



# RECREATION EVALUATION STUDY PLAN

**R. L. HARRIS HYDROELECTRIC PROJECT**  
FERC NO. 2628



Prepared by:

**ALABAMA POWER COMPANY**  
**BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA**



FINAL May 2019

**ALABAMA POWER COMPANY  
BIRMINGHAM, ALABAMA**

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# RECREATION EVALUATION STUDY PLAN

## 1.0 INTRODUCTION

Alabama Power Company (Alabama Power) is initiating the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) relicensing of the 135-megawatt (MW) R.L. Harris Hydroelectric Project (Harris Project), FERC Project No. 2628. The Harris Project consists of a dam, spillway, powerhouse, and those lands and waters necessary for the operation of the hydroelectric project and enhancement and protection of environmental resources. These structures, lands, and water are enclosed within the FERC Project Boundary. Under the existing Harris Project license, the FERC Project Boundary encloses two distinct geographic areas, described below.

Harris Reservoir is the 9,870-acre reservoir (Harris Reservoir) created by the R.L. Harris Dam (Harris Dam). Harris Reservoir is located on the Tallapoosa River, near Lineville, Alabama. The lands adjoining the reservoir total approximately 7,392 acres and are included in the FERC Project Boundary. This includes land to 795 feet mean sea level (msl)<sup>1</sup>, as well as natural undeveloped areas, hunting lands, prohibited access areas, recreational areas, and all islands.



The Harris Project also contains 15,063 acres of land within the James D. Martin-Skyline Wildlife Management Area (Skyline WMA) located in Jackson County, Alabama. These lands are located approximately 110 miles north of Harris Reservoir and were acquired and incorporated into the FERC Project Boundary as part of the FERC-approved Harris Project Wildlife Mitigative Plan and Wildlife Management Plan. These lands are leased to, and managed by, the State of Alabama for wildlife management and public hunting and are part of the Skyline WMA (ADCNR 2016b).

For the purposes of this study plan, “Lake Harris” refers to the 9,870-acre reservoir, adjacent 7,392 acres of Project land, and the dam, spillway, and powerhouse. “Skyline” refers to the 15,063 acres of Project land within the Skyline WMA in Jackson County. “Harris Project” refers to all the lands, waters, and structures enclosed within the FERC Project Boundary, which includes both Lake Harris and Skyline. Harris Reservoir refers to the 9,870-acre reservoir only; Harris Dam refers to the dam, spillway, and powerhouse. The Project Area refers to the land and water in the Project Boundary and immediate geographic area adjacent to the Project Boundary (Alabama Power Company 2018).

Lake Harris and Skyline are located within two river basins: the Tallapoosa and Tennessee River Basins, respectively. The only waterbody managed by Alabama Power as part of their FERC license for the Harris Project is the Harris Reservoir.

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<sup>1</sup> Also includes a scenic easement (to 800 feet msl or 50 horizontal feet from 793 feet msl, whichever is less, but never less than 795 feet msl).

## **Background and Existing Information**

Alabama Power intends to conduct a Recreation Evaluation study that will describe the existing Harris Project recreation facilities, discuss current and future use estimates, and evaluate the need for additional recreational facilities at the Harris Project in the future. The study has two main components: recreational use of the Harris Project and recreational use of the Tallapoosa River below Harris Dam.

The Lake Harris Project Area, located within Clay, Cleburne, and Randolph counties, Alabama, provides both reservoir and riverine recreation opportunities. The Project Boundary includes Lake Harris and extends upstream on the Tallapoosa River, providing additional, more riverine boating and fishing opportunities. Recreation within the Lake Harris Project Area typically includes boating (non-motorized and motorized), fishing, water sports, swimming, picnicking, and hiking. Project lands and waters are generally available for public recreational use.

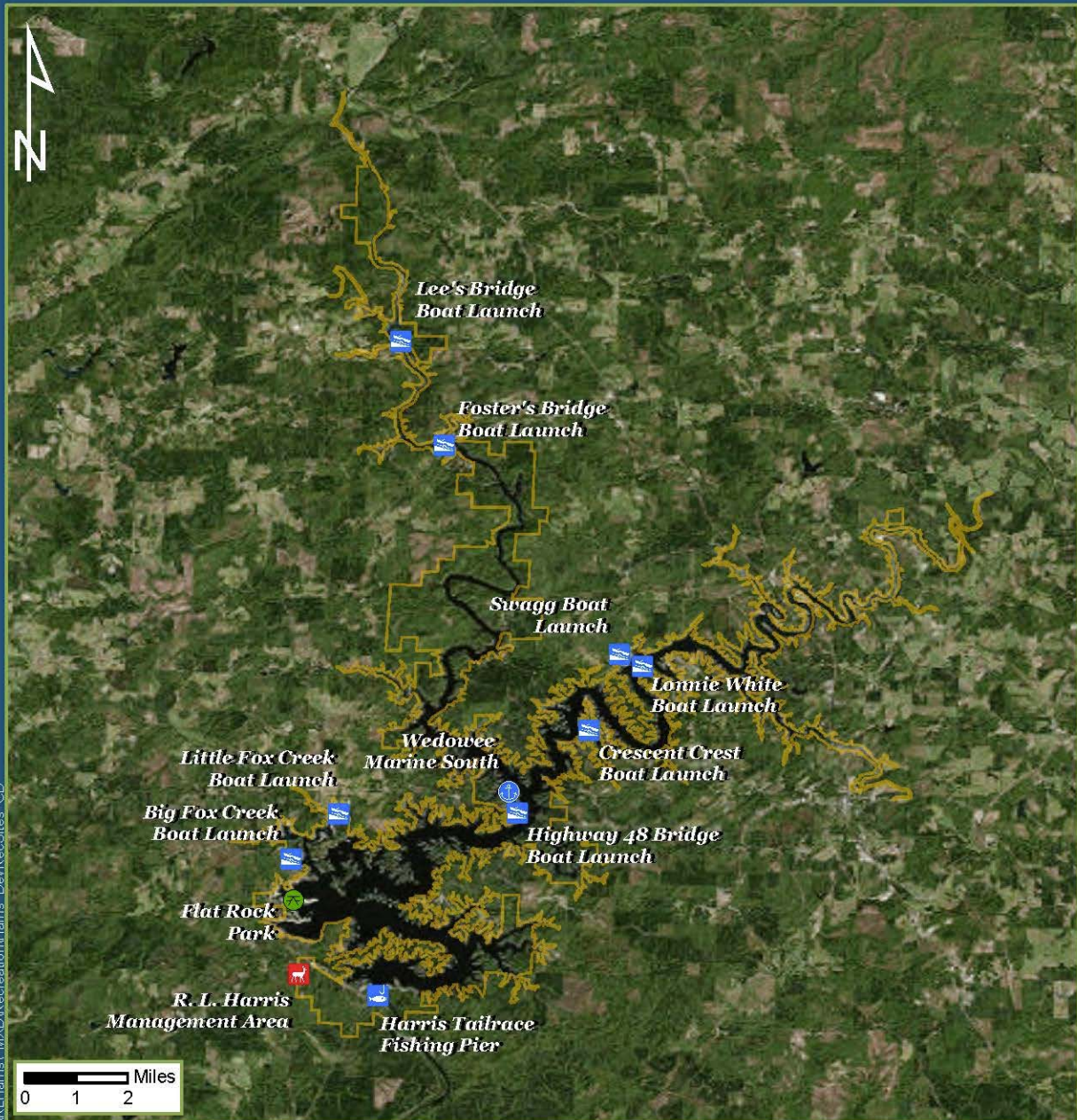
The Skyline Project Area located in Jackson County, Alabama provides public hunting opportunities. Notable recreation opportunities in addition to hunting in this area (but not located in the Skyline Project Boundary) include the “Walls of Jericho” and a stop on the Alabama Birding Trail.

The following Project recreation sites located within the existing Project Boundary are currently on lands owned by Alabama Power and will be included in this Recreation Evaluation study (TABLE 1-1 and Figure 1-1).

**TABLE 1-1 SUMMARY OF HARRIS PROJECT RECREATION SITES**

<b>RECREATION SITE NAME</b>	<b>TYPE OF FACILITY</b>
Lee’s Bridge Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Foster’s Bridge Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Swagg Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Lonnie White Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Crescent Crest Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Highway 48 Bridge Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Wedowee Marine South	Marina
Little Fox Creek Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Big Fox Creek Boat Ramp	Boat Launch
Flat Rock Park	Day Use Park
R. L. Harris Management Area	Hunting
Harris Tailrace Fishing Platform	Fishing Access

# Harris Reservoir Recreation Sites



- Boat Launch Area
- Hunting Area
- Marina
- Park
- Tailwater Fishing
- Project Boundary

**Alabama Power Company**  
R. L. Harris Project, FERC No. 2628

Drawn By: CPD	Date Drawn: 02-15-2019	Checked By: MAH	Date Checked: 02-15-2019
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**Kleinschmidt**  
3346 Stadium Trace Parkway  
Suite 212  
 Hoover, AL 35244  
Telephone: (205) 988-4612  
www.KleinschmidtGroup.com

This map/data was created for informational, planning, reference and guidance purposes only. Kleinschmidt makes no warranty, expressed or implied related to the accuracy or content of these materials.

Path: G:\Client\_Data\AlabamaPower\RLHarris\_MXD\Recreation\Harris\_Dev\RecreationSites\_CD

Source: Kleinschmidt, ESRI

PN: 0535028.01

Date Printed: 2/15/2019

**FIGURE 1-1 LOCATION OF HARRIS PROJECT RECREATION SITES**

In addition to these Project recreation sites, the Harold Banks Canoe Trail (HBCT) on the Tallapoosa River and two sections of the Tallapoosa River immediately upstream from HBCT will be included in the study (i.e., Study Area). The HBCT includes the stretch of river from the Bibby's Ferry access point to Jaybird Landing (Appendix A).<sup>2</sup> The HBCT contains four access points: Bibby's Ferry, Germany Ferry, Horseshoe Bend, and Jaybird Landing (**Figure 1-2**). Jaybird Landing is an exit point for those floating downstream from Horseshoe Bend (or other upstream access points) but can also be used as an access point for traveling upstream to fish/recreate at and above Irwin Shoals. The two sections of the Tallapoosa River from the County Road 15 bridge in Malone to the Alabama Highway 22 bridge in Wadley, and from Wadley to Bibby's Ferry will also be included as part of the Study Area because some use is anticipated in these sections during the study. The section of river from the Harris Dam to Malone will not be sampled. Additionally, one access point between Horseshoe Bend and Jaybird Landing (Peters Island) was deemed unusable because it is remote, and a four-wheel drive vehicle is necessary to access it.

### 1.1 Resource Management Goals

Recreation is a recognized project purpose under Section 10(a) of the Federal Power Act. As part of 18 CFR § 5.6 (viii), FERC requires a description of the existing and future recreation and land uses opportunities. The resource management goals are to identify and provide for long-term management and potential recreation enhancement of public recreational opportunities associated with the Harris Project.

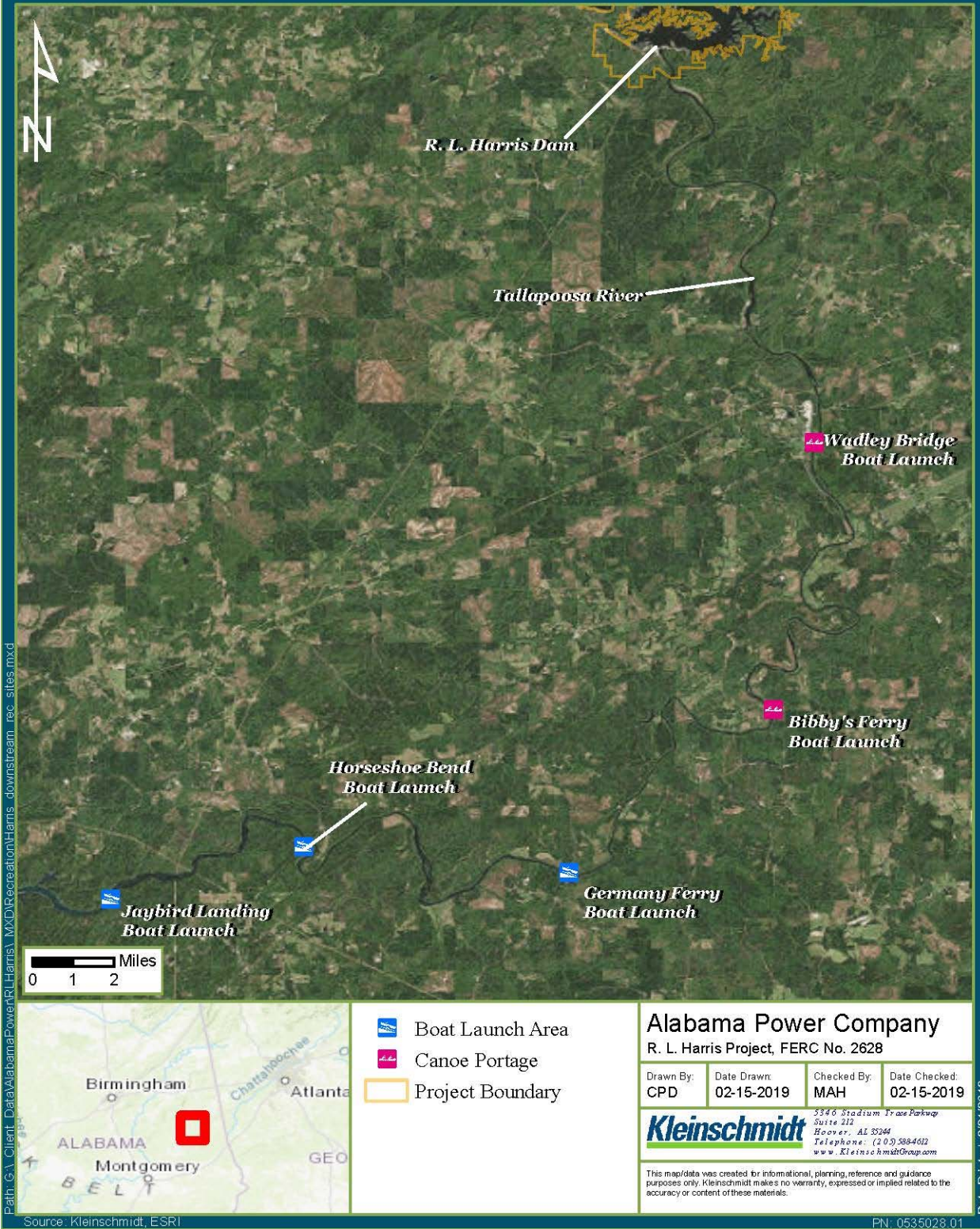
### 1.2 Current Operations and Operational Alternatives

The Recreation Evaluation study will involve evaluating baseline recreation at the Harris Project. Any effects on recreation from potential changes in operations will be analyzed in the R.L. Harris Project Operating Curve Change Feasibility Analysis and the Downstream Release Alternatives Study Plan.

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<sup>2</sup> Jaybird Landing, as identified in the Martin Dam Project (FERC No. 349) Recreation Plan (162 FERC ¶ 62,033) is noted as Jay Bird Creek on the HBCT brochure.

**RECREATION SITES ON THE TALLAPOOSA RIVER BELOW HARRIS DAM**



**FIGURE 1-2 RECREATION SITES ON THE TALLAPOOSA RIVER BELOW HARRIS DAM**

## **2.0 GOALS AND OBJECTIVES**

One of the goals of this study is to gather baseline information on existing Project recreation facilities, existing Project recreational use and capacity, and estimated future demand and needs at the Harris Project.

The objectives of this component of the study are as follows:

- Review existing information and inventory and map (using Geographic Information Systems - GIS) existing Project recreation sites and access areas within the Project Boundary, including site locations and facilities/amenities;
- Summarize who owns, operates, and maintains each Project recreation site;
- Evaluate the condition of the Harris Project recreation sites and facilities within the Project Boundary, including existing information on the suitability of facilities to provide opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in recreation opportunities (i.e., compliance with current Americans with Disabilities Act [ADA] design standards), where feasible, and public safety features; and
- Estimate current recreation use and the current and projected use capacity at Harris Project recreation sites.

The second goal of this study is to determine how flows in the Tallapoosa River downstream of Harris Dam affect recreational users and their activity. User groups include bank and boat (primarily canoe/kayak) anglers, recreational boaters, float tube users, and those who may be using access points for swimming.

To achieve this goal, the four objectives are to:

- Calculate total visitation (effort) and daily effort levels by user groups in the Study Area during the study period (May 1, 2019 to October 31, 2019);
- Measure user attitudes/perceptions about instream flow and trip satisfaction in the Study Area on the day they are intercepted during this period;
- Obtain catch information from anglers intercepted during this period; and
- Determine how instream flow affected a) overall effort, b) daily effort by each user group, c) perception of instream flow and trip satisfaction by user group, and d) species of fish targeted, caught, and retained.

Finally, the last goal of this study is to evaluate the adequacy of Harris Project recreation facilities (both on Lake Harris and downstream of Harris Dam) and identify if any changes or upgrades to the existing sites are needed to meet current or future recreation needs and demand.

## **3.0 PROJECT NEXUS AND GEOGRAPHIC SCOPE**

The FERC policy requires Alabama Power to provide reasonable public recreation opportunities consistent with the safe and effective operation of the Harris Project. Alabama Power provides recreational opportunities according to the existing Harris Project license conditions and has undertaken measures, including ongoing maintenance of recreation facilities, throughout the license term. The proposed Recreation Evaluation Study will provide information about available recreational facilities, current use, and assess future recreational needs at the Harris Project.



The geographic scope includes public recreation sites located within the Harris Project. The geographic scope also includes the Tallapoosa River downstream from Harris Dam through Horseshoe Bend.

## 4.0 METHODS

The following describes the proposed methodology for the Harris Project Recreation Evaluation.

### 4.1 Project Recreation Site Inventory and Condition Assessment

Alabama Power will compile a site inventory and condition assessment information for each of the Harris Project recreation sites. The recreation site inventory and condition assessment will:

1. Describe the type and map the location of the recreation site in relation to the Project Boundary;
2. Describe the type, number, and condition of amenities provided at each site (including reservoir elevation at which boat launches become inoperable);
3. Estimate recreation facility capacity;
4. Evaluate the condition of the recreation sites and facilities, including suitability of facilities to provide opportunities for persons with disabilities to participate in recreation opportunities (i.e., compliance with current ADA design standards) and public safety features;
5. List entities responsible for the operation and maintenance of each facility; and
6. Document recreation facilities using photographs.

In addition to the information gathered on Project recreation sites, Alabama Power will utilize aerial imagery and Light Detection and Ranging (LiDAR) contours to examine private boat docks and boat ramps to determine the reservoir elevation at which these private facilities are usable and at which elevation they become unusable. Alabama Power will also conduct spot checks of a random sample of private boat docks and boat ramps to validate this information.

### 4.2 Project Area Recreation Use and Future Recreation Demand

Previously, the FERC required licensees to file Form 80 recreation reports for each project development every six years, unless the licensee obtains an exemption from FERC.<sup>3</sup> The Form 80 report included summaries of annual use and average use on peak weekends for both daytime and nighttime periods to characterize use of these facilities during the calendar year preceding the year when the reports were filed. The Form 80 report also included an assessment of the capacity utilization of the identified recreation amenities.

For recreation use at Project recreation sites, Alabama Power will compile the 2014 FERC Form 80 data and collect data during 2019 following the methodology applied for the 2014 Form 80 data collection period (Alabama Power 2015) (see Appendix B). This will allow for analysis and comparison of recreation facility use and capacity between the 2014 and 2019 data collection periods. Counts will be conducted as summarized in Appendix B, with clerks stationed at each

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<sup>3</sup>. On December 28, 2018, FERC published a rule entitled *Elimination of Form 80 and Revision of Regulations on Recreational Opportunities and Development of Licensed Hydropower Projects*. The rule eliminated the Form 80 requirement; however, Alabama Power will use the Form 80 methodology to keep data collection consistent.

recreation site for four hours. For each month, sites are counted a minimum of six weekdays (8 am to 5 pm) and three weeknights (after 5 pm) at varying times of day and days of the week. Two weekend days and one weekend night are observed each month, and one count will be conducted during each holiday weekend (Memorial Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, and Labor Day). In addition, interviews to gather information on visitor satisfaction with existing facilities and the need for new recreation sites or upgrades will take place during the counts. Survey clerks will conduct interviews using a random sample of recreation users that visit the site on the day the counts are conducted. Alabama Power, in consultation with Harris Action Team (HAT) 5 members, developed a questionnaire to be used to Project recreation sites to gather information on visitor satisfaction with existing facilities and the need for new recreation sites or upgrades (Appendix C). Although not a Project recreation site, recreation use at Skyline will be characterized based on existing available recreation use data obtained from Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR).

Alabama Power will assess future regional recreation demand and participation based on information provided in the Alabama State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan (SCORP), as well as assessment of population projections within the Harris Project region (e.g., Clay, Cleburne, Randolph, and Jackson counties, Alabama) (ADECA 2013).

#### 4.3 Downstream Recreation Use

Tallapoosa River users will be contacted while exiting the river if using a boat or if they are stationary users at one of five access points (Wadley, Bibby's Ferry, Germany Ferry, Horseshoe Bend, and Jaybird Landing) (**Figure 1-2**). Two survey technicians will be stationed at one of these access points for 6 hours on 36 days during the study period. Date, day type (weekday vs. weekend), access point, and time of day (morning v. afternoon) will be randomly selected. At first contact, anglers will be interviewed to obtain information about catch and effort during their outing, their perceptions of instream flow that day (e.g., too low, about right, perfect, too high, dangerous), and their satisfaction with their trip that day (not at all to extremely satisfied); other users will be asked about their effort, perceptions of instream flow, and their trip satisfaction that day. Stationary users will be asked the same questions on instream flow and trip satisfaction, and when they started and plan to end their activity that day (if not observable). Each member of the party will be asked to answer questions about instream flow, trip satisfaction, visitor satisfaction with existing facilities, and visitor's amenity preferences (Appendix D).

Effort for each user group will be estimated as the product of mean trip length, mean party size, and number of trips. Trip length and party size are recorded during the access point survey. Number of trips will be estimated through counts of vehicles, boat trailers, and bank parties at access sites on the same 36 days selected for access point surveys. A third survey technician will make a bus-route type roving survey along the entire stretch of river from Malone to Jaybird Landing to conduct instantaneous counts at the six access points (Malone, Wadley, Bibby's Ferry, Germany Ferry, Horseshoe Bend, and Jaybird Landing). The route will start and end at the access point where the two survey technicians are stationed that day. Whether they travel north or south on the bus route will be randomly selected each day. Total daily effort for each section of river will be estimated as the product of recorded trips and trip length (hours).

Pertinent modifications will likely be made to the general research plan during a pretest of the creel and user survey during March-April, 2019. Currently, with only anecdotal information on use, we must enter the pretesting period under the assumption there is equal distribution of effort

in each section of the river and that effort is evenly distributed between weekday and weekend days. Pretesting should enable us to have a clearer understanding of longitudinal use and stratify the 36 sampling days by weekday/weekend and river section according to expected use. Additionally, where the technician conducting the instantaneous counts primary purpose is to collect counts, it may be necessary for them to interview users they encounter to supplement access point surveys if number of interviews is low during the study period. If so, these interviews will be kept separate from access point interviews for analysis purposes.

Content of the survey instrument was developed in cooperation with Harris Action Team (HAT) 5 and will be modified based on pretesting. Research permits were obtained from the National Park Service to conduct interviews within the Horseshoe Bend National Military Park per federal regulation.

#### 4.4 Identify Potential Recreation Facility Needs and Upgrades

Alabama Power will consult with the HAT 5 members to review the recreation facility and use data and assess potential development of additional recreation sites and upgrades to existing sites at the Harris Project, including the Tallapoosa River downstream of Harris Dam. Alabama Power intends to hold HAT 5 meetings as necessary to accomplish this task.

## 5.0 REPORTS

As the various components of this study are completed and available for review and comment, Alabama Power will share results with HAT 5 through written documentation and stakeholder meetings, as discussed in Section 2.0 of the PAD. Stakeholders will have between 7-30 days to review and comment on documents, depending on the document length and complexity. Additional meetings (in-person and via conference call) will be held as necessary to discuss study results and solicit stakeholder input. Draft and final reports, if applicable to the study, will be filed with FERC as well as provided to the HAT members and posted to the Harris relicensing website for access by the general public.

As part of the Integrated Licensing Process (ILP), FERC requires licensees to file two status reports: the Initial Study Report and Updated Study Report. These reports provide a status update on all the FERC-approved relicensing studies. Alabama Power will prepare these FERC reports per the requirements of 18 CFR 5.15(c) and (f).

While not required in FERC's ILP process, Alabama Power will also file two Progress Updates during the relicensing process to provide additional updates to FERC, stakeholders, and the general public on the status of the relicensing studies, any interim work products, and any draft and final reports issued. The Progress Update will also include HAT meeting summaries. The first Progress Update will be distributed (and filed with FERC) in October 2019, approximately six months prior to the Initial Study Report; the second update will be distributed (and filed with FERC) in October 2020, approximately six months prior to the Updated Study Report.

## 6.0 SCHEDULE

This schedule corresponds to the FERC-approved Harris Project Plan and Schedule. Consultation meeting dates will be finalized with HAT 5 members upon FERC approval of the study plan.

FERC Study Plan Determination	April 2019
Distribute survey instruments to HAT 5	April 22, 2019
Data Collection (Lake and Downstream surveys)	May – December 2019
Progress Update	October 2019
HAT 5 Meeting on data collection update	March 2020
Initial Study Report	April 2020
Initial Study Report Meeting	April 2020
Draft Recreation Study Report	June 2020
Progress Update	October 2020
Final Recreation Study Report	November 2020
Consultation with HAT 5, as needed	April 2020 – November 2021
Updated Study Report	April 2021
Updated Study Report Meeting	April 2021
File Preliminary Licensing Proposal	By July 3, 2021
File Final License Application with FERC	November 2021

## 7.0 COST AND EFFORT

Alabama Power estimates the cost to consult on and implement this study plan, including costs to conduct the recreation evaluation and develop a draft and final report, is \$525K.

## 8.0 REFERENCES

Alabama Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (ADCNR). 2016b. Wildlife Management Areas. Available at: <http://www.outdooralabama.com/wildlife-management-areas>. Accessed November 2016.

Alabama Department of Economic and Community Affairs (ADECA). 2013. Statewide Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plan, 2013-2018, Prepared by South Central Alabama Development Commission 5900 Carmichael Place, Montgomery, Alabama. Available at: <http://www.adeca.alabama.gov/Divisions/ced/Recreation/Trail%20Plan/SCORP%202013-2018.pdf>. Accessed December 2017.

Alabama Power Company. 2018. Pre-Application Document for the Harris Hydroelectric Project (FERC No. 2628). Alabama Power Company, Birmingham, AL.

Alabama Power Company (Alabama Power). 2015. FERC Form 80 Report for the 2014 calendar year period. Filed with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission on March 30, 2015. Alabama Power Company, Birmingham, AL.

**APPENDIX A**

**HAROLD BANKS CANOE TRAIL TALLAPOOSA RIVER BROCHURE**

Harold Banks Canoe Trail

# Tallapoosa River

Located at the southern end of the Appalachian Mountains, the Tallapoosa River winds 258 miles from western Georgia into eastern Alabama. The river gets its name from the people who lived along the lower stretch of it in the eighteenth century. The Tallapoosa flows through stretches of lush countryside that help preserve its natural beauty and solitude. The Tallapoosa is so unique that the Alabama section has been designated a part of the Alabama Scenic River Trail.

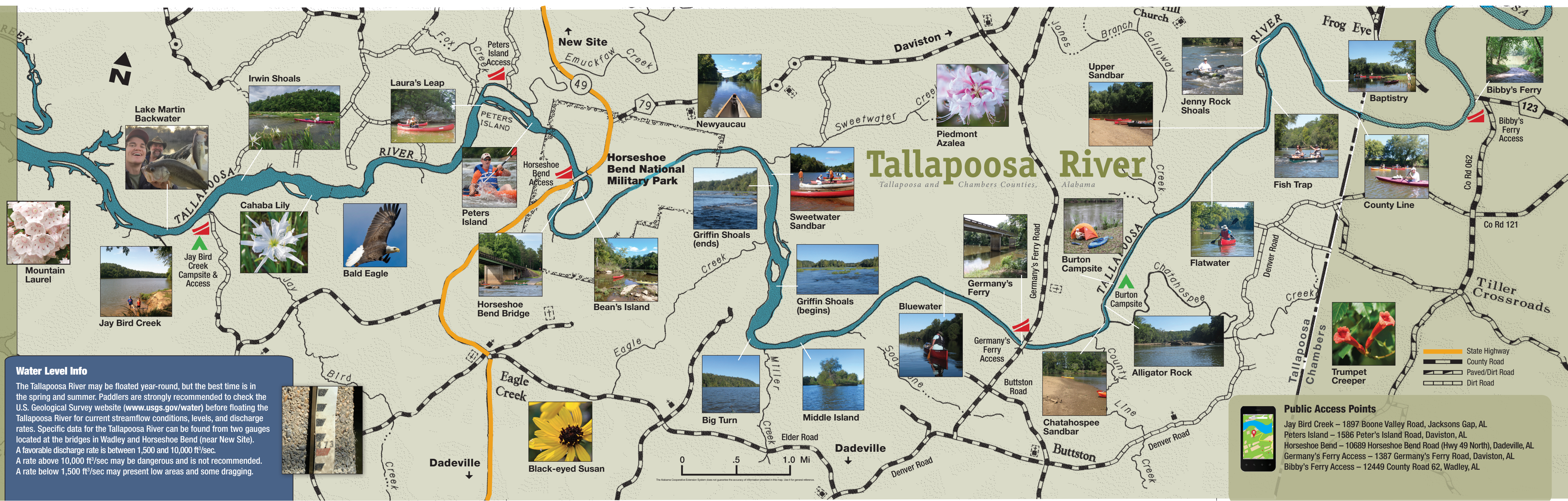
Naturalists, historians, and adventurers are quick to point out that the crown jewel of the Tallapoosa River lies in east central Alabama within the borders of Tallapoosa and Chambers Counties. Along a 25-mile stretch of water, visitors discover the tranquility in a mighty waterway that winds and spills along the Piedmont. Pause along your journey to witness the unique perspective of a fierce battle fought long ago and wonder in the beauty of the shoal lily while catching a glimpse of a soaring bald eagle.

**About Harold Banks**

Harold Banks is a man of many talents—historian, forester, storyteller, explorer, and outdoorsman. But in Tallapoosa County, he is best known for his red canoe and his expertise on the river. In 2009, he became the first person to solo paddle the entire 258 miles of the Tallapoosa River from its origins in Paulding County, Georgia, to its end at Fort Toulouse near Wetumpka, Alabama. In 2015, the 25-mile stretch of the river located in Tallapoosa and Chambers Counties and cherished by Harold was named in his honor. He resides in Dadeville, Alabama.

**Water Level Info**

The Tallapoosa River may be floated year-round, but the best time is in the spring and summer. Paddlers are strongly recommended to check the U.S. Geological Survey website ([www.usgs.gov/water](http://www.usgs.gov/water)) before floating the Tallapoosa River for current streamflow conditions, levels, and discharge rates. Specific data for the Tallapoosa River can be found from two gauges located at the bridges in Wadley and Horseshoe Bend (near New Site). A favorable discharge rate is between 1,500 and 10,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/sec. A rate above 10,000 ft<sup>3</sup>/sec may be dangerous and is not recommended. A rate below 1,500 ft<sup>3</sup>/sec may present low areas and some dragging.



**Public Access Points**

- Jay Bird Creek – 1897 Boone Valley Road, Jacksons Gap, AL
- Peters Island – 1586 Peter's Island Road, Daviston, AL
- Horseshoe Bend – 10689 Horseshoe Bend Road (Hwy 49 North), Dadeville, AL
- Germany's Ferry Access – 1387 Germany's Ferry Road, Daviston, AL
- Bibby's Ferry Access – 12449 County Road 62, Wadley, AL

**Welcome to the Harold Banks Canoe Trail!**

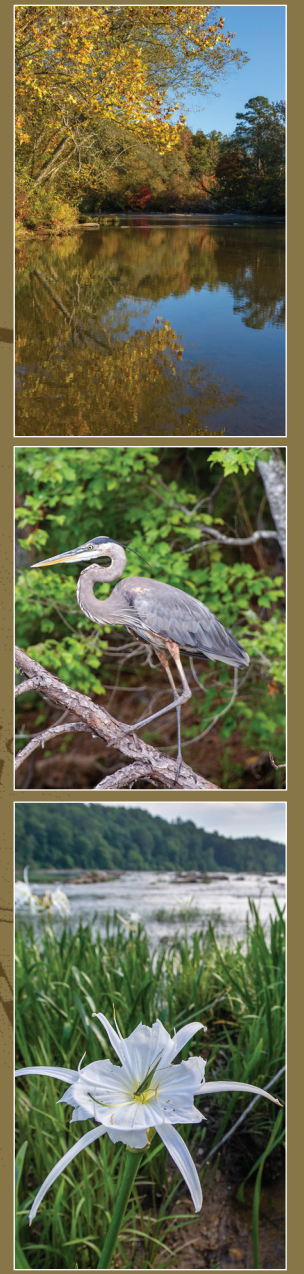
A peaceful, family friendly adventure, the trail is a combination of flat water and shoals rarely above class 1 (easy) in the International Scale of River Difficulty. But the level, flow, and volume of the Tallapoosa River are seasonal and dictated by Alabama Power and its hydroelectric Harris Dam located upstream near Wedowee, Alabama. Paddlers are strongly encouraged to monitor the online water level gauges kept by the U.S. Geological Service at the Wadley Bridge and Horseshoe Bend Bridge.

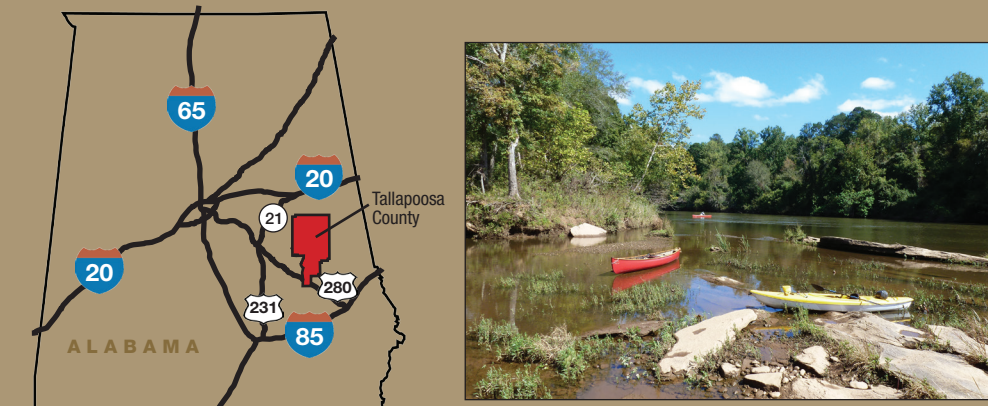
The Tallapoosa County Canoe Trail is divided into three sections and manageable float trips:

**Section 1** (8.25 miles, 5-hour float) begins with public access at Bibby's Ferry, just across the Tallapoosa County line in Chambers County, and ends with public access at Germany's Ferry Bridge. This section features unique spots such as the Baptistry and the Fish Trap, brisk shoals, great fishing, a campsite, and stretches of flat water paddling.

**Section 2** (9.75 miles, 6-hour float) begins with public access at Horseshoe Bend Bridge and ends with public access at Germany's Ferry Bridge. This middle section begins with blue water paddling and includes fishing spots, mile-long Griffin Shoals, with a brisk side channel, and ends with reminiscent paddling through historic Horseshoe Bend National Military Park.

**Section 3** (6 miles, 4-hour float) is the most popular and considered by many to be the most scenic. It begins with public access at Horseshoe Bend Bridge and ends at Jay Bird Creek public access. This lower section has several patches of Shoal or Cahaba lilies, is known to have bald eagles in the area, and features Peters Island, Laura's Leap, side chutes, Irwin Shoals, and a campsite at Jay Bird Creek. Bear left or right to take the swift side chutes for more excitement!





For more information, contact your county Extension office. Visit [www.aces.edu/directory](http://www.aces.edu/directory).

### Important Contact Numbers

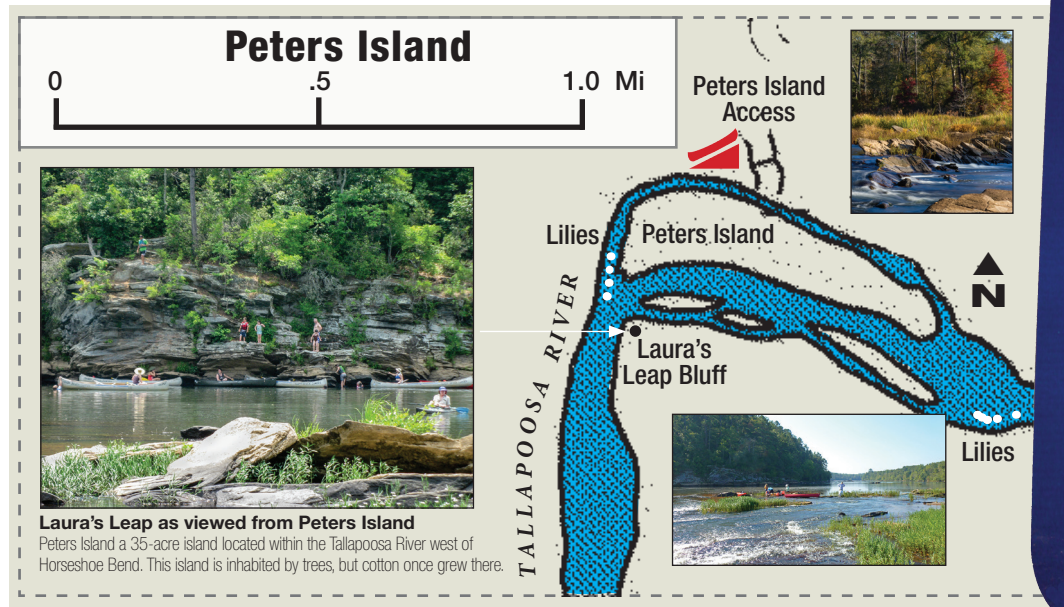
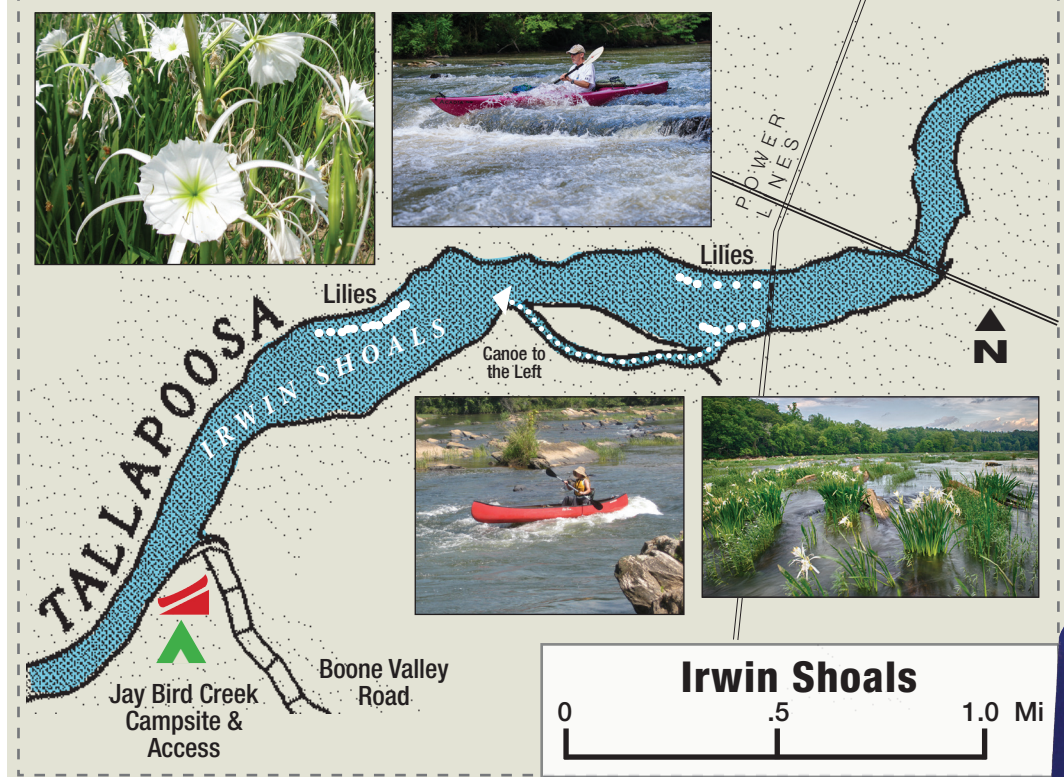
Tallapoosa County Extension Office	(256) 825-1050
Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Office	(256) 825-4264
Russell Medical Center	(256) 329-7100
Horseshoe Bend National Military Park	(256) 234-7111
Alabama Forestry Commission (to report wildfires)	(800) 492-3711

### Helpful Websites

Tallapoosa County Extension	<a href="http://www.aces.edu/Tallapoosa">www.aces.edu/Tallapoosa</a>
U.S.G.S (Alabama Stream Flows)	<a href="http://www.usgs.gov/water">www.usgs.gov/water</a>
Alabama Scenic River Trail	<a href="http://www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com">www.alabamascenicrivertrail.com</a>
Alexander City Chamber of Commerce	<a href="http://www.alexandercity.org">www.alexandercity.org</a>
Tallapoosa County, Alabama	<a href="http://www.tallaco.com">www.tallaco.com</a>
Outdoor Alabama	<a href="http://www.outdooralabama.com">www.outdooralabama.com</a>
Horseshoe Bend National Military Park	<a href="http://www.nps.gov/hobe">www.nps.gov/hobe</a>
Google Earth	<a href="http://www.google.com/earth">www.google.com/earth</a>



Alabama Cooperative Extension System, Alabama Scenic River Trail, Alabama Power, Tallapoosa Publishers, Inc., Middle Tallapoosa Clean Water Partnership, Alexander City Chamber of Commerce, Tallapoosa County Commission, Tallapoosa County Sheriff's Department, Horseshoe Bend National Military Park, Coosa Valley R&D Council, Chambers County Commission  
 Shane Harris, County Extension Coordinator; Tallapoosa County; Bruce Deppes, Creative Services Manager, Auburn University; Contributors: Harold Banks, Kenneth S. Boone, Sabrina Wood, Jim Felzer, and Chuck Browne. Photo credits: Kenneth S. Boone, Shane Harris, Harold Banks, and Patrick E. O'Neil. The Alabama Cooperative Extension System (Alabama A&M University and Auburn University) is an equal opportunity educator and employer. © 2015 by the Alabama Cooperative Extension System. All rights reserved.



### Camping Notes

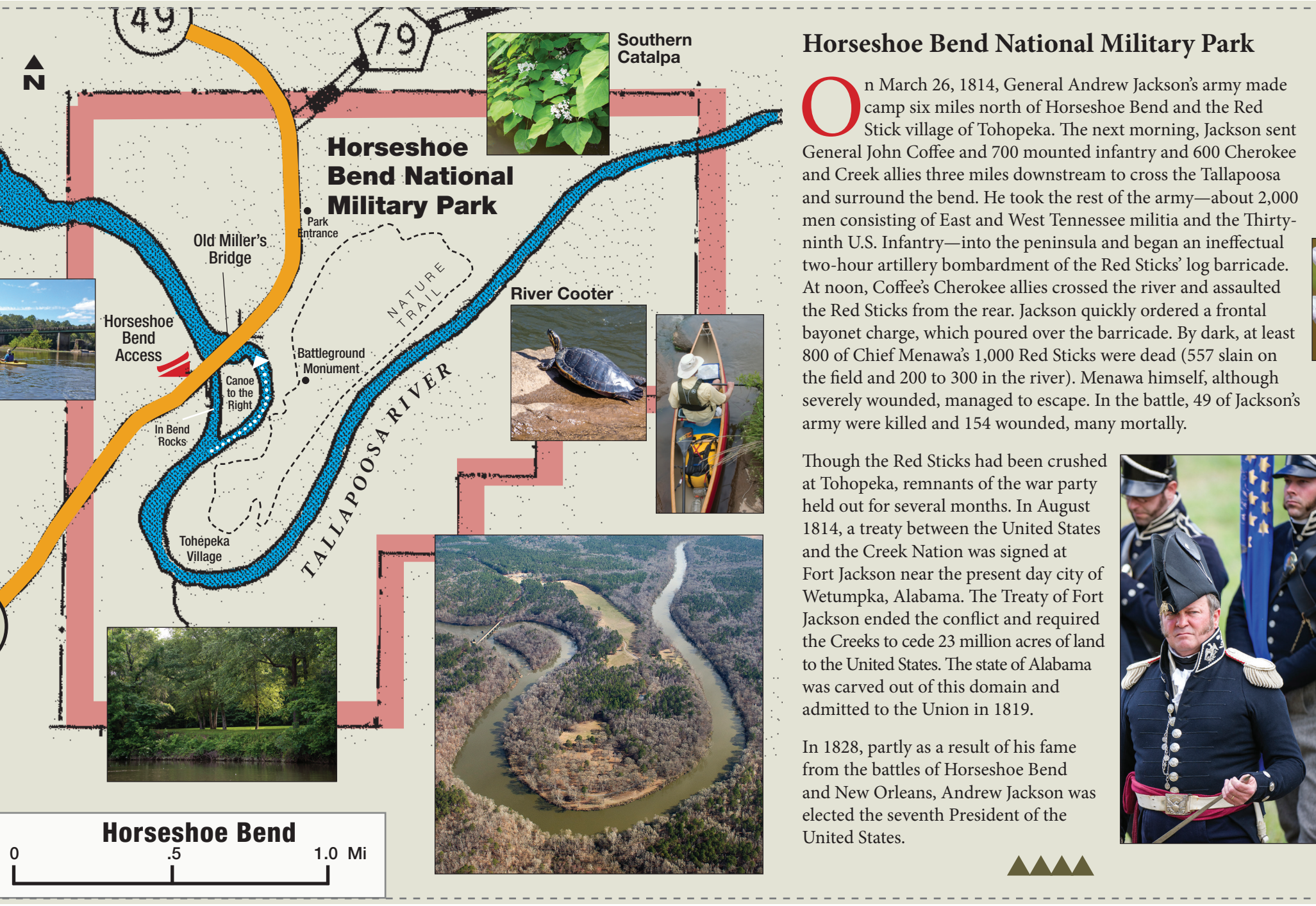
- ▶ Several landowners have given permission for public camping along the creek. Respect this privilege and camp only at designated campsites.
- ▶ All private land adjoining the creek is posted by Alabama law.
- ▶ Camping is by permission only and only in designated areas.
- ▶ Landowners who give permission for trespass have liability protection under the Code of Alabama 1975 Article 1 Section 35-15-1.



### Campsite Etiquette

The two public campsites on the Tallapoosa River are all on private property. These sites are available by permission of the landowners, so respect this privilege by following these guidelines.

- ▲ Leave it cleaner than you found it.
- ▲ Collect firewood from dead material on the ground.
- ▲ Keep fire inside a stone ring and extinguish with water before leaving.
- ▲ Use the restroom away from the campsite area.
- ▲ Do not damage trees in any way, including using nails.
- ▲ Send a thank-you note to the landowner via the Tallapoosa County Extension Office, 125 North Broadnax Street, Rm 23, Dadeville, AL 36853. Reference the campsite name.



### Horseshoe Bend National Military Park

On March 26, 1814, General Andrew Jackson's army made camp six miles north of Horseshoe Bend and the Red Stick village of Tohopeka. The next morning, Jackson sent General John Coffee and 700 mounted infantry and 600 Cherokee and Creek allies three miles downstream to cross the Tallapoosa and surround the bend. He took the rest of the army—about 2,000 men consisting of East and West Tennessee militia and the Thirty-ninth U.S. Infantry—into the peninsula and began an ineffectual two-hour artillery bombardment of the Red Sticks' log barricade. At noon, Coffee's Cherokee allies crossed the river and assaulted the Red Sticks from the rear. Jackson quickly ordered a frontal bayonet charge, which poured over the barricade. By dark, at least 800 of Chief Menawa's 1,000 Red Sticks were dead (557 slain on the field and 200 to 300 in the river). Menawa himself, although severely wounded, managed to escape. In the battle, 49 of Jackson's army were killed and 154 wounded, many mortally.

Though the Red Sticks had been crushed at Tohopeka, remnants of the war party held out for several months. In August 1814, a treaty between the United States and the Creek Nation was signed at Fort Jackson near the present day city of Wetumpka, Alabama. The Treaty of Fort Jackson ended the conflict and required the Creeks to cede 23 million acres of land to the United States. The state of Alabama was carved out of this domain and admitted to the Union in 1819.

In 1828, partly as a result of his fame from the battles of Horseshoe Bend and New Orleans, Andrew Jackson was elected the seventh President of the United States.



### Water Quality

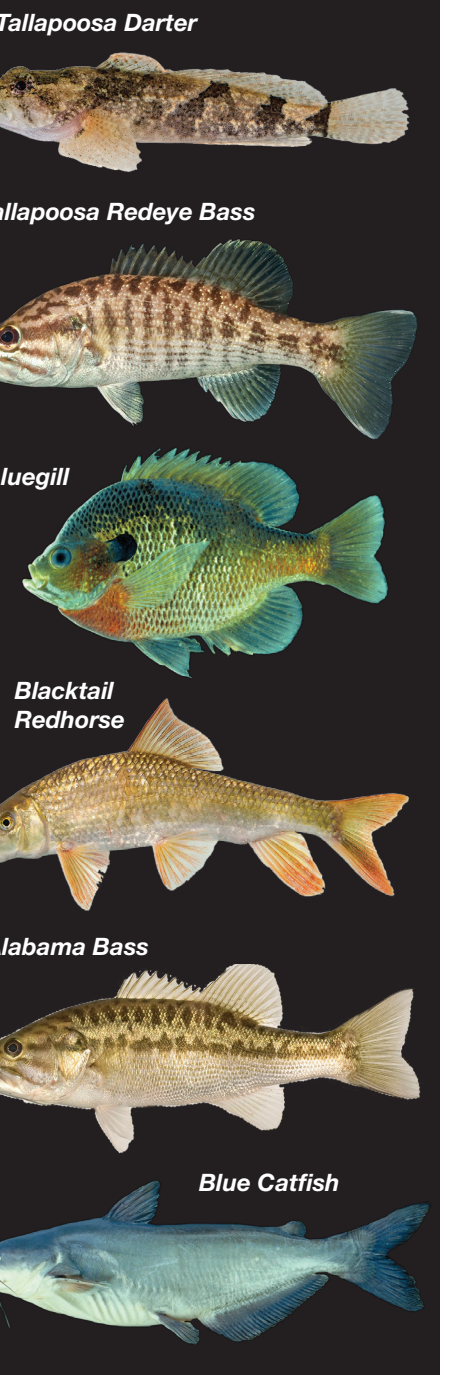
Tallapoosa River is classified as Outstanding Alabama Water (OAW): high-quality waters that constitute an outstanding Alabama resource, such as waters of state parks and wildlife refuges and waters of exceptional recreational or ecological significance.

The Tallapoosa River Basin, a part of the greater Mobile River Basin, has long been treasured for the quality water it provides. The Tallapoosa River's headwaters originate in Georgia's counties Paulding and Carroll. It then flows into Alabama in Cleburne County and meanders southwesterly through Randolph, Chambers, Tallapoosa, and Elmore Counties until it joins the Coosa River to create the Alabama River. The Tallapoosa River forms two large reservoirs, Lake Wedowee and Lake Martin.

Total drainage area of the Tallapoosa Basin equals 4,053 square miles in Alabama.

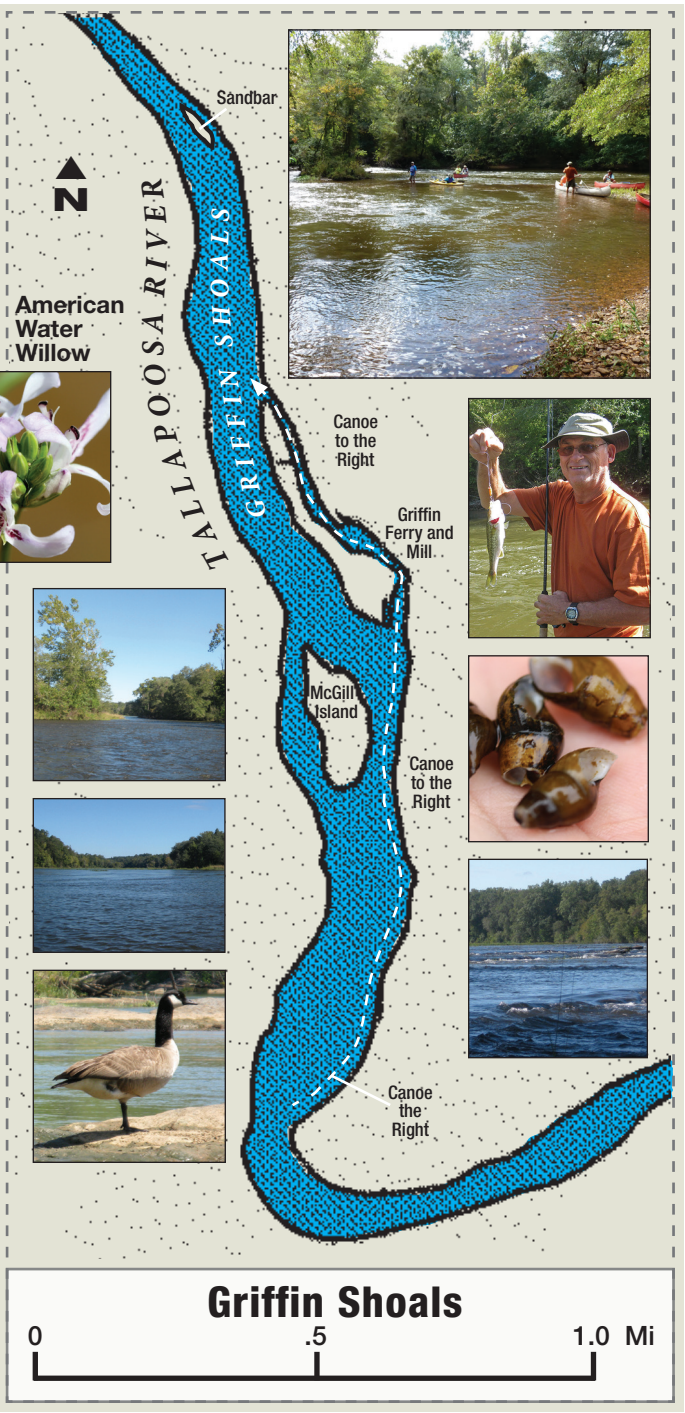
### Float Trip Checklist

- map
- paddles
- life preservers
- dry bag and clothes
- flashlight
- drinks and food
- sunglasses
- wide-brimmed hat
- sunscreen
- car keys
- GPS (optional)
- lighter or fire-starter stick
- toilet tissue in zippered plastic bag
- cell phone, camera in zippered plastic bag
- hammock or camping gear (optional)



### Fish Trap

Fish weirs are structures built within a stream or river designed to route fish to a particular area, such as shallows or into a trap where they can be captured. Native Americans and early settlers stacked stones to build V-shaped dams in the river to create a rock weir to trap fish. The "V" pointed downstream with a narrow opening at the apex. Often in normal or high water, the rocks were not evident; one might only notice watery ripples showing the weir's pattern. In the summer when the water ran low, the Native Americans caught fish by herding them into the weir, where a trap made of baskets or cane was positioned at the apex. Indian oral tradition notes that women and children would enter the weir and splash with their hands, canes, or sticks to scare fish toward the trap. There the fish could be speared, netted, or caught.



**APPENDIX B**

**ALABAMA POWER FERC FORM 80 METHODS**



600 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street  
Post Office Box 2641  
Birmingham, AL 35203

Tel 205.257.1000



March 30, 2015

**VIA ELECTRONIC FILING**

FERC Project No's.      349 (Martin Dam)  
                                 2146 (Coosa River)  
                                 2165 (Warrior River)  
                                 2203 (Holt)  
                                 2407 (Yates and Thurlow)  
                                 2628 (R L Harris)

Ms. Kimberly D. Bose  
Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington DC 20426

**RE: FERC Form No. 80's**

Dear Ms. Bose:

Alabama Power Company (APC) is the licensee for the Martin Dam (FERC No. 349), Coosa River (FERC No. 2146), Warrior River (FERC No. 2165), Holt (FERC No. 2203), Yates and Thurlow (FERC No. 2407), and R L Harris (FERC No. 2628) Hydroelectric Projects which includes the following 14 developments:

Project Number	Development
349	Martin Dam
2146	Weiss
2146	Neely Henry
2146	Logan Martin
2146	Lay
2146	Mitchell
2146	Jordan
2146	Bouldin
2165	Lewis Smith
2165	John Hollis Bankhead Dam
2203	Holt
2407	Thurlow
2407	Yates
2628	R L Harris

In accordance with 18 CFR § 8.11, APC is required to gather recreation use data for a 12-month period beginning no later than March 15, 2014, to be filed on the Licensed Hydropower Development Recreation Report, FERC Form No. 80 (Form 80) by April 1, 2015, for each of its hydropower project developments.

In conjunction with these filings, APC is also filing herein its detailed methods of data collection and estimations of recreational use on its reservoirs that was used to complete each Form 80.

Please contact me at 205-257-1207 or [twstjohn@southernco.com](mailto:twstjohn@southernco.com) if you need additional information.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Thomas St. John". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Thomas W. St. John

Alabama Power Company

ALABAMA POWER COMPANY

# 2014 FERC FORM 80 METHODS

---

SUMMARY REPORT

600 18<sup>TH</sup> STREET NORTH  
BIRMINGHAM, AL 35203

# DATA COLLECTION METHODS

## DESCRIPTIONS BY TYPE

---

### TRAFFIC/TRAIL COUNTS (20%)

---

- ◆ Definition: count of the total number of vehicles or trailers parked for the use of a specific amenity at a given moment.
- ◆ This method is used for amenities in which users are not centrally congregated for an accurate count, such as boat launch and trail users.
- ◆ Vehicle and trailer counts are later converted into an estimation of people using the formulas described later in this document.
- ◆ Counts are conducted various months throughout the calendar year. For each month, sites are counted a minimum of six weekdays (8am to 5pm) and three weeknights (after 5 pm) at varying times of day and days of the week. Two weekend days and one weekend night is observed each month, not including required holiday weekend counts.

---

### ATTENDANCE RECORDS (10%)

---

- ◆ Definition: count of total users for a site for the entire calendar year, not broken out by amenity or time of day or week.
- ◆ This method is used for larger parks with gate attendants, particularly Flat Rock Park and DARE Park, in which counts are taken of each user that passes its gates year round.
- ◆ Generalizations of this type of data must be made by comparing overall numbers to similar situations in order to assess utilization of individual amenities. Total Recreation Days, however, will be 100% accurate in this scenario.

---

### STAFF OBSERVATIONS (60%)

---

- ◆ Definition: counts of the total number of people utilizing a specific amenity at a given moment.
- ◆ This method is used for the majority of amenities in which users are centrally congregated for an accurate count, such as a picnic area, swim area, or fishing area.
- ◆ Counts are conducted various months throughout the calendar year. For each month, sites are counted a minimum of six weekdays (8am to 5pm) and three weeknights (after 5 pm) at varying times of day and days of the week. Two weekend days and one weekend night is observed each month, not including required holiday weekend counts.

---

### VISITOR COUNTS OR SURVEYS (10%)

---

- ◆ Definition: count or estimation of total users for a site for the entire calendar year, broken out by amenity and time of day and week, if possible.
- ◆ This method is implemented at third party facilities such as private marinas or state parks that collect their own counts, observations, and visitor records throughout the year for their own use and often in great detail.
- ◆ Information requested from these entities mirrored that of what was being collected by APC personnel on other sites. Each entity has its own data collection method. Therefore, a variety of answers are received which must then be normalized to a common figure for use in this report. Despite its increased complexity, this data is often very accurate at the amenity level, and much like the aforementioned attendance records, provides a very clear picture of Total Recreation Days at the site.

# SCHEDULE 1

## DEFINITIONS AND CALCULATIONS FOR RELEVANT LINE ITEMS

---

### DOLLAR VALUES

---

- ♦ Construction, Operation and Maintenance Costs = 2014 costs for both capital and O&M projects on all APC operated and/or maintained recreation sites
- ♦ Recreation Revenues for Calendar Year = 2014 revenue accrued by APC from recreation site users on APC reservoirs

---

### TOTAL RECREATION DAYS

---

**FERC Definition:** Each visit by a person to a development for recreational purposes during any portion of a 24-hour period.

$$\textit{Total Recreation Days} = \textit{Annual Total Daytime} + \textit{Annual Total Nighttime}$$

NOTE: These values are further defined below.

### ANNUAL TOTAL: DAYTIME

$$\begin{aligned} \textit{Annual Daytime Total} = & [\textit{Average Non-Peak Weekday Daytime Use} \times \\ & \textit{Number of Non-Peak Weekdays Open in 2014}] + [\textit{Average Non-Peak} \\ & \textit{Weekend Daytime Use} \times \textit{Number of Non-Peak Weekends Open in 2014}] + \\ & [\textit{Average Holiday Weekend Day Daytime Use} \times \textit{Number of Holiday} \\ & \textit{Weekend Days Open in 2014}] \end{aligned}$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Average Daytime Use = Average use from 12:01am until 5pm, calculated based on the formulas provided in the following section for each amenity.

NOTE: Totals account for all amenities at all sites for each development. In some cases, counts for amenities were redundant in terms of site users as at many sites the use of one amenity implies the use of another. These redundancies were eliminated within our calculations.

ANNUAL TOTAL: NIGHTTIME

$$\text{Annual Nighttime Total} = [\text{Average Non-Peak Weekday Nighttime Use} \times \text{Number of Non-Peak Weekdays Open in 2014}] + [\text{Average Non-Peak Weekend Nighttime Use} \times \text{Number of Non-Peak Weekends Open in 2014}] + [\text{Average Holiday Weekend Day Nighttime Use} \times \text{Number of Holiday Weekend Days Open in 2014}]$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Average Nighttime Use = Average use from 5pm to midnight, calculated based on the formulas provided in the following section for each amenity.

NOTE: Totals account for all amenities at all sites for each development. In some cases, counts for amenities were redundant in terms of site users as at many sites the use of one amenity implies the use of another. These redundancies were eliminated within our calculations.

PEAK WEEKEND AVERAGE: DAYTIME

$$\text{Peak Weekend Daytime Average} = \text{Average Daytime Use on a Holiday Weekend Day} \times 3$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Average Peak Weekend Daytime Use = Average use of recreation facilities on a Holiday weekend (Labor Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day) from 12:01am until 5pm, calculated based on the formulas provided in the following section for each amenity. In 2014, these weekends fell on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for Labor Day and Memorial Day and on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for July 4<sup>th</sup>.

NOTE: Totals account for all amenities at all sites for each development. In some cases, counts for amenities were redundant in terms of site users as at many sites the use of one amenity implies the use of another. These redundancies were eliminated within our calculations.

**PEAK WEEKEND AVERAGE: NIGHTTIME**

$$\text{Peak Weekend Nighttime Average} = \text{Average Nighttime Use on a Holiday Weekend Day} \times 3$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Average Peak Weekend Nighttime Use = Average use of recreation facilities on a Holiday weekend (Labor Day, July 4<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day) from 5pm to midnight, calculated based on the formulas provided in the following section for each amenity. In 2014, these weekends fell on Saturday, Sunday, and Monday for Labor Day and Memorial Day and on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday for July 4<sup>th</sup>.

NOTE: Totals account for all amenities at all sites for each development. In some cases, counts for amenities were redundant in terms of site users as at many sites the use of one amenity implies the use of another. These redundancies were eliminated within our calculations.



# SCHEDULE 2

## DEFINITIONS AND CALCULATIONS BY RECREATION AMENITY TYPE

---

### BOAT LAUNCH AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Improved areas having one or more boat launch lanes that are usually marked with signs, have hardened surfaces, and typically have adjacent parking.

#### TOTAL UNITS

- ♦ Lanes: total number of lanes from which a boat may be launched simultaneously on a given development

#### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\text{Capacity Utilization} = \text{Daily Capacity} / \text{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Daily Capacity = Total # of Trailer Rig Parking Spaces  $\times$  2 (average users per boat)  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ♦ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Trailer Rigs Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  2 (average users per boat)  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

---

## MARINAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Facilities with more than 10 slips on project waters, which include one or more of the following: docking, fueling, repair and storage of boats; boat/equipment rental; or sell bait/food.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

#### WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Total # of Boat Slips and Dry Storage Available Within the Project Boundary (both annual and courtesy)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = Average Number of Slips and Dry Storage Within the Project Boundary in Use Daily (both annual and courtesy)

#### NOTE:

- ◆ All marina estimates were obtained from marina personnel and were not broken down by time of day or week as there was no uniform response from which to normalize the data. Therefore, these estimates do not account solely for non-peak weekend usage but for the entire year.

---

## WHITEWATER BOATING

---

**FERC Definition:** Put-ins/Take-outs specifically designated for whitewater access.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Maximum Number of Paddlers Ferried in a Day by Both Paddling Companies
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = Total # of Paddlers Ferried on Non-Peak Weekend Days / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Open

---

## TAILWATER FISHING

---

**FERC Definition:** Platforms, walkways, or similar structures to facilitate below dam fishing.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = [Length of Pier or Bank Available for Fishing / 8 (average horizontal space needed per fisherman)]  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Fishermen Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

NOTE:

- ◆ For T-shaped piers, only the end portion of the pier was considered available for fishing.

---

## RESERVOIR FISHING

---

**FERC Definition:** Platforms, walkways, or similar structures to facilitate fishing in the reservoir pool or feeder streams.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = [Length of Pier or Bank Available for Fishing / 8 (average horizontal space needed per fisherman)]  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Fishermen Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

NOTE:

- ◆ For T-shaped piers, only the end portion of the pier was considered available for fishing.

---

## SWIM AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Sites providing swimming facilities (bath houses, designated swim areas, parking and sanitation facilities).

### TOTAL UNITS

- ♦ Acres: total acreage of beach and buoyed swim area

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Daily Capacity = Acreage of Swim Area  $\times$  0.01 (suitable acreage per swim user)  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ♦ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Swimmers Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

---

## TRAILS

---

**FERC Definition:** Narrow tracks used for non-automobile recreation travel which are mapped and designated for specific use(s) such as hiking, biking, horseback riding, snowmobiling, or XC skiing (excludes portages, paths or accessible routes).

### TOTAL UNITS

- ♦ Miles: total length of trail system

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Daily Capacity = Total # of Single Car Parking Spaces  $\times$  2 (average users per vehicle)  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ♦ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Single Cars Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  2 (average users per vehicle)  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

---

## ACTIVE RECREATION AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Playground equipment, game courts/fields, golf/disc golf courses, jogging tracks, etc.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Acres: total acreage of active recreation area

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Total # of Single Car Parking Spaces  $\times$  2 (average users per vehicle)  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Single Cars Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  2 (average users per vehicle)  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted



---

## PICNIC AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Locations containing one or more picnic sites (each of which may include tables, grills, trash cans, and parking).

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Sites: total number of picnic tables in area

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Total # of Picnic Tables **x** 6 (maximum users per table) **x** 2 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Users Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days **x** 2 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

---

## OVERLOOKS/VISTAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Sites established to view scenery, wildlife, cultural resources, project features, or landscapes.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Acres: total acreage available from which to view the area

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Total # of Single Car Parking Spaces  $\times$  2 (average users per vehicle)  $\times$  3 (average turnover throughout the day)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Single Cars Counted on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  3 (average users per vehicle)  $\times$  2 (average turnover throughout the day)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Counted

---

## VISITOR CENTERS

---

**FERC Definition:** Buildings where the public can gather information about the development/project, its operation, nearby historic, natural, cultural, recreational resources, and other items of interest.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Maximum # of Visitors Per Tour **x** Maximum # of Tours Available Per Day
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = Total # of Visitors Counted in 2014 / Total # of Days Open in 2014

---

## INTERPRETIVE DISPLAYS

---

**FERC Definition:** Signage/Kiosks/Billboards which provide information about the development/project, its operation, nearby historic, natural, cultural, recreational resources, and other items of interest.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

- ◆ Not Applicable

---

## HUNTING AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Lands open to the general public for hunting.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ♦ Acres: total acreage within the project boundary available for hunting

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Daily Capacity = Maximum # of Hunters Allowed Daily (1 per site)
- ♦ Estimated Daily Use = Total # of Hunters Counted in 2014 / [Total # of Days Open in 2014 x Total # of Slots Available at Each Site in 2014]

---

## CAMPGROUNDS

---

**FERC Definition:** Hardened areas developed to cluster campers (may include sites for tents, trailers, recreational vehicles [RV], yurts, cabins, or a combination, but excludes group camps).

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Acres: acreage available within the project boundary for campsites

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

- ◆ Not Applicable

---

## CAMPSITES

---

**FERC Definition:** Sites for tents, trailers, recreational vehicles [RV], yurts, cabins, or a combination of temporary uses.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Total # of Campsites Available  $\times$  4 (average campers per site)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Campsites Used in 2014 Provided By Operator  $\times$  4 (average campers per site)] / Total # of Days Open in 2014

---

**COTTAGE SITES**

---

**FERC Definition:** Permanent, all-weather, buildings rented for short-term use, by the public, for recreational purposes.

**TOTAL UNITS**

- ◆ Not Applicable

**CAPACITY UTILIZATION**

*Capacity Utilization = Daily Capacity / Estimated Daily Use*

WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = Total # of Cottage Sites Available **x** 4 (average users per site)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = [Total # of Cottage Sites Used in 2014 Provided By Operator **x** 4 (average users per site)] / Total # of Days Open in 2014



---

## DISPERSED CAMPING AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Places visitors are allowed to camp outside of a developed campground.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ♦ Sites: total number of sites available within the project boundary for primitive camping in an area

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

WHEREAS:

- ♦ Daily Capacity = Total # of Campsites Available  $\times$  4 (average campers per site)
- ♦ Estimated Daily Use = [Average # of Campsites Used in 2014 on Non-Peak Weekend Days  $\times$  4 (average campers per site)] / Total # of Non-Peak Weekend Days Open in 2014

---

## INFORMAL USE AREAS

---

**FERC Definition:** Well used locations which typically do not include amenities, but require operation and maintenance and/or public safety responsibilities.

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

#### WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = See Formula for Informal Amenity Type (amenity to which site most resembles)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = See Formula for Informal Amenity Type (amenity to which site most resembles)

#### NOTE:

- ◆ Informal Use Areas have no infrastructure but are commonly used as a recreation opportunity. They are not actively managed or maintained. These sites are treated as the amenity for which they most closely resemble and could possibly be developed formally in the future. Their calculations, therefore, mirror that specific amenity.

---

## ACCESS POINTS

---

**FERC Definition:** Well-used sites for visitors entering project lands or waters, without trespassing, for recreational purposes (may have limited development such as parking, restrooms, signage).

### TOTAL UNITS

- ◆ Not Applicable

### CAPACITY UTILIZATION

$$\textit{Capacity Utilization} = \textit{Daily Capacity} / \textit{Estimated Daily Use}$$

#### WHEREAS:

- ◆ Daily Capacity = See Formula for Informal Amenity Type (amenity to which site most resembles)
- ◆ Estimated Daily Use = See Formula for Informal Amenity Type (amenity to which site most resembles)

#### NOTE:

- ◆ Access Points contain some sort of infrastructure that lends itself to recreation opportunity but is not actively managed or maintained. These areas are treated as the amenity for which they most closely resemble and could possibly be developed formally in the future. Their calculations, therefore, mirror that specific amenity.

**APPENDIX C**

**LAKE HARRIS RECREATION STUDY PUBLIC ACCESS SITE SURVEY**

**Lake Harris Recreation Study**  
**Public Access Site Survey**

Clerk: \_\_\_\_\_ Site: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Time: \_\_\_\_\_ am/pm

RESPONDENT GENDER:    RESPONDENT REFUSED INTERVIEW:

Male  Female                  RESPONDENT DOES NOT SPEAK ENGLISH:

ARE YOU OVER 18?  YES  NO →  
IF NO, STOP SURVEY

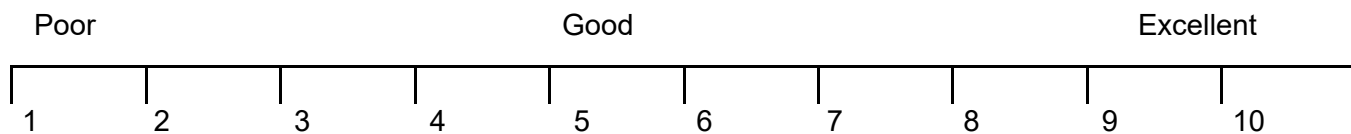
HAVE YOU BEEN INTERVIEWED AT THIS SITE PREVIOUSLY?  YES  NO →  
IF YES, STOP SURVEY

**FOR WEDOWEE MARINE SOUTH ONLY: ARE YOU HERE TO USE THE PUBLIC BOAT RAMP?**

YES  NO →  
IF NO, STOP SURVEY

**I HAVE A FEW QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RECREATION SITE WE ARE AT TODAY**

1.     On a scale from 1 to 10, with 1 being poor, 5 being good, and 10 being excellent, how would you rate the overall condition *of this recreation site* today? (Circle one number.)



2A.    Are there any additional facilities or improvements needed *at this recreation site*?  
(Check one box.)

- YES
- NO → SKIP TO QUESTION 3

2B. What do you recommend? *(Do not read this list. Allow respondent to answer and check **all that apply** and specify other(s) as appropriate.)*

<input type="checkbox"/> better access road	<input type="checkbox"/> fish cleaning station	<input type="checkbox"/> signs & information
<input type="checkbox"/> boat launch/ramp	<input type="checkbox"/> fishing pier/dock	<input type="checkbox"/> lighting
<input type="checkbox"/> better parking lot	<input type="checkbox"/> picnic tables/shelter	<input type="checkbox"/> trash cans
<input type="checkbox"/> camping area	<input type="checkbox"/> rest rooms	<input type="checkbox"/> trails
<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify: _____)		
<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify: _____)		
<input type="checkbox"/> other (please specify: _____)		

### I HAVE JUST A FEW MORE QUESTIONS

3. Do you own a permanent or seasonal home **on Lake Wedowee**? What is your zip code? *(Check one box and fill in the blank for zip code. If the individual owns a seasonal home, please also indicate the zip code of the individual's permanent residence.)*

- YES, Permanent Home → ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
- YES, Seasonal Home → ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
- Permanent Residence → ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_
- NO → ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

4 Do you have any additional comments about this or other recreation sites **at Lake Wedowee**? *(Fill in blank and be as specific as possible.)*

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**THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP! WE APPRECIATE YOUR TIME TODAY!**

**APPENDIX D**

**2019 TALLAPOOSA RIVER USER SURVEY**

## 2019 TALLAPOOSA RIVER USER SURVEY

RAMP CODES				
1. Harris Dam	2. Malone	3. Wadley	4. Bibby's Ferry	5. Germany's Ferry
6. HBMP	7. Jay Bird Landing	8. Private property	9. Remote	River Access

CLERK ID: \_\_\_\_\_; RAMP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_ TIME: \_\_\_\_\_

1. Number in Party \_\_\_\_\_

2. Gender: Male \_\_\_\_\_ Female \_\_\_\_\_ Age: \_\_\_\_\_ HOME ZIP CODE: \_\_\_\_\_

3. What was your primary activity today?

- |                  |                  |             |                  |                 |
|------------------|------------------|-------------|------------------|-----------------|
| 1. Shore fishing | 2. Tubing        | 3. Swimming | 4. Boating       | 5. Boat Fishing |
| 6. Canoeing      | 7. Canoe Fishing | 8. Kayaking | 9. Kayak Fishing | 10. Other       |

4. What time and where did you start your activity ? START TIME \_\_\_\_\_ RAMP CODE \_\_\_\_\_ **(1-7 Ask Q#5)**

5. Did you leave a vehicle at starting ramp? YES NO -- **If NO, who dropped you off:** OUTFITTER OTHER

6. Is this the destination for your trip today? YES -- **(Go to Question #8)** NO -- **(Go to Question #7)**

7. What time and where will you be finishing your trip today? \_\_\_\_\_ END TIME \_\_\_\_\_ RAMP CODE \_\_\_\_\_

8. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being "**VERY UNACCEPTABLE**" and 10 being "**VERY ACCEPTABLE**", how would you rate the water level right now? *If floater (boater/canoer/kayaker) also ask: at start of trip & entire trip and put response in appropriate lines below, then get ratings of others in party for "right now"*

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

START \_\_\_\_\_; ENTIRE \_\_\_\_\_ **RATINGS OF OTHERS IN PARTY "RIGHT NOW"** \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_; \_\_\_\_\_;

9. Did you check the USGS water gauges or call Alabama Power to see what the water level would be before your trip today?

YES – **(Go to Question #11)**    2 NO – **(Go to Question #10)**

10. If you knew the water level in the river was going to be exactly what you experienced today BEFORE you made your trip, would you have still made your trip today? YES NO

11. On a scale of 1 to 10 with 1 being "**VERY DISSATISFIED**" and 10 being "**VERY SATISFIED**", how satisfied were you with your entire trip on the river today?

1      2      3      4      5      6      7      8      9      10

12. Would you like to see more access points for recreation on the Tallapoosa River? YES NO

13. **(For floaters only)** Would you like to see any additional amenities for use on float trips? YES NO

If YES, what amenities would you most prefer to see on the river?

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