

Appendix F2

Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns



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List of Acronyms

Corps	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
DEIS	Draft Environmental Impact Statement
EIS	Environmental Impact Statement
FEIS	Final Environmental Impact Statement
FERC	Federal Energy Regulatory Commission
ROS	Reservoir Operations Study
TVA	Tennessee Valley Authority

F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Most of the public comments simply voiced support for or objections to one or more alternatives. Typically, reasons were also given for the stated positions. This type of comment is referred to as “voting” for or against alternatives. Such comments have unique value in a study and process of this kind because they provide expressions of value or preferences. The actual number of commenters supporting or opposing specific alternatives (or raising discrete issues), however, has less importance. By the very nature of Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) processes, commenters are self-selected and they do not necessarily reflect the values of the public at large. No matter how extensive the effort made by federal agencies to obtain the broadest possible public involvement in their decisions and EIS processes, only a relatively small number of individuals choose to participate. Recognizing this, TVA strives to be guided by the substance of comments rather than the number of comments.

While voting comments were considered in completing this EIS and formulating the Preferred Alternative, they do not require a substantive response from TVA. The responses to such comments simply acknowledge that we have received them and counted them. Although most of the comments were of this nature, it is noteworthy that when voting for specific alternatives, many people recognized that trade-offs are involved in how TVA “spends” the water in its reservoir system. Even individuals with strong views about certain alternatives frequently qualified their support by stating that they did not want TVA to implement their chosen alternative in ways that would worsen water quality or increase flood risk. When formulating the Preferred Alternative, TVA took these concerns into consideration.

Similar to comments received during scoping, a large number of commenters expressed preferences for alternatives that improved recreation—either on the reservoirs or below dams in the tailwaters. A large number of commenters supported actions that would afford greater environmental protection of reservoir system natural resources, especially water quality. A smaller number of individuals endorsed the Base Case, as did most of the commenting agencies.

F2.1 Environmental Review Process and Public Involvement

EIS and Public Involvement

Summary of Comments

Of those who commented on the EIS process, 34 individuals expressed their appreciation for TVA’s efforts in considering the views of the public and 20 individuals complimented the agency on its efforts in undertaking the study and developing the EIS. Five individuals questioned whether TVA would really change its policy, two others thought that the information and alternatives presented were overly complicated and biased, and two thought that there was not enough time to fully understand all the information provided.

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Commenters

Barbara A. Walton, Oak Ridge, TN
Beth Carey, Woodstock, GA
Bill Parker, Blairsville, GA
Bob Garrison, Blairsville, GA
Bob Graham, Harrison, TN
Brian L. Thomas, Hiwassee, GA
Bruce and Emma Anderson, Talbott, TN
Bruce M. Proske, Sr., Murphy, NC
Carolyn Lakes, Bean Station, TN
Charles and Kristie Wallis, Sevierville, TN
Chip Miller, Hixson, TN
Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN
David Trotter, D.D.S., Sevierville, TN
Dan Owens, Woodstock, GA
Diane Layton, Dandridge, TN
Erik Brinke, Murphy, NC
Franklin D. Brown, Bristol, TN
Gary and Myran Rosenbalm, Seymour, TN
Gary Hauser, Knoxville, TN
John Honey, Dandridge, TN
John S. McClellan, Dandridge, TN
Juanita Phillips, Paducah, KY
Kathy Pearce, Cumming, GA
Kevin M. McCarthy, Peachtree City, GA
Larry Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Linda Wingo, Blairsville, GA

Marianne O. Hatchett, Hayesville, NC
Marilyn Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Mickey Carter, Knoxville TN
Mike Harris, Knoxville, TN
Mr. and Mrs. Schaffer
Norman K. Owen, Murphy, NC
Paul Morris, Benton, KY
Ray Murphy, Dandridge, TN
Robert E. Craig, Decatur, AL
Robert MacDonald, Baneberry, TN
Roger Gant, Corinth, MS
Scott Davis, Executive Director, Tennessee Chapter of The Nature Conservancy, Nashville, TN
Steve and Becky Mishket, Dandridge, TN
Susan Kuehl, Dandridge, TN
Terry Peters, Elizabethton, TN
Thomas H. Hollingsworth, Rogersville, AL
Thomas L. Parker, Murphy, NC
Tim Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Tom Fitzgerald
Richard C. "Dick" Crawford, President & CEO, TVPPA, Chattanooga, TN
Vincent L. and June D. Greaves, Blairsville, GA
W. G. Cahoon, Dandridge, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TVA appreciates the feedback on its efforts in conducting the study, producing the EIS, and involving the public in the process.

Operating Priorities

Flood Control

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who commented on flood control indicated that, as it has historically, flood control should continue to be TVA's number one priority. Several individuals mentioned the critical importance of flood control to the region and its economy. A number of individuals expressed surprise that TVA would consider options that increase flood risk in order for a few people in the region to participate in recreation activities. One individual acknowledged that flood control is critical, but that there will always be flood risk to those who choose to live within the floodplain. Other comments provided on flood control are listed below.

- Flood damage is long-lasting, and emotionally and financially burdensome.
- Flood control should not be compromised for recreation benefits.

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- The purpose of dams in general is for the protection of people and their livelihoods downstream.
- Protection of human life is paramount.
- Many jobs, family farms, and billions of dollars of economic activity depend on reliable flood control.
- Flood control has critical impacts on navigation, a clean water supply, sustainable economic development, agriculture, and recreation.
- It is imperative that no restriction be placed on TVA concerning reservoir levels.
- No alternative should be considered that increases flood damages; some additional flood risk could be accommodated, while avoiding property damage.
- With increased development, proliferation of litigation, and selective memories on what a floodplain means, there is a need to preserve or even improve the ability to protect properties.
- Stop flooding or pay us for what we lose.
- Recreation for some is not worth the flood risk to the many downstream.

Commenters

Anonymous (2)

Ben Robinson, Rogersville, AL

Betty M. Fulwood, Corinth, MS

*Caruthersville Marine Service, Inc,
Caruthersville, MO*

Charles Robinson, Morristown, TN

Clifford J. Rabalais, Counce, TN

Clinton Horton, Benton, KY

David Madison, Caruthersville, MO

*Dean and Mary Jane Heavener, Chattanooga,
TN*

Doug Goodman, Hickman, KY

Douglas Lawler, Abingdon, VA

Glenn Howell, Fulton, KY

Gwen Thomas, Morristown, TN

Jack C. Cole, Abingdom, VA

Jerri Mitchell, Abingdom, VA

Jim L. Collins, Decatur, AL

Jimmy and Amy Owens, Dandridge, TN

Jimmy W. Peoples, Talbott, TN

Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN

John W. Musser, Soddy Daisy, TN

John Ashe, Hayesville, NC

Daryl Carpenter

Lane Marte, Decatur, AL

Marianne T. Helton, Chattanooga, TN

Mark Seaton, Eva, TN

Mark Wiggins, Cordova, TN

Michael Sledjeski, Del Rio, TN

Mike, Huntsville, AL

Mike Harriss, Knoxville, TN

Mike Major, Hickman, KY

Paul Howell, Selmer TN

Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN

Robert A. Lamm, Hiawassee, GA

Ron Boyd, Athens, AL

Stephen L. Kever, Chattanooga, TN

Suzie Reed, Louisville, TN

*The Honorable Zach Wamp, U.S. House of
Representatives, Washington, DC*

Thomas L. Parker, Murphy, NC

*Richard C. "Dick" Crawford, President & CEO,
TVPPA, Chattanooga, TN*

W. L. Panter, Soddy Daisy, TN

Walter E. Flood, Friendsville, TN

Wendell Choate, East Prairie, MI

Winona and Hilton Tunnell, Powell, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Section 9a of the TVA Act establishes the priorities for operation of the TVA reservoir system. The primary priorities are navigation, flood control, and the generation of power. Consistent with meeting those priorities, TVA also operates the system to meet other goals such as water quality and recreation. Under the Preferred Alternative, potential damages from flood events with less than a 500-year frequency are lower than under the other action alternatives and essentially the same as under the Base Case.

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Power Generation

Summary of Comments

Comments about power generation as a priority indicated that it should be TVA's second priority after flood control, that cheap electricity was a primary purpose of TVA—along with flood control, and that power rates should not increase. Several people mentioned that the entire TVA customer base should not be penalized with higher generating costs in order to satisfy a small number of landowners in the upper reservoirs, who knew the drawdown schedules when their property was purchased.

Commenters

*Ben Robinson, Rogersville, AL
Betty M. Fulwood, Corinth, MS
David Cook, Blairsville, GA
Doug Goodman, Hickman, KY*

*Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN
Suzie Reed, Louisville, TN
Terry C. Smith, Killen, AL
Winona and Hilton Tunnell, Powell, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TVA formulated its Preferred Alternative to reduce potential cost impacts on power generation; however, increased costs could not be entirely eliminated.

Water Quality and Water Supply

Summary of Comments

Individuals who commented on water quality and water supply as a priority identified these issues as their major concerns. They did not want to see any changes that would degrade water quality or affect water supply—most to the extent that they supported making no changes to the existing policy, which effectively is the Base Case.

Commenters

*Alice Russell, Hayesville, NC
Angela Boyda, Abingdon, VA
Anonymous
Betty M. Fulwood, Corinth, MS
Charlotte E. Lackey, for WNC Group, NC
Chapter, Sierra Club, Asheville, NC
Dean and Mary Jane Heavener, Chattanooga, TN
Don A. Brown
Herbert and Lois Hill, Cherokee, AL*

*Jane A. Rowe, Decatur, AL
Jean Prater, Athens, AL
John Allen Moore, Hayesville, NC
John J. Ross, Savannah, TN
Katie Dalton, Corinth, MS
Linda Coons, Decatur Athens, AL
Stephen L. Keever, Chattanooga, TN
Steven J. Milcheck, Mooresburg, TN
Terry Sisk, Gray, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Good water quality is an important public value. TVA carefully studied and considered water quality as it developed alternatives and created the Preferred Alternative. TVA formulated the Preferred Alternative to avoid or reduce impacts that would substantially degrade water quality and, in fact, to enhance water quality at certain locations. However, given the inherent uncertainties with any environmental analyses, TVA has identified monitoring and mitigation measures that would help offset potential adverse impacts on water quality should they occur.

Recreation

Summary of Comments

Individuals who commented on recreation as a priority indicated that they wanted TVA to give it a higher priority than in the past for in decisions about water levels. A number thought that recreation should be second in priority to flood control. One individual noted that it should not be given priority over protection of the environment, especially water quality and aquatic habitat protection.

Commenters

*Barbara Cavagnini, Dandridge, TN
Bob Harrell, Dalton, GA
Carol McKee, Dandridge, TN
Chris Offen, Blairsville, GA
Edwin D. Breland, Jr., Rogersville, AL
Ivey Wingo, Blairsville, GA
Jeff Ramsey, Kodak, TN*

*Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN
John J. Ross, Savannah, TN
Kevin Abel, Abingdon, VA
Marianne T. Helton, Chattanooga, TN
Michael P. Van Winkle, Clarkesville, GA
Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN
Steven J. Milcheck, Mooresburg, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

One of the driving issues that prompted the Reservoir Operations Study (ROS) was stakeholder concerns about the summer drawdowns and the resulting adverse impact on recreation. TVA developed the Preferred Alternative in the Final EIS (FEIS) to reduce flood damage to acceptable levels, while preserving increased opportunities for recreation and reducing impacts on other objectives.

Changes to the EIS

Summary of Comments

Several individuals suggested changes to the Draft EIS (DEIS). Specific comments regarding resource issues are addressed in Appendices F3 and F4. The more general comments and those including the Executive Summary were:

- Make the document less complicated.
- Table ES-01 – highlight flood risk.

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- Table ES-02 - errors in using [brackets] for negative numbers in gross regional product and employment (3).
- Cite information as a range of values, including error terms, variances, and other sources of uncertainty.
- Use one description for current operations—Base Case, no-policy alternative, or no-action alternative.
- Use scientific data in the determination of which alternative to use.
- Provide site-specific spatial and temporal information concerning projected water elevations and releases for each reservoir and associated tailwater for all alternatives.
- Clarify the difference in information presented in material entitled "Weighing the Alternatives" containing charts listing Base Case and seven policy alternatives—as distributed in color handouts and as part of the video—and the same document presented on the TVA web site.
- Include charts that represent drawdown dates and summer pool dates compared to Base Case (4).
- Include copies of curves used at workshops to show different alternatives.
- Graphically depicted impacts of each alternative on lake levels could be in the handouts and supporting materials. It can be challenging to determine what the impact of each alternative is predicted to be on lake levels.
- Explain how the identified objectives were ranked.
- Further delineate the summary of projected impacts (i.e., explain better what is meant by “slightly adverse” or “beneficial”).

Commenters

Barbara A. Walton, Oak Ridge, TN
Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN
David Slagle, Hayesville, NC
Janice L. Jones, Executive Director, Tennessee
River Valley Association, Decatur, AL
Jim L. Collins, Decatur, AL

John De Freitas, Gilbertsville, KY
Robert MacDonald, Baneberry, TN
Valerie Smith, Chattanooga, TN
W. H. Cross, Hiawassee, GA
W. L. Panter, Soddy Daisy, TN
John Defratsu

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The text has been changed to correct these errors. As suggested, Appendix C provides copies of elevation probability plots along with flood guide curves for tributary reservoirs, operating guide curves for mainstem reservoirs for the Base Case and the Preferred Alternative, and elevation data and box plots for all alternatives.

Communications

Summary of Comments

Several individuals requested that TVA provide early or daily notification through the media of projected changes in reservoir levels to prevent their boats from being stranded and docks from being damaged:

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- Provide notification of when you plan to drop the water level (i.e., earlier than is presently done).
- Provide projected reservoir water level fluctuations on radio, weather channel, and/or internet on a daily basis (4).
- Provide advance storm warnings for major storm events if Alternative A is selected.

Commenters

Anonymous

Bob Holdman, Gilbertsville, KY

Clay Wright Rock Island, TN

Charles Wallis, Sevierville, TN

Greg Batts, Cadiz, KY

L. Sean Mullins, Bristol, TN

Mike Kelley, Savannah, TN

Roy Baker, Eddyville, KY

Sandy Roberson, Abingdon, TN

William Schneider

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Water release schedules and reservoir system data are routinely posted on TVA's external web site and also accessible via TVA's toll-free reservoir information phone line. Storm notification is provided by the U.S. Weather Service.

F2.2 Alternatives

Base Case

Support for Base Case

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments supporting the Base Case thought that the changes proposed under the action alternatives would deprive migratory shorebirds and wading birds of critical habitat, and result in other unacceptable impacts. Several individuals thought that the existing system, as defined by the Base Case, works well and accomplishes the primary purposes for which the system was constructed: flood control, commercial navigation, and power generation. Furthermore, several individuals thought the system should be managed to address the overall needs of the people of the region and not just the needs of a select few. The comments that supported the Base Case are summarized below.

BALANCED APPROACH

- Balances well all constraints on the system.
- Benefits of recreation alternatives will never outweigh adverse effects on flood control, water quality, and power supply.
- Meets the needs of all users, including recreation, barge traffic, power generation, and economic development; and reduces the risk of flooding to valuable wildlife habitat along the Tennessee River system.
- All other alternatives have too high a cost or too negative an impact on the environment.
- Why do we look at extended levels when benefits accrue to a few?

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ENVIRONMENTAL CONCERNS

- Creates great habitat for migratory shorebirds, including flats and sandbars that sandhill cranes rely on for roosting and feeding.
- Action alternatives are detrimental to plant life, as well as nesting grounds for many aquatic birds.
- Maintains high fish productivity.
- Protects water quality and electricity production over needs of recreation.
- Protects water supply.
- Avoids degradation of both state and federal major game and non-game wildlife areas.
- Changing reservoir levels would negatively affect a wide variety of resources, ranging from shoreline habitat loss to flooding of wetlands and farmland along the Tennessee River, especially on Kentucky Reservoir.
- Longer levels would increase the use of fossil-fueled generation.

RECREATION

- The existing reservoir system provides prime bird-watching habitat.

ECONOMIC

- Is the least expensive.
- A 9-foot navigation channel is adequate.

FLOOD CONTROL

- Reduces flooding.

Commenters

Alfred Denny, Oak Ridge, TN
Anonymous (6)
Anonymous, Chattanooga, TN (2)
Anthony Morris, Muscle Shoals, AL
Barbara G. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN
Barbara A. Walton, Oak Ridge, TN
Barron Crawford, Paris, TN
Benny Thatcher, Knoxville, TN
Bettie Mason, Knoxville, TN
Bill Sullivan, Knoxville, TN
Brenda Cummings, Huntsville, AL
Brian Sullivan, Bristol, VA
Bunny Johns, Chair, Swain County Economic Development Commission, Bryson City, NC
C. Terry Wallace, President, Decatur-Morgan County Convention and Visitors Bureau, Decatur, AL
Carole Gobert, Knoxville, TN
Charles, Maryville, TN
Christine Liberto
City of Guntersville Alabama
Clayton Ferrell, New Johnsonville, TN
Clifford J. Rabalais, Counce, TN
Cynthia Mitchell, Clarksdale, MS
Dan Feather, Nashville, TN
Dan Fuqua, Paris, TN

Jim Garner, Madison, MS
John Taylor, Springville, TN
John W. Musser, Soddy Daisy, TN
Juanita Phillips, Paducah, KY
Junior Miller, Honaker, VA
Karen Schultz, Louisville, TN
Karl Forsbach, Jr., Savannah, TN
Katie Dalton, Corinth, MS
Ken Shepard, Kingston, TN
Kenneth Dickerson, Paducah, KY
Larry Waters, County Mayor, Sevier County, TN
Leslie J. Gibbens, Del Rio, TN
Linda Coons, Decatur Athens, AL
M. Stroup, Newport, TN
Marian Fitzgerald, Maryville, TN
Marvin and Lili Scott, Chattanooga, TN
Mary Stevens, Jackson, MS
Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN
Michael Smith, Ballatin, TN
Michael Sylva Sledjeski, Del Rio, TN
Mike H. Eddings, Jr., Blairsville, GA
Mike Kelley, Savannah, TN
Mike Major, Hickman, KY
Michael Todd, McKenzie, TN
Monte Doran, Savannah, TN

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

David A. Aborn, Ph.D, Chattanooga, TN
David Cook, Blairsville, GA
David Vogt, Chattanooga, TN
Debbie Blackwelder, Savannah, TN
Dennis Bain, Savannah, TN
Don Waldon, Columbus, MS
Donald Blackwelder, Savannah, TN
Doris and Richard Wheeler, Blairsville
Dr. K. Dean Edwards, Knoxville, TN
Dwight Cooley, Athens, AL
Earl Nyman, Abingdon, VA
Elizabeth Wilkinson-Singley, Kingston, TN
Gary Hauser, Knoxville, TN
Gaynell Thomas, Del Rio, TN
Guy Larry Osborne, Jefferson City, TN
H Ray Threlkeld, Loudon, TN
Holly Jones, Knoxville, TN
Howard Lowden, Rome, GA
J. Don Burgess, Killen, AL
James Brooks, Jonesborough, TN
James W. Elliott, Jr., Bristol, TN
Jason P. Smith, Blairsville, GA
Jay Desgrosellier, Nashville, TN
Jerry Hadder, Oak Ridge, TN
Jim Carpenter, Knoxville, TN

Richard Vornehm, Knoxville, TN
Richard Connors, Nashville, TN
Richard Holland, Env. Mgr., Counce, TN
Robert Wheat, Paris, TN
Roger Gant, Corinth, MS
Roger W. Hill, Jr., Blairsville, GA
Roseanna Denton, Science Hill, KY
Ruth Pullen
Stanley L. McClellan, Hartselle, AL
Stephen L. Keever, Chattanooga, TN
Steve McCadams, Paris, TN
Suzie Reed, Louisville, TN
Terry C. Smith, Killen, AL
Thomas L. Parker, Murphy, NC
Tony E. Branan, Hiwassee, GA
W.L. Panter, Soddy Daisy, TN
Walter E. Flood, Friendsville, TN
Wendell Choate, East Prairie, MI
William Dearing, Chattanooga, TN
William DeLoch
William H. Dyer, Paducah, KY
William L. Hoover, Naples, FL
Charles Muise
Noreen Kenny
Jim Crigger, Knoxville, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TVA's Preferred Alternative was formulated in part to address these recommendations and concerns.

Opposed to Base Case

Summary of Comments

The majority of individuals who opposed TVA continuing to operate the system as it has been in the past indicated that the Base Case is not acceptable or needs to be changed. A limited number of those opposing the Base Case provided a reason for doing so. Typical reasons are given below.

MANAGEMENT APPROACH

- Needs to be abandoned for better ways to spend the water.
- Outdated and needs to be changed.
- Flats and mud holes are detrimental to TVA's and East Tennessee's image.
- Detrimental to overall economic activity.
- Creates erosion.
- Not a good alternative for South Holston.

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RECREATION USE

- Diminishes recreation use and enjoyment during the peak summer period.
- Needs to be changed to enhance recreational opportunities and beauty of tributary reservoirs.

Commenters

*Angela Yates, Abingdon, VA
Carolyn Varner, Ocala, FL
Chris Offen, Blairsville, GA
Christine M. Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Curtis E. Johnson
Dalie T. Thomas, Bristol, TN
Dean Henderson, Richlands, VA
Doug Triestram, Blairsville, GA
Doyle and Pat Ricks, Memphis, TN
Greg Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Harold L. Oliver, Marietta, GA
Jeff Blankenship, Cedar Bluff, VA
Jeff Ramsey, Kodak, TN
Jimmy and Amy Owens, Dandridge, TN
Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN
John W. Musser, Soddy Daisy, TN
Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA*

*Kathy Mesmer, Oak Ridge, TN
Marjorie C. Wintermute, Blairsville, GA
Marti Steffen, Dandridge, TN
Mary M. Johnson, Bristol, VA
Michael A. O'Brien, Kennesaw, GA
Richard Wagner, Blairsville, GA
Robert O. Bruce, Bristol, TN
Roger Williams, Knoxville, TN
Ron Toney, Cedar Bluff, VA
S. Dean Yates, Abingdon, VA
Sandy Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Taulbee Lester, Honaker, VA
Teddy Murrell, Sevierville, TN
Theresa Toney, Cedar Bluff, VA
Thomas Carey, Woodstock, GA
Tom A. Yates, Bristol, VA
Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TVA's Preferred Alternative was formulated in part with these comments in mind.

Reservoir Recreation Alternative A

Support for Reservoir Recreation Alternative A

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who commented on the reservoir operations policy alternatives endorsed Reservoir Recreation Alternative A (extending tributary and mainstem summer pool levels to Labor Day, increasing and limiting minimum flow releases to 25,000 cfs August 1 to Labor Day, raising tributary winter flood guides equal to Base Case March 15 levels, and raising main river winter flood guides by 2 feet with a 1-foot operating range). The reasons most widely cited by almost 800 individuals supporting this alternative are listed below.

PROVIDES A BALANCED APPROACH

- Provides an excellent balance of competing factors for reservoir operations and a substantial improvement to lake levels—both in summer and winter—without major impacts to those downstream.
- Provides an excellent compromise, giving consideration to flood control, power generation, water supply, and the environment, as well as recreation.

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- Provides flood control and hydropower, while still giving the public a full summer use of the reservoirs.
- Benefits the most people in the TVA system with the least negative impacts.
- Best fits the overall needs of our community and surrounding property owners.
- Fairest of the alternatives that were presented.

INCREASES RECREATION VALUE AND USE

- Places a higher priority on recreation.
- Provides recreational users of the reservoirs maximum benefit of facilities.
- Improves recreation opportunities year-round while minimizing impacts on safety, economic and environmental concerns.
- Provides a longer period of recreation opportunities for both residents and visitors.
- Gives boaters more recreational time in summer and fall.
- Increases season for fishing, boating and other water sports.

SCENIC BEAUTY

- Improves aesthetics of area and region.
- Rivers and lakes provide a place to relax from ever-increasing stress levels of work.
- Eliminates flats.
- Improves the looks of the lake during winter months.
- Leaves reservoir at a fairly good place.

ENVIRONMENTAL BENEFITS

- Offers the least undesirable impacts—less adverse impacts on flood control, water, fish, and aquatic vegetation.
- Helps fish and improves aquatic life and water quality.
- Satisfies the need for flood control, even though flooding could be increased.
- Reduces shoreline erosion.
- Solves some of the problems created by the Base Case.
- Increases economic benefits.
- Benefits local and surrounding businesses, including everyone in the real estate business.
- Increases property value and development—enhancing the tax base.
- Increases revenue for local area with minimal effects.
- Benefits local communities, counties, the region, and TVA.
- Benefits tourism of the area, extends tourist season, and generates more income from tourism.
- Stimulates investment to encourage economic growth.
- Keeps folk in county and region, rather than having them move elsewhere.
- Allows for more jobs and navigational benefits.
- Allows hydropower units to operate more efficiently.
- Eliminates choke points on main river for navigation.
- Reduces damage to boat docks and marinas.
- Relieves political pressure to make recreation a primary purpose for the TVA lakes and rivers.

USE OF PROPERTY

- Allows use of boats and dock until Labor Day.
- Produces greater return on investments.

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- Increases usage of facilities.
- Reduces navigation hazards.

Commenters

Anonymous (14)

Anonymous, Blairsville, GA (18)
A. G. Sherman, Blairsville, GA
A. Hurn, Atlanta, GA
Alberta Bavis, Blairsville, GA
Alice Russell, Hayesville, NC
Aline Hail, Gilbertsville, KY
Allan Nelson, Atlanta, GA
Amy Stevenson, Blairsville, GA
Andrew Atkins, Morristown, TN
Andrew Drkae, Atlanta, GA
Andrew Fogle, Madison, AL
Andy and Jocelyn Kutler
Andy Williams, Blairsville, GA
Angela Yates, Abingdon, VA
Ann Bridges, Blairsville, GA
Ann R. Warner, Memphis, TN
Ann W. Roginsky, Blairsville, GA
Ann and Charles Wooten, Jr., Blairsville, GA
Anna Medlin, Smyrna, TN
Anne Gunderson, Marietta, GA
Anne Lee

Anonymous (18)

Anthony Lambert, Bristol, VA
Anthony Lester, Hanover, WV
Anthony Childress II, Abingdon, VA
Anthony Lagratta, Blairsville, GA
Arlene Gray, Blairsville, GA
Arlene Loesel, Blairsville, GA
Arline Hodgson, Blairsville, GA
Audrey Fincher, Mosheim, TN
Austin Foreman, Blairsville, GA
B. Gray Appleton, Hayesville, NC
Barbara Dean, Powder Springs, GA
Barbara Merriken, Dandridge, TN
Barbara Tigrett
Barron Crawford, Paris, TN
Barry & Lynn Varian, Blairsville, GA
Barry Hinkle, Bristol, TN
Ben Keeler
Ben Sharrett, Abingdon, VA
Beth Carey, Woodstock, GA
Betty Lavelle, Dandridge, TN
Betty Sullivan, Franklin, NC
Beverly Wooten, Blairsville, GA
Bill and Deborah Eisel
Bill Delashmutt, Dandridge, TN
Bill Harwood, Columbia, SC
Bill Herold, Hiawassee, GA
Bill Hintermister
Bill Pave, Blairsville, GA
Billie D. Elliott, Blairsville, GA

Kathryn A. Jones, Blairsville, GA
Kathryn Foreman, Blairsville, GA
Kay Elgin, Hendersonville, TN
Kelly and Bo Hairston
Kelly Larrison, Bristol, VA
Ken and Sandy Russell, Dandridge, TN
Ken Horton
Ken Newsome, Cumming, GA
Kenneth A. Turner
Kenneth Story, Pickwick Dam, TN
Kevin and Tracy Swain, Blairsville, GA
Kevin Miller, Bristol, VA
Kim Shipley, Hayesville, NC
Kirk Peterson, Woodstock, GA
Kristen N. Morgan, Marietta, GA
Kristen Yartz, Dandridge, TN
Kryssa Cooper, Alpharetta, GA
L. Ross Whatley III, M.D., Blairsville, GA
L. Sean Mullins, Bristol, TN
Lamar and Jackie Franklin, Blairsville, GA
Lamar Franklin, Blairsville, GA
Larry and Amelie Hagen, Blairsville, GA
Larry Johnson, Decatur, AL
Larry Mero, Blairsville, GA
Laurie Danko, Dandridge, TN
Lawrence Wright, Warner Robins, GA
Lawton Wofford, Hiawassee, GA
Leah Viersh, Vansant, VA
Lee and Betty Harrell, Rome, GA
Lee Ann Geisenhaver, Abingdon, VA
Lee S. Horne, Lebanon, VA
Leigh Ann Alexander, Atlanta, GA
Leon Bobo, Canton, GA
Leon Bryant, Dandridge, TN
Lesley Ann Wheeler, Blairsville, GA
Leslie Wickham, Hayesville, NC
Leslie Forthman, Hiawassee, GA
Leslie Leduc, Bradenton, FL
Leslie Shamblin, Dandridge, TN
Lester Deaver, Blairsville, GA
Lewis E. Blair, Morristown, TN
Lewis O'Donnell, Blairsville, GA
Lillian and R. K. Buchanan, St. Lucie, FL
Linda and Eldon Achbuger
Linda Bell, Hiawassee, GA
Linda Dale Squires, Dandridge, TN
Linda R. Witaker, Atlanta, GA
Linda Ray, Monroe, GA
Linda Wingo, Blairsville, GA
Lindsay Blackwell, Blairsville, GA
Lloyd and Holly Massman, Blairsville, GA
Lloyd V. Bible, Dandridge, TN

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Billy and Eva Dicker, Blairsville, GA
Billy Keaton, Bluff City, TN
Billy Payne, Blairsville, GA
Bob Anderson, Hiawassee, GA
Bob Dorman, Blairsville, GA
Bob Garrison, Blairsville, GA
Bob Harrell, Dalton, GA
Bob Lee, Dalton, GA
Bob Russum, Piney Flats, TN
Bobbie Davis, Dandridge, TN
Bobby Joe Dishner, Blountville, TN
Bobby Keene, Abingdon, VA
Bona Allen, Young Harris, GA
Brian and Lynn Batko
Brian Mazzei, Abingdon, VA
Brian Roberge, Lavergne, TN
Brian Thurman, Cherry Log, GA
Bruce Tuthill, Blairsville, GA
Bud Mcneal, Savannah, TN
C. P. Brindle, Crandall, GA
C. Vaughn Leslie, Dandridge, TN
Calisse Finchum, Newport, TN
Camille Little, Heyworth, IL
Candy Cox Ellis, Bristol, VA
Carl and Rebecca Foutz, Marietta, GA
Carl Hatfield, Dandridge, TN
Carol Kutzner, Hayesville, NC
Caroline Goins, Dandridge, TN
Carolyn Miller
Carolyn R. Clarkson, Blairsville, GA
Carolyn Varner, Ocala, FL
Cathleen and Bill Carpenter, Alexandria, TN
Cathy Cooper, Morristown, TN
Cecil G. Boland, Blairsville, GA
Chad and Kristi Lariscy, Blairsville, GA
Charles A. Goins, Dandridge, TN
Charles and Marylou Pentico, Blairsville, GA
Charles B. and Eileen Davis
Charles Butler, Powder Springs, GA
Charles E. Hulten, Blairsville, GA
Charles Hamilton, Blairsville, GA
Charles Wooten, Jr., Blairsville, GA
Charlie Davis, Blairsville, GA
Charlie Pollett, Blairsville, GA
Charlotte Israel
Charlotte Licata, Cherry Log, GA
Cheryl Askew, Dandridge, TN
Cheryl L. Prosak, Dandridge, TN
Cheryl S. Smith, Blairsville, GA
Chip Sparks, Abingdon, VA
Chris and Margaret Offen, Blairsville, GA
Chris McLean, Blairsville, GA
Chris Offen, Blairsville, GA
Chris Perkins, Florence, AL
Christine M. Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Cindy Pack, Blue Ridge, GA
Cindy Perry
Clarence and Patricia Ricketts, Blairsville, GA
Lowell Smith, Raven, VA
Loyd and Mona Prewitt, Seneca, SC
Luella Windham, Rutledge, TN
Lyndon and Laura Sidelinger, Roswell, GA
Lynn and Barry Varian, Blairsville, GA
Lynn and Donald Fountain, Blairsville, GA
Lynn Peterson, Blairsville, GA
M'liss and Stephen Miller, McMinnville, TN
Madeline Roose, Blairsville, GA
Mae Musick, Bristol, TN
Major M. Pounders, Abingdon, VA
Malcolm P. Cotton, Dandridge, TN
Marcus Fortier
Margaret H. Schramke, Blairsville, GA
Margaret L. McCamy, Hiawassee, GA
Margaret White, Dandridge, TN
Margy King, Dandridge, TN
Marie E. Geesa, Blairesville, GA
Mark and Melanie Midkiff, Roswell, GA
Mark Donahue, Blairsville, GA
Mark Heatherly, Sevierville, TN
Mark Patterson, Brentwood, TN
Mark Weddle, Marion, VA
Mark Wiggins, Cordova, TN
Marsh and Julia Freemyer, Marietta, GA
Marsha Dorta, Young Harris, GA
Martha Jarrard, Hiawassee, GA
Martha Sunyog, Blairsville, GA
Martin Milkman, Murray, KY
Marty Godfrey, Blairsville, GA
Mary and Herbert Arnold, Blairsville, GA
Mary Bondurant, Bristol, TN
Mary C. Cook, Bryson City, NC
Mary D. Milh, Blairsville, GA
Mary Dishner, Blountville, TN
Mary Hopper, Dandridge, TN
Mary Horne, Lebanon, VA
Mary Lou Stager, Blairsville, GA
Mary M. Johnson, Bristol, VA
Mary MacDonald, Baneberry, TN
Mary Twigg, Blairsville, GA
Matthew and Patti McIsaac, Blairsville, GA
Matthew Stricklin, Murfreesboro, TN
Matthews Gwynn, Blairsville, GA
John R. McCamy III, Charlotte, NC
Megan Peterson, Woodstock, GA
Melissa White
Mia Crowe, Blairsville, GA
Micah and Misty Garrison
Michael and Patricia Cole, Blairsville, GA
Michael and Evelyn Fink, Dandridge, TN
Michael Brock, Hiawassee, GA
Michael Gailey, Dunwoody, GA
Michael Guffey, Seymour, TN
Michael Mekas
Michael P. Van Winkle, Clarkesville, GA
Michael R. Adamson, Blairsville, GA
Michael Schutt, Blairsville, GA

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Claude D. Keaton, Dandridge, TN
Cliff Nelson, Hayesville, NC
Clyde Long, Blairsville, GA
Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN
Connie and Jim Varian, Blairsville, GA
Corrie Zylstra, Blairsville, GA
Craig and K.K. Wiseman, Rock Island, TN
Curtis E. Johnson
Dale Elliott, Blairsville, GA
Dale Hartsell, Newport, TN
Dalie T. Thomas, Bristol, TN
Dan Watson, Blairsville, GA
Dan and Sophia Brown, Blairsville, GA
Dan Kauffman, Ducktown, TN
Dan Meek, Kodak, TN
Dan Meek, Knoxville, TN
Daniel and Karen Malte
Daniel D. Phelan, Morganton, GA
Dave Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Dave Cooper, Alpharetta, GA
David and Melody Snidgrass, Brentwood, TN
David B. Smalley
David DeLong, Bryson City, NC
David E. Larson, Hayesville, NC
David Graves, Acworth, GA
David Herndon, Greeneville, TN
David J. Spacek, New Market, AL
David P. Montieth, Bryson City, NC
David R. Chrisman, New Market, TN
David Verble, Sevierville, TN
Dean Henderson, Richlands, VA
Dan Owens, Woodstock, GA
Deborah Austin, Morristown, TN
Debra Jensen, Young Harris, GA
Debra Williams, Morristown, TN
Denise Endsley, Snellville, GA
Dennie Stone, Blairsville, GA
Dennis Moorehead
Dewey Ragwell
Diana Swindel, Hiawassee, GA
Diane Daige
Diane Layton, Dandridge, TN
Diann Stone, Atlanta, GA
Dianna Mullins, Bristol, TN
Dick and Jane Soehnere
Dixie A. Cantley, Bluff City, TN
Don Barnette, McDonough, GA
Don W. Harrison, Blairsville, GA
Donald McGlynn, Hiawassee, GA
Donald E. Webb, Powder Springs, GA
Donald Hauber, Rock Island, TN
Donald Ruth, Hiawassee, GA
Donia R. Prada, Morristown, TN
Donna Corn
Dorothy D. Brock, Blairsville, GA
Dorothy D. Byrd, Blairsville, GA
Doug and Judy Leman, Blairsville, GA
Doug and Nancy Triestram, Blairsville, GA

Michelle Batko, Retired
Michelle K. Maloney, Blairsville, GA
Mickey Carter, Knoxville, TN
Mike Fishman, Morristown, TN
Mike Murphy, Hayesville, NC
Mike Perssley, Canton, NC
Miranda Burnett, Calvert City, KY
Molly Ann Zeuch
Mr. and Mrs. Gerald W. Might, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Kevin Smith, Marietta, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Smith, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. David W. King, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Don Lachman, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Haskel Drake, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Mark J. Versharm, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Davis, Blairsville, GA
Mr. Charles Arnold, Lawrenceville, GA
Mr. William J. Gray, Blairsville, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Joseph L. Johnson, Jr., Newport News, VA
Mrs. Darlene Helton
Mrs. Julia Freemyer, Marietta, GA
Mrs. Linda Hammond, Young Harris, GA
Muriel Jefferson, Blairsville, GA
Myron Engebretson, Marietta, GA
Myron Squires, Dandridge, TN
Nancy Frazier, Hayesville, NC
Nancy Triestram, Blairsville, GA
Neal D. Stone, Jr.
Neil and Ruby McCullough, Hiawassee, GA
Norman Cooper
Norman Kaye, Blue Ridge, GA
Norris Wood
Not Legible, Blairsville, GA
Paige Brown, Cumming, GA
Pam Mero, Blairsville, GA
Pamela Fairfax, Rock Island, TN
Pamela R. Brownhill, Blairsville, GA
Parmelle and Edwina Ward, Blairsville, GA
Pat and Deb Robinson, Clarkston, MI
Pat Davis, Dandridge, TN
Pat Unferth, Morristown, TN
Patricia L. Neubert, Hiawassee, GA
Patricia M. Karpick, Dandridge, TN
Patricia M. Smith, Blairsville, GA
Paul and Marcy Erwin
Paul Brownhill, Blairsville, GA
Paul Chapman, Russellville, TN
Paul Dumbacher, Huntsville, AL
Paul Gunderson, Marietta, GA
Paul Howell, Selmer, TN
Paul Morris, Benton, KY
Paul Tucker, Fernandina Beach, FL
Paul Williams, Atlanta, GA
Peg Flora
Peggy Ferguson, Hayesville, NC
Peggy Smith, Blairsville, GA
Penny and Al Caudill

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Doug Roe
Doug Triestram, Blairsville, GA
Douglas E. Bondurant, Bristol, TN
Douglas Lawler, Abingdon, VA
Doyle and Pat Ricks, Memphis, TN
Dr. Judy K. Campbell, Hiawasse, GA
Drew Danko, Dandridge, TN
Drucille J. Fox, Blairsville, GA
Dwayne and Antoinette Boudreaue
E. Bloom, Blairsville, GA
Earle Seaverns, Hayesville, NC
Ed Moore, Hiawasse, GA
Ed Prieto, Blairsville, GA
Ed Rains
Eddie Allen, Blairsville, GA
Edward and Mary Hoefs, Blairsville, GA
Edward Cozart, Abingdon, VA
Edward L. and Melissa F. Parrish, Walling, TN
Edward L. Hollen, Blairsville, GA
Edward MacDonald, Morganton, GA
Edwina Johnson, Atlanta, GA
Elaine Farris, Bristol, VA
Elizabeth Gunderson, Marietta, GA
Elizabeth Southers, Dunwoody, GA
Ellen C. Montieth, Bryson City, NC
Ellen Moore, Hiawasse, GA
Ellen Sullivan, Blairsville, GA
Elmer Simmons, Abingdon, VA
Eric J. Benz, Ormond Beach, FL
Ervell and Salena Arnold, Blairsville, GA
Eugene Beatty, Cumming, GA
Flake and June Hewett, Blairsville, GA
Floretta Campbell, Blairsville, GA
Floyd Abrams, Bristol, TN
Frank and Patricia Seidel, Blairsville, GA
Frank Howell, West Palm Beach, FL
Frank Pack, Blairsville, GA
Franklin D. Brown, Bristol, TN
Fred and Marie Geesa, Blairsville, GA
Fred Maloney, Blairsville, GA
Fred T. Necessary, Abingdon, VA
Frederic R. Guyonneau, Rosewell, GA
G. J. Ashworth, Hiawasse, GA
Gail Galloway, Knoxville, TN
Gail Poteet, Blairsville, GA
Gale and Anne Roberts, Dandridge, TN
Gary and Ruth Peitsch, Hiawasse, GA
Gary Sherrod, Knoxville, TN
Gary Silver, Atlanta, GA
George F. White, Cordele, GA
George Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
George Vonnoh, Blairsville, GA
George Ward, Dandridge, TN
Gerald and Aleta Richardson, Murfreesboro, TN
Gerald T. Burger, Blairsville, GA
Geraldine Phebus, Blairsville, GA
Gerldine Preston, McMinnville, TN
Gigi Garrett, Blue Ridge, GA
Penny F. Wilson, Canton, GA
Peter G. Ferre, Nashville, TN
Peter Reilly, Alpharetta, GA
Peter Robinson, Norcross, GA
Phil Fauver, Roswell, GA
Phillip Davis, Dandridge, TN
Phyllis Williamson
Phyllis J. Jones, Blairsville, GA
Phyllis Miller, Bristol, VA
Piper Solomon, Blairsville, GA
R Joseph, Dandridge, TN
R. Trent Sipsy
R. J. Hampton
Ralph Sheets, Abingdon, VA
Randy and Judy Reck, Nashville, TN
Randy Cress, Grayson, GA
Ray and Elsie Johnston, Blairsville, GA
Raymond G. Morris, Cartersville, GA
Rebecca St. John, Blairsville, GA
Regina Frisbey, Blairsville, GA
Reileen and Eugene Beatty, Blairsville, GA
Reileen Beatty, Cumming, GA
Renee Mason-Mazzei, Abingdon, VA
Rex Mallory, Bristol, VA
Rich Gilbert, Blairsville, GA
Richard and Janet Davis, Almont, MI
Richard and Lisa Nesz, Marietta, GA
Richard and Claire Sterline, New Concord, KY
Richard Bell, Blairsville, GA
Richard Burnell, Blairsville, GA
Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN
Richard Smith, Blue Ridge, GA
Richard Sullivan, Hayesville, NC
Richard T. Braun, Bowling Green, KY
Richard Wagner, Blairsville, GA
Rick and Judy Butler, Dandridge, TN
Rita Gunter, Blairsville, GA
Robert and Florence Campbell, Blairsville, GA
Robert and Jacquelyn Crupi, Dandridge, TN
Robert and Shelia Garrison, Blairsville, GA
Robert A. Lamm, Hiawasse, GA
Robert A. Rohde, Dandridge, TN
Robert and Mary Jane McGuire, Blairsville, GA
Robert Berlin, Bryson City, NC
Robert Bray, Murfreesboro, TN
Robert Canaan, Hiawasse, GA
Robert E. Craig, Decatur, AL
Robert E. Sanchez, Blairsville, GA
Robert J. Reynolds, Morristown, TN
Robert Kazmier, Roswell, GA
Robert M. Misdome, Blairsville, GA
Robert MacDonald, Baneberry, TN
Robert O. Bruce, Bristol, TN
Robert P. Gill, President, Blue Ridge Mountain
Chapter, Trout Unlimited
Robert P. Taylor, Hamlin, KY
Robert Pardue, Dandridge, TN
Robert Schaefer, Blairsville, GA

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Glen and Janet Withre, Blairsville, GA
Glen Boland, Blairsville, GA
Glenda B. Owens, Woodstock, GA
Glenn Jones, Bryson City, NC
Glenn L. Schuman, New Smyrna, FL
Grant Treiber, Blairsville, GA
Greg Robinson, Abingdon, VA
H. D. Windsor, Blairsville, GA
H. L. and P. J. Williams, Blairsville, GA
Hans and Wendy Tremel, Sharpsburg, GA
Harold J. Williams, Blairsville, GA
Harold L. Oliver, Marietta, GA
Harry E. Hodgson, Blairsville, GA
Harry Smith, Blairsville, GA
Harry Williams, Blairsville, GA
Harvey and Cindy Cohen, Blairsville, GA
Harvey and Wendy Holden, Blairsville, GA
Hattie Moon
Helen Hewitt, Knoxville, TN
Henry Glore, Blairsville, GA
Herman A. Moon
Howard C. Davis, Blairsville, GA
Howard Smrz, Young Harris, GA
Howard T. and Linda R. Sartain, Chattanooga,
TN
Howard W. Walters, Blairsville, GA
Hugh Newsom, Knoxville, TN
Ivey Wingo, Blairsville, GA
J. D. Smith, Doran, VA
J. C. Perry
J. Cathryn Christopher, Murray, KY
J. Dan Gladney, Lawrenceville, GA
J. Mike Alters
Jack and Mary Couch, Hiawassee, GA
Jack C. Etheridge, Blairsville, GA
Jack Miller, Kennesaw, GA
Jack Miller, Hiawassee, GA
Jack Moody, Hayesville, NC
Jacquelina Maloney, Woodstock, GA
James A. Doughty, Young Harris, GA
James A. Savage III, Bone Cave, TN
James B. and Elizabeth F. Eppes, Hiawassee,
GA
James B. Dore
James E. and Sandra L. Grantham, Blairsville,
GA
James Finchum, Newport, TN
James H. Wheeler, M.D., Atlanta, GA
James Hall, Smyrna, TN
James J. Morris, Blairsville, GA
James L. Clonts, Blairsville, GA
James M. Galloway, Knoxville, TN
James Malte, Blairsville, GA
James Seaver, Morristown, TN
Jamie Whitman, Bluff City, TN
Jan Dalton, Murray, KY
Jan Hackett, Morganton, GA
Jan Simon, Blairsville, GA

Robert W. Boyd, Blairsville, GA
Roberta Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Roger Helton, Honaker, VA
Roger Williams, Knoxville, TN
Ron and Judi Smith, Blairsville, GA
Ron and Martha Sunyog, Blairsville, GA
Ron and Janet Lander, Blairsville, GA
Ron Gillespie, Blue Ridge, GA
Ron Voyle
Ronald A. Burke, Cumming, GA
Ronald E. Exum, Franklin, TN
Ronald Frohlich, Blairsville, GA
Ronald H. McKuew, Blairsville, GA
Ronald Huffaker, Knoxville, TN
Ronald Morgan, Marietta, GA
Ronald Whitener, Dandridge, TN
Ronnie Offen, Blairsville, GA
Ronnie Offen, Marietta, GA
Roy and Beverly Cardell, Blairsville, GA
Roy Walker, Franklin, TN
Ruby Warren
Rufus H. Stark II, Hayesville, NC
Russell Stevenson, Hayesville, NC
Ruth Kwapinski, Sec., Rock Island, TN
Ryan J. Morgan, Blairsville, GA
Ryan Morgan, Marietta, GA
S. Dean Yates, Abingdon, VA
Sabrina Brown, Bristol, TN
Samantha Morgan and Family, Marietta, GA
Sandi Jernigan, Cumming, GA
Sandy Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Sara R. Troemel, Blairsville, GA
Scott Thomas
Sharon Robish, Morristown, TN
Shawn Maloney, Woodstock, GA
Sheila Garrison, Blairsville, GA
Sheila White, Cordele, GA
Shelby Morris, Cartersville, GA
Shelia Bondurant, Bristol, TN
Sherri Hinkle, Bristol, TN
Sherry D. Barnes, Blairsville, GA
Shirley Dominick, Dandridge, TN
Shooks Marina, Murphy, NC
Sondra Judy Sharp, Dandridge, TN
Stan Gunter, Blairsville, GA
Stefan A. Prada, Morristown, TN
Steve and Becky Mishket, Dandridge, TN
Steve and Karen Osborn, Rock Island, TN
Steve and Meredith Driskill, Andersonville, TN
Steve Marshall, Dandridge, TN
Steve Petty, Bell Buckle, TN
Steve Setlock, Blairsville, GA
Stone Brown, Cumming, GA
Sue Hill, Blairsville, GA
Sue Turner
Susan DeLong, Bryson City, NC
Susan Quinn, Harrison, TN
Susanna White

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Jane Stone, Blairsville, GA
Janet Penilo, Dandridge, TN
Janice Boland, Blairsville, GA
Jean Stone, Blairsville, GA
Jeff and Jan Jensen, Blairsville, GA
Jeff Blankenship, Cedar Bluff, VA
Jeff Maples
Jeff Ramsey, Kodak, TN
Jeff Stevenson, Atlanta, GA
Jeffery P. Jones, Blairsville, GA
Jerome Alton Connor, Jr., Powder Springs, GA
Jeri Mitchell, Abingdon, VA
Jerry and Brenda Snow, Dandridge, TN
Jerry F. Taylor, Athens, AL
Jerry Powers, Bristol, VA
Jessica MacLean, Zionsville, IN
Jetta J. Cooper, Blairsville, GA
Jill Blake, Davidson, NC
Jim and April Russell, Dandridge, TN
Jim and Nancy Malte, Blairsville, GA
Jim and Ruth Flemister
Jim Davis, Dandridge, TN
Jim Ebert, Lilburn, GA
Jim Fields, LaFollette, TN
Jim Mootrey, Blairsville, GA
Jo Ann Strickland
Jo Ellen Young, Rock Island, TN
Joan Freisen, Hayesville, NC
Joan Tuthill
Joanne K. Morris "Whistlestop", Blairsville, GA
Joanne Klingbeil, Hiawasee, GA
Joanne Ward, Blairsville, GA
Jocelyn and Jamie Richards, Washington, DC
Joe Chase, Abingdon, VA
Joe Hill, Nashville, TN
John and Kathryn Williams, Blairsville, GA
John and Linda Jackson, Marietta, GA
John C. Ashe, Hayesville, NC
John Delk, Alpharetta, GA
John Jones, Birmingham, AL
John N. Gillham, Jr., Hayesville, NC
John Olexick, Blairsville, GA
John R. McCamy, Stone Mountain, GA
John Sillay, Marietta, GA
John W. Musser, Soddy Daisy, TN
Jonathan Brown, Bristol, TN
Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA
Joseph Lindahl, Gallatin, TN
Joseph Reback, Iebulou, NC
Josephine Williams, Murphy, NC
Joy Lyle, Ellijay, GA
Joyce Morgan, Marietta, GA
Judi Stevenson, Franklin, NC
Judith Mills, Damascus, VA
Judy Dyer, Blairsville, GA
Judy Keane, Baneberry, TN
Judy Myers, Blairsville, GA
Swaim, Blairsville, GA
Taulbee Lester, Honaker, VA
Ted Bollman, Morristown, TN
Tennessee Valley Towing, Inc., Bill Dyer,
Paducah, KY
Teresa Joel, Atlanta, GA
Teresa Mears, Benton, KY
Terry Topjun, Dandridge, TN
Thomas C. Roberts, Morganton, GA
Thomas Carey, Woodstock, GA
Thomas E. Karpick, Dandridge, TN
Thomas H. Windham, Rutledge, TN
Thomas L. Parker, Murphy, NC
Thomas M. Malafronte, Dandridge, TN
Thomas Peters, Franklin, TN
Thomas Robinson, Morristown, TN
Thomas Whitman, Bluff City, TN
Tim and Patrice Pollock, Blairsville, GA
Timothy R. Murry, Blairsville, GA
Todd Nelson
Tom and Martha Scissom and Allison Carlton,
Blairsville, GA
Tom A. Yates, Bristol, VA
Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA
Tom Gunderson, Marietta, GA
Tom Murphy, Blairsville, GA
Tony and Suzanne Lagratta, Blairsville, GA
Tony E. Branan, Hiawasee, GA
Top of Georgia Tech, Inc., Blairsville, GA
Tracy A. Swatt, Blairsville, GA
Vern Barnes
Vern On, Morristown, TN
Veronica Brown, Cumming, GA
Vert and Elaine Morris, Dandridge, TN
Virginia Sisson-Jewell, Morristown, TN
Vivian Keling, Blairsville, GA
Vivian R. Hopkins, Blairsville, GA
W. J. Flora
Wade J. Cook, Bryson City, NC
Walter Lake, Dandridge, TN
Walter Layton, Dandridge, TN
Walter Mitchell, Dunwoody, GA
Walter Thomson, Murray, KY
Warren, Blairsville, GA
Warren Schwartz, Blairsville, GA
Warren T. Zeuch, Jr.
Wayne and Mary Ann Anderson, Hiawasee, GA
Wayne Chaney, Bristol, TN
Wayne DeMars, Blairsville, GA
Wayne Hellaud, Blairsville, GA
Wayne Reynolds, Chattanooga, TN
Wes and Jennifer King, Blue Ridge, GA
William and Martha Sue Shelton, Crandall, GA
William Brown, Cumming, GA
William E. Underwood, Iuka, MS
William Eckstein, Blairsville, GA
William Edwards, Mt. Juliet, TN
William H. Jones, Blairsville, GA

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Julie Morgan, Marietta, GA
June H. Lich and Doris Hays, Dandridge, TN
June Kephart, Blairsville, GA
June Parks, Hiawassee, GA
Junior Miller, Honaker, VA
K. Pindzola, Johnson City, TN
K. E. Competiello, Atlanta, GA
Kaitlin Louise Smalley
Karen Adamson, Blairsville, GA
Karen McKin, Young Harris, GA
Karen Rohde, Dandridge, TN
Karin Davis, Hiawassee, GA
Katherine B. McNeil, Dandridge, TN
Katherine Marshall, Dandridge, TN
Jonathon Brown
Steve Burnett
Andrew Drake
Bill Harold
Cheryl S. Himson
Joseph R. Lavelle
Spencer Overstreet
Terry C. Wallace, President, Morgan County
Convention & Visitors Bureau, Decatur, AL
Bunny Johns, Chair, Swain County Economic
Development Commission

William H. Dietrich, Hayesville, NC
William Harvey, Rock Island, TN
William J. Smith, Blairsville, GA
William L. Hoover, Naples, FL
William L. Reeves, Blue Ridge, GA
William M. Brown, Murray, KY
William Vander-Ryder, Blairsville, GA
Willie Mae Ayers, Rouston, GA
Wills Brown, Cumming, GA
Windel Lester, Iaeger, WV
Windle Nelson
Winona Bailey, Blue Ridge, GA
Wn. F. Walsh, Chattanooga, TN
Woody Chastain, Athens, GA
Yvonne Carney, Bryson City, NC
Zoe W. Horton
Zondra H. Leazer, Baneberry, TN
Gwen Bushyhead, Director, Chamber of
Commerce Center, Swain County, NC
Charles Kelly
Donald McGlynn
James Phelps
Josh Smalley
Thomas Vernon
Virginia B. Williams
Geraldine Preston

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The comments cited by those supporting Reservoir Recreation Alternative A express the intent of this alternative (i.e., to enhance reservoir recreation opportunities). A number of those commenting recognized the trade-offs that are involved in operating the reservoir system but indicated that the benefits to be gained from increased recreation opportunities would more than compensate for any adverse environmental impacts. TVA's Preferred Alternative was formulated to enhance recreational opportunities and to achieve many of the benefits sought by these commenters.

Opposed to Reservoir Recreation Alternative A

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments opposing Reservoir Recreation Alternative A cited environmental degradation as their primary reason—specifically loss of flats habitat for migratory bird species. This and other reasons are listed below.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- Results in loss of flats that are important to a variety of wildlife, including waterfowl, eagles, wading birds, and shorebirds.
- Adverse impact on the willow/buttonbush community, which is a major nesting area for a number of uncommon bird species and an important component of the fishery.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

- Reduces spawning habitat.
- Reduces water and air quality.
- Increases flood risk.
- Increases shoreline erosion, affecting cultural resources.

RECREATION IMPACTS

- Decreases waterfowl hunting, birding, and fishing.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TRADE-OFFS

- Increases in revenue are offset by the adverse environmental consequences.
- Lakeshore property owners and developers get all the benefits; everyone else in the population served by TVA has to bear the burden.
- Lowers gross regional product.
- Increases power costs; best to use the hydropower when temperature and climate conditions predispose to highest pollution levels.
- Damage to public areas by increased erosion.

Commenters

*Barron Crawford, Paris, TN
Bettie Mason, Knoxville, TN
Bob Graham, Harrison, TN
Guy Larry Osborne, Jefferson City, TN*

*John Taylor, Springville, TN
Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN
Michael Sylva Sledjeski, Del Rio, TN
Robert Wheat, Paris, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Most of the individuals opposing Reservoir Recreation Alternative A thought that benefits to be gained by a limited few were offset by the adverse environmental impacts on local areas and the region. The Preferred Alternative was formulated to enhance recreational opportunities, while reducing potential environmental impacts associated with Reservoir Recreation Alternative A.

Reservoir Recreation Alternative B

Support for Reservoir Recreation Alternative B

Summary of Comments

About 250 individuals supported Reservoir Recreation Alternative B (extending tributary and main river summer pool levels to Labor Day; raising tributary winter flood guides to levels needed to store only inflow volume of the 7-day, 500-year storm; and raising main river winter flood guides by 2 feet with a 1-foot operating range). Similar to those supporting Reservoir Recreation Alternative A, most individuals cast their vote or stated their preference for Reservoir Recreation Alternative B as the best plan for the region. When given, the primary reasons cited by those supporting Reservoir Recreation Alternative B are listed below.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

PROVIDES A BALANCED APPROACH

- Pros outweigh cons; provides the most positive effects with fewer adverse effects than other alternatives.
- Provides a good balance between recreational use and flood control.
- Better for the economy, scenic beauty, recreation, property values, aquatic life, and shoreline erosion.
- Addresses increasing value of recreation on the lakes, while still providing adequate protection from floods and also providing a water source for communities along the river system.
- Broadest range of benefits with least damage to the system as it now exists.

INCREASES RECREATION VALUE AND USE

- Enhances recreational use; provides additional recreations opportunities.
- Improves fall fishing and reduces fish kill.
- Increases recreation and visual benefits.
- Allows full use of the lake (reservoir) during the traditional summer season.

SCENIC BEAUTY

- Enhances beauty of the lake.
- Reduces the amount of bare shore that develops as water levels are drawn down.
- Attracts tourist to area.

ECONOMIC EFFECTS

- More recreation dollars.
- Enhances property values.
- Helps local and regional economy.
- Creates more jobs.
- Spurs future growth and development.
- The cost to the average electric user of \$3.66 per year in rate increase is offset by the improvement in the local economy.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

- Little if any negative environmental effects.
- Places high priority on water quality; no major effects to water quality.
- Helps aquatic life.
- More stable environment improves fish spawn.
- Reduces shoreline erosion.
- No impact on flooding; later drawdown allows adequate time to prepare for winter and spring floods.
- Improves navigation with reduced cost.
- Safer for boaters with less chance of grounding.

USE OF PROPERTY

- Allows year-round personal dock access to lake.
- Allows use of boats and docks until Labor Day.
- Allows maintenance of pier.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Commenters

Alice Jane Jessee, Abingdon, VA
Allan B. Brown, Gilbertsville, KY
Andrew Newton, Weldon, IL
Angela Boyda, Abingdon, VA
Angela Mack, Huntsville, AL
Angie Borst, New Market, TN
Anonymous (10)
Barbara Garrow, Dandridge, TN
Beltz, Richard and Kay, Abingdon, VA
Ben Robinson, Rogersville, AL
Bennett G. Arvey, Fletcher, NC
Beverly Cardell, Blairsville, GA
Bill Coward, New Market, TN
Bill Dearing, Soltawah, TN
Bill Evans, Iuka, MS
Billy Hughes, Heiskell, TN
Bob Graham, Harrison, TN
Bob Mc Alister, Athens, AL
Bob Mc Alister, Athens, AL
Bob McDonald, Blairsville, GA
Bob Robertson, Dandridge, TN
Bob Weaver, Gainesville, GA
Brad Davenport, Seymour, TN
Brandon Grimsley, Blairsville, GA
Brian L. Thomas, Hiawassee, GA
Bryan Arnold, Bristol, VA
Bud Mcneal, Savannah, TN
Carl Fleischer, Roswell, GA
Carol Repovich, Gilbertsville, KY
Charles and Kristie Wallis, Sevierville, TN
Charles Fudge, Dandridge, TN
Charles Patton, Talbott, TN
Cheryl Harrison, Blairsville, GA
Chip Miller, Hixson, TN
Chris Berry, Blue Ridge, GA
Christopher Plemons, Knoxville, TN
Christy Tucker, Knoxville, TN
Connie Burlingham, Sevierville, TN
Dan McArthur, Dandridge, TN
Danny L. Smith, Bristol, TN
Dave Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Dave Cooper, Morristown, TN
David Deutsch, Blue Ridge, GA
David L. Schmitz, Memphis, TN
David Meek, Sevierville, TN
Dedra Anderson, Talbott, TN
Denny Lambert, Bristol, VA
Derek Wintermute, Blairsville, GA
Dexter Douglas, Hardin, KY
Dick Robish, Morristown, TN
Don Baldus, Bean Station, TN
Don Harrison, Blairsville, GA
Don Morrell, Athens, AL
Don Wintermute, Kennesaw, GA
Don Wintermute Jr., Colorado Springs, CO
Kathy Leedy, Sevierville, TN
Kathy Miller, Dandridge, TN
Kathy Pearce, Cumming, GA
Kay, 2517 Hills Chapel, TN
Ken Cole, Dandridge, TN
Ken Thompson, Benton, KY
Kenneth A. Turner
Larry Akins, Blairsville, GA
Larry Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Larry Rinaca, Georgetown, TN
Leroy Miller, Dandridge, TN
Leslie Leduc, Bradenton, FL
Lorraine Shaffer, Murphy, NC
Lynn Swanson, Hiawassee, GA
MacDonald Pickens, Dandridge, TN
Marilyn Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Marjorie C. Wintermute, Blairsville, GA
Mark D. King, Conyers, GA
Mark Shope, Morristown, TN
Marlin Seaton, Calvert City, KY
Martha McDonald, Blairsville, GA
Martin Milkman, Murray, KY
Mary Miller, Hiawassee, GA
Max Fuller, Bristol, VA
Melinda Baumunk, Dandridge, TN
Melissa Harrison, Bristol, VA
Michael Houser, Bristol, TN
Michael K. Smith, Morristown, TN
Michael Ryan, Dandridge, TN
Mike McWilliams
Milton Akins, Blairsville, GA
Mitch Rader, Sevierville, TN
Mr. and Mrs. Jackie C. Kelley, Dandridge, TN
Mrs. Jean Roberts, Morristown, TN
Name Not Provided
Nancy Fudge, Dandridge, TN
Nita Wintermute, Blairsville, GA
Norman Findley, Atlanta, GA
Norman K. Owen, Murphy, NC
Pam Brownhill, Blairsville, GA
Pat Finch, Brentwood, TN
Patricia E. Yates, Baneberry, TN
Patricia Burdett, White Pine, TN
Patricia Rippetoe, Dandridge, TN
Patsy Stuart, Blue Ridge, GA
Pattie Heitzman, Sand Springs, OK
Paul Baker, Big Sandy, TN
Paul Q. Merritt, Rutledge, TN
Pete and Mary Jo Zurcher, Sevierville, TN
Pete Barile, Morristown, TN
R. P. DeCicco, Ooltawah, TN
Rachel Baumunk, Dandridge, TN
Randy Newcomb, Gilbertsville, KY
Rick Rice, Marietta, GA
Richard and Linda Larson, Dandridge, TN

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Donald Cook, Abingdon, VA
Donna Akins, Blairsville, GA
Douglas Rippetor, Dandridge, TN
Edd White, Blairsville, GA
Eddie Fisher, Kodak, TN
Edward J. O'Neill, Abingdon, VA
Edward Reynolds, Hiawassee Ga
Edwin D. Breland, Jr., Rogersville, AL
Elizabeth O'Donnell, Blairsville, GA
Erma Robb, Benton, KY
Fane Fisher, Kodak, TN
Forrest Liles, New Concord, KY
Frank Aparicio, Sevierville, TN
Frank Dahlberg, Dandridge, TN
G. W. Bud McCoig, Dandridge, TN
Gary Holway, Dandridge, TN
Gary Jordan, Bryson City, NC
Gary Whitaker, Morristown, TN
George and Betty Lowers, Dandridge, TN
George Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
Gerard Gadbois, Dandridge, TN
Gill Davidson, Dawsonville, GA
Glesma Davis, Dandridge, TN
Gloria Dahlberg, Dandridge, TN
Harry Johnson, Dandridge, TN
Helen Dearing
Howard Mauney, Morristownhoo.Com, TN
J. B. Harmon, Mayfield, KY
Jackie Baker, Big Sandy, TN
James and Lavada Mansfield, Benton, KY
James E. Barker, Kodak, TN
James Froyd, Bryson City, NC
James W. McCabe, Dandridge, TN
James Wheeler, Dandridge, TN
Janna Davenport, Blairsville, GA
Jeremy Tucker, Knoxville, TN
Jerry Messick, Bristol, TN
Jill Parker, Blairsville, GA
Jim and Pat Halloran, Hiwassee, GA
Jim Folck, President, Norris Lake Marina Association, Norris TN
Jim Miscichoski, Dandridge, TN
Jim Prosak, Dandridge, TN
John and Beverly Kramer, Strawberry Plains, TN
John Ashe, Hayesville, NC
John Baumunk, Jr., Dandridge, TN
John De Freitas, Gilbertsville, KY
John Stafford, Sevierville, TN
John S. McClellan, Dandridge, TN
Joseph L. Mansell, Largo, FL
Joyce Balin, Bryson City, NC
Judy Akin, Marietta, GA
Judy Delashmutt, Dandridge, TN
Judy Edwards, Murphy, NC
Kathryn Johnson, Dandridge, TN
Kathryn Miller, Dandridge, TN
Kathy Napier, Blairsville, GA

Rita Dumbacher, Huntsville, AL
Robert A. Rohde, Dandridge, TN
Robert E. Mitchell
Robert Haist, Rome, GA
Robert L. Seeley, Young Harris, GA
Robert Leduc, Bradenton, FL
Robert Rohde, Dandridge, TN
Roberta Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Roger W. Dixon, Young Harris, GA
Ron Boyd, Athens, AL
Ronald J. Leduc, Dandridge, TN
Roy Sanders, Dandridge, TN
Russell Foust, Morristown, TN
Sandra Marinucci, Orland Park, IL
Scott Bardenwerper, Helen, GA
Scott Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
Sharon Smith, Birchwood, TN
Sharon Chilson, Bryson City, NC
Sharon L McCabe, Dandridge, TN
Sheila Cochran, New Market, TN
Sherry Ryan, Dandridge, TN
Shirley Cook, Abingdon, VA
Shirley Hartsell, Dandridge, TN
Steve Drake, Blairsville, GA
Steven L Grubb, Knoxville, TN
Steven Cook, Kingsport, TN
Steven L. Matney, Abingdon, VA
Tad Byrd, Sevierville, TN
Teddy Murrell, Sevierville, TN
Terry Weingarten, Hiwassee, GA
Thomas Cernilli, Roswell, GA
Thomas H. Hollingsworth, Rogersville, AL
Thomas Hodge, Dandridge, TN
Thomas R. White, Hampton, TN
Tim and Betty Lynne Leary, South Berwick, ME
Tim Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Tim Doyle, Dandridge, TN
Todd Forthman, Hiwassee, GA
Tom and Judy Wolterman, Dandridge, TN
Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA
Tom Fowler, Fontana Lake Estates, NC
Tom Gladfelter, Hiwassee, GA
Tommy Vann, Knoxville, TN
Tony Whitfield, Gilbertsville, KY
Troy Ward, Blairsville, GA
Unknown, Decatur, TN
Vernon Roberts, Morristown, TN
Vickie Stanton, Sevierville, TN
Victoria Witkowski, Bryson City, NC
Vonda M. Laughlin, Jefferson City, TN
Walter Carpus, Bean Station, TN
Waylon Spurgeon, Athens, AL
Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL
Wayne Gallik, Dandridge, TN
Wayne Goodwin, Bristol, TN
Wes Davis, Gilbertsville, KY
William Wood, Bryson City, NC
William M. Thompson, Morristown, TN

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

*Richard Wagner, Blairsville, GA
Rick Lewis, Dandridge, TN
Bob McAlister
Don Wintermute, Jr.*

*William McIntosh, Blairsville, GA
Wm. F. Walsh, Chattanooga, TN
Terry Wenberg*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Most individuals who gave reasons for supporting Reservoir Recreation Alternative B thought the higher reservoir levels and delayed drawdown until after Labor Day would improve the local area by increasing recreational opportunities, property values, and the local economy. A number of individuals questioned the study's conclusions that fewer recreational jobs would be created. This issue is addressed in Section F2.3 under "Economic Analysis and Adverse Effects on Jobs and Local Economy." Others mistakenly thought that since flooding occurs in spring and never in fall, Reservoir Recreation Alternative B would not affect flood control because water would be released after Labor Day to create flood storage. The Preferred Alternative was formulated to enhance recreational opportunities while reducing potential environmental impacts associated with Reservoir Recreation Alternative B.

Opposed to Reservoir Recreation Alternative B

Summary of Comments

Several of the individuals who made comments opposing Reservoir Recreation Alternative A also opposed Reservoir Recreation Alternative B for basically the same reasons: environmental degradation, specifically loss of flats habitat for migratory bird species. This and other reasons cited by those opposing Reservoir Recreation Alternative B are listed below.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS

- Results in loss of flats that are important to a variety of wildlife, including waterfowl, eagles, wading birds, and shorebirds.
- Adverse impact on the willow/buttonbush community, which is a major nesting area for a number of uncommon bird species and an important component of the fishery.
- Reduces spawning habitat.
- Reduces water and air quality.
- Increases flood risk.
- Increases shoreline erosion, affecting cultural resources.

RECREATION IMPACTS

- Decreases waterfowl hunting, birding, and fishing.

SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC TRADE-OFFS

- Increases in revenue would be offset by the adverse environmental consequences.
- Lakeshore property owners and developers get all the benefits; everyone else in the population served by TVA has to bear the burden.
- Lowers gross regional product.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

- Increases power costs; best to use the hydropower when temperature and climate conditions predispose to highest pollution levels.
- Damage to public areas by increased erosion.

Commenters

*Barron Crawford, Paris, TN
Bettie Mason, Knoxville, TN
Bob Russum, Piney Flats, TN
Danny Farmer, Camden, TN*

*David Cook, Blairsville, GA
John Taylor, Springville, TN
Mae Musick, Bristol, TN
Michael Sylva Sledjeski, Del Rio, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Compared to those supporting Reservoir Recreation Alternative B, individuals opposing this alternative thought that benefits to be gained by a limited few were offset by the adverse environmental impacts on local areas and the region. The Preferred Alternative seeks to enhance recreational opportunities, while reducing the potential for environmental impacts associated with Reservoir Recreation Alternative B.

Summer Hydropower Alternative

Support for Summer Hydropower Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments supporting the Summer Hydropower Alternative cited its benefits for water quality and aquatic life. This and other reasons are listed below:

- It is best overall for the system because it is as close to a natural river system as possible.
- It provides benefits for freshwater mussel populations, shorebirds, wildlife, waterfowl, and fisheries.
- It decreases power costs; and it provides better water quality.

Commenters

*Chris Perkins, Florence, AL
David Cook, Blairsville, GA
Joan Ayer, Hiawassee, GA*

*Mark Seaton, Eva, TN
Tony Arnold, Russellville, KY*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative was formulated to reduce potential impacts on hydropower. Unfortunately, not all increases in power costs could be eliminated without substantially reducing opportunities for increased recreation on the river system.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Opposed to Summer Hydropower Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who opposed the Summer Hydropower Alternative considered this alternative to be unacceptable and recommended that it be removed from consideration because of the asserted devastating impacts on many businesses, property values, and the region. They considered the negative impacts on recreation, navigation, flood risk, water quality, fish habitat and spawning, and scenic beauty unacceptable, given no appreciable advantage to hydropower.

Commenters

Anonymous

*Anthony Morris, Muscle Shoals, AL
Austin Carroll, Hopkinsville, KY
Barron Crawford, Paris, TN
Bill Dearing, Ooltewah, TN
Bob Russum, Piney Flats, TN
Bud McNeal, Savannah, TN
Dave Baxter, Eddyville, KY
George Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
Ivey Wingo, Blairsville, GA
Jerri Mitchell, Abingdon, VA
Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN
John Ashe, Hayesville, NC
John Olexick, Blairsville, GA*

*John Taylor, Springville, TN
Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA
Kathy Mesmer, Oak Ridge, TN
Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN
Robert Pardue, Dandridge, TN
Roberta Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Scott Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
Tom and Martha Schlechty
Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA
Tom Hampton, Marion, VA
Vonda M. Laughlin, Jefferson City, TN
W. L. Panter, Soddy Daisy, TN
Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL
William Dearing, Chattanooga, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative was formulated to reduce potential power cost impacts while enhancing potential recreational opportunities compared to the alternatives identified in the DEIS.

Equalized Summer/Winter Flood Risk Alternative

Support for Equalized Summer/Winter Flood Risk Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals endorsing the Equalized Summer/Winter Flood Risk Alternative cited the lack of negative impacts while extending the recreation season. These and other comments are listed below:

- Extends the recreation season the longest with only minimal cost impact and minimal water impacts.
- Flood condition seems to be tolerable.
- Is consistent with the original goal of TVA.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

- Is best alternative with few negative effects to help reduce downstream flooding and loss of crops.
- Stops most of the flooding.
- Makes less of lake usable.

Commenters

*Fran D'Antonio, Atlanta, GA
Lane Marte, Decatur, AL
Max Wilson, Hickman, KY
Paul Howell, Selmer, TN*

*Scott Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
Terry C. Smith, Killen, AL
Walter E. Flood, Friendsville, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative was formulated to avoid or reduce the potential for increased flood risk that was associated with the policy alternatives that would improve recreation opportunities. As explained in Section 5.22, the Preferred Alternative would reduce flood risk to acceptable levels.

Opposed to Equalized Summer/Winter Flood Risk Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals opposing the Equalized Summer/Winter Flood Risk Alternative thought that this alternative should never have been considered and should be deleted. They noted that it offers no appreciable benefits, costs too much in power benefits, reduces recreational opportunities due to lower and shorter summer pool levels, and drastically affects area businesses. One individual also noted the adverse impact on migratory shorebirds and on wetlands that support a variety of wildlife.

Commenters

*Austin Carroll, Hopkinsville, KY
Bob Russum, Piney Flats, TN
Dave Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Douglas Lawler, Abingdon, VA
Jerri Mitchell, Abingdon, VA
Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN
John Taylor, Springville, TN
Julia Householder, Pigeon Forge, TN
Kathy Mesmer, Oak Ridge, TN*

*Kenneth Story, Pickwick Dam, TN
Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN
Robert Pardue, Dandridge, TN
Roberta Baxter, Eddyville, KY
Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA
Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL
William Dearing, Chattanooga, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative was formulated in part to address these concerns.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Commercial Navigation Alternative

Support for Commercial Navigation Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments endorsing the Commercial Navigation Alternative (raising mainstem winter flood guides by 2 feet, where possible, to provide a 13-foot navigation channel; reducing winter operating range to 1 foot for those reservoirs raised 2 feet in winter; and increasing minimum flows at several key lower river projects with major navigation locks) recognized the increased economic benefits and minimal environmental impacts. The primary reasons given by those supporting this alternative are listed below:

ECONOMIC EFFECTS

- Only alternative that offers positive economic benefits to the region.
- Supports commercial navigation.
- Greater economic impact now and in the future; very important to local economy.
- Lower river shipping costs will allow businesses to remain competitive.
- Slightly improves number of jobs and provides good-paying jobs.

USE OF FACILITIES

- Provides greater access to docks at minimal winter pool level.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

- Positive effects on water quality.
- Fewer negative effects than other alternatives.
- Improves navigation and safety.

Commenters

Aline Hail, Gilbertsville, KY

Anonymous

Austin Carroll, Hopkinsville, KY

Cargill Decatur, Decatur, AL

Clifford J. Rabalais, Counce, TN

Dana J. Mullins, Hillsboro, AL

David Edgin, Charlotte, TN

Donna Long, Haertselle, AL

Grant Posey, Town Creek, AL

J. Richard Hommrich, Nashville, TN

Jack D. Wycoff, Abingdon, VA

*Janice L. Jones, Executive Director, Tennessee
River Valley Association, Decatur, AL*

Jim Loew, Florence, AL

Joe Vancil, Tiline, KY

John De Freitas, Gilbertsville, KY

Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA

K. Pritchard, Decatur, AL

Larry Pawlosky, Bridgeport, AL

*Lynn Fowler, Mayor, City of Decatur, Decatur,
AL*

Mark Hommrich, Nashville, TN

Nancy Muse, Florence, AL

Patsy K. Cornelius, Savannah, TN

Robert Brewer, Paducah, KY

Russ Randall, Gilbertsville, KY

*Richard C. "Dick" Crawford, President & CEO,
TVPPA, Chattanooga, TN*

Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL

Jim Loew

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative contains elements to enhance commercial navigation.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Opposed to Commercial Navigation Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments opposing the Commercial Navigation Alternative simply stated that they are against it, or that it is not acceptable, or that it should be deleted. Primary reasons given by others opposing this alternative included adverse impacts on shoreline erosion, commercial fishing, migratory shorebirds, water quality, and other environmental resources—including increased flood risk to public lands during winter. Those commenting thought that these negative impacts outweigh the economic gains to commercial navigation. Three individuals made reference to this alternative further subsidizing the navigation industry.

Commenters

Anonymous

Bill Dearing, Ooltewah, TN

Donald Blackwelder, Savannah, TN

George Pisciotta, Marietta, GA

Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN

John Ashe, Hayesville, NC

John Taylor, Springville, TN

Kathy Mesmer, Oak Ridge, TN

Maudie Melson, Savannah, TN

Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN

Scott Pisciotta, Marietta, GA

Steve McCadams, Paris, TN

Terry C Smith, Killen, AL

Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative was developed in part to better balance operating objectives for the TVA system. Navigation would be enhanced under the Preferred Alternative, while potential adverse impacts on flood risk and other resources would be substantially reduced.

Tailwater Recreation Alternative

Support for Tailwater Recreation Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who commented in favor of the Tailwater Recreation Alternative (extending the summer pool period to Labor Day; changing winter tributary flood guides to the 7-day, 500-year storm inflow and raising winter mainstem reservoir levels by 2 feet, where possible; maintaining minimum releases from June 1 to Labor Day; and giving priority to providing additional recreational releases at specific projects) asked that TVA adopt this alternative and provide additional recreation releases. A number of individuals asked that presently scheduled releases be modified to provide a range of flows. Reasons why individuals endorsed this alternative are listed below:

- Helps local communities; benefits economic development.
- River releases are critical to the economy and survival of Polk County and its neighbors.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

- The Ocoee River has the potential to become the premier whitewater center in the world.
- Provides recreational flows that balance beneficial uses, while providing ecological functions in the Apalachia Bypass.
- Provides additional benefits; rivers are not just for power production.
- Addresses needs of water quality.
- Improves scenic quality.
- A compromise that TVA desperately needs.
- Negative impacts are overstated.

Commenters

Angelina Carpenter, Jefferson City, TN

Anonymous

Chris Lyles, Atlanta, GA

Elyse Lee, Nashville, TN

Ira Smith, Knoxville, TN

J. C. Goodwin, Tuscaloosa, AL

Kathy Pearce, Cumming, GA

Mark Weddle, Marion, VA

Michael Jackson, Jr., CPA, Vestavia Hills, AL

Nancy MacNair, Athens, GA

Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN

Richard Wagner, Blairsville, GA

Roy Teal, Signal Mountain, TN

Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative contains elements to enhance tailwater recreation at selected locations.

Opposed to Tailwater Recreation Alternative

Summary of Comments

Most individuals opposing the Tailwater Recreation Alternative indicated environmental concerns (loss of flats and wildlife habitat, increased shoreline erosion, impacts on water quality, and increased flood risk). Other reasons noted by those opposing this alternative included: that it was not a good alternative systemwide, but might be reasonable in discrete locales such as Apalachia; the cost was too much for someone trying to pay a power bill on a fixed income; and the alternative provides too much emphasis on rafting.

Commenters

Austin Carroll, Hopkinsville, KY

Barron Crawford, Paris, TN

Bill Dearing, Ooltewah, TN

David Slagle, Hayesville, NC

Erik Brinke, Murphy, NC

Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN

John Ashe, Hayesville, NC

John Taylor, Springville, TN

Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA

Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN

Scott Pisciotta, Marietta, GA

Tom Carlton, Blairsville, GA

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

The Preferred Alternative was developed in part to address these concerns while still enhancing tailwater recreation opportunities.

Tailwater Habitat Alternative

Support for Tailwater Habitat Alternative

Summary of Comments

The individuals who made comments endorsing the Tailwater Habitat Alternative (retaining 75 percent of reservoir inflow and releasing Base Case minimum flows, or 25 percent of the inflow—whichever is greater, as a relatively continuous minimum flow with no turbine peaking) found it acceptable given the benefits to aquatic resources, including biodiversity and federal-protected species. They considered those benefits worth the trade-offs. One individual noted that this alternative offers a reasonable solution to seasonal drawdown and that it would provide year-round access to his property.

Commenters

*Bill Dearing, Ooltewah, TN
Jeff Garner, Florence, AL*

*Joe Payne, Knoxville, TN
John J. Ross, Savannah, TN*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

This alternative resulted in a number of potential impacts that could not be reduced to acceptable levels, such as the impact on flood risk. However, the Preferred Alternative includes a commitment to provide minimum flows in the Apalachia tailwater, and TVA remains committed to providing minimum flows in a number of tailwaters to improve aquatic habitat.

Opposed to Tailwater Habitat Alternative

Summary of Comments

Individuals who made comments opposing the Tailwater Habitat Alternative stated that the alternative is not acceptable, not important, or inferior to other alternatives; costs too much in terms of power costs and benefits few users; and increases flood risk to public lands.

Commenters

*Austin Carroll, Hopkinsville, KY
Bettie Mason, Knoxville, TN
John Ashe, Hayesville, NC*

*John Taylor, Springville, TN
Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

See response to previous comment. The Preferred Alternative was formulated to better balance operating objectives for the TVA system.

Prefer Reservoir Recreation Alternatives A or B, A over B, B over A, or B or Tailwater Recreation Alternative

Prefer Reservoir Recreation Alternative A or Reservoir Recreation Alternative B

Summary of Comments

Most individuals preferring Reservoir Recreation Alternative A or B simply stated their preference. Some indicated that keeping lake (reservoir) levels up to Labor Day would increase recreational opportunities and improve the local and regional economy. These and other reasons stated for their preference are listed below:

PROVIDES A BALANCED APPROACH

- Maximizes benefits, while giving some consideration to recreation users.
- Allows for some benefits, while minimizing negative effects on power cost.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

- Would not hurt flood risk in August and September because it is typically lower in those months.

ECONOMIC EFFECTS

- Improves economy of local area and region due to increased recreation opportunities.
- Improves tourism development.
- Is invaluable to local businesses.

USE OF PROPERTY

- Provides potential to expand docks and marinas.

Commenters

*Andy Hardin, Nashville, TN
Brett Hadley, Dandridge, TN
Carroll and Gail Johnson, Dandridge, TN
Dan Meek, Kodak, TN
David B. Seifert, Sevierville, TN
Dennis Yates, Baneberry, TN
Donald Blackwelder, Savannah, TN
Erik Brinke, Murphy, NC
Gary and Myran Rosenbalm, Seymour, TN
Gerald McKinney, Bryson City, NC
Joe and Julia Moon, Dandridge, TN
Lamar Paris, Sole Commissioner, Union
County, GA
[I] Tolly G. Shelton, Decatur, AL*

*Nanette M. McCarthy, Peachtree City, GA
O. M. and Susan Goodman, Dandridge, TN
Parmelle and Edwina Ward, Blairsville, GA
Paul Hargrove, Athens, AL
Robert Brock
Robert Hilty, LaFollette, TN
Teresa Joel, Atlanta, GA
Terry Coil, Blairsville, GA
Tom Jirik, Blairsville, GA
Vicky Murrell, Sevierville, TN
Vivian Hill, Blairsville, GA
William Deloch*

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted. Several individuals questioned the adverse impact on flood risk and jobs under Reservoir Recreation Alternatives A and B. Sections 5.22 and 5.25 describe these impacts. The alternative identified in the FEIS as TVA's Preferred Alternative is a hybrid or blend of the recreation and other alternatives. It was formulated to address these and other adverse impacts of the action alternatives in the DEIS, while still enhancing recreational opportunities and providing other benefits.

Prefer Reservoir Recreation Alternative A over Reservoir Recreation Alternative B

Summary of Comments

A small number of individuals who commented on the alternatives stated that Reservoir Recreation Alternative A was their first choice and Reservoir Recreation Alternative B would be their second choice. They noted that Reservoir Recreation Alternative A would provide ample recreational opportunities without producing the adverse environmental impacts of Reservoir Recreation Alternative B—including adverse impacts on flood control, power supply, water quality, shoreline erosion, and fish and wildlife.

Commenters

Anonymous
Bob Anderson, Hiawassee, GA
Bruce O. Anderson, Emma L. Anderson,
Talbott, TN
Carolyn Varner, Ocala, FL
Christine Robinson, Abingdon, VA
David and Marilyn Miles, Dandridge, TN
Greg Robinson, Abingdon, VA

Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA
Michael and Evelyn Fink, Dandridge, TN
Robert L. Stump, Jr., Marion, VA
Sandy Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Steve Poole, Bethlehem, GA
Suzy Jenkins, Blairsville, GA
Teresa Joel, Atlanta, GA
Wes and Jennifer King, Blue Ridge, GA

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted.

Prefer Reservoir Recreation Alternative B over Reservoir Recreation Alternative A

Summary of Comments

Reasons given by those who preferred Reservoir Recreation Alternative B over Reservoir Recreation Alternative A included more stable and longer summer pool levels, resulting in less shoreline erosion, improved scenic beauty, safer fishing and boating, and greater recreation opportunities provided under Reservoir Recreation Alternative B. Others expressed that Reservoir Recreation Alternative B was better for the area economy and would result in an insignificant power loss.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Commenters

*All Westlake, Athens, AL
Anthony Lambert, Bristol, VA.
Bill Beutjer, Athens, AL
Bruce and Emma Anderson, Talbott, TN
Fran D'Antonio, Atlanta, GA
Glenn Glafenhein, Knoxville, TN
Jeff Ramsey, Kodak, TN
Jack C. Cole, Aingdon, VA.
John and Lisa Keith, Bristol, TN
Larry Allbritten, Dandridge, TN
Linda and Jackie Stump, Abingdon, VA*

*Lynn Swanson, Hiawassee, GA
Myron Engebretson, Marietta, GA
Parmelle and Edwina Ward, Blairsville, GA
Paul Reams, Macon, GA
Robert Hilty, Lafollette, TN
Robert Leduc, Bradenton, FL
Scott Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
Terry Topjun, Dandridge, TN
Thomas Cernilli, Roswell, GA
Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted.

Prefer Reservoir Recreation Alternative B or Tailwater Recreation Alternative

Summary of Comments

Reasons given by those who preferred Reservoir Recreation Alternative B or the Tailwater Recreation Alternative included economic and recreation benefits with few impacts on other factors, including flooding.

Commenters

*Kathy Pearce, Cumming, GA
Patti Grubb, Knoxville, TN*

Paul Howell, Selmer, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted.

Other Preferences

Summary of Comments

A few individuals listed a number of alternatives in the order of preference that they would favor:

- Reservoir Recreation Alternative B, Commercial Navigation Alternative, and Tailwater Recreation Alternative.
- Tailwater Recreation Alternative, followed by Reservoir Recreation Alternative B and Reservoir Recreation Alternative A.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Commenters

*Robert A. Lamm, Hiawassee, GA
Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL*

William Dearing, Chattanooga, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted.

Higher and Longer Reservoir Pool Levels

Support for Higher and Longer Summer and Winter Pool Levels

Summary of Comments

Most individual who made comments endorsing higher pool levels did not mention specific dates; most wanted higher levels through the fall color season or as long as possible, if not year-round. Of those who mentioned a specific drawdown date, about 100 individuals favored Labor Day, three favored September 15, 69 favored October 1, five favored October 15, 12 favored November 1, and one favored December 1. Additionally, 28 individuals specifically mentioned favoring higher winter levels and 13 individuals favored earlier (March to May) fill dates. Those who objected to higher pool levels were identified earlier in this section under “Support for Base Case.” Reasons given to support higher pool levels are listed below:

RECREATION IMPACTS

- Provides year-round recreation opportunities.
- Improves opportunities for boating and fishing.
- Improves quality of the region.

SCENIC BEAUTY

- Eliminates flats.
- Improves the looks of the lake during winter months.
- Provides more desirable vacation spots.
- Minimizes impacts on boater safety.

ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

- Minimal adverse impacts.
- Critical of flood control impacts.
- Reduces shoreline erosion.
- Improves fishing.

ECONOMIC EFFECTS

- Improves economy; adds tax revenue.
- Encourages tourism; extends tourist season.
- Helps area businesses; allows for more jobs.
- Keeps people in the area.
- Improves property values.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

- Reduces damage to boat docks and marinas.
- Reduces navigation hazards.
- Reduces dock maintenance.
- Improves commercial navigation.

USE OF PROPERTY

- Increases use of boats and marinas.

Commenters

A. Mack

Al Caudell, Marietta, GA
Alan Click, Bryson City, NC
Alice Jane Jesseel, Abingdon, VA
Alice Russell, Hayesville, NC
Aline Hail, Gilbertsville, KY
Allan Nelson, Atlanta, GA
Amy Barnette, McDonough, GA
Andrew Akins, Blairsville, GA
Andrew Atkins, Morristown, TN
Ann Bitting, Hiawassee, GA
Anne H. Brindle, Crandall, GA
Anonymous (9)
B. Governale, Buford, GA
Barb Banghart, Blue Ridge, GA
Barbara Banghart, Blue Ridge, GA
Barbara Cavagnini, Dandridge, TN
Barbara Mason Poole, Blairsville, GA
Barbara Phillips, Lexington, KY
Bart Dastolfo, Dandridge, TN
Ben Robinson, Rogersville, AL
Ben Sharrett, Abingdon, VA
Bernard Johnson, Dandridge, TN
Beth Russum, Piney Flats, TN
Beth Smith, Sevierville, TN
Betty Whillock, New Market, TN
Bill Beutjer, Athens, AL
Bill Coward, New Market, TN
Carl Hatfield, Dandridge, TN
Carl Lakes, Bean Station, TN
Carol Ann Mancini, Blairsville, GA
Carol McKee, Dandridge, TN
Carol Repovich, Gilbertsville, KY
Carol Roberts, Dandridge, TN
Carol Simon, Young Harris, GA
Carolyn Henderson, Kodak, TN
Carolyn Ippisch, Morgantown, GA
Carolyn Lakes, Bean Station, TN
Carolyn R Clarkson, Blairsville, GA
Carolyn Varner, Ocala, FL
Cecil G. Boland, President, Blairsville, GA
Chad Armstrong, Talbott, TN
Chad Necessary, Abingdon, VA
Charles & Kristie Wallis, Sevierville, TN
Charles Wooten, Jr., Blairsville, GA

Bill Delashmutt, Dandridge, TN
Bob Anderson, Hiawassee, GA
Bob Garrison, Blairsville, GA
Bob Graham, Harrison, TN
Bob Holdman, Gilbertsville, KY
Bob Milhorn, Abingdon, VA
Bob Reynolds, Morristown, TN
Bobbie Merritt, Dandridge, TN
Bonnie Morris, Dandridge, TN
Bonnie Ragland, Bryson City, NC
Brad Malone, Blairsville, GA
Brian Beisel, Golden Pond, KY
Brian Cavagnini, Avon, IN
Brian L. Thomas, Hiawassee, GA
Brian Mazzei, Abingdon, VA
Bruce and Alyssa Crowder, Knoxville, TN
Bryon Horner, Morristown, TN
Burley Miller, Honaker, VA
C. D. Wallin, Blue Ridge, GA
C. W. West, Guntersville, AL
Calisse Finchum, Newport, TN
Cargill Decature, Decatur, AL
Carl and Joy Meade, Property Owners,
Sevierville, TN
Ed Orton
Edda S. Miracle, Sevierville, TN
Eddie Atzenhofer, Blairsville, GA
Eddie Graham, Blairsville, GA
Eddie Fisher, Kodak, TN
Edward Stricklin, Murfreesboro, TN
Elaine Dilbeck, Blue Ridge, GA
Eleanor McRae, Cadiz, KY
Elizabeth G. Roberts, Appalachia, VA
Eric Brown, Knoxville, TN
Eugene Beatty, Cumming, GA
Eugene Hendereson, Kodak, TN
Floyd Cross, Blairsville, GA
Frank Aparicio, Sevierville, TN
Fred A. Murray, Dandridge, TN
Fred Overbay, Talbott, TN
Fred Schaffer, Dandridge, TN
Frederick Steel, Kodak, TN
G. L. and Billie Bowman, Dandridge, TN
G. W. Norton, Dandridge, TN
G. W. Bud McCoig, Dandridge, TN

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Chip Miller, Hixson, TN
Chuck Albury, Young Harris, GA
Clarence R. Bailey, Dandridge, TN
Claudette Geoffrion
Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN
Conley Miracle, Sevierville, TN
Connie Burlingham, Sevierville, TN
Curtis E. Johnson
D.C. Robinson, Weaverville, NC
D. W. Campbell, Blairsville, GA
Dalie T. Thomas, Bristol, TN
Dan Hartley, Dandridge, TN
Dan Meek, Kodak, TN
Dana Etheridge, Blairsville, GA
Daniel B. Harris Jr., Morristown, TN
Danny Matas, Richland, VA
Darcelle Green, Palmetto, GA
David and Sandra Jamison, Dalton, GA
David B. Seifert, Sevierville, TN
David C. Johnigk, Cadiz, KY
David Jones, Hiawassee, GA
David Slagle, Hayesville, NC
Dean and Mary Jane Heavener, Chattanooga, TN
Debbie Sims
Denise N. Gladfelter, Hiawassee, GA
Dennis Mack, Huntsville, AL
Diane Layton, Dandridge, TN
Dixie A Cantley, Bluff City, TN
Don Cross, Bluff City, TN
Don Helton, Old Hickory, TN
Don Ratliff and Family
Donna Lee Demuth, Hiawassee, GA
Dorie Stratton, Blairsville, GA
Dorothy McArthur, Dandridge, TN
Dot Goins, Dandridge, TN
Doug Reffitt, Baneberry, TN
Ed Murrey, Pulaski, TN
E. Bloom, Blairsville, GA
Earl J. Munro Jr., Baneberry, TN
Earl Nyman, Abingdon, VA
James Blankenship, Cedar Bluff, VA
James F. Smith, Ringgold, GA
Jane Chinnici, Hiawassee, GA
Janelle Neas, Dandridge, TN
Janet Kammann, Baneberry, TN
Janet Penilo, Dandridge, TN
Jay and Libby Wise, Johnson City, TN
Jean Christian, Marietta, GA
Jean Prater, Athens, AL
Jeff Blankenship, Cedar Bluff, VA
Jeff Cabe, Robbinsville, NC
Jeff Ramsey, Kodak, TN
Jennifer Huskey, Sevierville, TN
Jeri Peterson, Dandridge, TN
Jerry Dyer, Blairsville, GA
Jerry Huskey, Sevierville, TN
Jerry Powers, Bristol, VA

Garland Wyatt, Benton, KY
Gary Connaughty, Hiawassee, GA
Gary Holiway, Dandridge, TN
Gary Thurston, Hayesville, NC
Gene and Gina Rossetti, Bristol, TN
George A. GAntte, Dandridge, TN
George F. White, Cordele, GA
George Gantte, Dandridge, TN
George Pisciotta, Marietta, GA
George Plack
George Turnis
George Ward, Dandridge, TN
Gilbert Moebes, Decatur, AL
Glen and Janice Boland, Blairsville, GA
Glenda Wade, Bristol, TN
Gordon Conklin, Dandridge, TN
Gordon Marshall, Dandridge, TN
Greg Puett, Blairsville, GA
Greg Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Greg Worley, White Pine, TN
Gwen Thomas, Morristown, TN
H. Lee Fleshood, Nashville, TN
H. E. Wayt, Haley Cricle, Blairsville, GA
Harold E. Jackson, Jr., Nashville, TN
Harry and Sharon Thompson, Blairsville, GA
Harry Nolan, Atlanta, GA
Harvey and Wendy Holden, Blairsville, GA
Heath Alvey, Dandridge, TN
Helen Atzenhofer, Blairsville, GA
Howard Miracle, New Market, TN
J. H. Derden, Sevierville, TN
J. D. Matney, Abingdon, VA
J. D. Smith, Doran, VA
Jack Moody, Hayesville, NC
Jackie Baker, Big Sandy, TN
Jackie F. and Brenda Sise, Dandridge, TN
Jackie Scarborough, Dandridge, TN
Jacquelyn O'Connell, McCaysville, GA
K Pindzola, Johnson City, TN
Karen A. Spence, Sevierville, TN
Karl Kammann, Baneberry, TN
Kathy Joseph, Decatur, AL
Kathy Mesmer, Oak Ridge, TN
Kathy Pearce, Cumming, GA
Kathy Schubert, Dandridge, TN
Kelli Carr, Knoxville, TN
Kelly Brawner Chadwick, Buchanan, TN
Ken Thompson, Benton, KY
Kenneth Norton, Sevierville, TN
Kenny Stuart, Blue Ridge, GA
Kevin Abel, Abingdon, VA
Kim Hatcher, Bluff City, TN
Kimberly S. Brackett, Hixson, TN
Lamar Franklin, Blairsville, GA
Lamar Paris, Sole Commissioner, Union County, GA
Larry and Shirley Anglea, Jefferson City, TN
Larry Akers, Abingdon, VA

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Jerry Stephens, Bluff City, TN
Jim and April Russell, Dandridge, TN
Jim Crigger, Knoxville, TN
Jim Davis, Dandridge, TN
Jim Fields, LaFollette, TN
Jim and Pat Gantt, Sevierville, TN
Jim Graham Jr., Memphis, TN
Jimmy & Amy Owens, Dandridge, TN
Jimmy W. Peoples, Talbott, TN
Joan M. Garlock, Sevierville, TN
Joan McCoig, Dandridge, TN
Joanne Wenberg, Blairsville, GA
Joe and Julia Moon, Dandridge, TN
Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN
Joe Depew, Kodak, TN
Joe L. Chase, Abingdon, VA
Joe Nicholson, Maryville, TN
John and Riki Falvey, Louisville, KY
John Archambault, Dandridge, TN
John Ashe, Hayesville, NC
John C. Ashe, Hayesville, NC
John Honey, Dandridge, TN
John James III, Piney Flats, TN
John McNeill, Blue Ridge, GA
John Parker, Dandridge, TN
John Sillay, Marietta, GA
Joseph A. Robinson, Jr., Abingdon, VA
Joseph Nofil, Hayesville, NC
Juanita Phillips, Paducah, KY
Judith A and Ronald W. Acks, Hayesville, NC
Judy Akin, Marietta, GA
Judy Cosby, Dalton, GA
Judy Cosby, Dalton, GA
Judy Delashmutt, Dandridge, TN
Judy Edwards, Murphy, NC
Judy Kirchner, Huntsville, AL
Judy M. Munro, Baneberry, TN
Judy Myers, Blairsville, GA
Julia Schneider, Dandridge, TN
Julius Papatyi, Blairsville, GA
Michael Guffey, Seymour, TN
Michael Kovich, Benton, KY
Michael Ryan, Dandridge, TN
Michael R. Adamson, Blairsville, GA
Micheal R. Williams, Maynardville, TN
Michelle Maloney, Blairsville, GA
Mike, Blairsville, GA
Mike, Huntsville, AL
Mike Cassidy, Waverly, TN
Mike Everett, Kingsport, TN
Mike Harriss, Knoxville, TN
Mike Johnson, Bristol, TN
Mr. and Mrs. John Bayme, Dandridge, TN
Mr. and Mrs. John R. Scott, Dunwoody, GA
Mr. and Mrs. Richard Roach, Dandridge, TN
Mrs. Jean Roberts, Morristown, TN
Nadien T. Brown, Sevierville, TN
Nancy B. Cosentino, Dandridge, TN
Larry Clark, Dandridge, TN
Larry Mancini, Blairsville, GA
Larry Pawlosky, Bridgeport, AL
Larry Rinaca, Georgetown, TN
Larry Sample, Blairsville, GA
Lavada Mansfield, Benton, KY
Lee Harrell, Big Sandy, TN
Linda Bartolini, Blairsville, GA
Linda Wingo, Blairsville, GA
Lori Miller, Dandridge, TN
Louis Duval, Dandridge, TN
Louis Murray, Dandridge, TN
Lowell Smith, Raven, VA
Lucille Canter, Dandridge, TN
Lynn Archambault, Dandridge, TN
Lynn Johnson, Bristol, VA
Lynn Peterson, Blairsville, GA
Madeline Roose, Blairsville, GA
Marcia Kammann, Baneberry, TN
Marcia Papatyi, Blairsville, GA
Marcie Lanz, Morristown, TN
Margaret B. Howard, Dandridge, TN
Marianne O. Hatchett, Hayesville, NC
Marie E. Geesa, Blairsville, GA
Mark and Patti Heitzman, Sand Springs, OK
Mark A. Jackson, Dandridge, TN
Martha Jarrard, Hiawasse, GA
Mary and Herbert Arnold, Blairsville, GA
Mary Crosby, Dandridge, TN
Mary Jones, Gatlinburg, TN
Mary Kitchen, Blairsville, GA
Mary Lou Stone, Clarkesville, GA
Mary M. Johnson, Bristol, VA
Mary Teaster, Kodak, TN
Melvin Peterson, Dandridge, TN
Merlin W. Larimer, Benton, KY
Michael A. O'Brien, Kennesaw, GA
Michael and Evelyn Fink, Dandridge, TN
Michael Aparicio, Sevierville, TN
Richard West, Jackson, TN
Ricky and Sabrina Rich, Blairsville, GA
Rita Dumbacher, Huntsville, AL
Ron Boyd, Athens, AL
Robert A. Costner, Jr., Oak Ridge, TN
Robert Browning, Hayesville, NC
Robert Hinton, Thompsons Station, TN
Robert J. Reynolds, Morristown, TN
Robert McNamara, Dandridge, TN
Robert Owens, Marietta, GA
Robert Pardue, Dandridge, TN
Robert Penilo, Ft. Oglethorpe, GA
Robin Gantte, Dandridge, TN
Rod Ogan, Blountville, TN
Rodney Napier, Jr.
Ron Gillespie, Blue Ridge, GA
Ron Witkowski
Ronald Harrison, Birmingham, MI
Ronald Morgan, Marietta, GA

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Nancy Bryant, Dandridge, TN
Nancy Malte, Blairsville, GA
Nancy Winter, Sevierville, TN
Nancy Zambonie, Ex. Director, Morriston, TN
Norma Gailey, Dunwoody, GA
Norman Findley, Atlanta, GA
Norton Samples, Dandridge, TN
Pat Allen
Pat McAlister, Athens, AL
Patricia Osborn
Patsy Stuart, Blue Ridge, GA
Pattie Heitzman, Sand Springs, OK
Paul Baker, Big Sandy, TN
Paul Brownhill, Blairsville, GA
Paul Hargrove, Athens, AL
Paul Morris, Benton, KY
Pete and Diane Heinen, Dandridge, TN
Peter Skop, Norcross, GA
Phil Kammann, Baneberry, TN
Quillian and Linda Millsap, Cartersville, GA
R. A. Kyker, Sevierville, TN
Ralph Davis, Sevierville, TN
Ralph Duff, Saltville, VA
Randomseye Ra, Athens, AL
Randy Newcomb, Gilbertsville, KY
Randy Palmer, Huntsville, AL
Ray Fabery, Decatur, AL
Raymond Phillips, Dandridge, TN
Reileen Beatty, Cumming, GA
Rene Conklin, Dandridge, TN
Renee Mason-Mazzei, Abingdon, VA
Richard and June Peterson, Hiawassee, GA
Richard and Linda Larson, Dandridge, TN
Richard and Margaret Harwood, Dandridge, TN
Richard C. Kammann, Owner/Manager, Banesberry, TN
Richard L. King, Dandridge, TN
Richard P. Emigholz, Pres. Funtimers Fishing Club, Kuttawa, KY
Richard Rodriguez, Sevierville, TN
Thomas G. Sandvick, Morganton, GA
Tim Kirchner, Huntsville, AL
Tom A. Yates, Bristol, VA
Tom Loesel, Blairsville, GA
Tom Murphy, Blairsville, GA
Tom Nichols
Tommy Stephens, Blairsville, GA
Tony Carruth, Rome, GA
Tonya G. Whillock, New Market, TN
Vincent L. and June D. Greaves, Blairsville, GA
Vonda M. Laughlin, Jefferson City, TN
W. E. Wade, Bristol, TN
W. H. Cross, Hiawassee, GA
Walter E. Flood, Friendsville, TN
Walter Lake, Dandridge, TN
Walter Mitchell, Dunwoody, GA
Bill Dearing, Ooltewah, TN
Bill Dyer, Paducah, KY
Rosa Yellig, Evansville, IN
Ross Demuth, Hiawassee, GA
Roy and Beverly Cardell, Blairsville, GA
Roy and Vitron Wilmont, Blairsville, GA
Roy Baker, Eddyville, KY
Roy Keith Stepp, Athens, AL
Ruth Ann Parker, Dandridge, TN
S. Dean Yates, Abingdon, VA
Sam and Billie Hammond, Jefferson City, TN
Sandra Lawson, Eddyville, KY
Sandra Whitener, Dandridge, TN
Sandy Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Sara Harris Mullins, Johnson City, TN
Scott McKee, Dandridge, TN
Sharon L. McCabe, Dandridge, TN
Stan Veltkamp, Baneberry, TN
Stanley L. McClellan, Hartselle, AL
Stephen D. Hiland, Eddyville, KY
Steve and Becky Mishket, Dandridge, TN
Steve Marshall, Dandridge, TN
Steven J. Milcheck, Mooresburg, TN
Sue and Michael Wade, Raven, VA
Sue King, Dandridge, TN
Sue King, Dandridge, TN
Susan D. Jones, Dandridge, TN
Susan Kuehl, Dandridge, TN
Susan Chase, Abingdon, VA
Taulbee Lester, Honaker, VA
Terry Aparicio, Sevierville, TN
Terry Glass
Terry Matney, Abingdon, VA
Terry Peters, Elizabethton, TN
Terry Schwartz, Blairsville, GA
Terry Sisk, Gray, TN
Terry, Frank, Lizette Aparicio, Sevierville, TN
The Honorable Zach Wamp, U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, DC
Theresa Toney, Cedar Bluff, VA
Thomas T. Kitchen, Blairsville, GA
Thomas Atkinson, Blairsville, GA
Thomas Browning, Hayesville, NC
Thomas C. Roberts, Morganton, GA
Walter Shubert, Dandridge, TN
Wayne DeMars, Blairsville, GA
Wayne King, Dandridge, TN
Wes Hardy, Atlanta, GA
Wilbur Neil, Gilbertsville, KY
William and Velda Clayton, Dandridge, TN
William Wood, Bryson City, NC
William Cleveland, Montrose, AL
William Dearing, Chattanooga, TN
William DeLoch
William Gazda, Bryson City, NC
William T. Moon, White Pine, TN
Wm. F. Walsh, Chattanooga, TN
Woody Chastain, Athens, GA
Wooten, Beverly, Blairsville, GA
Worth Mason, Blairsville, GA

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

*Bill Frisbey, Blairsville, GA
Bill Parker, Blairsville, GA
Sydney Y. Cole
Mike Priven
Jill Henderson*

*Wynn Beidleman, Piney Flats, TN
Justin Broadway
Mary Ones
Eugene Henderson
Charles R. Perry*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Under TVA's Preferred Alternative, flows would be adjusted from June 1 through Labor Day, resulting in a longer duration of higher pool levels on a number of reservoirs under median conditions. The results of these evaluations are discussed in the EIS.

Proposed Combination/Modification of Alternatives

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments on modifications to the alternatives addressed in detail in the DEIS suggested combining or modifying the alternatives to reduce adverse effects (e.g., flooding) or to focus on specific priorities (e.g., recreation and/or environmental improvements). Eleven individuals suggested combining one or more of the recreation alternatives (Reservoir Recreation Alternatives A or B, or Tailwater Recreation Alternative) with the Commercial Navigation Alternative in an effort to offset the adverse environmental impacts of those alternatives. A number of individuals recognized the complexity of the reservoir system and suggested a "test" or "pilot program" to evaluate the real-world impacts of the selected alternative. Other comments addressed optimizing individual reservoirs, being more equitable in drawing down pool levels, and studying how Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) rules would affect operations of the reservoir system.

Hybrid of Base Case

- Minimize impacts and provides more enhancement.
- Tweak reservoir operations to better benefit flood control, hydropower, and navigation – the real purposes of why the projects were built in the first place.

Hybrid of Reservoir Recreation A Alternative

- Provide some benefit to Boone Reservoir (e.g., extend summer pool level to October 1).
- Allow winter pool levels to be dropped on Cherokee and Douglas Reservoirs to their current winter pool levels.
- Provide 1.5 feet (18 to 24 inches) more water at winter pool on Kentucky Reservoir.

Hybrid of Reservoir Recreation B Alternative

- Modify to extend tributary summer pool to October 1 and restrict drawdown until October 1.

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Hybrid of Tailwater Recreation Alternative

- Provide range of recreation flows that balances beneficial uses while providing ecological functions.

Hybrid of Tailwater Habitat Alternative

- Modify to achieve objectives and mitigate environmental consequences.

Blend of Alternatives Considered

- Blend Base Case and Commercial Navigation Alternative.
- Blend Reservoir Recreation A and Commercial Navigation Alternatives.
- Blend Reservoir Recreation Alternative B and Commercial Navigation Alternative.
- Blend Tailwater Recreation and Equalized Summer/Winter Flood Risk Alternatives to bring reservoir up slower in spring in order to reduce the likelihood of spring flooding and to hold summer pools longer to improve recreation.

Modified to Accomplish Designated Purposes

- Modify to optimize environmental improvements.
- Review possibility of special flushing releases during major rain events, when extended minimum flows are in effect in order to remove deposited sediment.
- Blend alternatives with flood control and protection of the environment (including water supply and quality) as highest priorities, followed by navigation and recreation (note that the relative priority of these will vary with location).
- Optimize navigation and water quality.
- Manage water levels to benefit fish and wildlife.
- Modify to hold water levels more stable during spawning season.
- Manipulate water levels to enhance sport fisheries and overall fish community.
- Modify 2-foot increase in winter pool to reduce impacts on flood control; try 1-foot increase to help winter recreation and aid navigation.
- Consider two or three plans of action, depending on the actual water levels and conditions; design alternatives that are triggered when certain rain and water level conditions are met.

Other Alternatives

- Begin with a commitment to keep flood levels the same as Base Case, then determine what winter levels should be and then summer levels.
- Consider alternatives with the least impact on the aquatic resources of the Tennessee Valley system and substantially increase recreational opportunities.
- Develop an alternative designed to protect aquatic habitat and species.
- Consider alternatives that would decrease flooding potential for Pickwick and Kentucky Reservoirs.

Optimize Individual Reservoir

- Maximize each reservoir for residents/users of it, provided it does not substantially and negatively affect other users or other systems.

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- Use Reservoir Recreation Alternative A for Cherokee Reservoir and differing alternatives for other reservoirs to produce best overall system-wide results.
- Manage each reservoir for its own unique situation rather than a standard procedure for the whole reservoir system.
- Consider the highest and best use of each lake in the system. For some, it may be flood control, but navigation shouldn't be as high as it is now.
- Reservoirs such as Fontana, Nottely, and Watauga could be managed to optimize recreation, tourism, and/or water supply, while downstream reservoirs could be managed under other more profitable guidelines.
- Try a softer approach on a per-reservoir basis.

Pilot Test

- Try a more conservative approach for a season or two before implementing a more aggressive alternative.
- Suggest a "trial" or "pilot program" for one of the alternatives outlined in the study; could extend study now in progress.

Fill and Drawdown

- Use a more balanced approach for raising and lowering tributary reservoirs.
- Address additional winter pool drawdown options.
- Reduce period of draining and filling reservoirs.
- Average the drawdown between reservoirs, so that they are all taken down the same amount.
- Keep all reservoirs at relatively the same pool levels for the same duration, as nature and flood control allow. Do not have certain lakes absorb all fluctuation while preferred lakes are kept stable.
- Lower pool levels consistently and on the same time frame across reservoirs. One of the biggest areas of concern over the past has been the varying degrees of draws between the surrounding tributaries. Nottely has had a lower level much earlier than Lake Chatuge and Lake Blue Ridge.
- Appears study was written to justify Base Case.
- As an alternative, study how following FERC rules would affect the system.

Commenters

*April Hall, Alabama Rivers Alliance,
Birmingham, AL*

Austin Carroll, Hopkinsville, KY

Barbara A. Walton, Oak Ridge, TN

Bob Russum, Piney Flats, TN

Brian E. Eeister, Bethalto, IL

Brian Geisel, Golden Pond, KY

Crystal Brown, Decatur, AL

Dale Whitman, Bristol, TN

Dana J. Mullins, Hillsboro, AL

Dave Cooper, Morristown, TN

Dennis Mack, Huntsville, AL

Don Waldon, Columbus, MS

Doug Triestram, Blairsville, GA

Forrest Liles, New Concord, KY

Kerry Grissett, Decatur, AL

Kevin M. McCarthy, Peachtree City, GA

K. Pritchard, Decatur, AL

*Lamar Paris, Sole Commissioner, Union County,
GA*

Larry Mancini, Blairsville, GA

Lynn Fowler, Mayor, City of Decatur, Decatur,

AL Malcolm P. Cotton, Dandridge, TN

Marti Steffen, Dandridge, TN

Margaret H. Schramke, Blairsville, TN

Mary Pat

Norman K. Owen, Murphy, NC

Peter Low

Ray Murphy, Dandridge, TN

Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN

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Frank McGinley, Savannah, TN
Gloria Dahlberg, Dandridge, TN
Greg Batts, Cadiz, KY
Guy Larry Osborne, Jefferson City, TN
Harold Andrews, Hiawassee, GA
H. B. McCowan, Clinch River Chapter, Trout Unlimited, Lake City, TN
J. C. Goodwin, Tuscaloosa, AL
Jim Wood, Hiawassee, GA
Joe Brang, Dandridge, TN
John Honey, Dandridge, TN
John S. McClellan, Dandridge, TN
Karen Adamson, Blairsville, GA
William H. Dyer, Paducah, KY

Richard Wagner, Blairsville, GA
Roger Gant, Corinth, Ms
Ron Krammes, Dandridge, TN
Stefan Prada, Morristown, TN
Gunnar F. Wilson

Richard C. "Dick" Crawford, President & CEO, TVPPA, Chattanooga, TN
Sarah A. Francisco and Richard A. Parrish, Southern Environmental Law Center, Charlottesville, VA
Stefan A. Prada, Morristown, TN
Wayne and Sigrid Burge, Athens, AL
William Gazda, Bryson City, NC

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted. TVA appreciates the suggestions of how alternatives could be modified or combined to increase their value and reduce adverse impacts. Those individuals who suggested TVA combine one or more of the recreation alternatives with commercial navigation to reduce adverse environmental consequence overlooked the issue that most of the adverse impacts of the recreation alternatives result primarily from higher and extended pool levels. The Preferred Alternative is a hybrid or blended alternative that was formulated to accomplish many of the changes suggested in these comments.

In response to the suggestion that TVA consider FERC rules, both FERC and TVA rely on the basic elements of the National Environmental Policy Act, specifically consideration of environmental impacts and public participation to incorporate stewardship considerations into their decision-making processes. Section 4(e) of the Federal Power Act requires FERC to give recreation, environment, fish and wildlife, and non-power values the same or "equal" consideration as it does to power and development objectives. By contrast, the TVA Act requires TVA to regulate stream flows primarily for certain non-power objectives: navigation and flood control and, consistent with those purposes, power generation. In addition, TVA must carry out its responsibilities for achieving these three system benefits in the context of its overall regional development mission and the demands of good stewardship, including water quality, water supply, and recreation.

TVA evaluated holding pool levels higher over a range of possible dates as it formulated the alternatives analyzed in detail in the EIS. Dates extending higher pool levels beyond Labor Day into fall resulted in unacceptable levels of increased flood damage and significant impacts on water quality.

In reference to the suggestions to run pilot tests, TVA has long employed an adaptive management approach to the operation of its reservoir system and intends to continue to do this, regardless of which alternative is selected. This involves extensive monitoring of a number of different reservoir and ecological parameters, and flexible application of reservoir operating guidelines that takes into account monitoring results. See Section 3.4 and Chapter 7.

Proposed Project Modifications

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who made comments that recommended modifications to projects mentioned specific summer or winter pool elevations. A few individuals proposed alternatives to the rate and amount to which certain reservoirs are drawn down. These and other proposed changes are listed below. Several of the agencies acknowledged that this EIS is programmatic in nature, but asked that TVA consider as part of the EIS or in subsequent studies various reservoir-specific issues or needs.

Blue Ridge

- Hold summer pool levels at elevation 1,690.

Boone

- Modify Reservoir Recreation Alternative A to provide some improvement on Boone Reservoir.
- Hold reservoir up longer.

Chatuge

- Maintain minimum pool no less than elevation 1,920 beginning in 2003.

Cherokee

- Maintain full summer pool at elevation 1,073.

Douglas

- Maintain minimum winter pool at elevation 960 (2).
- Maintain winter level at 970 to 980.
- Maintain minimum winter pool from elevation 955 to 958.
- Leave winter pool 10 to 30 feet higher (3); drawdown of 40 to 50 feet is excessive; 30 feet should allow for enough flood control.
- Increase winter pool about 10 feet higher than under Reservoir Recreation Alternative B.
- Maintain summer pool levels at least at elevation 990 or above between Memorial Day and Labor Day.
- Limit drawdown to elevation 985 August 1 to September 1, then a minimum of 975 until October 1.
- Limit drawdown to 980 feet from August 1 until Labor Day, then 970 feet until October 1.
- Maintain two-thirds full or less for duck hunting.

Great Falls

- Maintain summer pool at elevation 800 from May 30 through Labor Day.
- Increase winter pool elevation to 795.

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Kentucky Reservoir

- Increase winter pool a few inches and more gradually fill and draw down the reservoir, starting when it is normally started, so that reservoir is filled later in spring and reaches winter pool later in fall.
- Begin drawdown from summer pool earlier than the existing Base Case and operate Pickwick and Kentucky Dams in tandem to maximize Kentucky Reservoir's riverine character and maintain biological health of this highly important resource.
- Hold winter level at elevation 356; elevations below 354 create hazards for reservoir users.
- Hold winter pool higher than elevation 354.3.
- Hold winter pool at elevation 356.
- Hold winter pool at least at 357.
- Hold summer pool of 359 and extend it past Labor Day.
- Raise winter pool a few inches; fill to summer pool more gradually, reach summer pool a little later in spring; maintain summer pool about same time; and draw it down gradually to reach slightly higher winter pool. No drastic changes.
- Maintain pool level in January and February at 354; from March to April 1 increase to 356; from April 1 to May 1 increase to 359; stay at that level until Labor Day; from Labor Day until November 1, go down to 356; then from November 1 through December go down to the 354; and back to January and February at 354.

Melton Hill

- Maintain water levels at 794 during the day for boater access.

Norris

- Don't go above elevation 1,020 during boating season because of bank erosion.

Nottely

- Leave at or near full pool (elevation 1,777 to 1,779) until Labor Day.
- Maintain summer levels above elevation 1,775.
- Maintain above 1,775 through Labor Day.
- Extend pool levels at least 6 weeks.

South Holston

- Increase winter pool to 1,702 or higher.
- Keep winter pool level at 1,713 (4).
- Do not drop winter pool level below elevation 1,716.
- Raise summer pool from 1,721 to 1,729.
- Increase summer pool between elevations 1,725 and 1,728.
- Keep pool elevations at 1,720 until Labor Day.
- Limit volume discharged to what is coming in.

Watauga

- Keep Labor Day pool level above elevation 1,949.

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Wheeler

- Raise minimum flood guide level to elevation 552.
- Maintain pool levels above elevation 553 for water quality.

Wilson

- Provide additional 3 feet of water at winter pool below Wilson Dam.
- Provide minimum flows.

Commenters

Al Caudell, Marietta, GA

Anonymous

Bill Beutjer, Athens, AL

Bill Faber (Sportsmans Marina), Abingdon, VA

Bob Garrison, Blairsville, GA

Carole Kovich, Benton, KY

Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN

Dale Hartsell, Newport, TN

Dennis Yates, Baneberry, TN

Garland Wyatt, Benton, KY.

Gary Connaughty, Hiawassee, GA

George A. Gantte, Dandridge, TN

George Chaney, Knoxville, TN

George Cherry, Hiawassee, GA

Gloria Dahlberg, Dandridge, TN

Gordon B. Livingston, Clinton, TN

Greg Robinson, Abingdon, VA

J. Cavagnini, Dandridge, TN

Jackie F and Brenda Sise, Dandridge, TN

Jay and Libby Wise, Johnson City, TN

Jerry Stephens, Bluff City, TN

John Harper, Sikeston, MO

Larry and Karen Clevinger, Dandridge, TN

Mark Fredrick, Murray, KY

Michael Guffey, Seymour, TN.

Michael R. Adamson, Blairsville, GA

Michael Sylva, Del Rio, TN

Michael Sylva Sledjeski, Del Rio, TN

Paul Morris, Benton, KY

Peter Brunson, Killen, AL

Ralph Sheets, Abingdon, VA

Rex Mallory, Bristol, VA

Richard N. Douglas, Benton, KY

Roger Helton, Honaker, VA

Steven L Grubb, Knoxville, TN

Thomas Hodge, Dandridge, TN

Ulf Rheborg, Marietta, GA

Wayne Goodwin, Bristol, TN

Wilbur Neil, Gilbertsville, KY

William E. Hixson, Newport, TN

William T. Moon, White Pine, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Although the focus of this programmatic EIS was to conduct detailed analysis on system-wide issues, reservoir specific recommendations that were received from scoping through the DEIS were considered in constructing all of the policy alternatives evaluated in this EIS, including the Preferred Alternative. Due to the infinite number of policy alternatives that could be developed from combinations of these recommendations, not all of the suggestions could be specifically included in the detailed analysis, but the nature of the suggestions was addressed within the context of broader programmatic issues. For example, under the Preferred Alternative, winter flood guides would be raised on Boone, Chatuge, Cherokee, Douglas, Norris, Nottely, South Holston, and Watauga Reservoirs. Also, the duration of the restricted summer drawdown would be extended on Blue Ridge, Chatuge, Cherokee, Douglas, Great Falls, Norris, Nottely, South Holston, Watauga, and Wheeler Reservoirs.

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F2.3 Resource Areas

Water Levels for Fish Spawning

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who commented on fish spawning were concerned about the effect of water level fluctuations on fish reproductive success. Most people were critical of TVA's existing reservoir operations, particularly how water levels are drawn down during the spring spawning season. In addition to individual comments, TVA received a petition signed by 4,602 fishermen on Cherokee Reservoir, requesting that TVA stabilize reservoir levels during spring spawn to increase fish populations in all reservoirs in east Tennessee. Several individuals recommended that TVA cooperate with state fisheries agencies to improve fish spawning success. Major issues identified by those commenting on water levels for fish spawning are listed below:

- Stable water levels are critical during spring for fish to spawn.
- A substantial reduction in fish populations is due primarily to drawdown during spawning.
- Water level fluctuations have hurt fish reproduction; the generations of bass, crappie, and other species are lost year after year when water levels are dropped either during or just after spawn.
- Filling reservoirs early and holding them steady would enhance crappie and bass sport fisheries and benefit the overall fish community.
- Tax revenue would be lost because of no fish to catch.
- Decreasing standing stocks of sport fish, such as white and black crappie and largemouth bass, hurts the local economy; visitation of fishermen to the area during the months of March through May and September through November can make or break a resort's business for the year.
- Reduction of shoreline scrub/shrub wetland habitat or buttonbush habitat because of longer periods of full pool levels on Kentucky Reservoir, as well as other mainstem reservoirs, would substantially affect spawning success of white and black crappie and largemouth bass (7).
- Cooperate with the state agencies (e.g., Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries and Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency) on improving fish spawn (6).
- Petition signed by 4,602 fishermen on Cherokee Lake indicates that changing water levels during spawning time may be destroying eggs and requests stable water levels during fish spawn to increase fish populations in all reservoirs in east Tennessee.
- Request that water levels not be lowered on South Holston during fish spawn (8).
- Ecology of Cherokee and Douglas Reservoirs is suffering as evidenced by a substantial reduction of fish populations.

Commenters

*Al Westlake, Athens, AL
Alan Mitchell, Abingdon, VA
Angela Yates, Abingdon, VA
Ann R. Warner, Memphis, TN
Anonymous (2)*

*Lorraine Nobes, Murfreesboro, TN
Larry Akers, Abingdon, VA
Larry Whaley, Dandridge, TN
Lowell Smith, Raven, VA
Martha Atkins, Morristown TN*

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Ben Sharrett, Abingdon, VA
Bernard Johnson, Dandridge, TN
Bill Coward, New Market, TN
Chris Perkins, Florence, AL
Christine M. Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Don A. Brown, Greeneville, TN
Doug Triestram, Blairsville, GA
Edward Stricklin, Murfreesboro, TN
G. L. and Billie Bowman, Dandridge, TN
Gary D. Jenkins, Buchanan, TN
George A. Gantte, Dandridge, TN
Gilbert Moebes, Decatur, AL
H. R. Nichelson, Cherokee, AL
James Blankenship, Cedar Bluff, VA
James E. Barker, Kodak, TN
James W. McCabe, Dandridge, TN
J. D. Smith, Doran, VA
Jeff Blankenship, Cedar Bluff, VA
Jerri Mitchell, Abingdon, VA
Jimmy and Amy Owens, Dandridge, TN
John Ashe, Hayesville, NC
John Taylor, Springville, TN
Kerry Grissett, Decatur, AL

Mike Harriss, Knoxville, TN
Martha L. Atkins, Morristown, TN
Norman Owen, Murphy, NC
Paul Howell, Selmer, TN
Petition signed by 4,602 concerned fisherman
Ralph Duff, Saltville, VA
Richard L. King, Dandridge, TN
Richard Simms, Chattanooga, TN
Robert Browning, Hayesville, NC
Roger Dixon, Greeneville, TN
Roger Gant, Corinth, MS
Ron Witkowski
S. Dean Yates, Abingdon, VA
Sandy Robinson, Abingdon, VA
Sharon L. McCabe, Dandridge, TN
Steve McAdams, Paris, TN
Sue King, Dandridge, TN
Theresa Toney, Cedar Bluff, VA
Tom A. Yates, Bristol, VA
Vincent L. and June D. Greaves, Blairsville, GA
Wayne K. King, Dandridge, TN
William McIntosh, Blairsville, GA

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

As discussed in Section 4.7.2, TVA has a program to stabilize water levels as the water temperature at a depth of 5 feet reaches 65 °F. Attempts are made to minimize water level fluctuations (maintain level within 1 foot per week, either higher or lower) for a 2-week period. TVA proposes to adjust this routine, beginning in 2004, to stabilize levels at 60 °F in order to better include spawning for crappie, smallmouth bass, and early largemouth and spotted bass. Minimizing water level fluctuations is only one part of the fish spawning issue. Other environmental characteristics are also important in determining the numbers of larvae and juvenile fish produced. Factors after spawning, such as the amount of food and cover available for much of the initial growing season, are also critical to determining the number of catchable fish. TVA cannot limit fluctuations during the entire spawning season because of unacceptable impacts on flood risk and achieving other operating objectives for the TVA system.

Migratory Shorebirds

Summary of Comments

Most individuals whose comments related to migratory shorebirds expressed concern about changes in TVA's drawdown policy to reduce or eliminate flats and other critical habitats for migratory shorebirds, as well as herons, egrets, bald eagles, peregrine falcons, waterfowl, and other species. Accordingly, most were opposed to any changes in TVA's existing policy, (i.e., they supported the Base Case). They recommended that if the existing policy is changed, TVA should conduct additional evaluations of baseline conditions and potential impacts of alternatives, document the results in the FEIS, and mitigate any loss by providing a comparable

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

or greater amount of habitat elsewhere across the reservoir system. The primary concerns of these commenters are listed below:

- Flats on Douglas (Rankin Wildlife Management Area), Chickamauga (Hiwassee Wildlife Refuge) Wheeler (Wheeler National Wildlife Refuge) and Kentucky (Tennessee National Wildlife Refuge) Reservoirs are important stopovers for wading birds, shorebirds, and waterfowl during migration.
- Changes in the existing policy to extend water levels through Labor Day will greatly reduce or potentially eliminate flats and other critical feeding and resting habitats for migratory species during peak migration.
- Late summer shallows are important for juvenile and adult wading birds that breed in the area.
- TVA does not have comprehensive survey or inventory data. If an alternative other than the Base Case is selected and implemented, TVA should compile all known data on species occurrence, numbers, alternative sites, and alternative site utilization for the project area, and also assess the potential for reservoir habitat loss and shorebird use for each alternative.
- TVA should evaluate the potential to avoid impacts on certain high-quality areas and nominate these areas as Important Bird Areas.
- Mitigate loss through creation of other suitable habitat; there should be no net loss of these areas in any modified river system operations plan.
- Evaluate (research if necessary) the use of areas and impact of habitat loss to shorebird energetics during migration.
- Consider the economic benefits from birders.

Commenters

Anonymous

Barabara G. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN

Benny Thatcher, Knoxville, TN

Bettie Mason, Knoxville, TN

Charles Musde, Maryville, TN

Charlotte E. Lackey, for WNC Group, NC

Chapter, Sierra Club, Asheville, NC

Christine Liberto,

Clayton Ferrell, New Johnsonville, TN

Dan Feathers, Nashville, TN

David A. Aborn, Ph.D, Chattanooga, TN

David Vogt, Chattanooga, TN

Dr. K. Dean Edwards, Knoxville, TN

Dwight Cooley, Athens, TN

Elizabeth Wilkinson-Singley, Kingston, TN

Gary D. Jenkins, Buchanan, TN

Gaynell Thomas, Del Rio, TN

James K. Luce, M.D., Amarillo, TX

Jay Desgrosellier, Nashville, TN

J. Don Burgess, Killen, AL

Charles Muise

Jerry Hadder, Oak Ridge, TN

Jim Garner, Madison, MS

Kelly, Knoxville, TN

Kevin Calhoon, Chattanooga, TN

John Taylor, Springville, TN

Leslie J. Gibbens, Del Rio, TN

Linda Wright, Cosby, TN

Marian Fitzgerald, Maryville, TN

Mary Stevens, Jackson Audubon Society,

Jackson, MS

Michael A. McMahan, Chattanooga, TN

Michael Smith, Gallatin, TN

Michael Sylva Sledjeski, Del Rio, TN

Michael Todd, McKenzie, TN

Robert Wheat, Paris, TN

Ruth Pullen

Shirley Cunningham

Steve McCadams, Paris, TN

Thomas and Marian Fitzgerald

Wayne Patterson, Shannon, MS

Noreen Kenny

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

As noted in Section 5.10, most of the identified alternatives would affect flats and other habitats used by migratory shorebirds and other wildlife. Concerns for impacts on migratory species were considered in developing the Preferred Alternative. The Preferred Alternative would eliminate most of the proposed increases in winter pool levels on mainstem reservoirs, including Kentucky Reservoir. Accordingly, the Preferred Alternative would result in fewer impacts on flats and other critical habitats of migratory shorebirds. The FEIS includes additional analysis and information to address the issue. Issues regarding surveys and data gatherings are addressed in the Terrestrial Ecology section in Appendix F3.

Shoreline Erosion

Summary of Comments

Most individuals who expressed general concern about soil erosion indicated that higher and more constant water levels could reduce erosion, especially during the peak of the boating season. Their concerns included loss of land, loss of shoreline vegetation, bank slumping, and sedimentation that could occur due to wind- and boat-generated waves, fluctuating reservoir levels, and exposure of soil in winter months under TVA's existing operations policy. These and other concerns are listed below:

- Reservoirs should be maintained at constant level to prevent erosion.
- Shoreline is lost every year as lakes are lowered; shoreline erosion goes unabated.
- Change in water levels during boating season subjects the entire shoreline to erosion.
- Trees and other native vegetation are being lost due to bank slumping from undercutting of the banks.
- When water levels are held high during the boating seasons, erosion occurs mostly at a single point with little if any "undercutting."
- Higher lake levels in winter covers flats and reduces erosion and sedimentation.
- On Douglas Reservoir, banks are eroding at a very fast rate due to extreme drawdown.
- Boat traffic is a major contributor to shoreline erosion on Lake Nottely; it appears that there is more erosion when the lake levels are below full pool, than at full pool.
- High water is ruining the shoreline on Lake Blue Ridge; shoreline is eroding and trees are collapsing into the water.
- As a lakefront homeowner, I am very concerned about the amount of erosion we have experienced in the past several years.
- If the levels were left at more consistent levels or at full pool, property owners could better control the erosion of their individual properties.
- TVA should provide information and assistance to residents on how to stop erosion.

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Commenters

Anonymous (2)
Bill Dearing, Ooltewah, TN
Charles Butler, Powder Springs, GA
Chuck Kinard, Morristown, TN
Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN
David and Marilyn Miles, Dandridge, TN
Doug Triestram, Blairsville, GA
Freda Wycoff, Abingdon, VA
Howard Lowden, Rome, GA
Jack Miller, Hiawassee, GA
James F. Smith, Ringgold, GA
Jane Chinnici, Hiawassee, GA
John Taylor, Springville, TN
Joe Depew, Kodak, TN
Larry Mancini, Blairsville, GA
George Latham

Lee S. Horne, Lebanon, VA
Mark Patterson, Brentwood, TN
Michael A. O'Brien, Kennesaw, GA
Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Wenberg, Blairsville, GA
Robert Taylor, Dandridge, TN
Susan Goodman, Dandridge, TN
Patti Grubb, Knoxville, TN
Paul Howell, Selmer, TN
Roger W. Hill, Jr., Blairsville, GA
Sally Bobo, Hiawassee, GA
Sharon L McCabe, Dandridge, TN
Steve McCadams, Paris, TN
Thomas G. Sandvick, Morganton, GA
Thomas L. Parker, Murphy, NC
Tony E. Branan, Hiawassee, GA

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted. Shoreline erosion is an unavoidable consequence of changing water elevations, wind- and boat-generated waves, and freezing and thawing of exposed shore lands. Although there is a slight water quality impact from this erosion, it is small compared to the sediment contributions from the watershed. Because TVA's Preferred Alternative would result in higher winter flood guides, erosion is likely to decrease in the most sensitive, low-lying areas because less area would be exposed. The text in Section 5.16 has been changed to clarify this.

Additionally, TVA has an ongoing program to assess, prioritize, and repair eroding TVA-owned shoreline. TVA Watershed Teams work with local communities and property owners to address problem areas on tailwater banks. Watershed Teams provide technical support and help with obtaining funding. In addition to traditional riprap, TVA supports the use of bioengineering and natural channel design techniques to enhance habitat and aesthetics, while stabilizing shoreline and channels. These efforts are ongoing and might be expanded if the alternative chosen is shown to increase erosion rates.

Economic Analysis and Adverse Effects on Jobs and Local Economy

Summary of Comments

A number of individuals questioned the credibility of the economic analysis. They rejected the determination that increasing recreational opportunities by extending summer pool levels would result in negative impacts on the economy and a net loss of jobs. On the contrary, most indicated that higher and longer reservoir levels would expand tourism and development in their local communities and, as a result, create additional jobs and increase revenue for the local economy. Typical comments provided by those critical of the economic analysis are listed below:

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- I disagree with the adverse effects on jobs.
- Can't imagine how an economist would conclude that jobs would be less with longer recreational periods.
- The economic analysis showing a net economic loss under plan A or B is not credible.
- I don't understand the negative impact on jobs that are indicated in the study.
- I think you have vastly underestimated the effects of jobs, as I think it would create a very positive job market, not negative.
- Leaving lake levels up for longer periods of time would not have a negative economic impact.
- Contrary to your study, the greater number of users on and around the lake shorelines, the greater number of jobs would be created for the people in these rural areas.
- Contrary to what your economists have stated, the retaining of more consistent lake levels would be an economic boon to the area.

Commenters

Anonymous

Charles Butler, Powder Springs, GA

Chuck Kinard, Morristown, TN

Colman B. Woodhall, Johnson City, TN

David and Marilyn Miles, Dandridge, TN

Doug Triestram, Blairsville, GA

Freda Wycoff, Abingdon, VA

Howard Lowden, Rome, GA

Jack Miller, Hiawassee, GA

James F. Smith, Ringgold, GA

Jane Chinnici, Hiawassee, GA

John Taylor, Springville, TN

Joe Depew, Kodak, TN

Larry Mancini, Blairsville, GA

Lee S. Horne, Lebanon, VA

Mark Patterson, Brentwood, TN

Michael A. O'Brien, Kennesaw, GA

Mr. and Mrs. D. C. Wenberg, Blairsville, GA

Robert Taylor, Dandridge, TN

Susan Goodman, Dandridge, TN

Patti Grubb, Knoxville, TN

Paul Howell, Selmer, TN

Roger W. Hill, Jr., Blairsville, GA

Sally Bobo, Hiawassee, GA

Sharon L McCabe, Dandridge, TN

Steve McCadams, Paris, TN

Thomas G. Sandvick, Morganton, GA

Thomas L. Parker, Murphy, NC

Tony E. Branan, Hiawassee, GA

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

There is no doubt that an extended recreation season on tributary reservoirs would result in job creation in the areas around those reservoirs, particularly in the recreation and tourism industry and retail sales. However, the TVA region as a whole would be negatively affected by Reservoir Recreation Alternatives A and B, because a loss of hydropower generation would increase power costs. These increased costs drive up the cost of doing business in the Tennessee Valley, the result of which would be jobs lost, either through plant relocation, job reduction, or slower job growth (as compared to the Base Case).

While coal-fired and nuclear plants provide the base load of TVA's power production capabilities, hydropower is used to meet peak demands. The water that turns turbines at tributary dams continues to generate electricity at each location downstream. If that hydropower capability is reduced as a result of holding tributary pool levels up longer, TVA must replace that power by either generating it using other means (typically gas turbines) or buying it off the

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national grid at market rates. Either proposition is more expensive than hydropower generation, especially in August when annual demand is at its greatest. TVA costs are paid for by its power consumers. Increased power costs are passed along to customers.

Although the percentage is small, the actual change in the cost of doing business for industrial customers purchasing hundreds of thousands of dollars of electricity every day could be millions annually. These industries compete with others outside the region, so they might, in turn reduce their workforce, add fewer jobs than would occur under the Base Case, or relocate in order to remain competitive. Consequently, extending summer pool levels would increase the number of lower-wage, seasonal jobs in areas around the tributary reservoirs but decrease the number of higher-wage, permanent manufacturing jobs elsewhere in the TVA region. From a regional perspective, the economic losses would outweigh the economic benefits.

F2.4 Out of Scope

Logs and Debris

Summary of Comments

Several individuals expressed concerns regarding the large amounts of floating logs and debris when pool levels are raised and their accumulation along shorelines when pool levels are lowered. They commented on how the amount of trash and debris continues to grow, creating increasing hazards for boaters and night fishermen. Several indicated that the problem was too large for a few concerned citizen groups and property owners, and suggested that TVA and other agencies should address the problem. Suggestions to address the problem are listed below:

- Provide revenue to address the problem.
- Create jobs so that someone is constantly working on the problem.
- Use prison inmates to cleanup the shoreline.
- Work with other agencies, such as the Corps, to remove logs and debris, especially big logs and large objects in the water, which are dangerous to boaters.

Commenters

Anonymous (2)
Clarence R. Bailey, Dandridge, TN
Jeff Cabe, Robbinsville, NC
Sharon Chilson, Bryson City, NC
Don Cross, Bluff City, TN
Laurie Danko, Dandridge, TN
Louis Duval, Dandridge, TN
Fred Frazier, Bluff City, TN
Mike Harriss, Knoxville, TN

Alice Jane Jesseel, Abingdon, VA
Jerri Mitchell, Abingdon, VA
Dianna Mullins, Bristol, TN
Karen Niehaus, Cadiz, KY
Norman Owen, Murphy, NC
Jean Prater, Athens, AL
Mrs. Jean Roberts, Morristown, TN
Mark Wiggins, Cordova, TN
Jay Wise, Johnson City, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TVA agrees that the presence of floating logs, trash, and debris on TVA reservoirs and shorelines is a serious problem, particularly after heavy rains and sudden increases in water levels. Most of the debris originates on land and enters the rivers and streams due to erosion, rainfall runoff, and improper disposal practices. Effective combative measures require a concerted effort by the general public, reservoir users, TVA, and other organizations to conduct cleanup projects and public education campaigns, and to enforce laws related to littering and dumping trash. To help address this problem, TVA actively works in partnership with reservoir users, other citizen groups, and local agencies to plan and implement cleanup of shorelines before the reservoir level rises each spring. It is commendable when property owners take the time and effort to clean up the shoreline in front of their lots. Reservoirs by nature contain hazards that may not be visible to all users. While TVA tries to identify and mark permanent hazards that could affect a large number of users, use of TVA reservoirs by the public is at the risk of individual boaters.

Boater Safety

Summary of Comments

Three individuals expressed concern regarding snags, stumps, and other submerged objects posing safety hazards for boaters if pool levels are changed, especially in small inlets and backwater areas. They noted that adding 2 feet of water to winter levels will have serious consequences to boaters, as stumps that normally are out of the water in winter pool, or deeper in summer pool, become just out of site, but within the draft of a boat. They recommended that backwater areas laced with stumps be marked in some way, or that the stumps be physically removed to protect recreational boaters from the hazards associated with travel in those areas. One individual suggested that TVA come out in favor of age restrictions for boats and other powered watercraft.

Commenters

Mark Cole, Athens, AL
Candy Cox Ellis, Bristol, VA
H. Lee Fleshood, Nashville, TN
John Gustafson, Decatur, AL

Chip Miller, Hixson, TN
Lorraine Nobes, Murfreesboro, TN
James D. Wheeler, M.D., Dandridge, TN

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

TVA recognizes that when the reservoir levels are raised or drawn down on certain reservoirs, submerged hazards may become more problematic to boating safety. This occurs at a time when the majority of the recreating public has reduced their use. There are inherent risks in recreation activity. TVA makes an effort to mark particularly hazardous underwater obstructions; however, use of TVA reservoirs by the public is at the risk of individual boaters. State agencies are primarily responsible for regulating usage and safety of watercraft and should be contacted about setting age restrictions on watercraft use.

APPENDIX F2 Response to General Comments, Issues, and Concerns

Jet Skis

Summary of Comments

Several individuals expressed concern and frustration regarding jet ski operators. Concerns focused on operators having no regard for property owners who live on the lake, shoreline damage and safety hazards they cause, possibly restricting them to certain areas on lakes, and operators being under age.

Commenters

*Tony E. Branan, Hiawassee, GA
Barbara Phillips, Lexington, KY
Frank Stahlkuppe, Hiawassee, TN
Earl L. Card*

*D. C. Wenberg, Blairsville, GA
Joanne Wenberg, Blairsville, GA
Roger W. Dixon, Young Harris, GA*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

Comment noted. State agencies, not TVA, regulate watercraft operations on TVA reservoirs.

Water Pollution

Summary of Comments

Water pollution concerns were raised by several individuals around Boone, South Holston, Hiwassee, and Chatuge Reservoirs, and elsewhere. Sewer outfalls and runoff from hog and cattle farms were mentioned as particular problems. A few commenters asked whether TVA has a role in addressing these issues; others requested that TVA take a more active role in monitoring and policing lakes for violators.

Commenters

*Anonymous
Angela Boyda, Abingdon, VA
Louis Duval, Dandridge, TN
H. Lee Fleshood, Nashville, TN
Fred Frazier, Bluff City, TN
Jeff Garner, Florence, AL
Barbara Garrow, Dandridge, TN*

*Brian Mazzei, Abingdon, VA
Steven J. Milcheck, Mooresburg, TN
Lorraine Nobes, Murfreesboro, TN
Jean Prater, Athens, AL
K. Pindzola, Johnson City, TN
Alice Russell, Hayesville, NC
[I] Tolly G. Shelton, Decatur, AL*

RESPONSE TO COMMENTS

This EIS focuses on the reservoir system operations policy, not issues of the type identified by those commenting on water pollution. However, TVA is aware that both failing septic systems and runoff from cattle operations can adversely affect water quality. Through its Clean Water Initiative, TVA is developing partnerships with regulatory agencies, the general public, local officials, industries, and other others to enhance water quality in the Tennessee Valley.