

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 30, 2013

Lt. Colonel James A. DeLapp
Commander, Nashville District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 1070
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

Dear Colonel DeLapp:

We write to express our concerns regarding your proposal to restrict access to fishing areas in the tailwaters of dams on the Cumberland River system and ask you to consider alternatives.

As you know, many Tennesseans and visitors from around the world enjoy recreational fishing in these tailwaters. The businesses that serve them benefit from open access to the Cumberland River system and the revenue that is generated by these activities. A ban on boating and fishing in these areas will negatively impact the Tennessee economy.

It is our understanding that the current practice has not caused additional danger to boaters and fishermen than on any other portions of the Cumberland River system. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) strongly supports the current practice and views restricting access to tailwater areas as unnecessary.

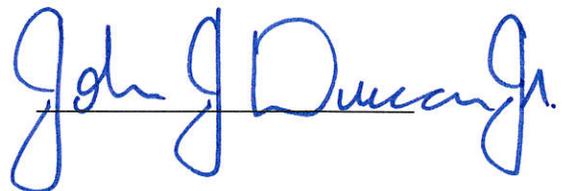
We appreciate the scheduling of public meetings by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to allow stakeholders of the Cumberland River system dams, including the TWRA, fishing guides, marina operators, and local anglers, the opportunity to express their concerns and propose alternatives to improve public safety. Changes in current operations should only be considered after a thorough review of all public comments and suggestions, as well as a review of the impact any changes will have on Tennessee's economy.

We look forward to talking with you directly on this issue and discussing any proposed changes to the current practices before enactment. Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,


Steve Ford


Duane Black


John J. Duncan Jr.


Marsha Blackburn

Charles E. ...

[Handwritten signature]

David P. Roe