

Re: Fearing dam break, U.S. lowers lake water level

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- *From:* "SBC Yahoo" <atilla.the.hun@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>
 - *Date:* Wed, 24 Jan 2007 17:00:58 GMT
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"Jo Schaper" <jospamnotschaper34@5socket78dot9net> wrote in message
<news:12rd1mtrjhs1677@xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx>

SBC Yahoo wrote:

"Jo Schaper" <jospamnotschaper34@5socket78dot9net> wrote in message
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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.

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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?

Ohio is in the wrong direction, water flows downhill, and this river ran south, which means if the dam breaks, the water will flow towards Tennessee. Washed all the way to nashville, perhaps.

Um...check your map, SBC Yahoo...the Cumberland river starts in eastern KY, flows south through TN, then curves north again, emptying into the Ohio River. 'Downhill' does not mean south. I live on a river in Missouri which flows northeast for 140 miles, because northeast is downhill. Never have been able to convince some of the locals that latitude does not equal altitude.

I used to Live In Lexington Ky, the town with no crime (unlike Louisville), almost no slums (again unlike Louisville), and a beautiful horse park where they have their own Polo team. I watched a few matches there, in the VIP tent sipping bubbly with some of the polo chaps. I wont even mention the basketball team.

I have been to Cumberland Lake on a few occasions, mostly when someone from out of state came to the area and wanted to go riding on the big boats (But not big enough to be called a ship). I never really paid any attention to where the river went after it left the lake, only where it came into the lake.

It goes through one of the largest man made lakes, Kentucky lake/Lake Barkely, before it goes to the ohio river, and any excess water from any flooding would most likely be absorbed by the huge watershed of the Ky-Lake, Lake Barkely drainage area, in the event it ever made it that far to begin with. It would be easy to see, with a computer modeling hydrology program, simply "empty" the reservoir at some point and the modeling program will do the rest. However, since the elevations to the north and south of Cumberland Lake are very similar, I doubt that it would follow the very narrow channel of the cumberland river all the way to the ohio. Without using a modeling program, this just seeme unlikely, but I suppose it could.

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