

WE NEED YOUR HELP!

As a part of Duke Energy's Re-Licensing on the Tuckaseegee River, a proposal to remove the Dillsboro Dam has been offered by Duke. The dam itself is one of the least efficient, and oldest hydro projects that Duke owns and operates in North Carolina. If the dam is removed, some rapids and weirs would have to be built to help stabilize the soft banks along the Lake that is now formed behind the dam. A suggestion has been made to incorporate a whitewater park into the bank stabilization process. This is an idea supported by many local boaters and river related business owners.

The Tuckaseegee Cooperative Stakeholder Team is currently gathering information through studies and public input on this issue and many more related to the 30-point trial balloon that was released by Duke in May 2002.

HOW CAN YOU HELP?

Send your comments to Shane Williams, owner of Dillsboro River Company and member of the TCST at:

Shane@dillsbororiver.com
or
Dillsboro River Company
po box 250
Dillsboro, NC 28725

Suggested comments:

- How far would you drive to use a whitewater park?
- What types of businesses would you patronize while in the area?

WHERE IS DILLSBORO?

- Halfway in between Asheville and the Nantahala River just 1/2mile off 74.
- 2 1/2 hours north of Atlanta on 441N.
- 20 minutes away from the Great Smokies National Park
- 10 minutes away from Western Carolina University

WANT MORE INFO?

<http://www.nantahalapower.com/relicensing/hydro.htm>



The Dillsboro dam as it looks now

Site simulated with weir restoration

Dillsboro Dam Facts:

- Built in the early 1920's. First hydro power plant built in Jackson County.
- Bought by Nantahala Power & Light in 1957 from Dillsboro & Sylva Electric Company. NP&L was purchased by Duke in 1988.
- Dillsboro Dam is smallest project of 31 hydroplants in NC. Generates about 1350 MWh per year. An equal amount can be generated easily by any of Duke's other 10 hydro projects in less than one day.

If the Dillsboro Dam is Removed:

- Town of Dillsboro would gain 3 acres of land adjacent to the proposed site for access, parking and recreation.
- Would add 11 more miles of navigable water to the Tuckaseegee, raising it to 37 miles from Fontana lake to Cullowhee Dam.
- Whitewater park maybe incorporated in the construction of bank stabilization methods. This would provide boaters with high and low water play spots.
- Would allow species of fish and other wildlife migration up and down the river.