



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Wilmington District

News Release

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Contact: Visitor Assistance Center-Kerr or
Wilmington District Public Affairs Office

For Release: Immediately

Phone: (434) 738-6143 (Kerr)
or (910) 251-4646 (PAO)

Please visit our District website at <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil>

TEMPORARY CLOSURES AT KERR

The US Army Corps of Engineers at John H. Kerr (Buggs Island) Reservoir has temporarily closed Rudds Creek Campground and most boat launching ramps due to high water.

“We closed Rudds Creek today because most of the campsites are underwater,” said Kevin McDaniels, Chief Park Ranger. Additionally, there is no water in most of the campground, because the electricity to the well pumps had to be disconnected due to flooding, he explained. The Corps hopes to have the campground open by April 12th. “This will allow time for the water to recede and for us to get the campground cleaned up”, said McDaniels.

McDaniels noted that all other campgrounds have some sites underwater, and it is recommended that campers call ahead to check the status of the sites.

The telephone numbers for individual campgrounds are listed at the end of this article.

High water has also necessitated the closures of most of the boat launching ramps. “The only ramps open right now are Island Creek and the old marina ramp in North Bend Park”, said McDaniels. Closures are necessary for public safety he explained.

There are no plans to open the floodgates at Kerr at the current water level. Terry Brown, Wilmington District Water Control Manager, explained that the floodgates are opened only when the reservoir reaches elevations of 315 feet and above. “And only then if the releases of water through the generators is not enough”, explained Brown.

Brown went on to explain that the floodgates have been opened for flood control on a number of occasions in the past ten years. “People have the impression that the opening of the gates is a rare occurrence,” he said. “It is not a common thing, but as a flood control measure it has been done during floods in 1987, -93, -95, and -96.”

For current lake elevations, please visit the Wilmington District website, “Services for the Public” at www.saw.usace.army.mil.

You can also go to <http://epec.saw.usace.army.mil/roankerr.htm>

Or call the John H. Kerr Powerhouse 24-hour recording at (434) 738-6633 extension 275, or (434) 689-2249 x 275.

Campground Information:

North Bend Park (US Army Corps of Engineers)

434-738-0059 or 738-6143

Longwood Park (USACE)

434-374-2711 or 434-738-6143

NC State Parks (County Line,

252-438-7791

Satterwhite Point, Hibernia, Nutbush,
Henderson Point, Bullocksville, Kimball Point)

Occoneechee State Park

252-374-2210