

**Meeting Notes & Summary: Meeting, January 16, 2002
Coosa River Projects
www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro**

Members of the Mitchell IAG and ADCNR met on January 16, 2002 to discuss issues relative to recreational use of the Coosa Wildlife Management Area and several recreational facilities around Mitchell Lake. The following briefly summarizes that meeting, including attendees, action items, and key discussion items.

Meeting Attendees

Johan Beumer	Trail of Legends	howschwa@bellsouth.net
Fred Calloway	Lake Mitchell HOBO	
Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR	rclaybrook@dcnr.state.al.us
Jim Howard	AL B.A.S.S. Fed.	alcondir@aol.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Dan Murchison	Lake Mitchell HOBO	danmurch@aol.com
Sam Piccolo	Lake Mitchell HOBO	snpiccolo@caec.com
Walter Ramey	APC	wrramey@southernco.com
Shelia Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us
Roger Yeargan	APC	RDYEARGA@southernco.com
Joe Young	Lake Jordan HOBO	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Action Items

The following action items identified during the course of the meeting:

- Walter Ramey: Research the ownership of the ROWs (boat launches) at the north end of the impoundment.
- APC and EPRO: Develop an improvement and/or parking expansion plan for the Higgins Ferry Park.
- Walter Ramey: Develop a property layout for the “Old Boy Scout” camp property. Concentrate on the entrance road, parking and basic access to the shore.
- Bill Campbell: Develop a map documenting the locations of existing primitive water access camping areas and forward to the ADCNR for review and further discussion.

Meeting Summary

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

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Several members of the Mitchell CR1 IAG met at Mitchell Lake to discuss the Coosa Wildlife Management Area and recreation facilities around the lake. After general introductions, the discussion was directed toward the current available information (including a field trip) on existing boat ramps and facilities on Mitchell Lake. The following items were discussed at this time:

- The boat ramps at the north end on the impoundment are located on what were public right-of-ways (ROW) to ferry crossings. The group agreed that the current status (public or private) of these ROWs should be investigated prior to the next IAG meeting.
- The Higgins Ferry boat launch was identified as the primary launching area on Mitchell Lake. Due to the extensive use of the ramp, the group decided to investigate options to improve and/or expand the launch area.
- The crowded conditions at Higgins Ferry and how those conditions were affecting the adjacent camping area were discussed. During this discussion the state clarified that the county without state consultation developed this camping area. The state also indicated that the original primary purpose of the park was for launching boats.
- The Mitchell HOB0 members expressed concern regarding the number of boats that could safely be handled at the Higgins Ferry area. Discussion of this issue will resume after the options for improvements and/or expansion are presented.
- The “Old Boy Scout” camping area was briefly discussed and the group decided to prepare a property layout, which initially will include an entrance road, parking and basic access to the shore areas. The property layout will be distributed to the IAG for review and discussion.

The discussion then shifted to issues relevant to the Coosa Wildlife Management Area. The following items were raised during this portion of the meeting:

- There was a brief discussion with ADCNR members regarding impacts of current camping practices on the Coosa Wildlife Management Lands. The ADCNR explained that they currently maintain three camping areas within the Wildlife Management Area and want camping to be contained to the approved designated areas.
- The ADCNR explained that the primary focus of the management area is hunting.
- The ADCNR currently has no recreational management plans for this area.
- The ADCNR developed wildlife management plans for this area in the early 1980s. These plans allow timber harvesting on APC land for the benefit wildlife habitat.
- The ADCNR currently limits horseback riding to the management roads, in order to avoid erosion problems caused by off-trail riding.

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- The ADCNR indicated that there are no ADA accessible shooting houses on the management lands.
- The ADCNR would like to review any plans for permanent remote, water accessible campsites along the shore of the wildlife management area, in order to determine if the proposed sites would interfere with current habitat management plans.

Next Steps

Materials, as identified under Action Items above, will be developed and distributed to the IAG.

A CR 1, 3, 4 & 5 Mitchell IAG meeting will be held in mid to late February. The specific time and place are to be announced.

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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
Jim Howard	AL B.A.S.S. Fed.	alcondir@aol.com
George Jackins	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	gjackins@aol.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us
Joe Young	Lake Jordan Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Other Meeting Attendees

Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR	rclaybrook@dcnr.state.al.us
Dan Murchinson	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	danmurch@aol.com

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the CR 1, 3, 4 & 5 IAG:

- Walter Ramey: Continue to research the ownership of the ROWs (boat launches) at the north end of the impoundment.
- APC and EPRO: Develop an improvement and/or parking expansion plan for the Higgins Ferry Park.
- Walter Ramey: Develop a property layout for the “Old Boy Scout” camp property. Concentrate on the entrance road, parking and basic access to the shore.
- Bill Campbell: Develop a map documenting the locations of existing primitive water access camping areas and forward to the ADCNR for review and further discussion.

Meeting Summary

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

Meeting Notes & Summary: Meeting, February 20, 2002

The meeting began with participant introductions and a brief review of IAG progress to date. There was also a brief discussion and review of the November and January Meeting Summaries. There were no comments on the November Meeting Summary and several minor comments on the January Meeting Summary. These documents will be revised per IAG discussions and will be posted on APC's relicensing website.

The IAG also briefly reviewed the January field investigation. The primary focus was on additional bank fishing and/or carry-in access areas. Other areas, including the right-of-ways on the north end of the lake and the Old Boy Scout Camp were also observed.

During the remainder of the meeting the IAG discussed the progress of the action items from the January 16th Meeting. The discussion is summarized below:

- Currently APC is developing an "Old Boy Scout Camp" work plan for work to be conducted during the summer field season. The goal of this work is to develop a plot of the existing property (including existing infrastructure, entrance roads, parking and access to the shoreline) and outline areas that could potentially be utilized for public access. Note that, at this time, the entire property will not be surveyed, but only usable areas will be outlined. This plan will also include preliminary methods for gaining access to the area, concept designs of carry-in areas, and potential ideas of additional shore pathways. After this plan is developed, it will be distributed to the IAG for review and further development.
- APC is developing a similar work plan for the Higgins Ferry site. Specific information regarding property ownership will be addressed in this plan.
- There will be a redistribution of recreation inventory data and recreation maps sometime in March. The data and maps contain information as of January 2002.
- The right-of-ways (ROW) in the northern end of the lake are still being investigated. Ownership of these lands was discussed at this time. APC will provide an update on this issue during the next IAG meeting.
- The detailed Coosa Wildlife Management Area map and data regarding primitive camping areas will be revised and distributed to the ADCNR for review. At this time, it was noted that portions of the Coosa Wildlife Management Area that are within the Mitchell Project boundary would be included in APC's recreation plan.

The IAG then reflected on their progress to date and general direction that the group is moving in. The IAG members feel that they are moving towards addressing all of the important recreation issues on Mitchell Lake. It was noted that once the major issues are addressed, there may several smaller issues that the IAG could need to investigate. Also, it was mentioned that the management of recreational facilities around Mitchell Lake would be dealt with further along in the standard process.

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Next Steps

All CR 1, 3, 4 & 5 IAG Mitchell materials will be distributed to work group members via email prior to meetings and posted on the Internet at www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro.

The next CR 1, 3, 4 & 5 IAG meeting will be held in early summer in Clanton in order to review specific plans. The specific time and place are to be announced.

**Meeting Summary: Meeting, July 16, 2002
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
Jim Howard	AL B.A.S.S. Fed.	alcondir@aol.com
Bob Huffaker	Alabama Marine Police	bhuffaker@dcnr.state.al.us
George Jackins	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	gjackins@aol.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Jim McHugh	ADCNR	jmchugh@dcnr.state.al.us
Walter Ramey	APC	WRRAMEY@southernco.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us

Other Meeting Attendees

Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Heather Bunce	EPRO	hbunce@eproconsulting.com
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Danny Tignor	APC	DGTIGNOR@southernco.com
Stephanie White	APC	SKWHITE@southernco.com

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Mitchell IAG:

- APC: Distribute the July Meeting Summary.
- EPRO: Contact individuals such as Marine Police, APC contractors, fishing guides and others regarding specific public use areas where use may be exceeding design capacity on a regular basis.

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- All IAG Members: Review the standard process tracking document for the August IAG meeting. Provide general comments to Barry Lovett prior to the meeting, if possible.
- Walter Ramey: Continue to research the ownership of the ROWs (boat launches) at the north end of the impoundment.
- EPRO: Fieldwork will be conducted this summer. APC or EPRO will contact individual IAG members if their assistance is needed.
- APC: Schedule a meeting with ADCNR to discuss EPRO's recommendations for the primitive camping area.
- Bob Huffaker: Investigate the number, location and applicant of registered safety markers on Mitchell Lake.

Meeting Summary

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

Introductions

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

- Introductions
- IAG Update and Recent Fieldwork
- June Meeting Summary
- Standard Process Tracking Document
- R2 – Public Safety
- Next Steps

IAG Update and Recent Fieldwork

The facilitator, Bruce DiGennaro, acknowledged the IAG's progress to date and emphasized the importance of participation in all of the meetings by IAG members. In order to differentiate members and other attendees at IAG meetings, Bruce stated that all IAG members should be seated around the table and other meeting attendees should sit away from the table. This is to ensure that the recreation issues for each reservoir are discussed and recommendations provided to the CCRT by members. Other meeting attendees will provide input into the process, but priority will be given to the IAG members. Other meeting attendees are also encouraged to provide input through IAG representatives.

Meeting Summary: Meeting, June 16, 2002

At this time, the IAG discussed progress of the summer recreation fieldwork. This discussion yielded the following information:

- The development of the concept designs was reviewed and discussed.
- APC and EPRO are evaluating the potential for development/enhancement at Higgins Ferry and the “Old Boy Scout Camp”
 - Current investigations at Higgins Ferry include improvement to a portion of the existing launching area, improvement (increased efficiency) and/or expansion of the parking area and land ownership.
 - EPRO noted that Higgins Ferry appears to reach capacity, but this congestion may be partially alleviated by increasing efficiency in parking, traffic, etc. There was also discussion regarding the potential addition of regular car parking at the swimming or playground area. One IAG member also noted that improvements should be made to accommodate larger boats and trailers.
 - There was a brief discussion regarding leases at this site. EPRO noted that property within the site is owned by APC and leased to the County and the State. Note that at Higgins Ferry the property around the boat ramp and parking lot is leased to the state. Several IAG members stated that the specifics of the leases should be reviewed and potentially modified depending on the resolution of this issue.
 - Note that the County may have plans for development at Higgins Ferry, but specifics are unknown at this time.
 - EPRO outlined that process of concept designs for the “Old Boy Scout Camp”:
 - Investigate access to the area
 - Investigate land ownership
 - Layout access to area
 - Layout parking opportunities
 - Layout potential land development at this site
 - Layout potential shorefishing or carry-in boat launching areas
 - Decide areas to be protected on the property
 - Develop specific plans
 - Flagging or GPS work may be needed at the “Old Boy Scout Camp” to identify lands that are available for use.
 - The Boy Scout Camp is strictly owned by APC and there is currently no lease on this land.
 - An IAG member stated the County should get involved in development of the “Old Boy Scout Camp” area. The Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association would be willing to talk to the County regarding this issue.
- Primitive camping in Wildlife Management Area is also under investigation. EPRO has developed recommendations for ADCNR and APC review. Included in this recommendation are criteria for formalizing and/or supervising primitive camping.
 - APC has distributed this document and will forward all comments to Rick Claybrook by July 26, 2002. ADNCR will review APC’s comments and will hold a meeting with APC to discuss specific revisions to the document. After this meeting, recommendations will be distributed to the IAG for review.

Meeting Summary: Meeting, June 16, 2002

- Several IAG members noted that there is informal camping occurring on islands in Mitchell Lake. Note that only about 6 sites are utilized frequently.
- APC and ADCNR suggested that a commercial entity should operate the primitive camping sites.
- Several IAG members clarified that once formal camping sites are established at the Coosa Wildlife Management Area, then informal camping will not be permitted.
- APC is investigating several sites on the northern end of the lake for potential boat launch development.

June Meeting Summary

The June Meeting Summary was reviewed. The IAG provided several comments to the meeting summary. These comments will be incorporated into the document and it will be posted as final on APC's relicensing website.

The review of this document resulted in the following discussion points:

- The definition of riverine, per the recreation standard process, is defined as a free-flowing stretch of river.
- The IAG discussed the potential for investigating informal put-in sites at the Rt 231 bridge and halfway between that bridge and Route 39 on Hatchet Creek. It was decided that although this land is not within the project area, APC would look into the general property ownership of these two sites.

Review Standard Process Tracking Document

The IAG decided that the standard process tracking document would not be reviewed at this time. APC reiterated several of Jim Howard's comments regarding the tracking document. These comments primarily addressed additional information in the tracking document that was not discussed at the IAG meetings. APC requested that all IAG members review the tracking document in detail and be prepared to discuss all comments at the August IAG meeting. APC also encouraged IAG members to email Barry Lovett with general comments to this document prior to the meeting to aid in developing the agenda for the meeting.

R2-- Public Safety

At this time, there was a brief discussion regarding the R2 Public Safety Questions. The IAG provided several comments to the draft R2 Questions and draft responses. These comments will be incorporated into the Standard Process Tracking Document and distributed prior to the August meeting. Several items highlighted during this discussion include:

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- Several IAG members indicated that they are not aware of any public safety issues.
- Note that there is currently no full-time Marine Police Officer on the lake.
- The Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association has supported, with local participation, the use of a fire and rescue boat on the lake. The boat is operator by the local volunteer fire department.
- Who will be responsible for providing and maintaining safety buoys?
- The IAG noted that there are some motorized and non-motorized boating conflicts on the lake.

Next Steps

The next CR 1, 2, 3, 4, &5 Mitchell IAG meeting will be held August 7, 2002 at 10:30 AM CST. The purpose of the meeting will be to further discuss the tracking document and complete the public safety questions.

**Meeting Summary: Meeting, June 26, 2002
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
Jim Howard	AL B.A.S.S. Fed.	alcondir@aol.com
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us
Joe Young	Lake Jordan Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	pegyoung@earthlink.net

Other Meeting Attendees

Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Rick Claybrook	ADCNR	rclaybrook@dcnr.state.al.us
Sam Piccolo	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	snpiccolo@caec.com
Roger Yeargan	APC	RDYEARGA@southernco.com

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Mitchell IAG:

- APC: Distribute the June Meeting Summary.
- APC: Distribute the second draft of the standard process tracking document for the July IAG meeting.
- Walter Ramey: Continue to research the ownership of the ROWs (boat launches) at the north end of the impoundment.
- EPRO: Contact individuals such as Marine Police, APC contractors, fishing guides and others regarding specific public use areas where use may be exceeding design capacity on a regular basis.
- APC: Prepare and distribute R2 questions.
- EPRO: Fieldwork will be conducted this summer. APC or EPRO will contact individual IAG members if their assistance is needed.

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- APC & EPRO: Develop a conceptual improvement and/or parking expansion plan for the Higgins Ferry Park.
- APC: Schedule a meeting with ADCNR to EPRO's recommendations for the primitive camping area.
- IAG Members: Prepare for the July 16th or 17th IAG meeting.

Meeting Summary

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

Introduction and IAG Update

The meeting began with participant introductions, review of the agenda, and a brief review of the IAG progress to date. The following agenda was agreed upon for this meeting:

1. Introductions and IAG Update
2. Review February Meeting Summary
3. Discuss Standard Process Responses
4. Review the Coosa Recreational Use Figures
5. Identify Public Use Areas that Regularly Exceed Design Capacity
6. Discuss Questions 20 through 34
7. Next Steps

Review February 20th Meeting Summary

The February Meeting Summary was reviewed. There were no comments on the summary. Therefore, this document will be posted as final on APC's relicensing website.

The action items were reviewed in detail yielding the following discussion points:

- APC continues to investigate property ownership and ROWs on the northern end of Mitchell Lake for potential development. APC will report findings to the IAG by late summer.
- EPRO provided a brief update of the parking expansion plans at Higgins Ferry. Currently EPRO and APC are developing concept designs for this area (utilizing aerial photographs) and will continue to explore various options. APC will report all options and potential recommendations to the IAG at a future meeting. APC is also scheduling a meeting with the County regarding this issue.
- The concept designs for the "Old Boy Scout" camp will be developed concurrently with those for Higgins Ferry Park.

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- The IAG will discuss the concept drawings in the late summer/early fall.
- The IAG discussed the potential development of primitive water access camping areas in the Coosa Wildlife Management Area. EPRO has completed a map documenting existing and potential camping sites and has provided initial management and improvement recommendations to both ADCNR and APC.

EPRO, ADCNR and APC also conducted a field investigation on May 23, 2002 to investigate several of the existing and potential sites.

ADCNR and APC will discuss the recommendations internally and schedule a joint meeting to discuss their internal comments on the sites and recommendations. Upon completion of this meeting and receipt of all comments, EPRO will prepare a written proposal for the IAG review.

- EPRO provided the IAG with a brief report of their summer fieldwork.

Discuss Standard Process Responses

The IAG briefly discussed the Standard Process Tracking Document and acknowledged the benefit of using such a document for this process. The IAG provided several specific comments to this record. The tracking document will be revised and redistributed prior to the July meeting. APC encouraged all IAG members to review this document and provide specific comments either to Barry Lovett by July 12th or bring all comments to the next meeting.

Review the Coosa Recreational Use Figures

The Coosa Recreational Use Figures handout, distributed via email on March 20th was briefly discussed. EPRO noted that these use numbers are a requirement of the FERC and will be utilized only to show general trends regarding recreation. All meeting attendees agreed with this suggestion/recommendation.

Identify Public Use Areas that Regularly Exceed Design Capacity

The IAG identified the following sites that are perceived to exceed design capacity on a regular basis:

- Higgins Ferry Park is the most heavily utilized recreation site on the lake
- The IAG indicated that Mimosa Point could potentially receive a lot of use; if the state and county arranged to have the road improved. One IAG member mentioned that the insurance company (John Hancock) has been selling lands in this area and the County may have plans to pave the road.
- EPRO stated that there would be no capacity studies at Higgins Ferry Park. EPRO and the IAG instead will focus on developing concept design plans for this site.

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Discuss Questions 20 through 34

The IAG discussed Questions 20 through 34.

Questions 20 through 26 – Questions Regarding Reservoir Levels (R3)

The IAG stated that the current operations of the Mitchell Project have a minimal impact on recreational activities on Mitchell Lake. The IAG would like for APC to continue their current operating scheme.

Questions 27 through 32 – Questions Regarding Downstream Flows (R4)

There are no riverine recreation opportunities below the dam. Therefore Questions 28 through 32 do not need to be addressed.

Questions 33 and 34 – Questions Regarding Flood Control (R5)

The IAG stated that the current operations of the Mitchell Project have a minimal impact on recreational activities on Mitchell Lake.

Next Steps

All CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Mitchell IAG materials will be distributed to work group members prior to meetings and posted on the Internet at www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro.

The next CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Mitchell IAG meeting will be held on either July 16th or 17th, 2002.

**Meeting Summary: Meeting, August 7, 2002
Coosa River Projects
www.southerncompany.com/alpower/hydro**

Meeting Attendees

IAG Members

Johan Beumer	Trail of Legends Association Inc.	howschwa@bellsouth.net
Bill Campbell	EPRO	wcampbell@eproconsulting.com
Bruce DiGennaro	Kleinschmidt	Bruce.DiGennaro@Kleinschmidtusa.com
Jim Howard	AL B.A.S.S. Fed.	alcondir@aol.com
Bob Huffaker	Alabama Marine Police	bhuffaker@dcnr.state.al.us
Barry Lovett	APC	BKLOVETT@southernco.com
Jim McHugh	ADCNR	jmchugh@dcnr.state.al.us
Walter Ramey	APC	WRRAMEY@southernco.com
Dan Thompson	ADCNR	dthompson@dcnr.state.al.us

Other Meeting Attendees

Amy Bennett	Kleinschmidt	Amy.Bennett@KleinschmidtUSA.com
Keith Bryant	APC	kebryant@southernco.com
Heather Bunce	EPRO	hbunce@eproconsulting.com
Bill Dykes	APC	WCDYKES@southernco.com
Sam Piccolo	Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association	snpiccolo@caec.com
Andy Sheppard	APC	ARSHEPPA@southernco.com
Sheila Smith	APC	SCSMITH@southernco.com
Danny Tignor	APC	DGTIGNOR@southernco.com

Action Items

The following action items were agreed upon by the CR1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 Mitchell IAG:

- APC: Distribute the August Meeting Summary.
- EPRO: Contact individuals such as Marine Police, APC contractors, fishing guides and others regarding specific public use areas where use may be exceeding design capacity on a regular basis.
- Walter Ramey: Continue to research the ownership of the ROWs (boat launches) at the north end of the impoundment.
- EPRO: Fieldwork will be conducted this summer. APC or EPRO will contact individual IAG members if their assistance is needed.
- APC: Schedule a meeting with ADCNR to discuss EPRO's recommendations for the primitive camping area.

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- Bob Huffaker: Investigate the number, location and applicant of registered safety markers on Mitchell Lake.

Meeting Summary

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

Introductions

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

- Introductions
- Review July Meeting Summary
- Review Standard Process Tracking Document
- Discuss R2 Public Safety Questions
- Next Steps

July Meeting Summary

The July Meeting Summary was reviewed. The IAG provided one minor comment to the July Meeting Summary. This comment will be incorporated into the document and the document will be posted as final on APC's relicensing website.

After the review of the July Meeting Summary, the IAG discussed several action items and relevant news items for Mitchell Lake. This discussion yielded the following information:

- ADCNR and APC are still working on the proposal for the primitive camping area. The revised proposal will be distributed to the IAG at a future meeting.
- There is still confusion regarding property leased at Higgins Ferry. The State will survey the Higgins Ferry site and delineate the boundaries of the State's lease.
- ADCNR found the original drawings of the Higgins Ferry site and noted that the Ranger House is not on State land.
- The Alabama Marine Police relayed to the IAG that they do not have an Officer on Mitchell Lake.
- Sam Piccolo of the Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association will be added to this IAG mailing list.

Review Standard Process Tracking Document

The IAG reviewed the Mitchell Standard Process Tracking Document. The discussion yielded the following information:

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- The comments per the July 16, 2002 IAG meeting, particularly those comments that focused on extraneous information, were incorporated into the Tracking Document (July 23, 2002 revision). All IAG members were satisfied with the Tracking Document, as modified.
- One comment of note, was the deletion of “and safety” in the third bullet of Question 35. This comment was in reference to the Alabama Marine Police’s responsibilities concerning markings on waterways.
- The facilitator noted that this document serves as both an overall record of the discussions of the IAG and a compilation of specific recreation and operations information/data.

Discussion of the R2 Public Safety Questions

At this time, there was a discussion regarding the R2 Public Safety Questions. The IAG discussed the R2 Public Safety Questions. The discussion for these questions will be completed at the next IAG meeting.

Question 37 Acknowledging the fact that recreation on and around lakes has inherent safety risks, are there public safety issues associated with recreation on this reservoir? If yes, continue, if not, stop.

- Yes, but there are limited public safety issues.
- Sam Piccolo noted that there are not many public safety issues on Mitchell Lake.
 - a. What public safety issue(s) exist on this reservoir?
 - b. Where does this issue(s) perceived to be a problem?
 - c. When is this issue(s) perceived to be a problem?

Note that these questions are addressed together in the following bullets.

- Bob Huffaker reminded the IAG that all buoys placed on Mitchell Lake should be applied for and approved by the Marine Police.
- There are only two areas on the lake for this IAG to discuss. After these areas are discussed than the IAG can evaluate long term public safety needs.
- The Alabama Marine Police will attend a Lake Mitchell Home Owners and Boat Owners Association meeting in October to discuss the application process for buoys.
- Sam noted that boat speed is a public safety issue on Mitchell Lake. He recognizes that this issue could worsen over the term of the license due to increased technology and power of boats. His primary concern with boat speeds is the potential for accidents near the islands. Of particular note is an island located near Hatchet Creek.
 - The IAG has expressed interest in promoting paddling in the Hatchet Creek area.
 - The IAG recognized that if Hatchet Creek is to be developed for non-motorized boating than they should investigate the potential for posting speed limits.
 - Conflicts between motorized and non-motorized boating may develop in this area.

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Question 39 Is this an issue that can be addressed within the relicensing process, or do solutions lie elsewhere?

- The IAG discussed the possibility of developing a standard public safety process (specifically for buoys) for all the lakes. This issue will be addressed in Steps 3 and 4 of the Standard Process.

Next Steps

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

IAG meetings will be held on September 16th and 17th at the 4-H Center in Columbiana, AL. APC will develop an agenda for these meetings and distribute it to all IAGs that will be meeting on those days. Note that this IAG may not meet on the above specified dates.