



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG

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Nashville District water projects maintain consistency

NASHVILLE, TENN. (Feb.25, 2011) – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Nashville District put its Emergency Management, Water Management and Crisis Action teams on standby Thursday as a precautionary measure in preparation for heavy rains and severe storms that moved through the region overnight. However, there was no damage reported to Corps facilities or projects other than multiple downed trees and limbs in the area at J. Percy Priest Lake.

As a continuous measure, Nashville District Commander Lt. Col. Anthony P. Mitchell said his team of hydrology experts and emergency management personnel will continue to monitor the exiting storms and communicate with the Tennessee Emergency Management Agency, the National Weather Service, and U.S. Geological Survey to collectively monitor the rainfall and gauge its effects on the Cumberland Basin.

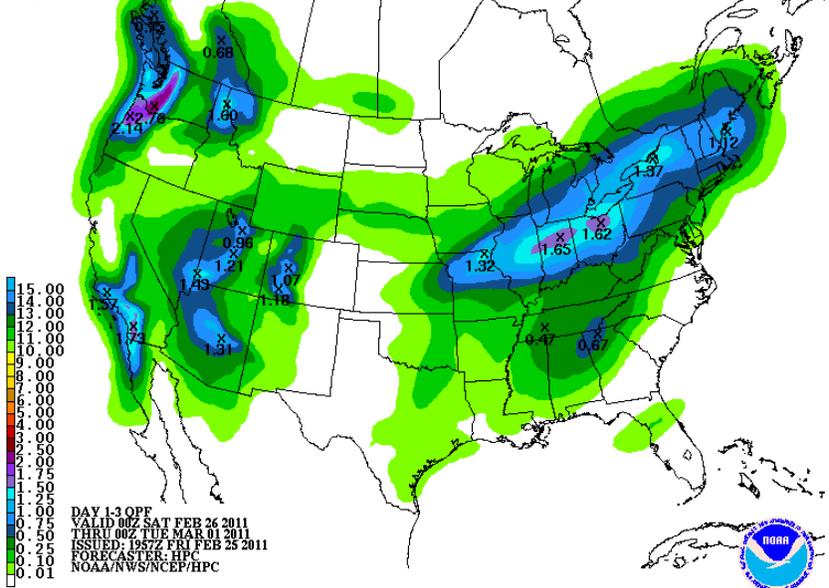
Water Release Information for Area Dams

The following information is currently available regarding operations at Corps dams along the Cumberland River and its tributaries.

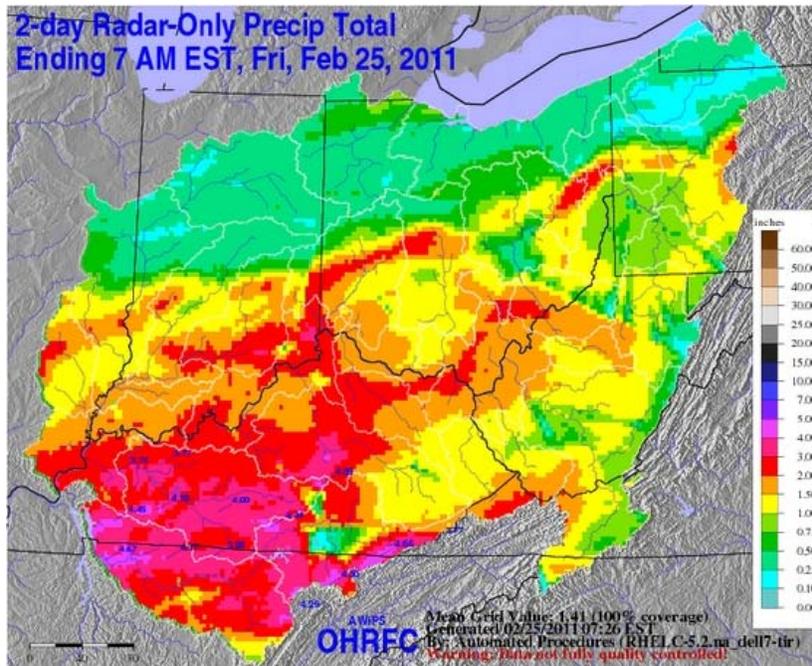
Cumberland Basin Update – 25 February 2011 - 1400

Rainfall:

NWS issued QPF outlining forecasted cumulative rainfall totals from 1800 today through 1800 Monday:



NWS observed precipitation amounts since 0600 Wednesday morning:



All of the following data is updated at least thru 1400 Friday afternoon.

Storage Projects:

Wolf Creek – pool is at 684.2 and rising about 0.2 – 0.3’ per hour. Discharge is 3,400 cfs (one turbine) and plan is to utilize some storage at project but increase discharge to two units at 1800 tonight. Upstream gages received 1.5 to 2.8 inches of rain. Plan is to increase discharge to three units at midnight, hold for 12 hours, then increase to all six units and hold for the rest of the week.

Dale Hollow – pool is at 645.1 and slowly rising. Three hours of generation are scheduled for today. Upstream gages received 2.5 to just over 3 inches of rain. The plan is to maintain the current schedule of 3 hours generation each day and allow pool to slowly rise to seasonal levels.

Center Hill – pool is at 626.8 and slowly rising. Eight hours of generation are scheduled for today and tomorrow. Upstream gages have received around 1.5 inches of rain. The plan is to follow the guidance of the Interim Operating Plan and increase discharges starting Sunday.

J. Percy Priest – pool is at 485.6 and rising. Discharge will continue to be zero for but we will begin releases tomorrow with one hydropower unit on for four hours tomorrow and Sunday for an average daily discharge of 800 cfs. Upstream gages received 2.5 to almost 3 inches of rain. Plan is to further increase discharges Monday to lower pool levels back to seasonal levels.

Selected LRN rainfall gages with 2.5” or more rainfall over the last 48 hours:

WOLF CREEK

Liberty	3.38"
Oneida	3.31"
Middlesboro	3.03"
Stearns	2.80"
Albany	2.54"
Newcomb	2.52"
Berea	2.51"

CENTER HILL

Cookeville	2.87"
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J. PERCY PRIEST

Lascassas	2.85"
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DALE HOLLOW

Jamestown	3.49"
Monterey	3.44"
Byrdstown	3.09"
Livingston	2.81"

Main-stem projects:

Cordell Hull – pool is at 501.8 and slowly rising. The project received 2.5 to slightly over 3 inches of rain. Discharge is approximately 35,000 cfs (3 hydropower units, no spill). Plan is to hold this rate through this evening unless conditions dictate otherwise. The operators have been issued instructions on how to respond to changing conditions.

Old Hickory – pool is at 446.8 and slowly rising. The combined hydropower and spillway discharge is approximately 56,000 cfs. Upstream gages received approximately 2 to around 3.3 inches of rain. Plan is to hold current discharge until conditions dictate otherwise. The operators have been issued instructions on how to respond to changing conditions.

Cheatham– pool is at 386.4 and steady. The combined hydropower and spillway discharge is approximately 86,000 cfs. The two available hydropower units are down to 6 MW output. If the units have to be taken off-line, a corresponding increase in spillway discharge will be made to balance the project discharge. Upstream gages received 2 to 3.5 inches of rain. Discharges will be increased as needed to manage the pool level in an acceptable range but latest headwater readings seem to indicate pool has steadied so further increases may not be necessary.

Barkley – pool is at 357.0 and steady or very slowly rising. Discharge is 40,000 cfs and increasing to 50,000 cfs over the next two hours. Plan is to hold the 50,000 cfs discharge unless conditions dictate otherwise. Rain gages in the area reported storm totals from 3 to just over 5.2 inches. All four hydropower units are unavailable requiring all project releases to be made from the spillway gates. Per standard procedures, LRD Water Management has assumed control of scheduling project releases from Barkley and Kentucky.

Selected COE rainfall gages with 2.5” or more accumulation over the last 48 hours:

CORDELL HULL		BARKLEY	
Cordell Hull Dam	3.64"	Elkton	5.31"
North Springs	3.52"	Yellow Creek	4.00"
Celina	2.67"	Port Royal	3.87"
Penitentiary Br.	2.59"	Clarksville	3.87"
Burkesville	2.54"	Springfield	3.86"
		Canton	3.85"
		Dover	3.47"
OLD HICKORY			
Bethpage	3.64"	Cadiz	3.37"
Statesville	3.28"	Hopkinsville	3.34"
Hunters Point	3.23"	Orlinda	3.27"
Lebanon	2.68"	Cobb	3.20"
CHEATHAM			
Franklin	2.85"		
Sycamore Creek	2.53"		

Cumberland River Damage Centers:

Celina – stage crested at 21.7 and is now slowly falling. Current stage is 21.4. Flood stage is 40’.

Carthage – stage is 23.4 and seems to have fallen from a crest of 23.5. Flood stage is 40’.

Nashville – stage is 27.6 feet and rising. NWS is forecasting a crest of 29.7’ Saturday morning. Flood stage is 40’, action stage is 35’.

Clarksville – stage is 36.9 feet and rising. NWS is forecasting a crest of 40.7’ Saturday morning. Flood stage is 46’, action stage is 40’.

As necessary, news and information on the current rain event will be made available on the district's website at www.lrn.usace.army.mil, on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/nashvillecorps>, and on Twitter at <http://www.twitter.com/nashvillecorps>.

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