



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Philpott Lake, VA (O&M)

FY 2016 Planned Actions:

- Operations and maintenance of dam and hydropower facility for flood risk management
- Operations and maintenance of recreation facilities
- Operations of the facilities for environmental stewardship



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: VA 5, 9

DATE: 23 February 2015

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Flood Control Act of 1944 (PL 78-534).
2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The project is located on the Smith River, Virginia, 44.3 miles above its junction with Dan River, and 35 miles upstream from the Virginia-North Carolina state line in Franklin and Henry Counties. The authorized project includes for a concrete gravity dam 892 feet long and with a maximum height of 220 feet. Philpott Lake is operated as a unit of a coordinated reservoir system for flood risk management in the Roanoke River basin, generation of hydroelectric power, regulation of river flow, and public recreation. The powerhouse has a total installed capacity of 14,000 kilowatts.
3. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR FY 2014:** \$5,305,000.
4. **FY 2015 FEDERAL ALLOCATION:** \$7,335,000. These funds are being used to continue operation and maintenance requirements for flood damage reduction, hydropower, recreation and environmental stewardship and to perform maintenance on the head gates.
5. **FY 2016 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$5,023,000.
6. **OTHER INFORMATION:** In November of 2012, the dam's rating on the Dam Safety Action Classification System (DSAC) was reclassified from a DSAC IV (dams are inadequate with low risk such that the combination of life, economic, or environmental consequences with a probability

PROJECT INFORMATION – Philpott Lake, VA (O&M) – Continued

of failure is low and the dam may not meet all essential USACE engineering guidelines) to a DSAC III (dams that have issues where the dam is significantly inadequate or the combination of life, economic, or environmental consequences with probability of failure is moderate to high). Current efforts are focused on building an Interim Risk Reduction Measures Plan (IRRMP), along with plans to reduce the long-term risk, are being considered simultaneously.

Backlog maintenance has been a serious issue for a considerable amount of time due to previous funding shortfalls. Many of the recreation facilities need to be repaired/upgraded to ensure public safety and to meet the current regulations especially in regards with the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). Much of the support equipment used on a routine basis is reaching the end of its life cycle which is requiring a considerable amount of attention. The funding of these activities would help reduce operation and maintenance costs in the future as well making recreation areas a more safe and enjoyable environment for the visiting public.