



July 14, 2015

“*The Boone Dam Weekly Update*” is published each week to help keep TVA’s stakeholders informed on the activities associated with repairing the earthen embankment at Boone Dam. These updates and other information are available at TVA’s website: www.tva.com/boonedrawdown and via email distribution.

Status of the Investigation

There are no significant changes to report this week on the investigation of the seepage and erosion issues at the Boone Dam earthen embankment. The team of TVA dam safety and industry experts has narrowed down the possible solutions for fixing the problem and are working toward an announcement the end of this month.

Frequently Asked Questions

A number of Boone area residents have sent in questions via the TVA Boone Dam webpage comment section. Here are a few commonly asked questions and answers:

Is there a boat ramp that can be used by the public?

The Pickens Bridge Ramp on Pickens Bridge Road is open for public access to the Boone Reservoir. The boat ramp is located down from Jay’s Boat Dock, 945 South Pickens Road, Johnson City. Two additional boat ramps will be built provided TVA receives the necessary permits from the regulatory agencies.

Is TVA going to do anything about retrieving boats stranded on private lifts?

TVA is looking into possible solutions for retrieving boats in this situation, but we do not have a solution at this time. We understand the hardship caused with the lowering of the reservoir late last fall. Safety for our Boone Dam neighbors and our employees is our number one priority. It was necessary to lower the reservoir to stabilize the earthen embankment and reduce the amount of seepage and erosion.

Since the lake is lower than normal, is it impacting the health of the fish?

Fish populations in the reservoir are generally tolerant and will adjust to the available habitat. TVA’s fisheries biologists have recently completed fish surveys on the reservoir and in the Watauga and South Holston Rivers. The results indicate a healthy fish population and habitat are being maintained.

How to Receive Regular Updates

If you’d like to be included on the Boone Update email distribution list, please visit www.tva.com/boonedrawdown and submit your email address where you see “Sign up below to get weekly updates via email”.