



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**
Savannah District

News Release

Rains prompt Corps of Engineers to shut Thurmond Dam

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Savannah, Ga. – Due to abundant rains in the upper Savannah River Basin including significant rain in the Stevens Creek sub-basin immediately below the J. Strom Thurmond Dam, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has stopped all outflows from the Thurmond Dam for 24 – 48 hours beginning late today.

Inflows to the Savannah River below Thurmond Dam reached as high as 5,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). The required minimum outflow from Thurmond Dam is currently 3,600 cfs to meet downstream needs. With the natural flows exceeding minimum requirements, Col. Ed Kertis, the commander of the Savannah District, in consultation with Corps of Engineers water managers, decided to suspend discharges from the reservoir. Water managers will evaluate the river flow early Monday to determine when outflows from Thurmond Lake must resume.

The Corps will evaluate each rain storm for the ability to retain more water in the three Savannah River reservoirs it controls. Not all storms will provide the needed downstream flow for long enough to make suspending discharges practical.

The three reservoirs, Lakes Hartwell, Russell, and Thurmond, along with the Savannah River below Thurmond Dam, provide water for cities, industries, utilities, and waste treatment for cities from Greenville, S.C., to Savannah, Ga. The reservoirs provide recreation opportunities to tens of millions of visitors each year.

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News Release

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