



Effects of Changes in Water Level Management on Usage of Lake Martin for Recreation and Related Economic Activity 12(g) and 12(h)



SOUTHWICK
ASSOCIATES

FISH AND WILDLIFE ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS



A SOUTHERN COMPANY



12 (G) – Effects Of Raising Winter Pool Level and Increasing the Duration Of Summer Pool On Recreation Use:

- Estimate total recreational use of the lake, by month and by day type (weekday, weekend, holiday)
- Estimate recreational user characteristics (type of activity, type of residency)
- Estimate the effects of six different water levels on recreational use.

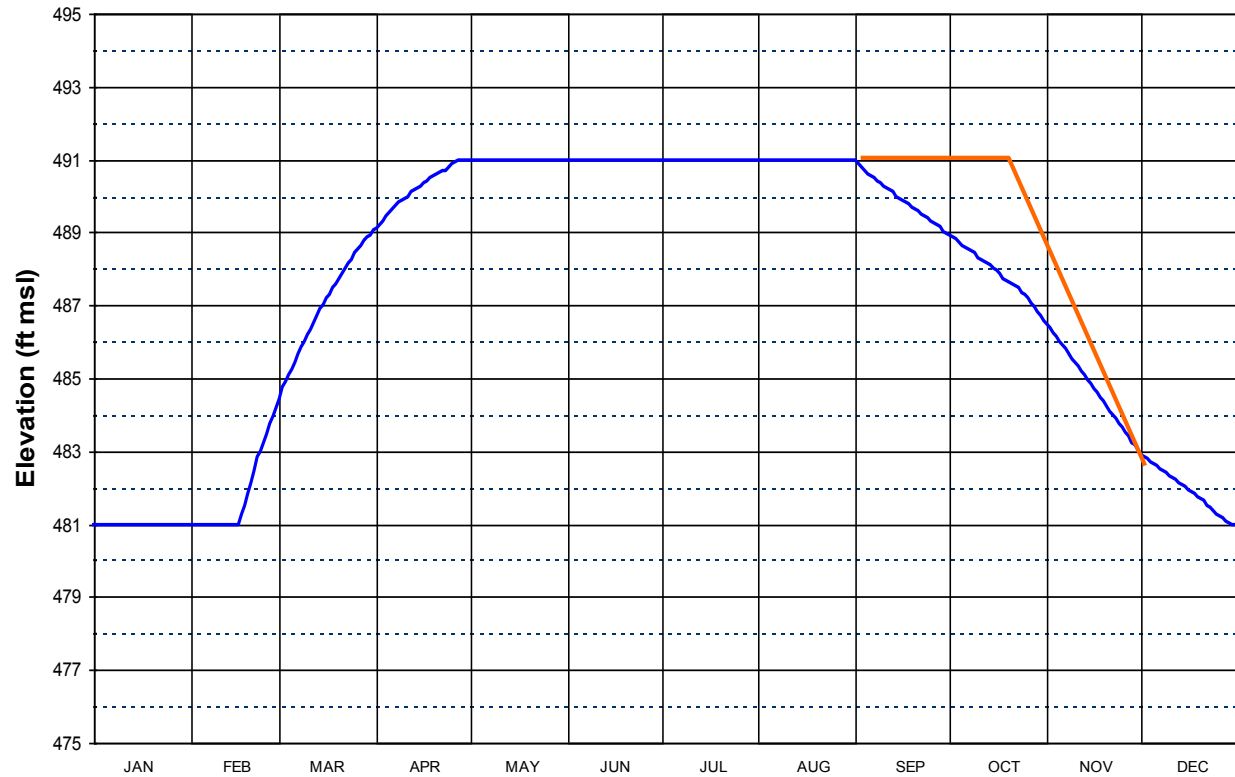


12 (H) – Effects Of Raising Winter Pool Level and Increasing the Duration Of Summer Pool On Lake Martin Economic Indicators:

- Estimate trip and equipment expenditures related to recreational use of Lake Martin
- Estimate real estate-related expenditures on the shoreline: purchase, construction and/or maintenance
- Estimate current market value of shoreline property
- Estimate effects of different water levels on expenditures and shoreline property values
- Estimate the current economic impacts of recreational use on the local and statewide economies and the economic impacts from different water level scenarios

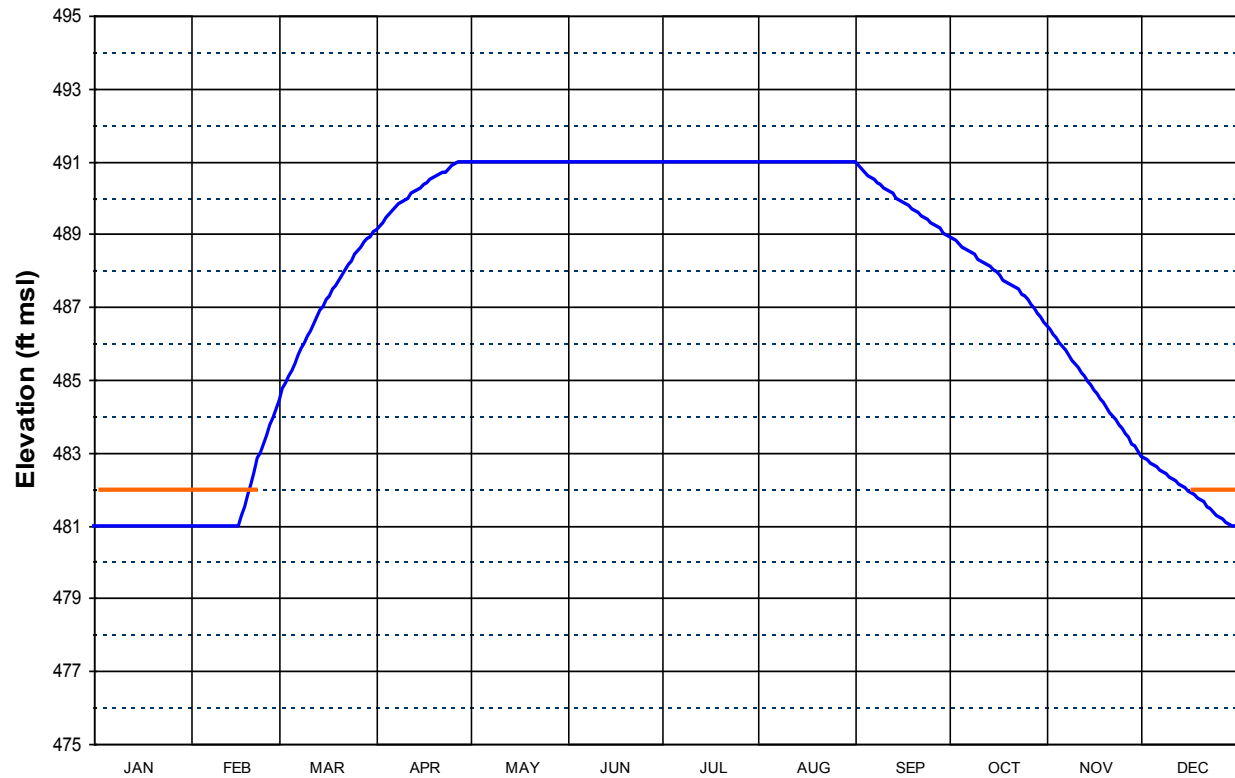
Fall Shoulder Alternative (FSA)

Lake Martin: Fall Shoulder Alternative



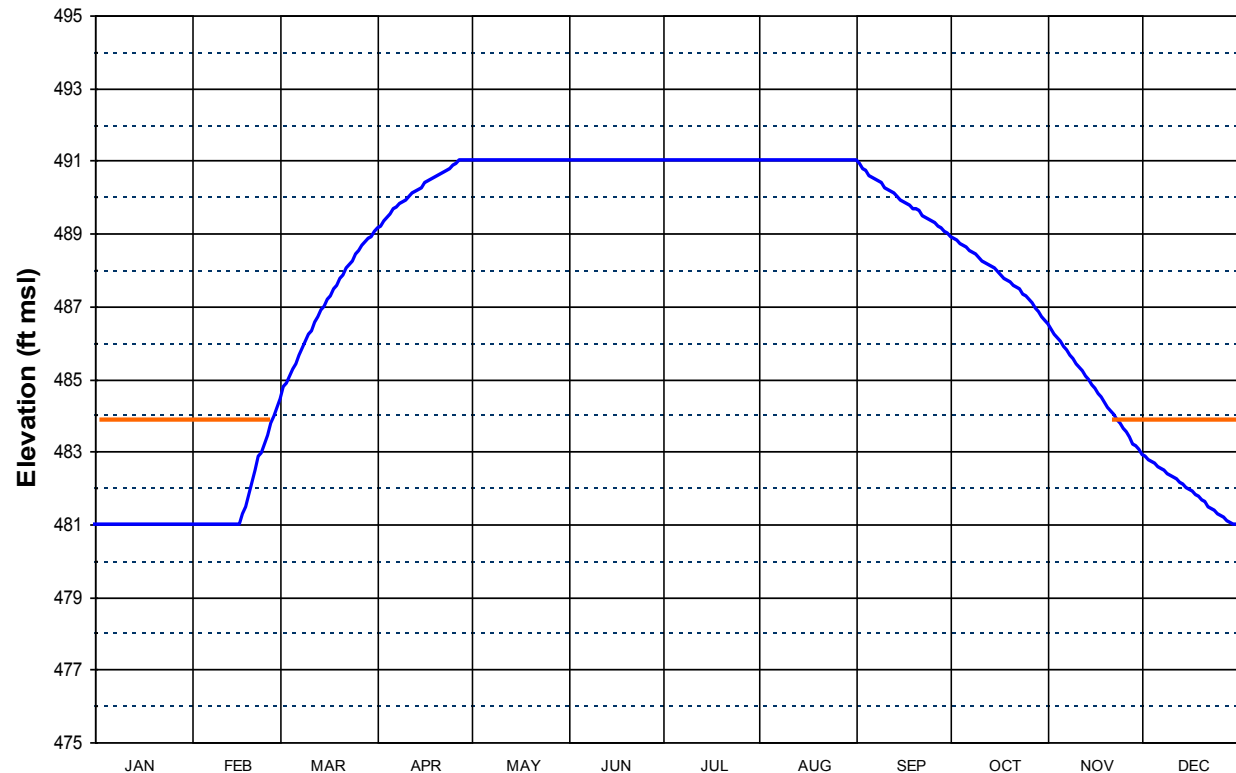
Winter Pool 1-foot Higher (WP1)

Lake Martin: One-Foot Higher Winter Pool Alternative



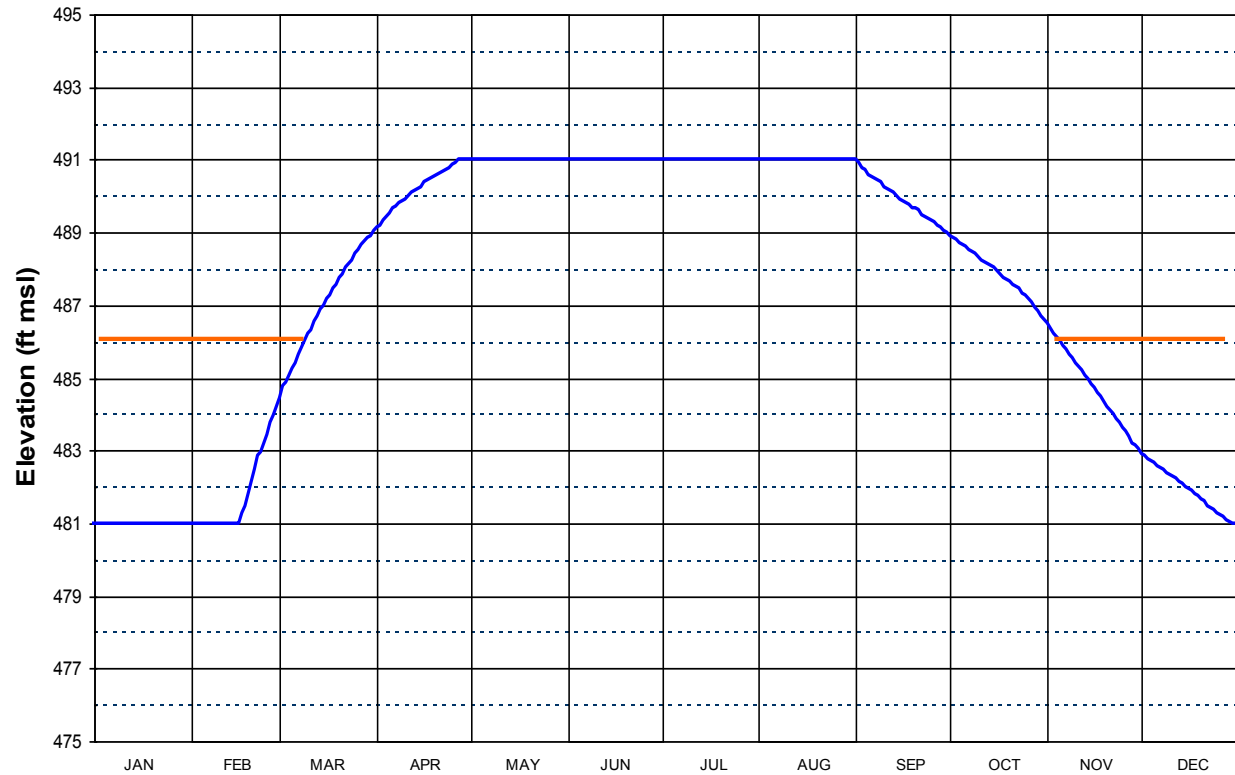
Winter Pool 3-feet Higher (WP2)

Lake Martin: Three-Foot Higher Winter Pool Alternative



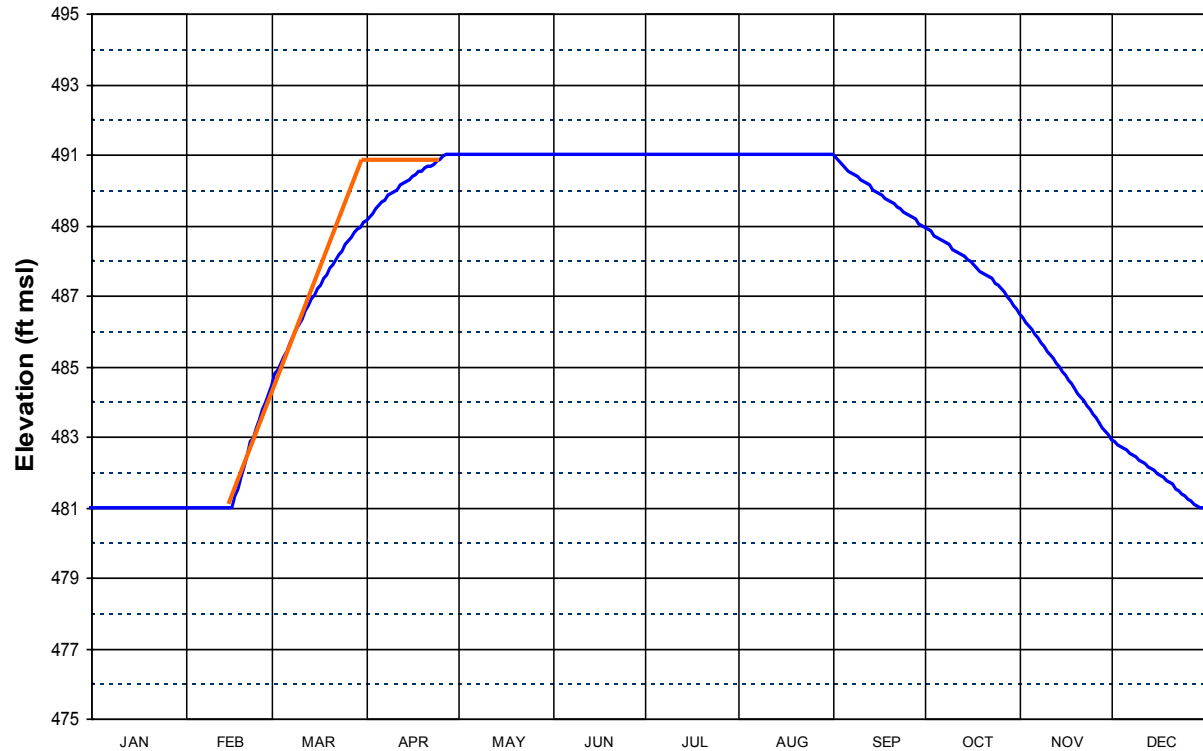
Winter Pool 5-feet Higher (WP3)

Lake Martin: Five-Foot Higher Winter Pool Alternative



Spring Shoulder Alternative A (SSA)

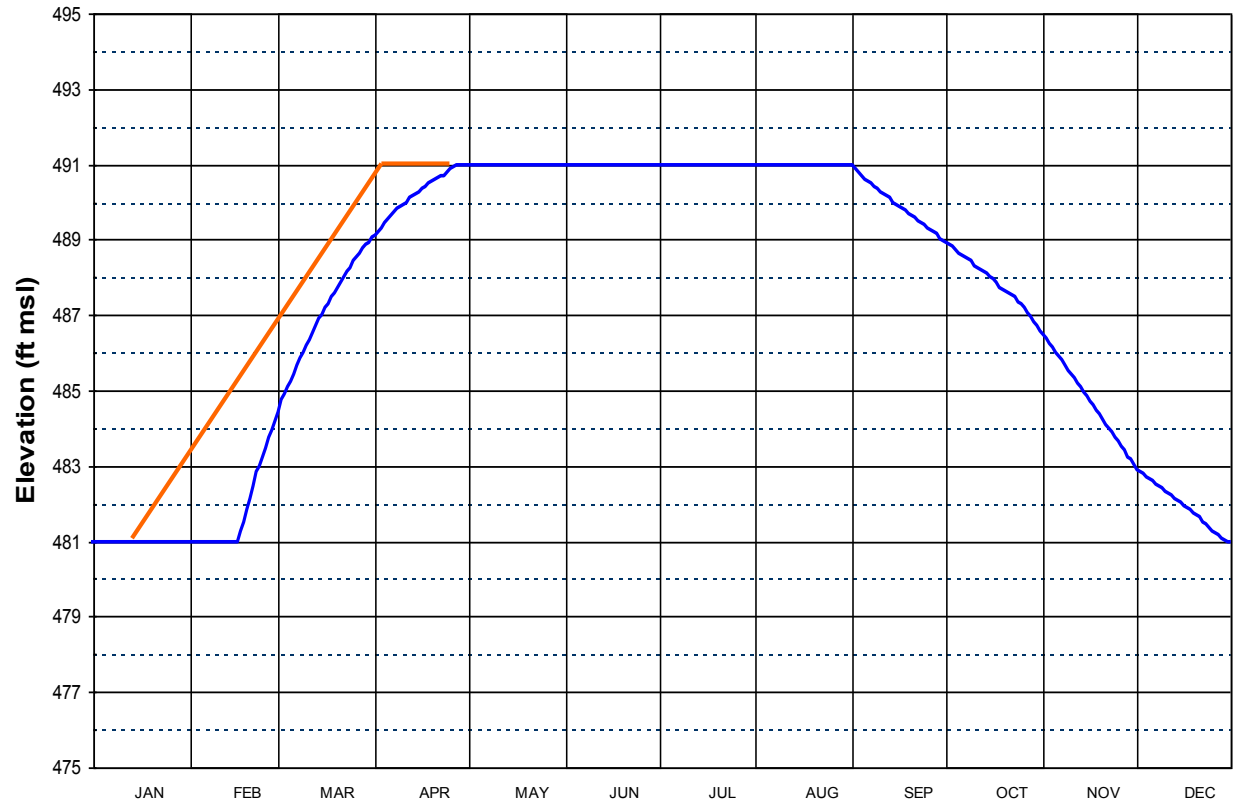
Lake Martin: Spring Shoulder Alternative A



Spring Shoulder Alternative B (SSB)



Lake Martin: Spring Shoulder Alternative B





Process

- Public Input:
 - Kick-off meeting to gain feedback and insights from local stakeholders.
- Data collection
- Analysis & modeling
- Two business roundtables to ground-truth initial results:
 - Real estate representatives
 - Local business leaders



Data Collection:

- Task I: Recreational Use and Expenditure Survey
- Task II: Shoreline Property Owner Survey
- Task III: Business Survey

Task I: Recreational Use and Expenditure Survey

PURPOSE WAS TO ESTIMATE:

- Recreational use of the lake [12(g)]
- Recreational user characteristics (type of activity, residency type, etc.); [12(g)]
- Estimate trip-related expenditures [12(h)]
- Estimate equipment expenditures [12(h)]
- Estimate effects of increasing the duration of the summer pool and increasing the elevation of winter pool [12(g) & 12(h)]


Task I: Recreational Use and Expenditure Survey

Method:

- On-site survey (168 sampling days from June 2009 to 2010)
- Sampling dates and locations randomly selected
- Lake Martin(168 sampled days) plus 11 public access sites and tailwater sampling (42 sampled days each)

Task I: Recreational Use and Expenditure Survey: Interviews

	SOURCE		All Surveys
	Reservoir	Recreation Sites	
Surveys attempted	725	91	816
Declined	87	32	119
Previously interviewed	4	2	6
No responses	3	-	3
Total removed	94	34	128
Survey completed	631	57	688



Task II: Shoreline Property Owners Survey

PURPOSE WAS TO ESTIMATE:

- Shoreline property owners characteristics, recreational use and their property [12(g)]
- Months when docks become unusable [12(g)]
- Current market value of shoreline property [12(h)]
- Recreation lake usage expenditures [12(h)]
- Construction and maintenance costs [12(h)]
- Estimate effects of increasing the duration of the summer pool and increasing the elevation of winter pool [12(h)]

Task II: Shoreline Property Owners Survey

Method:

- Mail survey of shoreline property owners
- 10% of privately owned shoreline parcels were randomly selected (N = 690)
- Six different versions – with one scenario – were distributed
- Post card announcement and two rounds of surveys sent in Nov/Dec 2009
- Online response option

Task II: Shoreline Property Owners Survey: Response

Survey Version	Mailing	Undeliverable	Responses		Response Rate
			Online	Mail	
Fall Shoulder Alternative	115	7	3	56	54.6%
Winter Pool Alt 1	115	10	7	53	57.1%
Winter Pool Alt 2	115	8	10	54	59.8%
Winter Pool Alt 3	115	11	4	62	63.5%
Spring Shoulder Alt A	115	6	5	65	64.2%
Spring Shoulder Alt B	115	7	4	54	53.7%
TOTAL	690	49	33	344	58.8%

Task III: Lake Martin Business Survey

PURPOSE WAS TO ESTIMATE:

- Characteristics of business and business activity (e.g., on lake or off lake, type of business, gross annual sales, etc.); [12(h)]
- Effects of increasing the duration of the summer pool and increasing the elevation of winter pool on business activity. [12(g)]

Task III: Lake Martin Business Survey

Method:

- Sale tax data were not available to support a regression-based statistical model.
- A DELPHI survey was used (Rand Corp/DoD):
 - Two rounds of email-based surveys supported by direct phone calls.
 - Draft results were reviewed with other local businesses to ground-truth results.
- Existing data sources used to report size & details of the local business community.

Task III: Lake Martin Business Survey: Delphi Panel

Type of Business	Total
Food & Beverages	4
Gifts and Souvenirs	1
Marinas	3
Real Estate	2
Other - Retail	2
Government	3
Total	15



RESULTS:

Recreational Use

Recreational Use of Lake Martin



	Visitors and seasonal landowners	Permanent residents	TOTAL
Reservoir hours	1,379,000	551,021	1,930,021
Tailwater hours	8,854	3,538	12,392
Total hours	1,387,854	554,559	1,942,413
% of Total	71.40%	28.60%	100.00%
Total Days	264,750	105,789	370,540

Recreational Use of Lake Martin

Month	Weekday	Weekend	Holiday
	user-days	user-days	user-days
January	3,014	1,027	0
February	3,393	1,386	0
March	10,630	3,283	0
April	11,042	16,933	0
May	16,482	13,082	1,074
June	27,052	28,014	0
July	70,537	67,616	10,405
August	17,031	23,069	0
September	9,145	9,552	4,922
October	5,625	3,400	0
November	3,757	4,076	0
December	1,632	996	0
Sub-total	179,339	172,433	16,401
Tailwater (annual)	1,516	812	37
Total	180,855	173,245	16,438



Recreational Use of Lake Martin



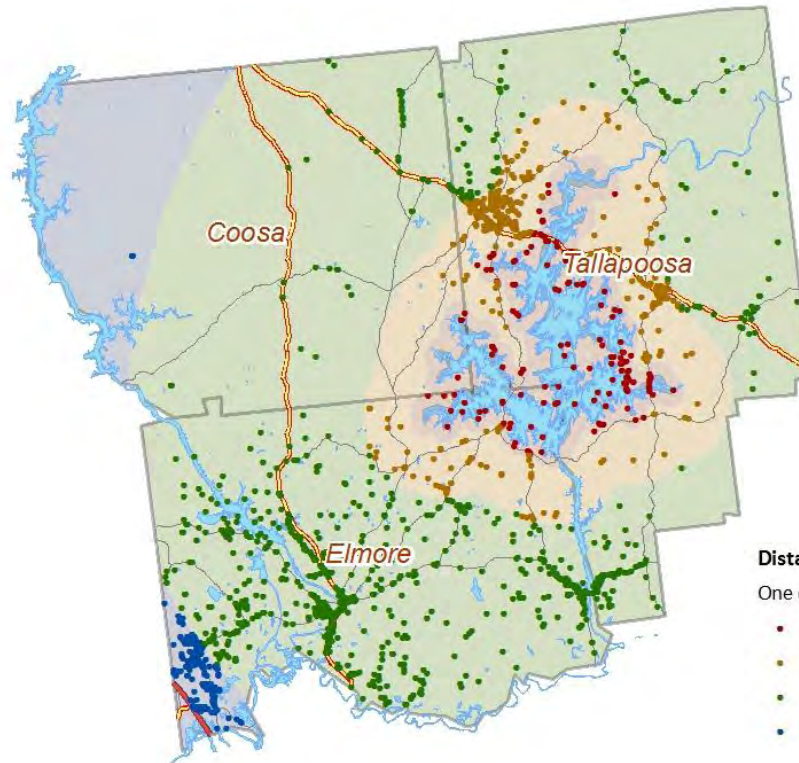
Reservoir Activity	User-days	% of Total
Pleasure boating	191,364	52.0%
Swimming/beach use	35,496	9.6%
No primary activity	33,094	9.0%
Water-skiing/tubing/other tow	29,574	8.0%
Jet skiing	25,653	7.0%
Fishing (from boat)	19,382	5.3%
Canoeing/kayaking	7,703	2.1%
Fishing (from shore)	7,564	2.1%
Tent or vehicle camping	5,458	1.5%
Sailing	5,014	1.4%
Sightseeing	2,884	0.8%
Other	4,987	1.4%
Total	368,173	100.0%



RESULTS:

Recreational Expenditures

Businesses in the Lake Martin Region



Distance to Lake Martin

One dot = One business

- Less than 1 mile
- 1 to 5 miles
- 5 to 25 miles
- Greater than 25 miles

Regional Industries: Annual Revenues

Industry Sector	In Millions of Dollars			
	Coosa	Elmore	Tallapoosa	Total
Ag, Forestry, Fish	\$2.5	\$21.5	\$14.9	\$39
Mining	\$4.1	\$3.7	\$8.7	\$17
Construction	\$24.8	\$307.7	\$155.5	\$488
Manufacturing	\$79.6	\$315.3	\$437.7	\$833
Trans & Utilities	\$23.8	\$170.7	\$55.4	\$250
Wholesale Trade	\$81.5	\$946.9	\$266.7	\$1,295
Retail Trade	\$48.3	\$927.9	\$469.2	\$1,445
Finance, Insur, R.E.	\$6.2	\$295.0	\$350.1	\$651
Services	\$94.0	\$986.9	\$740.8	\$1,822
Total	\$365	\$3,976	\$2,499	\$6,839

Regional Industries: Percent of Sales and Employment

	Sales	Employment
Agriculture, Forestry, Fish	0.6%	1.1%
Mining	0.2%	0.1%
Construction	7.1%	6.6%
Manufacturing	12.1%	15.2%
Transportation, & Utilities	3.6%	2.8%
Wholesale Trade	18.9%	3.9%
Retail Trade	21.1%	24.2%
Finance, Insurance, Real Estate	9.5%	5.7%
Services	26.5%	39.8%
Public Administration	0.3%	0.4%
Total	100.0%	100.0%

Trip-related Expenditures (dollars spent per day of recreation)

Expenditure category	Visitors & Seasonal		Permanent Residents	
	N	Mean	N	Mean
Transportation	617	\$11.17	271	\$14.08
Food & beverages	617	\$8.76	270	\$12.04
Trip-related gear and services	617	\$1.18	270	\$1.42
Lodging	621	\$2.39		na
Miscellaneous	617	\$1.35	270	\$2.52
Total	617	\$24.86	270	\$30.06

Trip-related Expenditures (total annual spending)

Expenditure category	Visitors & Seasonal Residents	Permanent Residents	All Users
Transportation	\$2,958,537	\$1,489,476	\$4,448,013
Food & beverages	\$2,319,597	\$1,273,960	\$3,593,558
Trip-related gear and services	\$311,829	\$149,763	\$461,592
Lodging	\$632,323	na	\$632,323
Miscellaneous	\$356,573	\$266,609	\$623,182
Total	\$6,578,859	\$3,179,808	\$9,758,667

Recreation Equipment Expenditures (total annual spending)

Expenditure category	Visitors & Seasonal Residents	Permanent Residents	All Users
Boats & trailers	\$23,507,132	\$4,374,588	\$27,881,720
Boating accessories & repairs	\$3,252,893	\$1,078,535	\$4,331,428
Fishing equipment	\$491,244	\$367,617	\$858,862
Total	\$27,251,270	\$5,820,740	\$33,072,010

Real Estate & Related Expenditures (total annual spending)

Expenditure category	Visitors & Seasonal Residents	Permanent Residents	All Users
Real estate	\$81,215,209	\$36,967,130	\$118,182,338
House and building construction	\$52,696,166	\$14,018,986	\$66,715,152
Boat docks and boat houses	\$4,774,004	\$1,246,337	\$6,020,341
Other equipment	\$1,323,068	\$245,897	\$1,568,966
Total	\$194,510,987	\$64,119,829	\$258,630,816

Total Annual Recreation-Related Spending (\$ million)

Expenditure category	Visitors & Seasonal Residents	Permanent Residents	All Users
	<i>\$ millions</i>		
Trip-related	\$6.6	\$3.2	\$9.8
Recreation equipment	\$27.3	\$5.8	\$33.1
Real estate & construction	\$194.5	\$64.1	\$258.6
Total	\$228.3	\$73.1	\$301.5

Economic Effects of Combined Trip, Equipment & Real Estate Spending



Visitors/Seasonal Residents	<u>Direct</u>	<u>Total</u> (incl. multiplier)
Output	\$96,765,288	\$121,954,493
Income	\$21,952,294	\$29,977,400
Employment	733	1,000
Permanent Residents		
Output	\$26,263,957	\$33,103,293
Income	\$5,913,172	8,089,760
Employment	205	277
Total		
Output	\$123,029,245	\$155,057,786
Income	\$27,865,466	38,067,160
Employment	937	1,277

Current estimated state/local and federal tax revenues associated with trip, equipment and real estate spending

	State and Local Tax Revenues	Federal Tax Revenues	Total tax Revenues
<u>Trip Spending</u>			
Visitors/Seasonal	\$372,664	\$330,224	\$702,888
Permanent Residents	\$171,160	\$146,428	\$317,588
<u>Equipment Spending</u>			
Visitors/Seasonal	\$910,279	\$767,525	\$1,677,804
Permanent Residents	\$196,463	\$166,454	\$362,917
<u>Real Estate Spending</u>			
Visitors/Seasonal	\$2,390,005	\$4,848,574	\$7,238,579
Permanent Residents	\$659,154	\$1,301,579	\$1,960,733
All Spending	\$4,699,725	\$7,560,784	\$12,260,509



RESULTS:

Estimated Effects of Alternative Water Level Scenarios



Estimated Change in Recreational Use Per Water-Level Scenario

Management Scenario	Seasonal & Day Visitors (% change in trips)	Permanent Residents (% change in days)	Wtd Avg % change for all users
FSA	13%	5%	11 %
WP1	1%	6%	2 %
WP2	9%	6%	8 %
WP3	11%	8%	10 %
SSA	3%	3%	3 %
SSB	8%	5%	7 %

Estimated Change in Recreational Use: Delphi Results

Management Alternative	Average Predicted Change in Business Activity
Fall Shoulder Alternative	14%
Winter Pool Alt. 1	0%
Winter Pool Alt. 2	5%
Winter Pool Alt. 3	15%
Spring Shoulder Alt. A	7%
Spring Shoulder Alt. B	8%

Estimated Change in Trip-Related Spending Per Water-Level Scenario

Scenario	Visitors	Permanent Residents	All Users
	<i>\$ millions</i>		
Baseline	\$6.6	\$3.2	\$9.8
FSA	\$7.4	\$3.3	\$10.8
WP1	\$6.6	\$3.4	\$10.0
WP2	\$7.2	\$3.4	\$10.5
WP3	\$7.3	\$3.4	\$10.7
SSA	\$6.8	\$3.3	\$10.1
SSB	\$7.1	\$3.3	\$10.4

Estimated Change in Selected Equipment Expenditures Per Water-Level Scenario



Scenario	Percent of <i>visitors/seasonal residents</i> who would increase spending:	
	Boat Accessories	Docks & boat houses
FSA	39%	41%
WP1	20%	20%
WP2	31%	28%
WP3	33%	36%
SSA	18%	13%
SSB	31%	27%

Estimated Change in Lakefront Property Values Per Scenario

Scenarios	% Change		
	Permanent Residents	Seasonal / Occasional	All Property Owners
FSA	15.4%	8.9%	10.7%
WP1	7.9%	7.6%	7.7%
WP2	11.0%	8.7%	9.8%
WP3	9.2%	15.9%	12.6%
SSA	6.0%	6.5%	6.4%
SSB	0.9%	16.3%	10.4%

Estimated Change in Lakefront Property Values Per Scenario

Scenarios	Increase in Total Property Value
Baseline	\$2.87 billion
	<u><i>\$millions</i></u>
Fall Shoulder Alternative	\$231.8
Winter Pool Alternative #1	\$166.8
Winter Pool Alternative #2	\$212.3
Winter Pool Alternative #3	\$273.0
Spring Shoulder Alternative A	\$138.7
Spring Shoulder Alternative B	\$225.3



Conclusions:

- Lake Martin is an important recreational resource locally and beyond.
- Recreation spending due to Lake Martin is an important contributor to the local economy, but it is not dominant.
- Recreational use is highly seasonal.



Conclusions:

Winter Pool 3 (WP3) and Fall Shoulder Alternative (FSA) were consistently preferred. Some reported reasons:

1. FSA provided additional months of warm water (preferred by visitors) and more summer months of usable docks (residents)
2. WP3 allows many docks to be used longer, if not year-round, and may not deter as many visitors from the region



**MARTIN
DAM
RELICENSING**

QUESTIONS?



SOUTHWICK
ASSOCIATES

FISH AND WILDLIFE ECONOMICS AND STATISTICS



A SOUTHERN COMPANY