake is a critical action that cannot be avoided by the Corps, in current operations or under proposed changes to the WCM.

Water quality has suffered greatly as a result of the Corps rapid and frequent fluctuations of the lake. Compliance with the Clean Water Act by the Corps under current operations is at best highly questionable, if in fact it is being achieved. This year local stakeholders were stunned to find out that the largest and first federal impoundment south of one of the largest urbanized areas in the country, was only receiving the most minimal of attention. State testing regimes are only one time monthly, 6 months of the year, at only 2 locations. That is grossly inadequate to address water quality concerns for an impoundment of almost 28,000 acres of surface waters.
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Corps operations that result in fluctuations in elevation must be stopped and the lake must be stabilized at higher elevations. The relationship between adequate water quantity in the impoundment for water quality and the need for adequate water surface area can no longer be ignored by the Corps. An operations alternative must be developed as part that assures WQ standards are met, and that the WQ standards are at proper levels for the project. Simply put, the Corps must operate the project in a manner that assures compliance with the Clean Water Act.

Comment ID: 133
Author Name: Randy Nix
Organization:

While water quantity is important, water quality is essential. Interest above and below us must be required to invest in state of the art systems so that West Point is neither the dumping ground for pollution or the source for unnecessary flows to dilute pollution down south (Columbus).

Comment ID: 144
Author Name: Patrick Bowie Sr.
Organization:

Comment:
Need to maintain water level for the quality of water to be maintained.

Comment ID: 171

Author Name: Gary Grizzle
Organization:

The water quality is also a major area of concern because my friends, family, and I spend a lot of time out on the lake. Lake water that is not of the highest possible quality would surely diminish our time on the lake and our level of enjoyment while on the lake.

Comment ID: 174
Author Name:
Organization:

Not only do we need to maintain water level in Lake West Point, we need to be absolutely sure that the water quality is superb! Atlanta needs to clean up its act, stop the pollution, and responsibly address its infrastructure issues. What good is a lake full of unclean water?

Comment ID: 196
Author Name: Matthew walker
Organization:

1) water quality- as the population continues to increase throughout the region and existing waste treatment facilities age, it is putting increased pressure on the quality of the downstream stakeholders. Maintaining a minimum flow for water quality can be also addressed by increasing the water quality released by the waste water plants discharging into the river. To simply fine the municipality is not enough. More must be done to insure that all of the downstream stakeholders are taken care of.

Comment ID: 201
Author Name: James A. Stinson
Organization:

I am also concerned about maintaining and protecting water quality for my children and their children.

Comment ID: 229
Author Name: marjorie knipp
Organization:

The quality of drinking water is a major concern.

Comment ID: 250
Author Name: Rich Gibson
Organization:

I have two children under seven (7) years old and I am concerned about water quality during periods of low lake levels. Last year, the West Point Lake dropped close to Dead Pool. This creates less dilution and thus requires additional chemical treatment. I am concerned about my children having to drink this type water.

Comment ID: 265
Author Name: ray roesel
Organization:

maintain water quality

Comment ID: 266
Author Name: Ralph Peery
Organization:

Maintain water quality.

Comment ID: 290
Author Name: Eugene Gatwood
Organization:

Though the water quality of Lake West Point has improved significantly over the past decade, their are still a high level of impurities in the water. I surmise that it is mainly due to water treatment releases from Atlanta and other cities upriver from the lake. Please continue to monitor the water quality and insure that water treatment releases up river meet or exceed federal standards.

Comment ID: 332
Author Name: Nancy H. Green
Organization:

Very concerned about keeping the water level as close to 635 as possible, also concerned about the quality of water with unrestricted growth in Atlanta.

Comment ID: 341
Author Name: Rick Mallory
Organization:

5. Protect the water quality for humans and animals.

Comment ID: 344
Author Name: *Debbie Burdette
Organization:

maintain water quality

Comment ID: 360
Author Name: *Mickey McCoy
Organization:

and Maintain water quality

Comment ID: 406
Author Name: Robert Johnson
Organization:

And of course it is our source for our drinking water so you need to make every effort to protect us from Atlanta. They do not exactly have a good history in this regard.

Comment ID: 443
Author Name: Corinne Valentine
Organization:

I have a concern for water quality & supply in the Greater Atlanta Area.

Comment ID: 506
Author Name: Marilyn Haight
Organization:

The water seemed to be murkier than in the past, not as nice for swimming, I wonder if that is due to the lower lake levels as well.

Comment ID: 541
Author Name: Donald C Pauley
Organization:

3. Water should not be released to support clarity requirements of downstream users. Down stream users should be required to build storage facilities, better filtering facilities or develop other sources to use during storm conditions that provide them adequate water that is not of sufficient clarity.

Comment ID: 557
Author Name: Terry Donnenwirth
Organization:

The quality of the water in the lake now is terrible where we live. I believe it could even be unhealthy for all.

Comment ID: 572
Author Name: Billy Turner
Organization: Columbus Water Works

It is vitally important that the Corps recognize and understand that the Chattahoochee River provides water supply and wastewater assimilation for both domestic and industrial entities.

Comment ID: 574
Author Name: G. Eucle Vickery
Organization:

[4. Project water quality. West Point Lake was established for sport fishing and wildlife development.] The quality of its water also must meet recreational use standards. As the source of water for a large population base in West Georgia, it is essential that water quality in the reservoir be maintained to higher standards than currently are set by the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. The lake at all times must comply with the Federal Clean Water Act. Operations must be adjusted by the Corps to assure adequate inflow of water and lake elevations to dilute nutrient loading into the lake contributed from upstream metropolitan area influences.

Comment ID: 583
Author Name: Elizabeth Johnson
Organization:

2.] Water quality of the lake. The lake has been beautiful and fun to use this past summer. For the first time in several years we have been able to keep our boat at the dock which has added to our enjoyment of the lake. I have also been pleased to read about the testing being done regarding the quality of the Lake water. The Chattahoochee River has been the source of drinking water for LaGrange as long as I can remember.

Comment ID: 587
Author Name: Robert Tant
Organization: Columbus Water Works

It is vitally important that the Corps recognize and understand that the Chattahoochee River provides water supply and wastewater assimilation for both domestic and industrial entities. Intertwined with these uses is our determination to see this regions aquatic ecology protected.

Comment ID: 590
Author Name: Erin Cathy
Organization:

I have to admit that when I was a teenager, my friends would have birthday parties at the lake and we would have to get out of the water because of things we saw floating in the water. It is better now or I wouldn't even go in the water. I hope that being downstream from Atlanta hasn't continued to make our water unclean. I hope they are treating their sewage better now than they used to. Testing the water might help us to understand that. I am glad that you adopted the Temporary Operating Plan of maintaining higher lake water levels and hope you will continue this use this water level plan in the future. Sincerely, Erin Cathey

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Comment ID: 642
Author Name: Katie Van Schoor
Organization:

We would very much like to see the water quality up to recreational use standards.
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We would very much like to see the water quality up to recreational use standards.

Comment ID: 644
Author Name: Tammy Cannon
Organization:

I am concerned about the house boats up the river in Apalachicola pouring raw sewage into the river that flows directly into the bay where the oysters that are so valuable to our economy are harvested. These house boats run on generators and are parked on Government property. They are not attached to any land mass other than being tied to docks and their raw sewage dumps directly into the river. The houseboats stay in the same area all year lone and as far as I know, they are not monitored for their sewage pollution. The houseboat population is growing and I have growing concerns about this issue and would like to have this addressed and stopped before the pollution is too great to fix.

Comment ID: 686
Author Name: Lee Edwards
Organization:

When the Corps allows the lake to drop to 620 msl, which occurred last year, the water quality is degraded and fishing recreation declines.

Comment ID: 728
Author Name: Mike Sullivan
Organization: City Council for City of Sugar Hill

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.

Comment ID: 797
Author Name: Greg
Organization:

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

Comment ID: 806
Author Name:
Organization:

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?
--
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General Concern (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 36
Author Name: Tony Owens
Organization: MeadWestvaco

In addition, MWV's current NPDES permit includes provisions which are dependent upon instream flows and water quality within the Chattahoochee River. Flow reductions in the river and the corresponding reduction in water quality will make it difficult or (more likely) impossible for MWV to continue to operate the Mahrt Mill and remain in compliance with its NPDES permit. Consequently, significant flow reductions in the river would result in MWV shutting the mill down in order to avoid NPDES permit violations.

Comment ID: 37
Author Name: Carol A. Couch

Organization: GA EPD

D. West Point Lake and Lower Federal Reservoirs West Point Lake is located on the Chattahoochee River approximately 155 miles southwest flake Lanier. West Point Lake, like Lake Lanier, meets vital water supply needs of citizens within the State of Georgia. The City of LaGrange withdraws water from West Point Lake for municipal and industrial needs. The City of West Point relies on withdrawals immediately downstream of West Point Dam for municipal and industrial purposes. Further downstream, the City of Columbus withdraws water from the Chattahoochee River and relies on the waste assimilative capacity of the Chattahoochee River to meet the needs of approximately 225,000 people.

Comment ID: 45
Author Name: Gail Carmody
Organization: Fish and Wildlife Service

Water Quality -- We urge the Corps to closely examine the effects of reservoir operations on water quality in the WCM update, including ongoing and potential future effects to dissolved oxygen (DO), temperature, pH, conductivity, nutrient and organic material dynamics, and various industrial and municipal discharges. In general terms, the Service is most concerned about low DO in project tailwaters and restoring a pattern of flow magnitude that over time emulates the seasonality, magnitude, frequency, duration, and rate of change of natural flows. Low DO levels have been recorded by the Corps downstream of West Point Dam. According to monitoring data collected downstream of West Point Dam from 1999 through 2001, DO did not always exceed state standards during the monitoring periods. DO exceeded the Georgia State standard of 4 mg/L (instantaneous) for only about 35 percent of the monitoring period in 1999 (monitoring from 6/15-9/14), 30 percent of the monitoring period in 2000 (monitoring from 7/25-9/30), and 4 percent of the monitoring period in 2001 (monitoring from 6/8-10/5) (Georgia Power Company 2002). Low DO levels have been associated with minor fish and mussel kills downstream of W.F. George Dam as well (personal communication, Rob Weller, GA DNR, 11/14/2008). We recommend that the Corps make a concerted effort through this WCM update to determine how to ensure that its releases from all five ACF dams meet or exceed DO and other applicable water quality standards.

Comment ID: 49
Author Name: Stanley F. Cook
Organization: AL Department of Conservation and Natural Resources

Water Quality
COE are well aware of the importance of maintaining good water quality standards to benefit wildlife, as well as all water users. There are many reasons as to why water quality parameters might fall below State standards. It is a fact that water quantity (flow) and water quality have an important relationship. By establishing a continuous flowing system within the ACF, there will be a positive response in many water quality parameters. Recommendation: ADCNR recommends regardless of the water management plan for the ACF, the COE should maintain water quantity stations above and below all dams, and support flow stations below each lock and dam. COE should meet all State water quality standards for at least "Fish and Wildlife" classified waters.

Comment ID: 55
Author Name: Brian Atkins
Organization:

Another aspect of the manual update process should consider the Corps' compliance with existing environmental laws. Since the federal reservoirs were constructed, Congress, Alabama, Florida and Georgia have enacted a number of laws and regulations designed to protect and enhance the quality of the environment, including the Clean Water Act and the Endangered Species Act. In operating the federal projects in the ACF Basin, the Corps must avoid operations that will violate or lead to violations of water quality standards or will cause directly or indirectly the take of an endangered species or impacts to critical habitat. As part of its effort to update the water control manuals at the federal reservoirs in the ACF Basin, the Corps should ensure that even under drought conditions, sufficient flow is maintained below each dam, so that water quality standards and endangered species are protected. Specifically, the Corps should coordinate with the Fish & Wildlife Service, the EPA and appropriate state agencies in Alabama and Georgia to ensure that the water control manuals are compliant with the

Endangered Species Act and the Clean Water Act.

Comment ID: 67
Author Name: Jeff Lukken
Organization: Mayor of LaGrange

It is the responsibility of downstream wastewater treatment discharge permit holders, to design and operate their discharge systems in a manner that assures
compliance with water quality standards without using the limited waters available in West Point Lake.

Water quality has suffered greatly as a result of the Corps rapid ill1d frequent fluctuations of the lake. Compliance with the Clean Water Act by the Corps under current operations is at best highly questionable, if in fact it is being achieved. This year local sta1ceholders were stu1med to find out that the largest ill1d first federal impoundment south of one of the largest urbanized areas in the country, was only receiving the most minimal of attention. State testing regimes are only one time monthly, 6 months of the year, at only 2 locations. That is grossly inadequate to address water quality concerns for ill1 impoundment of almost 28,000 acres of surface waters.
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Comment ID: 173
Author Name: Gail A Poole
Organization:

Water quality should be maintained and managed with the consistency of congressional authorized purposed.

Comment ID: 212
Author Name: Andy Fritchley
Organization:

I am deeply concerned over the inflows and outflows of West Point Lake and the impact that has on water quality of area residents. West Point Lake is essential for drinking water and maintaining a consistent water level (633 - 635) is critical for residents.

Comment ID: 221
Author Name: Carol Todd
Organization:

Also, I believe the water quality needs to reflect the recreational use as well and maintain the standards as required by the federal Clean Water Act.

Comment ID: 233
Author Name: Terry McMillian
Organization:

and improve our water quality.

Comment ID: 235
Author Name:
Organization:

Comment:
Water quality and water supply should be at the top of the priority list when considering Lake West Point.

Comment ID: 269
Author Name: doug pauley
Organization:

I am concerned about water supply and water quality on this project

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Comment ID: 324
Author Name: CARL STEKELBURG
Organization:

I'm concerned about the water quality of West Point Lake. I'm on the Harris County water system which buys water. When the water gets low in Harris County they buy it from Muskogee County. So it’s running water out of West Point Lake. And getting a lot of oil it right now. A lot of times we’ll taste oil in it. I'm concerned that we let the water level get so low that the oil is getting in the mixture of things. I think we need to keep the water level up a little higher.

Comment ID: 335
Author Name: Sue & Tim Christolm
Organization:

Restore and maintain recreational facilities and maintain good water quality.

Comment ID: 338
Author Name: Ruth Perdue
Organization:

water quality

Comment ID: 341
Author Name: Rick Mallory
Organization:

5. Protect the water quality for humans and animals.

Comment ID: 344
Author Name: *Debbie Burdette
Organization:

maintain water quality

Comment ID: 345

Author Name: *Charis Acree
Organization:

I am also interested in maintaining water quality.

Comment ID: 353
Author Name: *Beverley Johnson
Organization:

Quality of water is my next issue,

Comment ID: 354
Author Name: *Barbara Keller
Organization:

I am also concerned that the Lake remain available to all citizens and not be allowed to become either poor water quality or recreation for only those who can afford it.

Comment ID: 355
Author Name: *Daniel Houghton
Organization:

5. Keep check on water quality

Comment ID: 360
Author Name: *Mickey McCoy
Organization:

and Maintain water quality

Comment ID: 362
Author Name: *Pam Ramsay
Organization:

he proposed land fill in Hogansville is also a health concern.

Comment ID: 409
Author Name: Frank Russo
Organization:

water quality higher that current standards set by ga epd
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water quality higher that current standards set by ga epd

Comment ID: 446
Author Name: Don Kelemen
Organization:

Concerns on water flow / mgt of Lake Lanier water quality

Comment ID: 468
Author Name: Ethyl L. Ault
Organization:

* Maintain water quality

Comment ID: 469
Author Name: Robbie Nichols
Organization:

6. Water quality

Comment ID: 481
Author Name:

Organization:

A) Turns their backs on the Quality of water

Turns their backs on siltation control,

Comment ID: 582
Author Name: Danny Rock
Organization:

continue to improve the water quality

Comment ID: 660
Author Name:
Organization:

5)Is there a minimum flow rate and water level gauge reading, at any point in the Chattahoochee River between Buford Dam and West Point Lake, that water from Lake Lanier is expected to always maintain regardless of any drought conditions?

Atlanta discharges (Water Resources)

Comment ID: 174
Author Name:
Organization:

Not only do we need to maintain water level in Lake West Point, we need to be absolutely sure that the water quality is superb! Atlanta needs to clean up its act, stop the pollution, and responsibly address its infrastructure issues. What good is a lake full of unclean water?

Comment ID: 233
Author Name: Terry McMillian
Organization:

It would help to stop Atlanta from dumping its raw sewage into the river that feeds our West Point lake.

Comment ID: 239
Author Name:
Organization:

Thank goodness Atlanta sewer upgrades are finally underway. Atlanta needs to do what ever it takes to keep their releases clean. Sending polluted water downstream should never be tolerated again. My children swim in these waters, and my family eats the fish!!!

Comment ID: 366
Author Name:
Organization:

That said, it's seems pretty simple, to limit the outflow to the inflow when the water level reaches a certain level. I realize there are minimums to dilute the Atlanta discharge. But with today's technology Atlanta could do a much better job of cleaning what they release, therefore reducing the outflow.

Comment ID: 399
Author Name: Jane Browder
Organization: lake property owner

Atlanta must rebuild their infrastructure and become part of this solution instead of using Lanier as their big flush.

Comment ID: 406
Author Name: Robert Johnson

Organization:

And of course it is our source for our drinking water so you need to make every effort to protect us from Atlanta. They do not exactly have a good history in this regard.

Comment ID: 440
Author Name: Kevin Herbert
Organization:

A combination of improved water treatment facilities in Atlanta and higher "full pool" levels are needed. Water conservation in the city of Atlanta is not on the local government agenda like it should be. There should be something enacted to force better water treatment and conservation that would limit the amount of water release downstream. We need swift action.

Comment ID: 461
Author Name: RPM
Organization: Boat Dealer

Fix the sewer problem in Atlanta

Comment ID: 463
Author Name: Alan Segrave
Organization:

The City of Atlanta needs to be forced to implement proper sewage treatment so that less flow at Peachtree Creek can take place. This will help Lake Lanier retain more water for proper use of ACF basin.

Comment ID: 537
Author Name: Charles Mann
Organization:

1-I believe a study needs to be done to determine how much impact the outdated Atlanta sewerage treatment system contributes to the lake level.

Comment ID: 570
Author Name: Bradley Curry, Jr.
Organization:

Conservation and waste water treatment in the Atlanta region are the best in the state and substantially better than anything going on in Alabama or Florida.

Comment ID: 622
Author Name: Aron Hendrix
Organization:

One important fact never pursued, the City of Atlanta will not fix its sewer system, so millions of unnecessary gallons must be released to keep it flushed!! They must be made to repair this system! Lanier can't be pulled down to these levels, it takes years to recover!

Comment ID: 732
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's sewer system!

Water Quality for Recreational Uses (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 16
Author Name: William D. Rezak
Organization:

I live on Lake Lanier which, as you know, is now about 18' below normal pool. I am concerned about the health of our lake, to say nothing of the decreased recreational activities and resultant economic benefit it usually provides to our community.

Comment ID: 68
Author Name: Dick Timmerberg
Organization: West Point Lake Coalition

Water quality has suffered greatly as a result of the Corps' rapid and frequent fluctuations of the lake. Compliance with the Clean Water Act by the Corps under current operations is at best highly questionable, if in fact it is being achieved.
Ibis year local stakeholders were stunned to find out that the largest and first federal impoundment south of one of the largest urbanized areas in the country, was only receiving the most minimal of attention. State testing regimes are only one time month, 6 months of the year, at only 2 locations in a very large reservoir, approximately 26,000 surface acres.
In the summer of 2008, the City of LaGrange, Troup County, the Chamber of Commerce and other local interests began an extended Water Quality test regime for the lake that is far more in depth and extensive than any currently underway by state or federal agencies.
The Chlorophyll a benchmark for water quality is set at an artificially high level at 27 Mg/l, far in excess of what appropriate standards are for southern lakes.
Most recently local stakeholders were shocked by information revealed in the local test program that the Total Nitrogen standard for the lake was in violation of the standards set for the lake under the Clean Water Act. Third party environmental engineers and scientist working with the City are deeply concerned that the lowering of lake levels may further damage WQ in the project. We believe that constant fluctuation of lake levels may be damaging the ecosystem and water quality within the project.
Further examples of this occurred in 2007 under lOP operations when West Point Lake was drained to near record lows during extremely warm weather. Blue Green algae blooms were experienced by the City of LaGrange's water intakes and processing operations. Ibis was a clear indicator that nutrient levels at that time were at high levels, but testing of Chlor a and phytoplankton populations by state and federal agencies was inadequate to see and understand the effects of Corps' operations on Water Quality.
Corps operations that result in fluctuations in elevation must be limited and the lake must be stabilized at higher elevations. The relationship between adequate water quantity in the impoundment for waste assimilation and the need for adequate surface area can no longer be ignored by the Corps. An operations alternative must be developed that assures WQ standards are met, and that the WQ standards are at proper levels for the project. Simply put, the Corps must operate the project in a manner that assures compliance with the Clean Water Act.

The City of LaGrange will maintain its test regime and cooperate with the states and the Corps in sharing data to assure that good data exists to use in this analysis.
But the Corps must bring the project into compliance by maintaining higher and stabile lake levels.

Comment ID: 69
Author Name: Jeff Brown
Organization: Troup County Chamber of Commerce

It is the responsibility of downstream wastewater treatment discharge permit holders, to design and operate their discharge systems in a manner that assures compliance with water quality standards without using the limited waters available in West Point Lake.

At the same time adequate testing and study of the impacts on water quality at West Point associated with lOP and RIOP operations were never completed. There was no "in depth" assessment of how the implementation of these two operating plans would affect water quality and maintain that the Corps was in compliance with the Clean Water Act. All indications are that during the initial implementation of the lOP and RIOP that Water Quality was compromised as a result of the improper implementation of these two operating plan modifications. The further use of the plans, without adequate study and science to ascertain they are not damaging water quality or the ecosystem on West Point Lake is a critical action that cannot be avoided by the Corps, in current operations or under proposed changes to the WCM.

Water quality has suffered greatly as a result of the Corps rapid and frequent fluctuations of the lake. Compliance with the Clean Water Act by the Corps under current operations is at best highly questionable, if in fact it is being achieved. This year local stakeholders were stunned to find out that the largest and first federal impoundment south of one of the largest urbanized areas in the country, was only receiving the most minimal of attention. State testing regimes are only one time monthly, 6 months of the year, at only 2 locations. That is grossly inadequate to address water quality concerns for an impoundment of almost 28,000 acres of surface waters.
In the summer of2008, the City of LaGrange, Troup County, the West Point Lake Coalition and the West Point Lake Advisory Council of the Chamber of Commerce and other local interests began an extended Water Quality test regime for the lake that is far more in depth and extensive than any currently underway by state of federal resources.
The Chlorophyll, a benchmark for water quality, is set at artificially high level at 27 Mg/l, far in excess of what appropriate standards are for southern lakes. Local efforts are underway to compel GAEPD to improve the standard and to bring West Point Lake in line with other southern lakes.
Most recently local stakeholders were alerted by information revealed in the local test program that the Total Nitrogen standard for the lake may be in violation of the standards set for the lake under the Clean Water Act. Third party environmental engineers and scientist working with the City are deeply concerned that the lowering of lake levels may further damage WQ in the project. We believe that constant fluctuation of lake levels may be damaging the ecosystem and water quality within the project.
Further examples of this occurred in 2007 under lOP operations when West Point Lake was drained to near record lows during extremely warm weather. Algae blooms were experienced by the City of LaGrange's water intakes and processing operations. This was a clear indicator that nutrient levels at that time were likely at high levels, but testing of Chlor a and phytoplankton populations by state and federal agencies were inadequate to see and understand the effects of Corps operations on Water Quality. As of October 2,2008, Total Nitrogen south of Franklin exceeded to water quality standards with a reading of 6 mg/L. Scientists and environmental engineers working with the City of LaGrange are concerned that the lowering of the lake for flood control or to meet downstream flows under the RIOP may be detrimental to water quality and exacerbate these apparent violations of the Clean Water Act. We believe the Corps must develop operating concepts and plans as an alternative that demonstrate improved water quality by maintaining lake elevations in the 633-635 MSL range.
Corps operations that result in fluctuations in elevation must be stopped and the lake must be stabilized at higher elevations. The relationship between adequate water quantity in the impoundment for water quality and the need for adequate water surface area can no longer be ignored by the Corps. An operations alternative must be developed as part that assures WQ standards are met, and that the WQ standards are at proper levels for the project. Simply put, the Corps must operate the project in a manner that assures compliance with the Clean Water Act.

The City of LaGrange will maintain its test regime and cooperate with the states and the Corps in sharing data to assure that data exists to use in this analysis. But the Corps must bring the project into compliance by maintaining higher and stabile lake levels.

Comment ID: 77
Author Name: Richard C. Wolfe
Organization: Troup County Board of Commissioners

Water Quality Findings indicate that due to our growth the low levels adversely affect economic opportunities and the action zones established by the Corps are not in keeping with and were not part of the original authorization by Congress. We believe that if the Corps were to fill and stabilize West Point Lake as a "run of the river lake" with flows that would mirror a more natural flow during drought and flood conditions it would revitalize the lake and the rest of the system. We have worked to improve county controlled

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recreational areas around the Lake and have found that the Corps has not funded or maintained many of the recreational areas paid for or established by Congress for the project. The severity of the action zones at West Point Lake are much worse that other lakes in the system and makes recreational use quite difficult if not impossible to achieve. The Lake has suffered under such rules causing rapid and frequent fluctuations in lake levels and this is causing compliance issues with the Clean Water Act, which again affects the quality of substance and recreation.

Comment ID: 113
Author Name: West Point Lake Advisory Council
Organization: West Point Lake Advisory Council

6. Water quality West Point Lake was established for sport fishing and wildlife development. The quality of its water must also meet recreational use standards. As the source of water for a large population base in West Georgia, it is essential that water quality in the reservoir be maintained to higher standards than are currently set by Georgia Environmental Protection Division, and that the lake at all times must comply with the federal Clean Water Act. Operations should be adjusted by the Corps to ensure adequate inflow of water and lake elevations to dilute nutrient loading into the lake contributed from upstream metropolitan area influences.

Comment ID: 115
Author Name: Jeannine Honicker
Organization:

300 truckloads of unmonitored garbage to be dumped at the rate of 2,500 to 3,000 tons per day from 3 a.m. until 7 p.m. weekdays and from 7 a.m. until 3 p.m. on Saturday will cause higher maintenance cost on streets and roads, depression of local property values, depression of business operations, increased traffic congestion and risk of accidents, and decline of tourism;

Comment ID: 358
Author Name: *Laura Breyfogle
Organization:

The water quality must be high in order for us to swim there and eat the fish we catch.
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I am concerned mostly about the quality of our water and the level of our lake. Not only is it the source for our drinking water but also provides important recreational opportunities for our community. The water quality must be high in order for us to swim there and eat the fish we catch. The water level must be high enough for it to look appealing and to support the many boaters who like to use the lake.

Comment ID: 565
Author Name: Haywood Smith
Organization:

Another concern I have is for the health of Lake Lanier. The Corps has told us that at full pool, the lake is safe to use and cleans itself. Swimming did not put us at risk, and fish were safe to eat. At these low levels, that is not the case. My son and grandchildren live on the lake beside me, and I am concerned for their health.

Impacts of Low Lake Levels (Water Resources)

Comment ID: 12
Author Name: Donald Baker
Organization:

This year being an exception. I also bought a houseboat but am afraid to use it as the up and down of the water levels fills the lake with trash.

Comment ID: 148
Author Name: Sondra bowie
Organization:

when the lake level was extremely low, chemicals had to be added for safe water consumption. I don't like the taste nor the idea of these chemicals. please maintain adequate level for safe water consumption.

Comment ID: 218
Author Name: CHARLES
Organization:

If our lake levels drop then our water supply drops. We need water to survive! If it can be here naturally, then it needs to be left here. We do not need to be paying to pump water into our community for survival when it can be here naturally to be filtered through the water treatment plants. We already have to spend enough money treating the water due to our poor pollution effects and lifestyles that we do not need to spend more pumping it in.

Comment ID: 257
Author Name: Phil Horton
Organization:

In 2007, our water supply from West Point Lake got dangerously low.

Comment ID: 369
Author Name:
Organization:

I have a boat on Lanier, and look forward to the day when high water returns , but I do not believe that water levels should be kept high for the sake of esthetics and for the benefit of the lake property owners at the expense of endangered species down river. Water conserving measures are working in the Atlanta area and it is good for people to learn how to do so.

Comment ID: 433
Author Name:
Organization: n/a

Mussels etc are not a reason to draw down Lake Lanier to levels which can raise the toxicity of the water and end up killing our fish. Their lives, not to mention the recreational value of Lanier are important as well.

Comment ID: 565
Author Name: Haywood Smith
Organization:

Another environmental concern: Our trees are dying from the drought. When they fall--and they will if this situation continues--we will be losing a significant element of our region's capacity to clean the air. If there is more water, we can use reasonable methods to keep the ecological balance in the natural cycle of air and water cleansing.

Comment ID: 602
Author Name: Mack Butler
Organization:

I am concerned for the low lake level at Lake Lanier. The low level has a negative impact on safety on the lake, the economy and home values around the lake, and water usage in the community.

Comment ID: 686
Author Name: Lee Edwards
Organization:

When the Corps allows the lake to drop to 620 msl, which occurred last year, the water quality is degraded and fishing recreation declines.

Comment ID: 687
Author Name: Tim Newton
Organization:

ho knows what evironmental impact the low lake level is causing.

Comment ID: 782
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 walk across the lake now? how do we recoup from this situation? micki coleman

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Re-Evaluate Low Flow Requirements (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 52
Author Name: V.M. Perry, Jr.
Organization: Lake Lanier Association

Adopt a Permanent Water Quality Minimum Flow of 650 cfs at Peachtree Creek We request that, in times of drought and when water quality standards can be maintained, the minimum water quality flows required at Peachtree Creek be reduced from 750 cfs to 650 cfs. The Corps has already granted this flow reduction twice in 2008, based on water quality data and assurances from the Georgia Environmental Protection Division. We endorse this reduction as a permanent feature of the WCP, subject to changing water quality requirements.

Comment ID: 437
Author Name: Mark Thelen
Organization:

As a resident of Fulton County I request you approve to minimize the water flow from 750 to 650 as Dr. Couch proposes. It was down earlier in the year and the water quality downstream was acceptable.

The rain fall south of Atlanta has been greater than north and we can use all the water in Lake Lanier.

Comment ID: 442
Author Name: Bill Rezak
Organization:

Please reduce the flow from Lanier to 650 cfs from 11/1/08 to 5/09 to allow for refill. If 650 cfs was adequate for water quality and usage last spring, surely it is now. Our lake has suffered dramatically due to its small catchment area and the 1' that the Corps accidently released in '07. You owe us that 1' back at the very least.

Comment ID: 660
Author Name:
Organization:

5)Is there a minimum flow rate and water level gauge reading, at any point in the Chattahoochee River between Buford Dam and West Point Lake, that water from Lake Lanier is expected to always maintain regardless of any drought conditions?

Comment ID: 734
Author Name:
Organization:

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.

Comment ID: 751
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.

Comment ID: 785
Author Name: David Vaughan
Organization:

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: 816
Author Name: Tim Perkins
Organization: Forsyth County

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

Higher Lake Levels (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 67
Author Name: Jeff Lukken
Organization: Mayor of LaGrange

We believe the Corps must develop operating
concepts and plans as an alternative that demonstrate improved water quality by
maintaining lake elevations in the 633-635 MSL range.
Corps operations that result in fluctuations in elevation must be stopped and the
lake must be stabilized at higher elevations. The relationship between adequate
water quantity in the impoundment for water quality and the need for adequate
water surface area can no longer be ignored by the Corps. An operations
alternative must be developed as part that assures WQ standards are met, and that
the WQ standards are at proper levels for the project. Simply put the Corps must
operate the project in a manner that assures compliance with the Clean Water Act.

The City of LaGrange will maintain its test regime and cooperate with the states and the Corps
in sharing data to assure that data exists to use in this analysis. But
the Corps must bring the project into compliance by maintaining higher and
stabile lake levels.
--
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Comment ID: 68
Author Name: Dick Timmerberg
Organization: West Point Lake Coalition

The City of LaGrange will maintain its test regime and cooperate with the states and the Corps
in sharing data to assure that good data exists to use in this analysis.
But the Corps must bring the project into compliance by maintaining higher and stabile lake
levels.

Comment ID: 82
Author Name: Vince Foody
Organization:

The Lake must be managed for consistent full pool (633 to 635) and the cleanliness and quality

of the water must be maintained.

Comment ID: 121
Author Name: Jack Struble
Organization:

Second water quality can be maintained easier if the lake is at a higher level and constant flow is passed through the impoundment. The water this past summer has been the cleanest in recent years.

Comment ID: 174
Author Name:
Organization:

Comment:
Not only do we need to maintain water level in Lake West Point, we need to be absolutely sure that the water quality is superb!

Comment ID: 250
Author Name: Rich Gibson
Organization:

By changing the Action Zones to levels between 633-635 msl, we can help to ensure better water quality.

Atlanta Discharges (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 336
Author Name: Terry McMillian
Organization:

Water quality is critical - please stop Atlanta from dumping its sewage into the Chattahoochee River.

Comment ID: 372
Author Name: Nancy Niekro
Organization:

There is not enough water in Lake Lanier to continually release enough to dilute the sewage being discharged into the river by Atlanta. This needs to be addressed immediately, 5 million people depend on this water for drinking.

Comment ID: 399
Author Name: Jane Browder
Organization: lake property owner

Releases must be kept down to a minimum for water usage and wastewater management for Atlanta.

Comment ID: 450
Author Name: Sidell Tilghman
Organization:

If Atlanta's sewer system was finally cleaned up and therefore discharged less pollution into the Chattahoochee River it would thereby reduce the required cfs flow.

Comment ID: 451
Author Name: Jodi Wacho
Organization:

I have entered written comments at one of the meetings, but would like to add some and emphasize others. Why doesn't the city of Atlanta spend the money to cleanse their dirty water

before it has to be returned to the Chattahoochee, as other counties are having to do, so that so much does not have to be released from Lake Lanier to cover the cleansing of the water at Morgan Falls. This too would decrease the need for more release from Lanier. This would help to save water in the future.

Comment ID: 463
Author Name: Alan Segrave
Organization:

The City of Atlanta needs to be forced to implement proper sewage treatment so that less flow at Peachtree Creek can take place. This will help Lake Lanier retain more water for proper use of ACF basin.

Comment ID: 569
Author Name: Edward Close
Organization:

It seems that the reason for draining Lake Lanier is to dilute the sewerage that Atlanta puts into the river below the lake.

Needs Based on Good Science (Water Resources)

Comment ID: 66
Author Name: Wilton Rooks
Organization:

3. The water control plan should establish a procedure to determine on a scientific basis the minimum required discharge from Woodruff Dam. The reported basis for the 5,000 cfs has varied so much that it is unclear what the actual number should be based on a scientific study. Perhaps the endangered species would actually be better at lower flows.

Comment ID: 67
Author Name: Jeff Lukken
Organization: Mayor of LaGrange

At the same time adequate testing and study of the impacts on water quality at West Point associated with lOP an d RlOP operations were never completed. There was no "in depth" assessment of how the implementation of these two operating plans would affect water quality and maintain the Corps in compliance with the Clean Water Act. IOP and RlOP. All indication are that during the initial implementation of the lOP and RlOP that Water Quality was compromised as a result of the improper implementation of these two operating plan modifications. The further use of the plans, without adequate study and science to ascertain they are not damaging water quality or the ecosystem on West Point Lake is a critical action that can not be avoided by the Corps, in current operations or under proposed changes to the WCM.

Comment ID: 71
Author Name: Steven J. Herrington
Organization: The Nature Conservancy

Develop a scientific consensus of environmental flow needs of the ACF
The goal of this EIS is to determine the environmental impacts of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) operations in the ACF River Basin. Although there has been a tremendous amount of publically available ecological data collected over the past several decades in the system, there is still not a scientific consensus on the physical and biological effects of operations in the ACF River Basin, particularly in the Apalachicola River and Bay. Because this constitutes the foundation of the EIS, the lack of such a consensus on the environmental flow needs of the system can severely undermine the quality and utility of the EIS and thus the Water Control Manual for the basin.

Comment ID: 263
Author Name: Daniel H. Cox

Organization:

Any allocation of water resources within the ACF system must be based on sound scientific analysis of the fresh water needs and salt water tolerances of the Apalachicola Bay.

Comment ID: 759
Author Name: Billy R. Mayes
Organization: Dothan Utilities

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?

Comment ID: 763
Author Name: James H. Phillips
Organization: Middle Chattahoochee Water Coalition

Good science needs to be used to determine fish and wildlife needs.
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How are the agricultural demands going to be factored in the update and the model?

Salinity in Apalachicola Bay (Water Resources)

Comment ID: 376
Author Name: Jonathon Heard
Organization: City of Cumming

The Apalachicola Bay region should be scrutinized to determine what human activity has caused more saline intrusion into the Bay. The saline intrusion into the bay could be prevented by restoring the coast line to it's natural state. Dredging and shipping interests have created more avenues for the saline water to enter the Bay.

Comment ID: 415
Author Name: diane mcgrath
Organization:

Franklin County, which surrounds the lower Apalachicola River Estuarine system, has a water management plan. Development is tied to this plan. We have this so that we may preserve the quality of the estuary and surrounding waters as well as the livelihood of those working the bay. Everyone knows that the estuary is a major nursery for the Gulf of Mexico. Put it simply: In our area LIFE OF ALL KINDS DEPENDS ON THE APALACHICOLA RIVER.

Comment ID: 700
Author Name: Mary Ann Durrer
Organization:

During the last year, since the water flow has been reduced so drastically in the Apalachicola River we have seen a number of adverse effects. Salt water predators have moved into our bay, since it is so much more salty with the reduced fresh water flow, and are devouring the oysters. I have heard that we now have sharks all of the way up the river to the dam. This was unheard of before. Tupelo honey grows in the swamps up river and the trees are dying now because they do not have enough fresh water to survive. Our whole way of life down here is being destroyed. We are facing the death of the most productive bay on the east coast.

Comment ID: 737
Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

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: 739

Author Name: Carol Schwarz
Organization:

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

Comment ID: 815
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.

Water Quality Monitoring - General (Monitoring)

Comment ID: 142
Author Name:
Organization:

I would like to see more testing (water quality) of water on Chattahoochee - between West Point Dam and Lake Harding.

Comment ID: 169
Author Name: Joy
Organization:

Funding for water quality studies needs to be increased. This would allow for more critical areas of the river and lake systems to be analyzed to assure adequate flows to help dilute high levels of nitrogen and other pollutants that enter the river system in densely populated areas.

Comment ID: 589
Author Name: Lee and Ann Cathey
Organization:

However, we would like to see additional methods of testing water quality taking place. While the lake is apparently healthy, we believe the information would be helpful. Sincerely, Lee Cathey

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Comment ID: 759
Author Name: Billy R. Mayes
Organization: Dothan Utilities

6. Water quality stations along the river should be used to alert users and others of potential concerns and issues (including temperature issues).

Comment ID: 763
Author Name: James H. Phillips
Organization: Middle Chattahoochee Water Coalition

Water quality stations along the river should be used to alert users and others of potential concerns and issues (including temperature issues).

Impacts of Low Flows (Water Resources)

Comment ID: 26
Author Name: Donald Smiley
Organization:

Okay. My name is Donald Smiley. I live in Wewahitchka, Florida at 161 Bozeman Circle. I am a local resident. I'm also a beekeeper, and my livelihood depends on the health of the river system, specifically Tupelo Honey trees, Ogeche Tupelo, which produces Tupelo honey. My main concern is the lack of water and waterflow in the lower Apalachicola River System. The Tupelo tree depends on wetland, we forested areas. The tree needs water on its roots, specifically -- especially during springtime when it needs to bud out, and I've been on the river system my whole life. I was born here in Wewa, fished and worked on the river. My livelihood is pretty much always depending on river system. What i've seen is a lot of Tupelo trees that used to be there are gone. They've died out because of the lack of water. I see wetland that used to be wet that's dry. Upland trees, hardwoods and other types of trees have encroached into areas where it used to be Tupelo trees. The Tupelo can't survive there any longer, because there's no water there.

Basically, we have a lack of water flow in the river system, and until we get enough water flow back into the system, we are going to continue to see certain forested areas disappear, certain species of tree disappear, and I read a report just this morning that stated 44 percent of Ogeche Tupelo is gone, disappeared, died off so that concerns me. I see fish habitat destroyed. The fish in the river system, they are just not there anymore, not like it used to be. The whole contour of the river system is changed. It's straighter than it used to be. There's more sandbars than there used to be. The back water sloughs that used to be there are gone. There's no water in the them where there used to be water in them year round. They are gone. That's fish habitat, wildlife habitat.

Comment ID: 87
Author Name: Charles Chapman
Organization:

Bottom line is we need more flow. The river is down and the bay is affected. The study you propose should solidify this with scientific fact. With low flows we have less hydropower and less water to counter balance the salinity of the upstream river near Chattahoochee. Point in case, bull sharks were recently seen and documented near the Jim Woodruff Dam. Understanding this is not uncommon for bull sharks in the genetic makeup, however, this is discussion worthy.

Comment ID: 250
Author Name: Rich Gibson
Organization:

I have two children under seven (7) years old and I am concerned about water quality during periods of low lake levels. Last year, the West Point Lake dropped close to Dead Pool. This creates less dilution and thus requires additional chemical treatment. I am concerned about my children having to drink this type water.

Water Quality Monitoring - Dischargers (Monitoring)

Comment ID: 209
Author Name: Lee Bedingfield
Organization:

Metro Atlanta is vital to the states economy but they have to be in compliance with their release BOD/COD levels. Instead of maintaining a minimum flow upstream to account for wastewater permit violations there should be either stiffer fines or take a stronger legal approach.

Comment ID: 249
Author Name: Alan E Trainer
Organization:

The city of Atlanta needs to be monitored very closely for the release of untreated wastewater into the ACF system.

Comment ID: 486
Author Name: Jim & Judy Foster
Organization:

Extra monitoring of withdrawals to avoid the mistakes!

Wastewater Infrastructure (Infrastructure and Utilities)

Comment ID: 185
Author Name:
Organization:

THE CITY OF LAGRANGE HAS MANY DEVELOPMENTS ON WEST POINT LAKE THAT DO NOT HAVE SEWERS. I FEEL THIS IS A TRAVESTY.

ALSO LANDFILLS MUST NOT BE ALLOWED TO LEECH INTO ANY OF THE LAKES WHERE PEOPLE FISH AND EAT THOSE FISH, OTHER LIKE TO SWIM AND ENJOY PICNICS ON THE SHORE.

Comment ID: 399
Author Name: Jane Browder
Organization: lake property owner

Atlanta must rebuild their infrastructure and become part of this solution instead of using Lanier as their big flush.

Comment ID: 530
Author Name: Lisa H. Howell
Organization:

- Address issues with City of Cumming releasing water into Lake Lanier from their Water Treatment plant. This has become a major siltation issue in the past several years and has caused our cove to lose over 6 feet of water (gaining 6ft of silt). (GA 400 Bridge / Bald Ridge area)

Real Time Monitoring at Peachtree Creek (Monitoring)

Comment ID: 804
Author Name:
Organization:

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 first 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: 806
Author Name:
Organization:

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.

Effects of Population Growth (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 196
Author Name: Matthew walker
Organization:

1) water quality- as the population continues to increase throughout the region and existing waste treatment facilities age, it is putting increased pressure on the quality of the downstream stakeholders. Maintaining a minimum flow for water quality can be also addressed by increasing the water quality released by the waste water plants discharging into the river. To simply fine the municipality is not enough. More must be done to insure that all of the downstream stakeholders

are taken care of.

Industrial Discharges (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 47
Author Name: Mike Godfrey
Organization:

The Corps must provide 2,000 cfs minimum flow at Columbia, Alabama. Southern Nuclear defines a flow of 2,000 cfs and river elevation of 74.5 feet mean sea level ("ft MSL") as the minimum conditions necessary for long-tenn operation of Plant Farley. While Plant Farley can operate for short periods (a few days) with flow below 2,000 cfs, extended operation at lower flow would require detailed evaluation to determine the potential environmental and operational impacts. Generally, Plant Farley operates with a river elevation between 76 and 78 ft MSL. Operation below 74.5 ft MSL also would require detailed evaluation to determine the potential environmental and operational impacts. Other industrial facilities on the Chattahoochee River, including those of MeadWestvaco and Georgia Pacific, also require the same conditions to meet their applicable water quality standards. Plant Farley's discharge is limited by a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Permit issued by the Alabama Department of Environmental Management. That permit contains limits and requirements to ensure the thermal discharge and chemical constituents in the effluent meet applicable water quality standards. At 2,000 cfs flowing past Plant Farley (i.e., going through Andrews Lock and Dam), there are no significant adverse thermal or chemical impacts resulting from Plant Farley's discharge. Plant Farley also discharges small quantities of radioactive waste through the discharge line in strict compliance with regulations of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission ("NRC"). When flows are reduced below 2,000 cfs for extended periods, an evaluation of the impacts of that discharge is required by Southern Nuclear, state environmental agencies, and, potentially, the NRC.
The Final Environmental Impact Statement ("FEIS") of the Atomic Energy Commission for construction of Plant Farley at that site discussed the fact that the Corps would generally maintain an elevation of 76 ft MSL and flow of 2,000 cfs. FEIS Related to Construction of Joseph M. Farley Nuclear Plant Units 1 & 2, Alabama Power Company, II - 20 (June 1972). Thus, regulatory approval of the Plant Farley site was based on an assumption that the Corps would continue to maintain those parameters. The States of Alabama, Florida, and Georgia considered Plant Farley's requirements and those of other facilities on the Chattahoochee River during the interstate compact negotiations concerning a proposed Allocation Formula for the ACF River Basin. The three states signed a Memorandum of Agreement providing for a minimum daily flow of 2,000 cfs below George W. Andrews Lock and Dam, just above Plant Farley.
The Corps has also recognized the need for flow of 2,000 cfs at Columbia, Alabama. For example, the Walter F. George Reservoir Regulation Manual specifically recognizes that Plant Farley and other industries require adequate flows and elevations for their operations and downstream water quality as follows: Among the industrial users are two paper company facilities and one nuclear power plant. Mead Paper Company, at the headwaters of W.F. George Lake, and the Georgia Pacific Corporation, in the headwaters of Lake Seminole, withdraw water for processes used in the manufacturing of wood products. These companies must also meet special water quality requirements for discharge that are based on a combination of dissolved oxygen and flow in the river. The Alabama Power Company's Farley Nuclear Power Plant is located on the Chattahoochee River downstream from Columbia, Alabama. The plant has an intake structure that provides cooling water for its nuclear fuel, and is dependent upon a river-stage above 76 feet MSL for safe operation. Apalachicola River Basin Reservoir Regulation Manual, Appendix C, Walter F. George Dam at C-13 (Feb. 1993). Plant Farley and the other industrial facilities in the region make a major contribution to the regional economy of southeastern Alabama and southwestern Georgia. Flows of 2,000 cfs at Columbia, Alabama, are critical for the continued safe and reliable operation of those facilities. Therefore, Southern Nuclear urges the Corps to ensure its manual revisions clearly provide for the continuation of flows at that level.

Maintain Existing Minimum flows (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 60
Author Name: Denesia Cheek
Organization: National Park Service

The NPS has express concerns in regards to any decision to reduce flows at Peachtree Creek less than 750cfs as a meaningful threshold for preserving water quality and biological health in the river. Historical research indicates that 750cfs provides a better support for recreation and resources than would lower flows. As a federal land management agency responsible for managing a significant percentage of the Chattahoochee River, NPS continues to recommend an instantaneous flow of 750cfs at Peachtree Creek under drought conditions needed to protect resources (fish, wildlife, and recreation) within the Chattahoochee park unit.

Effect of RIOP on Water Quality (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 67
Author Name: Jeff Lukken
Organization: Mayor of LaGrange

At the same time adequate testing and study of the impacts on water quality at West Point associated with lOP an d RlOP operations were never completed. There was no "in depth" assessment of how the implementation of these two operating plans would affect water quality and maintain the Corps in compliance with the Clean Water Act. IOP and RIOP. All indication are that during the initial implementation of the lOP and RIOP that Water Quality was compromised as a result of the improper implementation of these two operating plan modifications. The further use of the plans, without adequate study and science to ascertain they are not damaging water quality or the ecosystem on West Point Lake is a critical action that can not be avoided by the Corps, in current operations or under proposed changes to the WCM.

TMDLs (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 6
Author Name: Heinz J. Mueller
Organization: EPA

The Mobile District should address and fully document the effects of the proposed action(s) on water quality. Effects on Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) implementation (in reaches where TMDLs have been approved) and impaired waters should be fully addressed. EPA recommends that the updated ACF Water Control Manual include information on the impairment status (303d List and 305b report) and TMDLs of all ACF system waterbodies.

Secondary Effects (Water Quality)

Comment ID: 6
Author Name: Heinz J. Mueller
Organization: EPA

The EIS should include a discussion on secondary effects (actions that happen later in time) on major water chemical, physical, and biological characteristics. The discussion on the chemical characteristics could relate both the water velocity and volumes to, at least, temperature, dissolved oxygen, and conductivity. Detailed discussions on major physical characteristics could include frequency of riparian habitat inundation, and distribution or re-distribution of sediment particles based on sediment particles and flow energy (size/load related to velocity), and maintenance of benthic habitat.