



NOW IS THE TIME FOR ACTION !!!

803-749-3888

WRITE/ CALL YOUR LEGISLATORS

The Lake Murray Association (LMA) has been representing users and homeowners of Lake Murray for over 15 years. We have sought to give a voice to Lake Murray. We now believe it is time for all lake users to know what could happen with **lake levels** in Lake Murray.

SCE&G is submitting a plan to FERC (Federal Level) for **re-licensing the management of Lake Murray for the next 30-50 years**. The critical issue is how much water is to be released from the lake to downstream rivers during drought times. LMA began by asking for the water releases to the Lower Saluda River be slowed when there was a 6" drop in lake level. In an effort to move things forward and in the spirit of compromise, LMA has agreed with SCE&G to a 1-foot drop in lake level as a trigger for slowing releases to the river. **DNR wants a 2 ft drop before the outflow is slowed.**

DNR is demanding **guaranteed** high releases of water to the river in the spring to improve the spawning of the striped bass in the Congaree and Saluda Rivers **regardless** of a drought situation. Under DNR's proposal during periods of low inflow (no rain), the **lake could drop significantly**. If dry conditions persist, the lake could drop to **354' by early July**. By August, levels could be below 353' and by Dec. the lake could be at 350'.

Fish studies were done on the rivers but none on Lake Murray. LMA wants DNR to give as much consideration to wildlife and fish in Lake Murray as they did to the rivers. Fish in the river appears to be more important than fish in the lake and the lake users. Previous agreements stated that 400 cfs would flow downstream. **Nearly twice as much (700 cfs) is demanded in the new license year around and nine times as much could outflow (2700 cfs) April and May**

LMA wants to insure the lake reaches its proper spring level of 358' el so there will be water for fish-spawning, commercial and recreational uses. Low lake levels can be dangerous as more shoals are marked at 354'

In these economic times, both now and in the future, the lake's impact on the economy is huge. Last year **1.3 million visitors** came to our four county areas to enjoy Lake Murray and spent **\$58.5 million**. A fishing tournament alone brought \$46.5 million to the area. This would disappear the years the lake levels are at a deficit. The tremendous loss of revenue was already felt with the dam drawdown. Do we want a repeat?

E-mail/write and call your Federal and Local officials to insist they take notice and intervene with FERC and stop **DNR's agenda to "take over" the waters of Lake Murray** and give more consideration to the lake users, wildlife and the spawning of the fish on Lake Murray.

Questions ? Call LMA (803-520-7509) (803-781-8411) www.lakemurrayassociation.com (sample letter below)

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