



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Wilmington District

## John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir VA and NC (O&M)

### FY 2016 Planned Actions:

- Operations and maintenance of dam for flood risk management and hydropower facility
- Operations and maintenance of recreation facilities plus environmental stewardship of Federal property
- Recommendations of the Kerr Section 216 study to be implemented under the project's existing authority



CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT: NC 1, 6, and VA 5

DATE: 23 February 2015

1. **AUTHORIZATION:** Flood Control Act of 1944 (PL 78-534).
2. **LOCATION AND DESCRIPTION:** The project is located on the Roanoke River, 178.7 river miles above its mouth, in Mecklenburg County, Virginia, and 18 miles upstream of the North Carolina and Virginia line. The dam is located in Mecklenburg County, VA. The reservoir extends upstream on the Roanoke River for 56 miles and on the Dan River for 34 miles. The project consists of a concrete gravity dam with wing and saddle dikes on the right and left banks, with a total length of 22,285 feet. The reservoir is operated as a unit of a coordinated system of reservoirs in the Roanoke River basin for flood risk management, generation of hydroelectric power, regulation of low water flow, and for other purposes. Hydropower installed capacity is 204 megawatts which increased to 268 megawatts in FY 2011.
3. **FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION FOR FY 2014:** \$10,864,000
4. **FY 2015 FEDERAL FUNDING ALLOCATION:** \$10,623,000. Funds are being used to continue operation and maintenance requirements for flood risk management, hydropower, recreation and environmental stewardship. Tainter gate repairs were completed in FY 2015 using prior year funding.
5. **FY 2016 BUDGET AMOUNT:** \$10,976,000.

-

PROJECT INFORMATION – John H. Kerr Dam and Reservoir, VA and NC (O&M) – Continued

6. **OTHER INFORMATION:** The amount of backlog maintenance has been a serious issue for a considerable amount of time due to previous funding shortfalls. The project has two separate toe drain systems issues, the J.H. Kerr right wing dike which requires costly and extensive repairs to improve structural stability of the dam and the Island Creek dam which needs a system installed. The funding of these activities would help reduce operations and maintenance costs in the future as the systems will continue to degrade with time.

Also, the tentatively selected plan for the John H Kerr Dam and Reservoir Section 216 Feasibility Study only recommends modified flow releases for the benefit of downstream bottomland hardwood resources below the dam. Thus, this recommendation can be implemented within the existing authority of this project. Accordingly, the 216 study is being transitioned into an update to the John H. Kerr Water Control Manual, which would be scheduled for approval by Corps' higher headquarters toward the end of calendar year 2015 once the NEPA process has been completed.