

# BOONE PROJECT UPDATE

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Construction manager Kevin Holbrook and Site Supervisor Jack Stanhope review the location of the future upstream berm construction. The work, which will take place this summer, will be visible to passing boaters and our Boone Dam neighbors.

## Two Year Progress Report from Boone Dam: Project Remains on Track

## Accomplishments to Date:

Nearly two years ago, TVA leaders committed to repairing the seepage issue on Boone Dam's earthen embankment. In December 2015, drill rigs went up on the dam and the following has been accomplished:

- Total Man Hours: 649,036
- Low Mobility Grout (LMG) holes drilled and grouted 539
- High Mobility Grout (HMG) holes drilled and grouted 261
- Total Drilling Footage 113,511 linear feet or 21.51 miles
- Total Grout Placed 2,388 cubic yards or 239 average concrete truck loads

The LMG and HMG holes were drilled and grouted in order to fill voids within the earthen embankment.

**Current Status:** The Boone Dam seepage remediation project remains on track for completion between 2020-2022. We've made some timeline modifications to move the berm construction forward in the schedule. At this time, we continue to evaluate the performance of the grouting work to ensure its effectiveness.

**Next Steps:** During the summer, TVA will be constructing the upstream berm. This work will be visible to residents and there may be additional truck traffic due to rocks being carried for the new buttress. The berm will provide additional stability for the earthen embankment.

#### Community News: TVA Volunteers Support Second Harvest Food Bank Mobile Food Pantry

Workers from Boone Dam and TVA's Gray office teamed up with Elizabethton Electric to support the Mobile Food Pantry at Lynnwood/Lynnridge Apartments in Elizabethton. Food was distributed to some 50 families who might otherwise suffer food insecurity. "Second Harvest Food Bank is grateful for the volunteer spirit of TVA and Elizabethton Electric employees," said Second Harvest Food Bank's Community Relations Manager Katie Prendergast. "TVA and Elizabethton Electric have been continuous advocates and supporters of the mission of the Food Bank."



TVA and Elizabethton Electric workers preparing to assist some 50 Elizabethton families with the Second Harvest Mobile Food Pantry.

## Healthy Fish on Boone Lake

The Tennessee Valley is a "biodiversity hotspot" for anything that lives in or near the water. That's according to TVA Fisheries Biologist Jon Michael Mollish, who, along with a team of three other TVA biologists, recently conducted an electrofishing survey to determine the health of the fish in Boone Lake. "It's a snapshot of the health of the reservoir," said Jon Michael, who liked what he saw. "We're seeing a large diversity of fish and the fish we see are healthy," he said. During electrofishing, fish are temporarily stunned, weighed, measured and returned to the lake to swim away in a matter of minutes. Studies were conducted on both the Watauga and South Holston arms of Boone Lake. The biologists said they saw more than 25 species of healthy fish.



TVA's Jon Michael Mollish with two Largemouth Bass from Boone Lake.

## **TVA Supports STEM Education in Tri-Cities**

Some 560 K - 4<sup>th</sup> graders from Lake Ridge Elementary School in Johnson City learned about water conservation from TVA's Kristina Bonds during the school's first-ever Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) day. In highly interactive sessions, Kristina shared fun facts about water with the students. Example: *Did you know that only one percent of the Earth's water is used for drinking?* Students also learned about dams, hydropower generation and the Boone Dam project from a Boone Dam representative. TVA supports STEM education for students by sponsoring similar programs throughout the Tennessee Valley.

#### Summer Fun!

It's time for summer fun! Be sure to use the hashtag #TVAFun when you upload your photos to social media in order to win some great prizes! Visit <u>TVA.com/TVAFun</u> for details.

Enjoy your Independence Day holiday and we will see you for our next issue July 11.



TVA's Kristina Bonds talks about water conservation with a class from Lake Ridge Elementary School during STEM day.



LuAnne Suba enjoys kayaking near Pickens Bridge.

<u>New Community News Updates:</u> Remember, we'll keep you informed in between monthly editions of this newsletter through the new "Community News" section of the <u>Boone website</u>. We'll also update the @BooneRepair Twitter feed and, if needed, provide special newsletter editions. You can always e-mail us questions at <u>boonelake@tva.gov</u>, or stop by the TVA Community Relations trailer at the intersection of Boone Dam and Minga Roads.

<u>How to Receive Regular Updates</u> *"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: <u>Boone Repair</u> and via email distribution.

If you'd like to be included on the Boone Update email distribution list, please visit <u>Boone Repair</u> 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 <u>http://www.Facebook.com/TVA</u> and on twitter @BooneRepair.

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