Leesville Lake

Tuscarawas River, OH

Project Features

• Authorization: Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1938, as amended by Section 4 of the Flood Control Act of 1939.
• One of the original system of 14 reservoir projects constructed in 1938 in cooperation with the Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District.
• Project purposes served are flood damage reduction, recreation and fish and wildlife.
• The dam was completed in October 1936 and serves a drainage area of 48 square miles.
• The dam is rolled earth-fill with an impervious core, 74 ft. tall, 1,695 ft. long with an uncontrolled concrete-lined saddle spillway.
• The intake structure contains three gated sluices discharging through a horseshoe tunnel through the right abutment into a stilling basin.
• To maintain minimum pool, 1.5 ft. diameter siphons are located in front of the gates of the two outer sluices and discharge into the center sluice.
• There are no Corps operated recreation areas at this project.

Consequences of Not Maintaining the Project

• Failure to adequately fund the flood damage reduction mission at this facility would result in the project's inability to adequately execute the flood damage reduction mission as authorized by congress. The consequences could range in severity depending upon the condition of the project, but would ultimately lead to a failure of the structure and a subsequent life safety concern for those in the affected downstream areas.

Regional Importance

• The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District makes a direct contribution to the region's economy by employing 85 people year round, and typically more than 300 people to meet summer season needs.

• As a system, the Corps dams in the Muskingum area prevented over $56 million in flood damages in FY 2016 with an accumulative total of $4.9 billion damages prevented since the construction of each project in the system.

• The Muskingum Watershed Conservancy District lakes and facilities are estimated to attract approximately 5.5 million visitors to the area each year.

Additional Information

- Fee Lands: 161 acres
- Flowage Easement Lands: 4,001 acres
- Project Boundary Line Marked: 0 miles

Congressional Interests

Senator Sherrod Brown, D-OH
Senator Robert Portman, R-OH
Congressman Bill Johnson, R-OH-6