

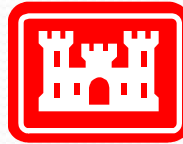
Welcome

Recreational Enhancements on
the Lehigh River

Public Information Workshop

February 2013

Cooperating Agencies



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Philadelphia District



Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission
Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural
Resources
US Army Corps of Engineers



Agenda

- F.E. Walter Project Overview
- 2013 Release Plan

Francis E. Walter Dam

Completion Date: 1961
Single Purpose, Flood
Control Dam

Recreation was defined
as Authorized Project
Purpose in 1988

Access road across top of
dam was completed in
Spring 2005

Grouting Program for seepage
control Completed 2010



Water Based Recreation

- Whitewater Boating

- Kayaking
- Rafting
- Canoeing



- In-Lake Boating

- Fishing

- In-lake
- Downstream



2013 Flow Management Plan

The Francis E. Walter Flow Management Plan 2013 Planned Whitewater Release Dates (26 Release dates)

May 11, 18, 25, 26

June 8, 9, 22, 23

July 6, 7, 20, 21, 27, 28

August 3, 4, 10, 11, 17, 18, 24*, 25*, 31*

September 1*

October 12-13**

* Release rate dependant on additional water becoming available

** If sufficient water is available, Sunday, 12-13 October is part of last added increment.

12 Fishing Releases (New for 2013)

- April 13-14*, 20-21*, 27-28*
- May 4-5*, 12*, 19*
- October 11**, 14**
- * Release set to match inflow with a 400 cfs target
- ** fishing releases as part of last added increment

2013 Flow Management Plan

- Pool elevation 1370 Feet NGVD
 - 70 feet and 6.21 billion gallons above normal pool
- Whitewater releases from 1 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- Fishing releases, with target of 400 cfs will also be from 1 a.m. to 1 p.m.
- All stored water is subject to evacuation for flood control or other emergencies. Evacuation of water due to impending hurricanes or tropical storms may result in cancellation or modification of releases.

2013 Flow Management Plan

- White water and fishing release decisions will be made by Wednesday afternoon
 - Notifications posted to the Corps web sites, email distribution list, or press releases will be issued when deviating significantly from the plan.
- Plan requires sufficient inflows to impound 70 feet of storage by 11 May. Maximum storage for recreation purposes is elevation 1370.
- Releases are dependent on hydrologic conditions

2013 Flow Management Plan

Spring

- Start storing no later than April 1
 - Match inflow up to 1000 cfs on weekends while storing. Weekends of 13-14, 20-21 and 27-28 April, releases limited to 400 cfs for fishing. Pool will not be allowed above 1370, otherwise releases cancelled. May require releases in advance.
 - Minimum release while storing will be 250 cfs.
- * If Hydrologic conditions indicate that reaching 1370 by 11 May is in jeopardy, weekend releases may be limited to 750 cfs, and weekday releases to 225 cfs. If not at 1370 by 11 May agencies will reconvene to determine appropriate course of action.

2013 Flow Management Plan

May – June

May-March inflow on non-whitewater (fishing) weekends (up to 400 cfs if pool is below 1370)

- Limit pool fluctuations to elevations 1370-1365
 - Protect fish spawning areas in-lake
 - Conserve cooler water for later in season
- After reaching 1370, target minimum release is 200 cfs in May, 200-250 cfs in June
- Target whitewater releases will be 800 cfs in May, 750 cfs in June. If insufficient water available, releases adjusted accordingly.
- Agencies meet by 5 June to assess situation and adjust June releases as necessary

Release Rate Priorities - May

Saturday

Sunday

Rate (CFS)	Duration (DSF)	Rate (CFS)	Duration (HRS)	Volume Required (DSF)
600	12			300
650	12			325
700	12			350
700	12	500	6	475
750	12	550	6	512.5
800	12	600	6	550
800	12	700	6	575
800	12	600	12	700
800	12	700	12	750
800	12	800	12	800

Maximum release 800 cfs in May

Release Rate Priorities - June

Saturday		Sunday		Volume Required
Rate (CFS)	Duration (DSF)	Rate (CFS)	Duration (HRS)	
600	12			300
650	12			325
700	12			350
700	12	500	6	475
750	12	550	6	512.5
750	12	600	6	525
750	12	700	6	550
750	12	750	6	562.5
750	12	750	12	750

Maximum release 750 cfs in June

2013 Flow Management Plan

After July 1

Utilizing storage between elevation 1365 and 1300,
First priority will be:

- Provides sufficient storage for white water releases thru August 18 and fisheries releases thru September 8
 - Fisheries enhancement releases will be 100 cfs thru 26 July and 50 cfs to September 8 up to a maximum release of 300 cfs.
 - Whitewater releases will be 600 plus inflow (up to 700) in July and 650 plus inflow (up to 750) in August.

2013 Flow Management Plan

- Any additional storage that becomes available will be equitably allocated to provide for fisheries enhancement and incrementally add/increase whitewater events.
 - Fisheries priorities are to first incrementally increase releases from 50 to 100 cfs, then extend period of 50 cfs release.
 - White water priority is to add planned dates then increase release amounts.
- Updates will be posted on Corps of Engineers webpage as additional recreation and fishery releases can be accommodated. Changes may occur with little advance notice.

2013 Recreation Increments

Increment	Releases
1	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitewater (650 cfs) – Aug. 24• Fisheries (100 cfs) – July 27-Aug. 2
2	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitewater (650 cfs) – Aug. 25• Fisheries (100 cfs) – Aug. 3-9
3	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitewater (650 cfs) – Aug. 31• Fisheries (100 cfs) – Aug. 10-16
4	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitewater (650 cfs) – Sept. 1• Fisheries (100 cfs) – Aug. 17-23
5	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries enhancement to 100 cfs – Aug. 24-Sept. 13
6	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitewater Aug. 24-25 (1700 cfs on 24 and 1000 cfs on 25)
7	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries enhancement of 50 cfs Sept. 14-28
8	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Whitewater Aug. 31-Sept 1 (1700 cfs on Aug. 31 and 1000 cfs on Sept 1)
9	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Fisheries enhancement of 50 cfs Sept. 29-Oct. 13

Last Increment (10th)

- 11-14 October last added increment, fishing 400 cfs on the 11th and 14th and whitewater release of 1700 cfs on the 12th and 1000 cfs on the 13th. Flow ramping starting on the 11th will allow both fishing and whitewater opportunities during the final drawdown of the reservoir to winter pool level of 1300. Final amounts to be determined based on amount available and to be posted on Corps website by Wednesday October 9th

Working Together: Partnership in Action

- Public meetings held annually to solicit comment and present recreation plans.
- Received hundreds of responses after each meeting
- Compiled list of over 400 stakeholders
- Many comments received on the Flow Management web site
- Improved communication: Including press releases, notifications, announcements, emails, and web page updates
- Cooperating Agencies evaluated plan performance, and incorporated comments into subsequent Recreation Plan development

Working Together: Partnership in Action

- Corps of Engineers made a small turn around on Rt. 940 side of lower road to ease launch difficulties. Completed summer 2007.
- Replacement of Bypass valves.
- State agencies have partnered with the Lehigh Coldwater Fisheries Alliance and the Wildlands Conservancy to support Water Quality Monitoring and Modeling. Modeling efforts ongoing.

Public Involvement

- Visit our web site for updated information and to submit your input:
<http://www.nap.usace.army.mil/fewalter>
- Public comments may also be submitted to:
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers
Philadelphia District
Wanamaker Building
100 Penn Square East
Philadelphia, PA 19107
Stephen.Rochette@usace.army.mil
- For most up to date information on Basin flow conditions go to:
www.nap-wc.usace.army.mil/nap
- Francis E. Walter Dam on Facebook:
<http://www.facebook.com/fewalterdam>