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Three sonic rig drill rigs can be seen performing test operations on the earthen embankment.

Construction Update

Three sonic drill rigs are now onsite at Boone Dam as part of the exploratory drilling and grouting program to repair the earthen embankment. A team of technical workers and operators is gathering data and performing high mobility grout demonstration drilling this week. Test holes for the drilling have been carefully laid out across the dam.

Boone project operations will be moving to a 24-hour-a-day, 5-days a week schedule in February.

Developing Fish Habitats: Reef Balls Dropped in Fort Patrick Henry Lake

To help improve fish habitats all along the South Holston River system, 20 giant reef balls, weighing 500-600 pounds each, were placed in Fort Patrick Henry Lake last week. Part of a partnership program between TVA and the Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency, the concrete reef balls are pH neutral to encourage algae growth and are also a good place for small fish to hide. Sunfish, bluegill, largemouth bass and catfish are some of the breeds attracted to the reef balls. Fort Patrick Henry is the second east Tennessee lake to receive the reef balls after Cherokee Reservoir.



TWRA's John Hammonds with some of the reef balls recently placed in Fort Patrick Henry Lake

"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: [Boone Repair](#) and via email distribution. You can also follow us on TVA's Facebook page <http://www.Facebook.com/TVA> and on twitter @BooneRepair

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