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*Drilling can be seen on the right rim of the earthen embankment.*

### **Visible Signs of Progress in November** **Lake levels will fluctuate during testing**

Several visible signs of progress are taking place at Boone Dam this month. As mentioned in last month's newsletter, lake levels will be temporarily lowered and raised to test the effectiveness of grout installed over the past several months. Weather conditions permitting, starting Nov. 14, we will be moving the lake level between 1350 and 1355 feet above sea level, the lower and upper limits of the current operating guide. The lake will then return to its current level of about 1352 feet by Nov. 30.

During testing, we'll be carefully monitoring our extensive network of sensors and comparing the results to readings we took before the work began. The data collected will help us refine our plans for remaining repair work.

We've also started our high mobility grouting program. Much thinner than the low mobility grout we've been using to this point, HMG is designed to fill in smaller spaces in the geology under the embankment. We've already seen some indications that HMG is filling some of the same water pathways that caused the first signs of seepage in late 2014.

Meanwhile, in keeping with our plan to explore the right rim of the embankment, initial drilling and testing work on the right rim may be visible to some around the dam. The team will be drilling holes, testing the rock and installing instrumentation for continuous monitoring of the right rim.

Finally, contrary to some persistent rumors, no new "leaks" have been discovered and the repair project is still on schedule to be complete within the 5-7 year timeframe announced in 2015.



*The survey found a healthy supply of small mouth bass, including samples of two different years of spawn.*

### **Fish Survey Results: Boone Lake Remains Healthy**

TVA biologists are confirming what most anglers already know – Boone Lake remains a great fishing place. During a regular aquatic health survey last week, biologists collected samples of the lake's inhabitants, including numerous species of fish as well as the bottom dwelling organisms that feed them. The fish were collected using boat-mounted, electro-fishing equipment. The units stun the fish for a brief time and bring them to the surface, where they are examined and evaluated before being released unharmed. "Everything looked perfectly normal," said TVA fisheries biologist Greg Shaffer. "The number of fish, the number of species and the kinds of benthic insects are exactly what we'd expect to see," he said.

### **Community News: Boone Hosts Two Community Tours**

Boone Dam played host to two different groups from the Tri-Cities region October 18. Engineers from the Johnson City Power Board received a project update from Civil Engineering Senior Program Manager Aaron Nottis. Aaron provided a history of the project starting with initial construction of the project, through the current ongoing work at the dam. Meanwhile Construction Manager Kevin Holbrook gave the Tri-Cities Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America a project update.



*Aaron Nottis shows Johnson City Power Board engineers the project from the downstream side.*

### **TVA Employees Volunteer Time and Talents for Combined Federal Campaign**

The Combined Federal Campaign (CFC) – the federal government’s annual charitable fundraising effort -- is in full swing throughout TVA. Employees are volunteering their time and talents throughout the Valley to benefit charities. TVA’s Gray office recently held a silent auction and fundraiser breakfast. Employees from Boone Dam and Knoxville helped box and bag groceries for Second Harvest Food Bank during the United Way Day of Caring last Friday. The Boone project has several other CFC fundraiser events planned, which benefit dozens of non-profit agencies in the Tri-Cities area.



*Natural Resources Director Bucky Edmondson cooks up some of his delicious homemade gravy for the CFC fundraiser breakfast at Gray.*

**New Community News Updates!** Remember, we’ll keep you informed in between monthly editions of this newsletter through the new “Community News” section of the [Boone website](#). We’ll also update the @BooneRepair Twitter feed and, if needed, provide special newsletter editions. You can always e-mail us questions at [boonelake@tva.gov](mailto:boonelake@tva.gov), or stop by the TVA Community Relations trailer at the intersection of Boone Dam and Minga Roads.

**How to Receive Regular Updates** “*The Boone Dam Update*” is published monthly 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: [Boone Repair](#) and via email distribution.

*If you’d like to be included on the Boone Update email distribution list, please visit [Boone Repair](#) and submit your email address where you see “Sign up below to get weekly updates via email.” Learn more the Boone Project and other TVA activities on Facebook at <http://www.Facebook.com/TVA> and on twitter @BooneRepair.*

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