



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

Falls Lake, NC Reallocation Study

- **City of Raleigh and the state of North Carolina have expressed interest in reallocation of the water quality pool**
- **Sponsors have expressed interest in providing gratuitous non-Federal funds to expedite the reallocation study.**



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 1, 13

DATE: 8 April 2013

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Water Supply Act of 1958, as amended.
2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The project is located on the Neuse River about 10 miles north of the city of Raleigh, North Carolina. The project consists of an earth dam which is 1,915 feet long with a maximum height of 92 feet above the streambed. The dam has a 30-foot top width. An uncontrolled chute spillway, 100 feet wide, is located in the east abutment and a controlled 17.4 foot diameter outlet structure. The reservoir has a gross storage capacity of 374,450 acre-feet, of which 243,050 acre-feet is for flood risk management, 45,000 acre-feet for water supply for the city of Raleigh, 61,330 acre-feet for water quality control, and 25,070 acre-feet for sediment storage. The reservoir is operated as the initial unit of a coordinated system for flood risk management in the Neuse River basin for water supply, water quality control, recreation, and other purposes.
3. **IMPROVEMENTS DESIRED:** The state of North Carolina and the city of Raleigh have requested a water storage reallocation study at the Falls Lake project to investigate the reallocation of just over 12,500 acre-feet of storage. This study would review the storage allocation for Falls Lake and determine if a reallocated can occur without adversely impacting other project functions for the Falls Lake project.
4. **COST ESTIMATE:** TBD but likely less than \$500,000. These funds could be used to continue the reconnaissance phase and initiate the feasibility phase for a reallocation study which is normally funded under the Operation and Maintenance appropriation for relocation proposals within the Chief of Engineer's discretion (< 15% or 50,000 acre feet). Since the anticipated reallocation action is expected to be within the approval authority of the Chief of Engineers, the follow-on feasibility phase, if required, would be conducted at full Federal expense. If Congressional authorization is determined to be required, the feasibility phase

PROJECT INFORMATION – Falls Lake, NC - Reallocation Study (O&M) – Continued

would be required to be cost-shared in accordance with the Water Resources and Development Act of 1986.

5. **COMPLETION DATE:** Reconnaissance phase – 12 months subject to the availability of funds. Feasibility phase – to be determined.

6. **OTHER INFORMATION:** In a letter dated April 4, 2013, the state of North Carolina and the city of Raleigh have expressed an interest in gratuitously contributing non-Federal funds under Section 111 of the FY 2012 Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act to expedite the reallocation study.

Senate Bill S 601, for a Water Resources Development Act of 2013, Section 2015 includes language which would require Congressional approval of modifications of reservoir projects including proposals “involving an allocation or reallocation of storage that is equal to or exceed 5 percent of the conservation storage pool of the project.” The adjustment requested by the city of Raleigh is greater than 5 percent but less than the 15% currently requiring congressional authorization. Ultimate approval of this action would no longer rest with the Chief of Engineers if this language is enacted into law and recommended in the final report.