

**MEETING NOTES**

**ALABAMA POWER COMPANY  
MARTIN RELICENSING  
LAKE MARTIN HOBO MEETING**

**STILL WATERS RESIDENTIAL ASSOCIATION OFFICE  
AUGUST 28, 2008**

**ATTENDEES:**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Organization</b>
Dave Anderson	Kleinschmidt	David Heinzen	LMHOBO
Larry Brantley	LMHOBO	J. Carey Mullican	LMHOBO
Jim Crew	APC	Debbie Nigh	LMHOBO
Jesse Cunningham	LMHOBO	Angie Segars	APC
Billy Edge	APC	Kelly Schaeffer	Kleinschmidt
John Glasier	Lake Watch of Lake Martin & LMHOBO	David Winsor	LMHOBO
Tom Handley	APC		

**ACTION ITEMS:**

- reexamine the update of the FIMS study (APC)

**MEETING NOTES:**

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

Jim Crew opened the meeting and led the introduction of meeting attendees. Kelly reviewed the purpose of the meeting and gave a brief summary of relicensing activities since the submission of the PAD in June 2008. There was a discussion of an August 6 agency meeting to discuss the study plans submitted with the PAD. The group discussed information gathered at this meeting, especially that the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) told APC that FERC is not going to allow APC to model the rule curve change first and then examine the effects of model results. Another topic was that the second year of studies in the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP) is to be used as a contingency only and that all studies should be completed in the first study year. The group discussed how this differs from the process used for the Coosa relicensing in that the timing of studies will be much more compact.

The group then reviewed specific changes to the study plans since submittal of the PAD. LMHOBO members questioned the need for a study on minimum flows from Martin given the proximity of the pool of Yates. Jim explained that the Alabama Department of Natural Resources (ACDNR) has since specified they are interested in the timing of flows from Martin and how possible changes to the flow regime might benefit aquatic organisms in the area below the dam to

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the tailrace of Thurlow. The group then discussed the 4,640 cfs flow currently required in the Alabama River and how the designation of critical habitat may affect flows. LMHOBO members also mentioned that the Coosa/Alabama River Improvement Association (CARIA) is getting involved with the Martin relicensing and has commissioned a study on the economic importance of the navigable waterway in the Alabama River.

Kelly mentioned that FERC is looking for more detail on the study plans. In order to accomplish this, APC has added more details to many of the study plans. In particular, APC has added details to the rule curve change study plan to include that APC will model up to a five foot increase in winter pool elevation in one foot increments and that the modeling will include reaching summer pool by April 1 and extending the winter pool through September. Jim mentioned that APC is hoping to begin rolling out preliminary results from the rule curve change modeling in the 1<sup>st</sup> Quarter of 2009. The group then discussed the variance that FERC granted in fall 2007 to fill the reservoir early in 2008 and if this variance would be requested in 2009. Jim replied that APC is monitoring the situation and will be prepared to request a variance if it is necessary.

Kelly then talked about the upcoming schedule and the deadlines approaching now that the FERC process has begun. There was some discussion on when the next version of the study plans – APC plans to send these out following the scoping meeting to discuss at MIG meetings in early October. The group also talked about the upcoming scoping meetings. LMHOBO members wanted to know if FERC would prefer one presentation from the LMHOBO versus several different speakers. LMHOBO also asked about the use of PowerPoint for the scoping meeting. Jim replied he would contact Lee Emery to find out if PowerPoint would be acceptable.

Turning back to the study plans, LMHOBO members wondered about the purpose of study plan 10 (Water Quantity). Jim replied that this study would merely be for educational purposes to help stakeholders understand the permitting process used for water withdrawals at Lake Martin.

LMHOBO members also questioned if there have been any changes to the proposed land classification maps that APC presented in April. Jim noted there have been no changes.

Dave Anderson then asked the LMHOBO members about the recreation use report submitted with the PAD. LMHOBO members had not reviewed the draft report, so Dave provided a brief summary of the findings, concentrating on the adjustments made to the use data to account for the drought experienced in 2007. Jesse expressed concern that the report may be used in the future as the baseline of recreation use at Lake Martin, although the use numbers had to be adjusted to account for the drought. Concern was also expressed that the study was called off before the planned end date at the end of October 2007.

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The discussion then turned to how the recreation use data from 2007 was planned to be used in the socioeconomic study plan. LMHOBO members did not like the idea that the socioeconomic study would use the numbers from 2007 (adjusted to eliminate drought impacts) and felt that the FIMS study should be completely redone instead of the proposed update provided in the study plan. LMHOBO members stated that the complexion of Lake Martin had changed since the late 1990's FIMS study (data for the FIMS study was collected in 1994 and 1995). LMHOBO members stated that instead of 80% of recreation use coming from non-shoreline property owners, as stated in the FIMS study, the majority of recreation use on the lake presently is attributable to shoreline property owners. There were also questions on how condominiums may affect property values as condominium were not prevalent on the lake in the mid-1990s. APC agreed to reexamine the socioeconomic study and provide their recommendations in the next round of study plans submitted to stakeholders.

Meeting Adjourned

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**Agenda**

**Martin Relicensing  
Meeting with LMHOBO  
August 28, 2008  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM**

**Meeting Purpose:** Provide update on revisions to the Martin relicensing Study Plans, discuss the findings of the 2007 Draft Recreation Use Study (Kleinschmidt, 2008) and discuss the upcoming FERC scoping meetings.

1:00 PM Introductions, Review Meeting Purpose and Agenda

1:10 – 1:45 PM

Review Study Plans

MIG 1 Plans

- Migratory Fish – Tallapoosa Basin Literature Review
- Lake Martin Assessment of Fish Density and Species
- Composition Associated with Various Shoreline Type
- Evaluation of Minimum Flows Downstream of Martin Dam
- Fish Entrainment and Turbine Mortality
- Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species
- Striped Bass Tagging – Hydroacoustic Collections
- Lake Martin – Wildlife Management Plan

MIG 2

- Location of NPDES Permits on Lake Martin
- Erosion and Sedimentation
- Water Quantity, Water Use, and Water Withdrawals
- Lake Martin – Water Quality
- Lake Martin Rule Curve Change Analysis

MIG 3

- Lake Martin Rule Curve Change Analysis – Modeling
- NEW Study Plans on Addressing Effects on Environmental, Recreational and cultural Effects from Rule Curve Change

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MIG 4

- Shoreline Management Plan

MIG 5

- Recreation Plan

1:45 – 2:15 PM Discuss the 2007 Draft Recreation Use Report

2:15 – 2:30 PM Overview of FERC Scoping Meeting

2:30 – 2:45 PM Next Steps in Relicensing Process

Adjourn

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Martin Relicensing Meeting with LMHOBO  
August 28, 2008  
1:00 PM – 3:00 PM

**Current Status of Study Plans**

**Study Plan 1 - Migratory Fish**

- Minor changes from USFWS concerning species below Thurlow Dam.
- APC considers this Study Plan FINAL.

**Study Plan 2 - Fish Density and Species Composition Associated with Shoreline Types**

- Ready to begin picking sample sites.
- APC considers this plan FINAL.

**Study Plan 3 - Minimum Flows Evaluation Downstream of Martin Dam**

- Concentrating on aquatic habitat enhancement for invertebrates downstream of Martin Dam.
- APC continuing to work on this study plan.

**Study Plan 4 - Fish Entrainment and Turbine Mortality**

- APC considers Part 1 – Methodology for a “Paper” Entrainment Study FINAL.
- Part 2 – Field Verification – Concentrating on a mark/recapture technique and hydroacoustics.

**Study Plan 5 - RTE Species**

- APC and USFWS are identifying additional areas of the lake to survey.
- Results will be presented as a Biological Assessment (BA).

**Study Plan 6 - Striped Bass Tagging**

- Working with Auburn University to develop a telemetry study and angling mortality study.

**Study Plan 7 - Wildlife Management**

- APC and ADCNR are working on sharing relevant data and making specific changes to this study plan.

**Study Plan 8 – NPDES Permits of Lake Martin**

- APC considers this Study Plan FINAL.

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**Study Plan 9 - Erosion and Sedimentation**

- APC is working on adding more specific methodology to this plan per FERC recommendations.

**Study Plan 10 - Water Quantity, Water Use, and Water Withdrawals**

- APC considers this Study Plan FINAL.

**Study Plan 11 - Water Quality**

- APC and ADEM are working together on determining if sufficient data exists for the 401 application.
- APC is working with John Glassier (LMHOB0) to develop baseline physical parameters of nutrients and how this may be affected by a rule curve change (e.g., retention time, surface area, etc.).

**Study Plan 12 - Rule Curve Change**

- APC is working on identifying potential environmental studies related to the potential rule curve change. The following list describes APC's recommended studies:
  - Study Plan 12 (a) – Modeling (already developed as Study Plan 12)
  - Study Plan 12(b) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Potential Increase in Sedimentation/Nuisance Aquatic vegetation (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12( c) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Downstream Flows Below Thurlow (potential changes in timing and volume of flows – flood, normal, and drought conditions) (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12 (d) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Lake Martin Water Quality (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12 (e) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Lake and Downstream Erosion (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12 (f) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on RTE species downstream of Thurlow (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12 (g) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Lake and Downstream Recreation (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12 (h) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Shoreline Management (to be developed)
  - Study Plan 12 (i) – Effects of Rule Curve Change on Recreation Use, Property Values, and Recreation-Related Business Sales (already developed as Study Plan 15)

**Study Plan 13 - SMP**

- APC is expanding the detail for the Shoreline Management Plan process.

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**Study Plan 14 - Recreation Plan**

- APC is expanding the detail for the Recreation Plan process.