

**ROANOKE RAPIDS AND GASTON FERC PROJECT NO. 2009
WATERFOWL AREA MANAGEMENT PLAN
STAKEHOLDER COMMENTS TO THE PLAN
APPENDIX 2**

"Jonas Davis" <jdavis@ducks.org>

04/12/2006 11:12 PM

To: "Grace Bottitta" <gbottitta@ducks.org>,
<Willard_Smith@fws.gov>
Cc: <james_thornton@dom.com>,
<Bridgett_Costanzo@fws.gov>
Subject: Re: Fw: Lake Gaston Waterfowl Management Area

Mr. Thorton,

I have reviewed the plan and was wondering if the maps referenced as Figure 1 and 2 are available electronically. Additionally, is there a more detailed plan in regards to flooding regimes or VDGIF management objectives and responsibilities? While the document verifies management is the responsibility of the state, there is no mention of what that entails in terms of habitat management.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the plan and with the hiring of a new biologist for VA, I hope we may play a more active role in the process. While I have left Mr. Bolin messages in the past, we have been unable to connect and discuss the project. The new biologist is Brian Smith and he will be starting April 17. Once he becomes established, he will be in contact.

Sincerely,

Jonas Davis

>>> <Willard_Smith@fws.gov> >>>
Grace and Jonas,

Dominion asked me to forward this on to you for review and comment as required in their FERC plan. DU was actively involved with us on this project before your staff changes were made. Dominion is trying to obtain their final approvals for the project from FERC. I have obtained the permits and contractor. Please respond to Mr. Thornton and let us know if you need any documents or plans.
Thanks.

Willard F. Smith
Partners For Fish And Wildlife Program
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service - Virginia Field Office
6669 Short Lane, Gloucester, Virginia 23061
804-693-6694 ext. 124
Fax: 804-693-9032

Jim Thornton E-mail to Jonas Davis
April 15, 2006

Mr. Davis,

Thank you for your very quick response to our request for comments. I have come in on the back end of the project. My responsibilities with Dominion are for FERC license compliance and managing the implementation of the new FERC hydropower license for Roanoke Rapids and Gaston. I put the plan together rather hastily in order to submit this to FERC in time to get the USFWS matching funds. I am forwarding this to **Will Smith** of USFWS (whom you copied) and **Bill Bolin** of Dominion - our environmental biology manager who has been working with Will- to address your questions.

In general, when we submit plans to FERC we like to ensure the plan has the elements the license requires, but not so much detail that we have to continually revise and resubmit a plan whenever we need to tweak the way we manage and operate a project enhancement. I'd like for the plan to be able to address your concerns without becoming too "procedural".

Final figure 1 and drafts of figures 2 and 3 are attached. Figures 2 and 3 are in Dominion's drafting department being enhanced as to present to FERC in a more standard format and therefore are marked "draft".

If you have any suggestions on specifics that could be added or changed in the plan to address your questions (adding redline-strikeout text) and therefore would make DU more comfortable with the plan, we welcome them.

Let me know if you have any more questions or comments.

NOTE to BUD LAROCHE - Please forward to your wildlife folks. Can you send me names / e-mail addresses so I can communicate directly?

Jim Thornton

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04/13/2006 08:59 AM

To: "Jonas Davis" <jdavis@ducks.org>
cc: Bridgett_Costanzo@fws.gov, "Grace Bottitta" <gbottitta@ducks.org>, james_thornton@dom.com
Subject: Re: Fw: Lake Gaston Waterfowl Management Area

Jonas, I'm not sure of the figures you refer too. However, I have maps available in the enclosed document that describes the plan in some detail and provides a GIS map. Please note that Ben Alder (formally of DU) most recently participated in reviews of the design and Michael Henry (DU Regional Engineer) provided the first conceptual drawings back in 1998.

I am coordinating now with VDGIF to determine what level of commitment they are willing to make towards the project. They have encountered some staff changes since they originally agreed to pumpdown the project every year and a good deal of time has passed since then without followup. They are reviewing the project now with respect to management needs and understand they will respond within 2-4 weeks.

(See attached file: Project Info.pdf)

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