

Meeting Notes Summary: January 16, 2003

Coosa River Projects

www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro

Meeting Attendees

IAG Members

Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Bruce.DiGennaro@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Don Haney	Individual	edhaney@aol.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Bill Sim	APC	wasim@southernco.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Bert Thaxton	Lay Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners	riverratthax@aol.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.al.us
Joe Young	Lake Jordan Home Owners and Boat Owners	pegyoung@earthlink.net
Gene Allison	APC	EBALLISO@southernco.com
Jack Blackburn	Neely Henry Lake Association	jaandja@gateway.com
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com

Other Meeting Attendees

Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	dancatch@hiwaay.net
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR	rclaybrook@dcnr.state.al.us
Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt	Kelly.Scaeffe@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Heather Seiders	EPRO	hseiders@eproconsulting.com
Danny Tignor	APC	DGTIGNOR@southernco.com
Harold Clark	Lay Lake Home Owners and Boat Owners	
Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners	danmurch@aol.com

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the Lower Coosa River meeting attendees:

- Barry Lovett: Present the Lake Clean-Up and Woody Debris recommendations to the CCRT at next week's meeting.
- Dan Murchison: Contact Marine Police regarding concerns about the relationship between the Marine Police and the Coosa HOBOS.
- Barry Lovett: Gather information regarding APC's legal/jurisdictional rights on lands within the FERC boundary.

Meeting Notes

These notes summarize the major discussion items and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River

Meeting Notes Summary: January 16, 2003

Introduction and Review

The goal of this meeting was to update the IAGs regarding on-going and future work; discuss the recommendations on lake clean-up and woody debris and attempt to reach consensus on the recommendations.

Ongoing Work

Barry Lovett indicated that work has and will continue to be conducted to address issues raised in the Recreation IAGs, even if the groups are not meeting. Much of the work from September 2002 to date has included mapping, preparing concept design and gathering information to address stakeholder questions and issues. Barry also highlighted that emails have been distributed regarding specific issues and recommendations to certain IAGs, as needed.

Bill Campbell briefly discussed concept designs, aerial photography and shoreline management mapping. The development of the concept designs is extremely time intensive due to the quantity of sites being investigated and the quality of the concept designs being prepared. Bill noted that several potential sites have been ruled out and the reasoning behind the decisions will be discussed at future IAG meetings. The IAGs will be presented with the concept designs for each reservoir this spring.

Barry stated that other issues raised by the IAGs, including, but not limited to sedimentation, lake level fluctuations and public safety, will be discussed at future IAG meetings.

2003 Work

This year's schedule includes numerous relicensing meetings and activities and will be the most intensive and challenging year of this process.

Recommendations

The Lower Coosa IAGs have on several occasions discussed the woody debris and lake clean-up issues. Based on those discussions, Bruce DiGennaro developed recommendations (in a format consistent with what the ecological group) that he believed captured the essence of the discussions, comments, and recommendations of IAG members. Bruce utilized the Coalitions' comments regarding these issues, specifically utilizing language that was provided to revise the recommendations. At this time, all homeowner association representatives were asked if they were linked with the Coalition. All meeting attendees acknowledged the Coalition and stated that they were aligned with this organization.

Lake Clean Up

“The Recreation IAGs proposes the following recommendation to the WCRT and the CCRT.

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River

Meeting Notes Summary: January 16, 2003

A general statement will be put in the project recreation plans that states that Alabama Power Company will continue to help promote and assist lake reservoir groups and other stakeholders in their efforts to remove trash and litter from APC reservoirs, as long as volunteer interest remains high.”

Several IAG members suggested that the last sentence of the recommendations read “as long as volunteer participation remains reasonable”. The sentence will be revised to reflect this comment. Meeting attendees had no further comments, questions or concerns regarding the lake clean-up recommendation. Meeting attendees agreed with the recommendation as written. Therefore, the facilitator acknowledged this unanimous agreement and stated that the recommendation will be put forth at next week’s joint WCRT and CCRT meeting.

Woody Debris

“The Recreation IAGs propose the following recommendation to the WCRT and the CCRT.

A general statement will be put in the project recreation plans that states that Alabama Power Company in coordination with Lake Associations, and the Marine Police Division will periodically monitor and review the amount, location and origin of woody debris on APC reservoirs. Should an inspection lead the Marine Police Division to conclude that a significant public safety issue might exist because of APC’s practice of releasing woody debris and trash accumulations from its dam trash racks downstream, APC will, at the request of the Marine Police Division, reopen this issue for discussion and resolution. Similarly, should the Alabama Department of Environmental Management conclude that a significant water quality issue might exist for the abovementioned reason, APC will, at the request of the Alabama Department of Environmental Management, reopen this issue for discussion and resolution.”

Meeting attendees had no comments, questions or concerns specific to the woody debris recommendation. Bruce explained to this group that the Smith IAG stated that woody debris, as outlined in this recommendation, was not an issue and therefore recommended that all references to the Warrior River and the Smith Lake be removed from the document. Meeting attendees agreed with the recommendation with the deletion of all references to the Warrior River and Smith Lake. Therefore, the facilitator acknowledged this unanimous agreement and stated that the recommendation will be put forth at next week’s joint WCRT and CCRT meeting.

Other Discussions

Shoreline Management Plan

Stakeholders want to know APC’s legal/jurisdictional rights on lands within the FERC boundary. This information will help stakeholders focus their requests and discussions. Barry explained that APC will gather this information for a future meeting.

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River

Meeting Notes Summary: January 16, 2003

Several stakeholders also noted that the shoreline management issue may need to be addressed at the individual IAG level because there are varying conditions and agreements on these lakes. Bill Campbell suggested that one approach that will prove efficient and effective is focus on specific areas and not every shoreline property.

Overnight Camping on Mitchell Lake

Key stakeholders have been able to reach a consensus agreement on the proposal that was put forward by EPRO. Discussion of this proposal will be added to the February meeting agenda.

Public Safety

APC encourages interested stakeholders to provide feedback when the public safety proposal is presented in February. This goal of this proposal is to address public safety issues that have been raised in this relicensing, including signs, general information requests, training and buoys.

Interaction with the Marine Police

Dan Murchison expressed concerns about the relationship between the Marine Police and the Coosa River HOBOS. APC stated that the monitoring portion of the woody debris recommendation emphasizes cooperation between APC, the Marine Police and the Coosa River HOBOS. This cooperation should address any potential communication concerns.

In addition, stakeholders were encouraged to talk with the Marine Police and APC will work with the HOBOS and Marine Police to facilitate communication. The issue of communication and process will also be addressed in the public safety recommendations that will be introduced at a future meeting.

January 22nd Meeting

A joint meeting of the WCRT and the CCRT will be held on January 22, 2003 at APC headquarters in Birmingham. Meeting attendees were encouraged to provide information to the CCRT and WCRT regarding the recommendations and previous discussion and verbally support both the woody debris and lake clean-up recommendations. The WCRT and CCRT will attempt to reach a consensus on these issues based decision on the IAGs' recommendations.

This joint meeting will be divided into three parts: 1) a presentation by Kelly Schaeffer – Decision Making Processes and Reaching Consensus, followed by the presentation of ecological and recreation IAG recommendations; 2) review of the Shoreline Management Plan outline; and 3) a workshop led by Walter Ramey – The APC Permitting Process. No recreation IAGs will be meeting on this date.

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River

Meeting Notes Summary: January 16, 2003

Next Steps

All CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 IAG and Lower Coosa River materials will be distributed to IAG members prior to meetings and posted on the Internet at www.southernco.com/alpower/hydro.

The next CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 meetings will be held on February 19th and 20th. APC will contact the IAGs once the meeting specifics have been determined. During the February meetings, Keith Bryant and Bob Huffaker will present a proposal to address public safety issues. Since the Marine Police are experts on public safety, APC would like to complement the Marine Police's existing resources in order to better respond to public safety issues. APC is considering a program to provide annual funds to the Marine Police to assist them with the management of APC's twelve reservoirs.

Meeting Notes Summary: March 18, 2003

Coosa River Projects

www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro

Meeting Attendees

IAG Members

Gene Allison	APC	EBALLISO@southernco.com
Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Lonnie Carden	Southern Trails	knewton@bellsouth.net
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Bruce.DiGennaro@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Jim Howard	Alabama B.A.S.S. Federation	alcondir@aol.com
Bob Huffaker	Alabama Marine Police	bhuffaker@dcnr.state.al.us
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Preston Marshall	Coosa River Paddling Club	
Jim McHugh	ADCNR	jmchugh@dcnr.state.al.us
Walter Ramey	APC	WRRAMEY@southernco.com
Bill Sim	APC	WASIM@southernco.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us
Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Other Meeting Attendees

Harlom Baker	APC	HBAKER@southernco.com
Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	dancatch@hiwaay.net
Bill Dillahunt	APC	WRDILLAH@southernco.com
Jim Hancock	Balch & Bingham	JHANCOCK@balch.com
Ashley McVicar	APC	ammevica@southernco.com
Jerry Moss	ADCNR	jmoss@dbtech.net
Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell HOBO	danmurch@aol.com
Heather Seiders	EPRO	hseiders@eproconsulting.com
Adam Snyder	Alabama Rivers Alliance	asnyder@alabamarivers.org
Bert Thaxton	Lay Lake Home Owners & Boat Owners Assoc.	riverratthax@aol.com
Danny Tignor	APC	DGTIGNOR@southernco.com
Dana Valleau	EPRO	dvalleau@eproconsulting.com

Action Items

- APC and EPRO: Revise the concept designs and present this information in a future meeting.
- APC and EPRO: Conduct a field survey at Camp Rotary.
- Barry Lovett: Develop a list of all outstanding recreation issues for the Jordan IAG.

Issue Action Group: Jordan IAG

Meeting Notes Summary: March 18, 2003

Site 22

This site is open to the public for picnicking and bankfishing, but is under utilized. The IAG suggested that additional signage may improve use because many people are unaware that this site is available for recreation.

The Cove between Sites 19 and 20

The property adjacent to the cove is on project lands and could be set aside for a future recreation/swimming site. This site could potentially be utilized to improve swimming opportunities and reduce user conflicts at other sites. One stakeholder suggested that this site be addressed as an expansion of Camp Rotary.

The development of this site or a similar site of the eastern shoreline is dependent on public interest and would require extensive consultation with local municipalities and/or non-profits to help address organizational and liability issues. IAG members agreed that development at this site would require further investigation and discussion.

Site 32

APC has been approached by a commercial operator regarding potential improvements to properties in the proximity of the Jordan Marina. The marina owner would lease APC lands and develop fishing and swimming areas. APC would determine if day-use fees are reasonable. APC stated that it does not see any negatives to this development because the site would provide additional public access and involves a commercial lease. APC will investigate property ownership adjacent to this site and proceed with discussions with the marina owner. All information regarding this issue will be discussed with the IAG.

One stakeholder stated his position that this site would not address the issue of swimming access on the east side of the lake. He reiterated that a swimming area on the east side of the lake is needed and would be well utilized.

Unauthorized bank fishing at 28 and 28A near Bouldin Dam

This issue was raised on an IAG field visit and needs further discussion with regards to public safety and security. APC stated that these areas are not good for public access because of enforcement issues, dangerous conditions, litter and location on project structures. ADCNR disagreed and stated that the cofferdam is an excellent site for bankfishing and a formal recreation site with parking access could address the littering.

The IAG tabled this issue and agreed that this site will require more discussion. APC will prepare information for the next IAG meeting that addresses issues with providing formal access to this site.

Issue Action Group: Jordan IAG

Meeting Notes Summary: March 18, 2003

August 6, 2002 Meeting Summary

The IAG was asked to provide comments on the August 6, 2002 Meeting Summary to Barry Lovett by April 1st. The summary will be revised to reflect IAG member comments and then posted on the relicensing website as final.

Next Steps

Similar to today's meeting, the other recreation IAGs will meet to review and discuss the preliminary concept designs. APC will continue to consult with the State regarding all of the concept designs. After all the meetings are completed and stakeholder input is incorporated into the reservoir specific concept designs, APC and stakeholders will perform a comprehensive review of all the sites within the Coosa system. This review will take place at future meetings and a proposal for a complete recreation package will be developed. Once an overall proposal has been put forward, stakeholders will begin to consider costs/impacts in more details. APC also stated that it will follow up on today's action items and will respond to the IAG regarding daily lake level fluctuations at a subsequent meeting.

APC stated that there are no scheduled meetings in April and the IAG will be contacted by email to schedule another Jordan IAG meeting in April or May.

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

Coosa River Projects

www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro

Meeting Attendees

LAG Members

Johan Beumer	Trail of Legends Assoc., Inc.	howschwa@bellsouth.net
Jack Blackburn	Neely Henry Lake Association	jaandja@gateway.com
Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Dan Catchings	ADCNR	dancatch@hiwaay.net
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Bruce.DiGennaro@Kleinschmidtusa.com
David Haynes	Wetumpka City Council	
Bob Huffaker	Alabama Marine Police	bhuffaker@dcnr.state.al.us
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Walter Ramey	APC	WRRAMEY@southernco.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us
Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOB0	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Other Meeting Attendees

Mike Akridge	APC	RMAKRIDG@southernco.com
Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR	rcaybrook@dcnr.state.al.us
William Copeland	Neely Henry Lake Association	WJCopeland@aol.com
Joseph Roberson	Town of Ohatchee	ghaclerk@aol.com
Heather Seiders	EPRO	hseiders@eproconsulting.com
Andy Sheppard	APC	ARSHEPPA@southernco.com

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by Jordan and Henry IAG meeting attendees:

- APC: Check the Henry IAG email distribution list to determine if Jack Blackburn is on the list and if his email is correct.
- APC: Email Dan Thompson a copy of the Henry IAG March Meeting Summary.
- IAG Members: Review handouts and send comments to Barry Lovett by June 15, 2003.
- Barry Lovett: Help coordinate a meeting between Marine Police and the HOB0s.

Issue Action Group: Jordan and Henry IAGs

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

Meeting Notes

These notes summarize the major discussion items and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.

Introduction

The meeting began with participant introductions and review of the agenda. The following agenda was agreed upon for this meeting:

- Public Service Announcement
- IAG Updates / Old Business
- Public Safety Proposal Discussion
- Fluctuation / Drawdown requests
- Next Steps

At this time, Joe Young requested that APC email out the agendas for all IAG meetings to the larger stakeholder group. APC agreed to more widely distribute the agendas prior to the IAG meetings.

Public Service Announcement

Shelia Smith explained APC's experimental trash barrel policy and provided the IAGs with an update on trash clean-up and maintenance at recreation sites. Sheila stated that illegal dumping continues to be a problem at some recreation sites. As a result of the illegal dumping and other misuse of the trash barrels, APC has started removing trash barrels on a trial basis. APC, at specific locations, are asking users to pack their trash out.

APC will make a determination at the end of this recreation season on the success of this trial program and will deal with trash barrels accordingly. APC stated that if these management actions prove unsuccessful then APC will replace the trash barrels, but so far the effort appears to be working. Any questions or comments regarding this issue should be directed to Sheila.

Updates / Old Business

IAG updates included:

- Lake Cleanup - Consensus has been reached on the lake clean up issues.
- Woody Debris - APC is revising the woody debris recommendation to incorporate Jim McHugh's (ADCNR) comments on this issue that were discussed at the last meeting. Once the document is revised, APC will distribute a draft to the IAG for review.
- R6 – Shoreline Management – APC stated that there may be a R6 meeting held in Birmingham this June. APC is currently revising and preparing additional materials

Issue Action Group: Jordan and Henry IAGs

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

- for this meeting and to address this issue. Of note, APC is incorporating Jim Howard's comments on the R6 - Shoreline Management issue into the R6 documents.
- Meeting Summaries - The IAG did not provide any comments on the Henry or the Jordan March 18th Meeting Summaries. Several IAG members stated that they did not receive the summaries. Therefore, APC will redistribute the notes to IAG members. These meeting summaries will be finalized during the next IAG meetings.
 - Concept Plans - Work is ongoing on the concept plans.

Public Safety Proposal

APC distributed several documents via email to the Jordan and Henry IAG for discussion at this meeting. The revised draft of the Proposal to Enhance Public Safety on APC Reservoirs (5-02-03) was discussed during this portion of the meeting.

Bruce briefly reviewed the background of the R2 Public Safety issue. He noted that stakeholders, including the HOBOS, have expressed a desire to improve public safety on APC lakes during the issue identification workshops, relicensing meetings and other consultation. The R2 issue has been tracked in the issue sheets, meeting summaries and standard process tracking documents for each of the reservoirs in the Coosa and Warrior River relicensing process.

Bruce stated that in order to address public safety on all of APC's lakes, a draft proposal was prepared in cooperation with the Marine Police. The draft proposal was distributed to the CCRT and R1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 IAG members and discussed at the February 19th Upper and Lower Coosa meetings. During this meeting and in subsequent discussions, stakeholders have provided comments on and input to the proposal. As a result of the comments, APC and the Marine Police revised the proposal to address stakeholder comments and redistributed talking points to the IAGs. These talking points summarize the proposal and were reviewed in detail during this relicensing meeting. After this meeting, APC and the Marine Police will incorporate additional comments, if necessary, and finalize the proposal.

At this time, the IAG reviewed and discussed recent changes to the proposal. The following summarizes this discussion:

- The document was reformatted to be consistent with other relicensing documents.
- The sequential order of several items was changed.
- APC incorporated language in the proposal that addressed stakeholder concerns and comments. APC noted that these changes are highlighted on the May 2, 2003 revised draft document.
- Bruce DiGennaro pointed out that this proposal indicates that the program would start in 2003, which is several years before the issuance of a new operating license.
- An IAG member raised the issue of watercraft speeding on the lakes. The IAG has previously discussed this issue and several members stated that they are working to address speed limits outside of the relicensing process. These meeting attendees will discuss speed limits at another time. In addition to this discussion Joe Young mentioned

Issue Action Group: Jordan and Henry IAGs

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

that he obtained the proximity laws for the State of Georgia and will distribute this information to any interested parties.

- APC reiterated that it is committed to maintaining existing public safety programs and agreements.
- Stakeholders also discussed several issues related to this proposal including public input, accountability, channel and hazard markers, and the relationship between lake level fluctuations and hazards.
 - *Public Input* - HOBOb members would like to work with the Marine Police and others to help establish public safety priorities on their respective lakes. One stakeholder suggested that public safety committees be formed on each reservoir to work on the public safety issue with the Marine Police. These committees would be comprised of HOBOb members that would appoint one contact person from the committee to represent the HOBOb with the Marine Police. APC stated that this proposal would not preclude the HOBOb from setting up such a committee.

Bob Huffaker informed the meeting attendees that public input is always welcome and that there are continual opportunities to provide comments, including, but not limited to the annual meeting outlined in this proposal. Barry Lovett will work with the Marine Police and the HOBOb to make progress on this issue.]

- *Accountability* - HOBOb stakeholders expressed some concern on how program funds will be allocated. Specifically they were concerned that the funds might not be spent where they are “most needed” (*i.e.*, markers). APC will revise the proposal so that the annual report will be distributed to the HOBOb and will specify actions performed under the fund.
- *Channel and Hazard Markers* - Meeting participants discussed the purpose and need of channel markers, including associated navigation and public safety concerns. Bob explained that the Marine Police are not obligated to mark channels. Channel marking is the responsibility of the US Army Corps of Engineers (ACOE).

At this time, Bob briefly reviewed the application process for placing hazard markers on lakes in Alabama. Bob clarified that the placement of a sign, buoy or marker for public safety reasons on any of the lakes requires that an individual (including APC) apply to the Marine Police for the necessary permit. The Marine Police upon receipt of the application will process the request, conduct a site visit (if necessary), and provide a recommendation to the head of the Marine Police Division. Once these steps are completed a decision will be rendered on the application. Bob explained that the Marine Police will mark all true hazards, which in part are determined by pool and traffic conditions. Bob further explained the definitions of hazards and the responsibilities of entities in marking said hazards. Bob reiterated that the Marine Police will work with stakeholders

Issue Action Group: Jordan and Henry IAGs

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

throughout the application process and stated that the Marine Police could meet with stakeholders at any time to explain the application process.

- *Lake Level Fluctuations* - Stakeholders stated that boating safety is directly correlated with lake level fluctuations on both Henry and Jordan Lakes. For example, the Minnesota Bend area on Henry Lake during low water periods has a greater number of hazards (tree stumps). Joe Young suggested that stakeholders should survey the perceived hazards when lake levels are down in the fall in order to identify and potentially remove some of these hazards. Other stakeholders reminded the group that there will always be a certain level of hazardous conditions associated with boating.
- APC stated that this proposal is forward- looking and should improve public safety on the lakes.

APC will revise the proposal per the IAG's discussion and redistribute it for a final review. In general meeting participants, with a few reservations (specifically channel markers and public input) were able to reach a consensus on this proposal, as modified by today's discussion. The IAG agreed to "test-drive" the proposal to see how it works. The stakeholders would then review the proposal in a year or two to determine the effectiveness of the proposal and identify any modifications that may be needed.

Lake Level Fluctuations

Andy Sheppard distributed three handouts that summarized the issues and information regarding several lake level fluctuations requests. During this portion of the meeting, Andy reviewed the information in the handouts, answered questions and encouraged all meeting attendees to review and comment on the handouts by June 15, 2003.

Neely Henry

Issue – The Neely Henry Lake Association is requesting that the lake surface elevation vary no more than 12 inches from 508' during the summer months and no more than 8 inches from 507' during the winter months during daylight hours to improve boating safety.

The following summarizes the discussion regarding the request to limit lake level fluctuations on Henry Lake:

- It is practically impossible to manage all the parameters needed to limit the fluctuations as requested. This is due in part to the natural hydraulic characteristics and flood control concerns of Henry Lake, which severely limit further reduction in lake level fluctuations during normal and high flow conditions.
- Andy Sheppard stated that there is a "hinge-effect" on Henry Lake which makes it difficult to manage lake level fluctuations. APC stated that they have done all they can do to manage lake level fluctuations. Barry Lovett offered to provide IAG members with

Issue Action Group: Jordan and Henry IAGs

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

a paper, completed for ecological issues, describing many of the issues related to lake level fluctuations at the Lay reservoir.

- Reductions in lake level fluctuations would limit project operations and increase the need for other, more costly generation resources. APC's hydroelectric projects are used for "peak-shaving"; if these developments are unavailable then APC must purchase energy off the system or utilize natural gas resources.
- In response to a stakeholder question about the well being of the Henry fishery, ADCNR indicated that the fishery is in "good shape" and seemingly unaffected by the lake level fluctuations.
- The test program raising winter lake levels two-feet for the past three years seems to be working well. APC will submit a report to the ACOE and FERC and will likely continue operating the lake in this manner, if approval from ACOE and FERC is received. The raising of the winter pool should help address some boating safety concerns.
- Jim Copeland inquired if any modeling had been done that takes into consideration the removal of Minnesota Bend. Andy Sheppard replied that no modeling, to his knowledge, had been done, and that any modeling would be an expensive undertaking. Andy also noted that at one time, the ACOE was looking into the option and was willing to do some work if a local group would share in the costs. After a brief discussion, Andy agreed to participate in meetings between the ACOE and the City of Gadsden, if either party initiated discussion on this issue.

Jordan Lake

Issue – The Jordan HOB0 is requesting that current lake level fluctuations be modified to provide a near full pool elevation during the morning high-use recreation periods and/or provide near full conditions on weekend mornings during May through August or other high-use periods such as holidays. The higher lake level would improve lake aesthetics and access.

The following summarizes the discussion regarding the request to limit lake level fluctuations on Jordan Lake:

- Andy Sheppard presented and discussed with the IAG, background information on lake level fluctuation issues and the existing minimum flow schedule at Lake Jordan. IAG members reviewed and briefly discussed several aspects of the background information including, minimum flow requirements and drawdown restrictions.
- Stakeholders expressed that erosion is becoming a problem. After a brief clarification, the IAG members decided to raise the issue at the appropriate ecological IAG meeting.
- After discussing and commenting on some of the statements in the handouts, the IAG agreed that lake level fluctuations on Lake Jordan have been discussed for several years, between many competing interests. A lot of time and resources have been applied to finding a balance on this issue. APC feels that the existing management strategy is working well to balance the various resources. The IAG members agreed with APC's analysis regarding this issue.

Issue Action Group: Jordan and Henry IAGs

Meeting Notes Summary: May 7, 2003

Due to time constraints, the discussion on the maintenance drawdowns on Jordan was tabled until the next IAG meeting. APC still encourages all meeting attendees to review the document and be prepared to comment on the issue during the next Jordan IAG meeting.

Next Steps

At this time, Barry stated that the other reservoir specific R1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 IAGs have met or will meet to discuss the R2 – Public Safety issue. The Mitchell and Lay IAGs met on April 30th and May 1st, respectively to discuss the public safety plan and both IAGs provided minor comments to the proposal. The Weiss and Logan Martin IAGs meeting will be held this afternoon. APC explained that the proposal will be revised and distributed to all the IAGs after these meetings were completed.

The next CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Jordan and/or Henry IAGs meetings have not been scheduled. APC will continue to work on the concept designs, proposals and outstanding issues and will contact the IAGs to schedule a meeting, when appropriate.

All CR1, 2, 3, 4, & 5 Jordan and Henry IAGs materials will be distributed to IAGs members prior to meetings and posted on the Internet at www.southernco.com/alpower/hydro.

Meeting Notes Summary: August 27, 2003

Lay, Mitchell and Jordan-Bouldin Developments

www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro

Meeting Attendees

Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Lonnie Carden	Southern Trails	knewton@bellsouth.net
Jim Copeland	Neely Henry Lake Association	wjcopeland@aol.com
Dave Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO	sly-pig@mindspring.com
Lynn Cunningham	Lay Lake HOBO	sly-pig@mindspring.com
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Bruce.DiGennaro@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Bill Dillahunt	APC	WRDILLAH@southernco.com
Bill Dykes	APC	WCDYKES@southernco.com
David Haynes	Wetumpka City Council	
Jim Howard	B.A.S.S.	alcondir@aol.com
Viki Jenkins	APC	VRJenkin@southernco.com
George Jackins	Lake Mitchell HOBO	gjackins@aol.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
John Peconom	Kleinschmidt	John.Peconom@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Walter Ramey	APC	WRRAMEY@southernco.com
Heather Seiders	EPRO	hseiders@eproconsulting.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Bert Thaxton	Lay Lake HOBO	riverratthax@aol.com
Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the IAG:

- IAG Members: Remind new participants of relicensing team protocols and encourage newcomers to review published materials.

Meeting Notes

These notes summarize the major discussion items and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.

Introduction

Barry Lovett stated that it has been some time since any of the recreation IAGs last met and in that time, APC staff have performed a significant amount of work “behind-the-scenes” to address and resolve issues raised in previous IAG meetings. The goal of this meeting is to provide IAG members with a brief, general-update of what APC staff have been doing since they last met and to inform stakeholders about upcoming relicensing meetings. Since the goal of this

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River Meeting

Meeting Notes Summary: August 27, 2003

meeting is to provide stakeholders with a quick overview of ongoing relicensing work, the Lay, Mitchell and Jordan-Bouldin IAGs have been combined into this Lower Coosa River group to increase the efficiency of the presentation. Similar meetings have already been held for both Warrior and Upper Coosa River stakeholders.

New Relicensing Participants

Bruce DiGennaro commented that some new participants were joining the process and that some participants were re-engaging, which is to be expected and natural. Bruce asked everyone who is new to the relicensing process to please refer to the process protocols and past meeting notes as well as other relevant relicensing materials, all of which can be found on APC's hydro relicensing web site. Public involvement processes like this relicensing will always experience some "turn-over" among participants, but it is important to keep everyone "up-to-speed", moving forward and progressing on the issues. The Standard Process Tracking document is an excellent resource for new participants to get "up-to-speed" and for current participants to remind themselves of past discussions and agreements.

Barry also asked that if anyone has any changes to contact information please submit those changes to APC. APC wants to ensure that the appropriate stakeholders continue to receive all the relicensing information.

Shoreline Management Plan

Following the June 19th Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) meeting/workshop, APC has been working internally to compile and process stakeholders comments to the Draft SMP Outline. APC appreciates everyone's feedback on the SMP and will present these comments for discussion at the next SMP meeting/workshop, which is scheduled for the afternoon of September 17th. This meeting will be very similar to the one held in June, sharing the plenary and "break-out" session format.

After some discussion by the group, Jim Copeland suggested that APC revise the SMP outline and present it for review at the upcoming meeting. Bruce agreed to look into it and at the very least present a summary of comments submitted.

Draft Concept Design Plans

APC staff have prepared and presented draft concept design plans for the Lay, Mitchell and Jordan-Bouldin Reservoirs. Bill Campbell informed everyone that APC has reviewed all the stakeholder comments from the initial draft concept design plan meetings and is incorporating them as appropriate. Bill also stated that APC is now working to schedule meetings with and to gather comments from other key stakeholders including the Alabama Departments of Transportation and Conservation and Natural Resources. Based on discussions from APC's first meeting with these agencies, APC is preparing a document that summarizes the division of responsibilities and roles of each party in developing these sites. Additionally, APC is working to schedule meetings with affected counties and other local municipalities, which have yet to be

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River Meeting

Meeting Notes Summary: August 27, 2003

actively involved in this relicensing process. After APC has met with these stakeholders and incorporated their comments, the revised concept design plans will be presented to their respective IAGs, perhaps in early 2004 for additional review and approval. The IAGs will have numerous opportunities to provide feedback on the concept design plans.

Bill also informed the group that analyses are currently underway to determine the feasibility of recreation sites below the Jordan Dam and along the Bouldin Canal.

In response to a question by Bert Thaxton, Bill agreed to follow-up on the informal bank fishing site mentioned by Bob Ransom at the Lay Lake's last IAG meeting.

Joe Young expressed interest about a swimming area on the east side of the Jordan Reservoir. Joe and others also pointed out to group members that the Wetumpka Herald is running a series of news articles on the area's recreation facilities and opportunities.

Downstream Flows below Jordan

Barry was recently reminded by Tom Sherbourne that the issue of downstream flows, specifically test flows below the Jordan Reservoir, has not been discussed for some time. Barry reassured stakeholders that APC has not forgotten this issue and plans to pick it up again soon.

Lonnie Carden asked that IAG agendas better reflect the items they intend to discuss. Past Jordan-Bouldin agendas gave some stakeholders the impression that this issue would be discussed when it actually wasn't a planned part of the discussion.

General Relicensing Schedule

Bruce informed the IAG that overall, the participants in the relicensing process were making good progress on the relicensing issues and that over the next six-months he expects the IAGs will come to consensus on a lot of outstanding issues. Concept Design Plans should be resolved by late next winter or by early spring 2004.

Stakeholders can expect to receive for their review, a draft license application sometime during the second quarter of 2004. APC must submit a license application to FERC by mid-2005, so by presenting a draft license application in early 2004, stakeholders should have plenty of time to provide input on the final license application.

Next Steps

A Shoreline Management Plan meeting has been scheduled for the afternoon of September 17th in Birmingham. Prior to the SMP meeting, some ecological groups plan to meet to discuss ongoing issues. A formal announcement and any other pertinent materials will be distributed via electronic mail at least a week prior to the meeting.

Issue Action Group: Lower Coosa River Meeting

Meeting Notes Summary: August 27, 2003

November 12th and 13th as well as December 10th and 11th have been set aside as tentative relicensing meeting dates.

All Lower Coosa River group as well as Lay, Mitchell and Jordan-Bouldin IAG materials are posted on the Internet at www.southernco.com/alpower/hydro.

Meeting Notes Summary: December 11, 2003

Lay, Mitchell and Jordan/Bouldin Developments
www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro

Meeting Attendees

Harlom Baker	APC	hbaker@southernco.com
Johan Beumer	TOLA	howschwa@bellsouth.net
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Lonnie Carden	American Whitewater	knewton@bellsouth.net
Chris Greene	ADCNR	cgreene@dcnr.state.al.us
Don Greer	Logan Martin Lake Protection Association	dfgreer@aol.com
Viki Jenkins	APC	VRJenkin@southernco.com
George Jackins	Lake Mitchell HoBo	gjackins@aol.com
Chuck Jensen	Lay Lake HoBo	kkerr50@hotmail.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell HoBo	danmurch@aol.com
John Peconom	Kleinschmidt	John.Peconom@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Bob Ransom	Lay Lake HoBo	tdg7249@bop.gov
Heather Seiders	EPRO	hseiders@eproconsulting.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Woody Snell	Lake Jordan HoBo	
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us
Danny Tignor	APC	dgtignor@southernco.com
Joe Young	Lake Jordan HoBo	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the IAG:

- All Stakeholders: Review the reservoir list of priorities concerning the draft concept design plans and submit any comments to APC by January 16th.
- APC Staff: In consultation with key stakeholders develop a list of basin wide priorities for the concept design plans.

Meeting Notes

These notes summarize the major discussion items and are not intended to be a transcript or analysis of the meeting.

Introduction

Since the last round of IAG meetings, APC acting as an agent of the IAG, has met with several county commissions, local authorities and state agencies to discuss the technical aspects

Issue Action Groups: Lower Coosa River Meeting

Meeting Notes Summary: December 11, 2003

of the draft concept design plans as well as potential implementation partnerships. The goal of this joint IAG meeting was for APC staff to report on and discuss with stakeholders their efforts to improve existing recreation facilities on the three Lower Coosa River reservoirs.

Barry Lovett briefly reviewed the history of this process stating that from the beginning of this relicensing process everyone agreed that there was a need to investigate recreation opportunities on the Coosa River. To address this issue and establish a baseline, APC conducted a comprehensive inventory of all public and private recreation facilities. In order to ensure the accuracy of these efforts APC invited stakeholders to visit specific sites and review and comment on its inventory results. After identifying information gaps, establishing decision making procedures, and developing vision statements, the IAGs began to discuss potential site specific improvements to existing recreation facilities.

Draft Concept Design Plans

Over the past year at the direction of the IAGs, APC created draft concept design plans to improve several existing recreation facilities. General factors in the development of these plans included existing capacity, population projections, site security and construction feasibility. More site specific factors including bank fishing, parking and ADA opportunities were also considered in the development of these plans.

Facility improvements are based primarily on recreation need at the specific reservoirs.

Site specific improvements suggested by some stakeholders and not included in the draft concept design plans have been recorded in APC's GIS database. These proposals have not been disregarded; they have been saved for future consideration. As a result of these efforts it has been determined that several sites will not be improved in the near term, but all recreation sites will be documented for future consideration.

County Meetings & Other Consultations

As part of the consultation process to develop the draft concept design plans, APC has met with several entities throughout the basin including Cherokee, Elmore, St. Claire, Coosa, Shelby, Etowah, Chilton and Talledega counties as well as several cities including Cedar Bluff, South Side, Gadsden, Childersburg, Rainbow City, and Centre.

In addition to meeting with local entities, APC has met with the Alabama Departments of Transportation, and Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (Wildlife and Freshwater Fisheries) whose input is essential for the improvement of many of these sites. Their concurrence and partnership will be necessary at several steps in this process.

At these local meetings APC staff reviewed the purpose of relicensing, progress to date, and the recreation aspects of the process. Any recreation improvements on the Coosa reservoirs will depend on the involvement, cooperation and partnership of several entities including APC, local municipalities and specific state agencies. Specifically, APC is hoping to develop

Issue Action Groups: Lower Coosa River Meeting

Meeting Notes Summary: December 11, 2003

implementation partnerships where local entities will share in the operation and management of these improved recreation facilities. Police protection and trash/litter removal services from local entities are important to the success of these efforts. APC has engaged these parties early in the planning process so that recreation improvements will become a sustained reality.

APC reported that these meetings were very appreciated by the local communities and produced a lot of good discussion and interaction. As a result of these exhaustive consultation efforts, APC has received very favorable support for the draft concept design plans and the overall process.

Reservoir Priorities

Based on the consultations that have occurred with the IAGs and the State regarding the draft concept design plans, APC staff also presented a list of reservoir site priorities (i.e., “priorities list”, see Attachment A) that outline the order in which the facility improvements would occur on each reservoir. This list was created based on stakeholder input, local support and participation, and perceived demand.

Understanding that circumstances change over the years, the priorities list may be modified in the future. Adaptive management techniques will be applied to this list; facility improvements may potentially move up and down the list depending on specific factors including available funding, changing demand and population, as well as local interest and participation. APC requested that stakeholders review and comment on the priorities list.

Basin Wide Priorities

In addition to the reservoir priorities list presented at the meeting, APC will develop a list of basin wide priorities based on previous meetings and anticipated consultations. This basin wide list of priorities along with other management considerations will guide the final implementation of the concept design plans.

Just like the reservoir priorities list, the basin wide priorities list will be flexible to respond to changing circumstances and new opportunities.

Reservoir Specific Comments

Lay Reservoir

- Stakeholders discussed some potential sites that were located on private lands and that had public sites very nearby.

Mitchell Reservoir

- A non-profit corporation is being formed by local interests to negotiate development at the old Boy Scout Camp.
- APC has acquired the “Big-foot” boat launch site which may be available as an alternative reservoir access to Higgins Ferry.

Issue Action Groups: Lower Coosa River Meeting

Meeting Notes Summary: December 11, 2003

Jordan Bouldin Reservoir

- APC has proposed to provide a recreation platform within the Jordan Bouldin tailrace, but expressed some concern with opening the plant access road to recreational users.

Public Communications / Media Relations

Barry Lovett asked that stakeholders consult with APC relicensing staff before discussing proposed draft concept design plans with the media. These plans are still draft and until they are final, APC would like to keep all this information in the proper context and ensure that unrealistic expectations are not given to the public.

Once the development of the concept design plans is complete, APC will work with stakeholders to develop a public education plan highlighting the collective nature in which these efforts were conducted.

Next Steps

APC relicensing staff will work internally to finalize an implementation plan for the draft concept designs. As is customary, APC staff will continue to update stakeholders on the progress of the proposed recreation facility improvements.

All Lower Coosa River group as well as Lay, Mitchell and Jordan Bouldin IAG materials are posted on the Internet at www.southernco.com/alpower/hydro.