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# News Release

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## **Corps of Engineers announces process to consider higher future lake levels at Lake Cumberland**

**NASHVILLE, TENN. (October 1, 2007)** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District, announced today that a decision-making process has been developed to consider higher future lake levels at Lake Cumberland (Wolf Creek Dam). This process will be used for the first time in early 2008 when the upstream grout curtain is completed. The process allows for an incremental change at the lake depending on the continued satisfactory results of performance indicators and structural improvements to the dam's foundation. The incremental raise being considered will be in the range of five to ten feet.

"Future lake level considerations for Lake Cumberland will be based on the completion of specific structural remedial measures such as grouting and validated by performance indicators and the continued overall stability and improvement in the project," said Lt. Col. Bernard Lindstrom, commander of the Nashville District. "Conditions at the project are improving, wet spots are subsiding, and the dam is becoming safer every day as we work on it."

"There is still a big lake and lots of recreational opportunities out there," added Brig. Gen. Bruce A. Berwick, commander of the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, "I encourage folks to go and enjoy Lake Cumberland."

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# **To Better Serve The Public**

With over 154,907 gallons pumped into the foundation since the grouting began in January, the stability of Wolf Creek Dam is improving every day. The project is responding positively to remedial measures. As grout is pumped into the dam's foundation, the instrumentation readings are improving and wet spots are diminishing.

As stability increases and risk of failure decreases, the Corps will look for opportunities to make decisions on incremental lake level changes. The first of these decision points will be the completion of the upstream grout curtain scheduled for early 2008. The Corps will review the performance indicators at the project which include: piezometers, wet spots and settlement on top of the dam. If these performance indicators show the dam is safer, more reliable, and that risk has been reduced, Corps officials will decide on an incremental increase in the level of Lake Cumberland.

The Corps' primary consideration remains public safety. The completion of the structural measures reduces the likelihood of failure of the project. With the increased reliability of Wolf Creek Dam, the Corps will consider an incremental rise of five to ten feet for Lake Cumberland, which allows the project to operate and to realize the benefits for which the project was originally constructed.