

Enclosure Seven

Recreation

Identified Issues:

Recreational access was not initially an authorized use of the Federal reservoirs. Utilization of reservoir land for recreation purposes was provided for under Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1944 and the Outdoor Recreation Act of 1956. Because Hartwell and Thurmond attract millions of visitors each year, fluctuations in the water level which lead to reductions in visitation can result in economic impacts to the local economy.

Alternative Plans and Evaluations: In order to address the potential impacts from low lake levels, it will be necessary to determine the water level of the lakes that is required to support recreational facilities and activities. In addition, there is also interest, at the feasibility phase, in determining the value of recreation opportunities at the reservoirs.