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Source: <http://sci.tech-archive.net/Archive/sci.geo.geology/2007-01/msg00195.html>

- *From:* Jo Schaper <jospamnotschaper34@5socket78dot9net>
 - *Date:* Tue, 23 Jan 2007 10:30:14 -0600
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George wrote:

<http://www.msnbc.msn.com/id/16757916/>

Army engineers drop Lake Cumberland in 'emergency action' to curb risk

Updated: 7:35 p.m. ET Jan 22, 2007

FRANKFORT, Ky. – Fearing a dam break that could cause catastrophic flooding in Kentucky and Tennessee, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began lowering the water level on Lake Cumberland on Monday.

<snip>

Reducing the water level could have a major ecological and economic effect as well.

Roemhildt said people can expect fish kills because of a rise in water temperature, and boats at marinas could be left high and dry.

Kentucky Commerce Secretary George Ward said as many as 90 percent of the launching ramps will be unusable because they won't reach the water's surface.

What part of: "if the dam breaks you better evacuate, pronto!" don't these people understand? Oh, no, the boat ramp won't reach...Would it be better if the boat ramp and lots of people got washed all the way to the Ohio?

If you're interested in an historical overview of the problem, see <http://tinyurl.com/27hj8r> on the US Cavers Forum.

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