



**2021 Drawdown Report**  
**Claytor Hydroelectric Project No. 739**  
**Pulaski County, Virginia**



**Claytor Project No. 739**  
**Water Management Plan**  
**2021 CLAYTOR LAKE DRAWDOWN REPORT**

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) issued Order Issuing New License on December 27, 2011 (License) to Appalachian Power Company (Appalachian) allowing the continued operation of the Claytor Hydroelectric Project. As part of the approved Water Management Plan (Article 405 of the License), Appalachian may conduct non-emergency reservoir drawdowns for the purpose of minimizing the impact of any project maintenance activity requiring a reservoir drawdown on aquatic resources in the project reservoir and downstream of the project and to allow shoreline property owners sufficient time to plan shoreline maintenance activities.

Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL) and Pulaski County requested that Appalachian conduct a 5-foot non-emergency drawdown of the Claytor reservoir in the fall of 2021 to enable lakefront property owners to perform shoreline maintenance and construction activities. A draft drawdown plan was provided for comment via email attachment to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources, the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation, the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Pulaski and Giles Counties (Virginia), FOCL, Renew the New, and Friends of the New River. The 2021 drawdown plan was also discussed during the Water Quality/Water Management Technical Review Committee annual meeting.

Following consultation and consideration of comments, Appalachian filed with the Commission on June 17, 2021 a proposed drawdown plan for a non-emergency, 5-foot drawdown starting November 6, 2021. On September 27, the Commission issued *Order Approving Reservoir Drawdown Plan Pursuant to Article 405*. The purpose of the scheduled drawdown was to allow shoreline property owners to conduct shoreline maintenance activities while minimizing the impact of the drawdown on aquatic resources within the Project boundary.

A non-emergency drawdown of Claytor Lake for shoreline maintenance purposes was last conducted in November 2019. The drawdown plan for 2021 was largely patterned after the 2019 drawdown plan that had also been approved for a 5-foot drawdown. Included were mussel salvage activities to mitigate for impacts to mussels. The following is a report on the implementation of the 2021 drawdown.

Publicity/Education

On October 5, 2021 Appalachian sent a letter to Claytor Lake property owners informing them of the details regarding the drawdown scheduled for November 2021. The letter also contained information about mussel salvage during drawdown, including instructions on returning dewatered mussels to deeper water and photos of mussels commonly found in Claytor Lake. Special instructions were given in the event Pistolgrip mussels (*Tritogonia verrucosa*), a state threatened species, were found. Property owners were also encouraged to report their usage of drawdown and mussel salvage efforts using an enclosed pre-paid return postcard.

FOCL provided information about drawdown and mussel salvage through its website, Facebook page and email blasts. Information provided before, during and after drawdown included details of drawdown, encouragement to salvage mussels, online form to report mussel salvage efforts and drawdown use, and photos and results of mussel salvage.

# 2021 DRAWDOWN

To allow for shoreline maintenance, a temporary, nonemergency 5 foot drawdown of Claytor Lake has been proposed for Saturday, Nov. 6 through Sunday, Nov. 14.

According to the plan submitted to FERC, the lake will be drawn down starting **Wednesday, Nov. 3 at 1.6 ft a day until it reaches 5 feet down by 9 a.m. Sat. Nov 6.** It is to remain at 5 feet down until **10 p.m. Sun. Nov. 14** when the lake will be allowed to start refilling.  
(Draw down still PENDING FERC approval)

**Targeted return to normal elevation is 10 p.m. Friday, Nov. 19,** depending on inflow.

During this time, FOCL will continue volunteer efforts to salvage mussels while shoreline is exposed. We report all mussels saved, and you can too! Details coming soon.

 @claytorHydro

## Drawdown Schedule

The 2021 drawdown began Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 1:30 p.m. The reservoir was lowered 1.6 feet per day until it reached the 1841 foot contour elevation (for a total of five feet below full pond) on Saturday morning, November 6. This was an increase in previous non-emergency drawdown rates of 1-foot per day to reduce the overall duration of drawdown and further minimize impacts to aquatic species. The reservoir remained five feet down until 10 p.m. Sunday, November 14, when it began refilling.

## Mussel Salvage Event

As with the 2019 drawdown plan, a key component of the 2021 plan was mitigating for impacts to mussels. Mussel mitigation involved recruiting lakeshore property owners and volunteers to return mussels stranded by drawdown to deeper water. In addition to publicity about mussel salvage sent out by Appalachian and FOCL, a volunteer mussel salvage event was held on Saturday, November 6, 2021. The event was organized by FOCL with generous support and participation by Appalachian, Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR), Claytor Lake State Park, Pulaski County, FOCL, local schools, organizations, businesses and others.

Ninety individuals participated in the volunteer mussel salvage event on November 6. Fewer volunteers than for previous drawdowns were recruited for the 2021 mussel salvage event as a precaution against Covid. Volunteers included 3 from Appalachian, 10 from VDWR, 10 FOCL members, 3 from Pulaski High School, 10 from the New River Chapter of Master Naturalists, 20 from Radford University, 13 from the Virginia Tech, 3 from Claytor Lake State Park, 2 Pulaski County staff members with an emergency response boat, 1 from the Conservation Management Institute, 14 local citizens and property owners, and 1 local reporter.

Participants met at one of two meeting sites: Claytor Lake State Park and Pulaski County's Harry DeHaven Park. As a precaution against Covid, the initial State Park orientation gathering was held outside where volunteers could maintain distance from each other. Masks were also made available for those who wished to

wear them. Breakfast and lunch foods were replaced with pre-packaged snack foods and drinks provided by FOCL.

Following training and orientation by VDWR and FOCL, volunteers were deployed in teams to mussel salvage sites on foot, by car, and by boats provided by AEP, VDWR, FOCL and private citizens. Multiple teams were sent to sites with long stretches of shoreline. In order to compare data from year-to-year, most of the same sites salvaged in 2019 were selected for salvage in 2021.

Most volunteers were instructed to count and gently toss mussels into deeper water without identifying mussel species unless they suspected a Pistolgrip. Nine teams with VDWR personnel and/or leaders knowledgeable about mussels did identify mussel species at their salvage sites. Species identified were Paper Pondshell (*Utterbackia imbecillis*)(68.8%), Giant Floater (*Pyganodon grandis*)(25.35%), Eastern Elliptio (*Elliptio complanata*)(5.6%), Pocketbook (*Lampsilis ovata*)(0.148%), Pistolgrip (*Tritogonia verrucosa*)(0.055%), and Purple Wartyback (*Cyclonaias tuberculata*)(0.055%).

The total number of mussels salvaged during the mussel salvage event was 6,536 live mussels. This includes 3 Pistolgrip mussels found on November 10 by VDWR and Conservation Management Institute personnel at the same site at which Pistolgrips were found during the four previous mussel salvage events. The number of mussels salvaged during the 2021 event compared to 7,619 mussels with 3 Pistolgrips salvaged in during the 2019 event, 6,479 mussels with 24 Pistolgrips salvaged in 2017, 1,411 mussels including 20 Pistolgrips salvaged in 2015, and 7,063 with 4 Pistolgrip mussels salvaged in 2012.

#### Drawdown Use and Mussel Salvage by Shoreline Property Owners

Shoreline property owners were encouraged to report their use of drawdown and to return stranded mussels to deeper water during drawdown. A form was provided on FOCL's website and a pre-paid return postcard was included in AEP's letter to property owners to report their use of drawdown and the number of mussels salvaged. Forty-two responses were received representing at least 11,328 feet of shoreline.

Of the respondents, the majority reported using drawdown for multiple shoreline maintenance activities. Most (31) reported using it for debris clean up; 14 also used drawdown for dock maintenance and/or inspection; 10 for repair and/or inspection of existing shoreline stabilization; and 1 installed new shoreline stabilization.

Many respondents made note of mussels. Fifteen responded they found no mussels along their shorelines. Respondents who found mussels salvaged 1,158. One property owner who reported finding 45 Pistolgrip mussels during the last drawdown found 4 Pistolgrips this drawdown and noted increasing siltation. When the number of mussels salvaged by property owners is added to the number of mussels salvaged during the volunteer mussel salvage event on November 6, a total of 7,694 mussels were salvaged during the 5-foot 2021 drawdown.

Email Preview

Sender: The Friends of Claytor Lake <info@focl.org>

Subject: Mussel Salvage & Drawdown



Included with this report:

- AEP letter to Commission requesting approval (contains 2021 drawdown plan)
- Commission Order Approving Reservoir Drawdown Plan
- Appalachian Oct 5, 2021 letter to property owners
- photos of Nov 6 mussel salvage event
- Nov 6 mussel salvage counts by site
- drawdown use and mussel salvage postcard
- spreadsheet of property owner responses



Appalachian Power Company  
P. O. Box 2021  
Roanoke, VA 24022-2121  
aep.com

Ms. Kimberly Bose, Secretary  
Federal Energy Regulatory Commission  
888 First Street, NE  
Washington, DC 20426

June 17, 2021

**Re: Appalachian Power Company  
Claytor Hydroelectric Project No. 739  
License Article 405 – Reservoir Drawdown**

Dear Secretary Bose:

On December 27, 2011, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) issued its *Order Issuing New License* for the Claytor Hydroelectric Project No. 739. Article 405 of the license, which includes provisions for non-emergency drawdowns, requires that Appalachian Power Company (Appalachian) file with the Commission, for approval, a reservoir drawdown plan at least three (3) months prior to implementing a non-emergency reservoir drawdown. Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL) and Pulaski County have requested that Appalachian conduct a non-emergency drawdown of the Claytor reservoir in the fall of 2021 in order to allow lakefront property owners to perform shoreline maintenance and construction activities. Enclosed for Commission approval is a proposed drawdown plan for a non-emergency, 5-foot drawdown starting Saturday, November 6, 2021.

A draft drawdown plan proposing was provided via email attachment to the Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (VDWR), the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (VDNR), the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ), Pulaski County and Giles County (Virginia), Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL), Renew the New, and Friends of the New River on April 23, 2021; and to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) on June 1, 2021. Replies were received from VDWR, VDEQ, FWS, and FOCL. VDEQ's reply (email dated May 25, 2021) was simply that the department had no comments on the draft plan. The comments are summarized below.

VDWR comments (email dated May 20, 2021)

The VDWR supported a 5-foot drawdown in 2021, but recommended that a subsequent review of historical data be performed with a view towards conducting a 3-foot drawdown in 2023. VDWR requested that the drawdown rate be increased from 1-foot per day to 1.6-foot per day to reduce the overall duration of the drawdown. This recommendation was incorporated into

the final 2021 proposed drawdown plan. Lastly, VDWR provided information on department personnel availability and assistance with mussel salvage on November 6, 2021.

FWS comments (email dated June 1, 2021)

The FWS stated that the agency concurred with VDWR's recommendation of the increased drawdown rate. The agency had no additional comments on the draft drawdown plan.

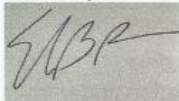
FOCL comments (email dated May 11, 2021)

FOCL expressed the organization's appreciation for the proposed 5-foot drawdown in November 2021. FOCL recommended a revision to item 10. a. of the proposed plan. Item 10. a. has been revised in the final proposed drawdown plan per FOCL's recommendation.

There were no other written comments. Documentation of consultation is attached. The 2021 drawdown plan was also discussed during the Water Quality/Water Management Technical Review Committee (WQWMTRC) annual meeting held on May 19, 2021 (via video conference due to COVID-19 restrictions).

Appalachian believes that the information provided is in conformance with Article 405 of its license. If there are any questions, please contact the undersigned at 540-985-2441 or ebparcell@aep.com.

Sincerely,



Elizabeth B. Parcell  
Process Supervisor

Enclosures

Cc: R.A. Gallimore – American Electric Power  
David Bailey – Appalachian Power Company  
Fred Colburn – American Electric Power  
DISTRIBUTION LIST

176 FERC ¶ 62,142  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
FEDERAL ENERGY REGULATORY COMMISSION

Appalachian Power Company

Project No. 739-075

ORDER APPROVING RESERVOIR DRAWDOWN PLAN PURSUANT TO  
ARTICLE 405

(Issued September 27, 2021)

1. On June 17, 2021, and supplemented on September 3, 2021, Appalachian Power Company (licensee), licensee for the Claytor Hydroelectric Project No. 739 filed a Reservoir Drawdown Plan, for Commission approval, pursuant to Article 405 of the license.<sup>1</sup> The project is located on the New River, in Pulaski County, Virginia, and does not occupy any federal lands.

**Background**

2. Article 405 of the license requires the licensee to file, for Commission approval, a Reservoir Drawdown Plan at least three months prior to implementing a non-emergency reservoir drawdown. The purpose of the plan is to minimize the effect of any project maintenance activity requiring a reservoir drawdown on aquatic resources in the project reservoir and downstream of the project, and to allow shoreline property owners sufficient time to plan shoreline maintenance activities.

3. Article 405 requires the licensee to prepare the plan after consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Virginia Department of Wildlife Resources (Virginia DWR, formerly Virginia Department of Game and Inland Fisheries), Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation (Virginia DCR), Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (Virginia DEQ), Pulaski County, New River Valley Regional Commission (formerly New River Valley Planning District Committee), and the Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL). The licensee must include with the plan documentation of consultation, copies of comments, and recommendations on the completed plan after it has been prepared and provided to the agencies, and specific descriptions of how the plan accommodated the agencies' comments. The licensee must allow a minimum of 30 days for the agencies to comment and make recommendations before filing the plan with the

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<sup>1</sup> *Appalachian Power Company*, 137 FERC ¶ 62,258 (2011).



Commission. If the licensee does not adopt a recommendation, the filing must include the licensee's reasons based on project-specific information.

4. The licensee must notify the public and property owners along the shoreline by mail of the drawdown 45 days prior to implementing the drawdown to allow property owners sufficient time to plan shoreline maintenance activities. The notification must include rate (feet per day), limit in feet, and term of the drawdown. The Commission reserves the right to require changes to the plan. Upon Commission approval of the plan, the licensee must implement it, including any changes required by the Commission.

5. Commission staff approved a previous drawdown plan in 2014;<sup>2</sup> however, the licensee canceled the drawdown at the request of Pulaski County due to problems with Pulaski County's water intake in the lake. Commission staff also approved a drawdown plan, in 2015;<sup>3</sup> however, rain and higher flows affected full implementation of the plan. Lastly, in 2017<sup>4</sup> and 2019,<sup>5</sup> Commission staff approved drawdown plans that were implemented with a five-foot drawdown.

### **Licensee's Proposed Plan**

6. The FOCL and Pulaski County requested that the licensee conduct a non-emergency drawdown of the Claytor reservoir in the fall of 2021 in order to allow lakefront property owners to perform shoreline maintenance and construction activities. In response, the licensee proposes an impoundment drawdown of five feet from the normal impoundment elevation of 1,846 feet National Geodetic Vertical Datum (NGVD). The drawdown would begin by lowering the impoundment elevation by 1.6 feet per day starting on November 3, 2021, at 1:30 p.m., and continuing until the reservoir reaches 1,841 feet NGVD, by November 6, 2021, at 9:00 a.m. The duration of the drawdown would be nine days, including two weekends. The licensee would begin refilling the reservoir on November 14, 2021, at 10:00 p.m., and return to the normal impoundment elevation of 1,846 feet NGVD by November 19, 2021, at 10:00 p.m., depending on inflow. The plan allows for changes to the proposed drawdown, such as the dates and duration, for unforeseen circumstances. The licensee would inform the public about the drawdown at least 45 days prior to its implementation, as required by Article 405.

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<sup>2</sup> *Appalachian Power Company*, 148 FERC ¶ 62,194 (2014).

<sup>3</sup> *Appalachian Power Company*, 151 FERC ¶ 62,230 (2015).

<sup>4</sup> *Appalachian Power Company*, 159 FERC ¶ 62,271 (2017).

<sup>5</sup> *Appalachian Power Company*, 169 FERC ¶ 62,020 (2019).

7. The licensee proposes to monitor and reduce impacts to mussels within Claytor Lake potentially caused by the drawdown. The licensee would work with the FOCL to encourage participation, and to provide information about the drawdown and the importance of mussel salvage. This information would educate the public about mussel salvage through media, mailings, phone calls, and the internet. In addition, information would be gathered about drawdown usage and mussel salvage, by means of sending a questionnaire card to landowners and volunteers prior to the drawdown.

8. The licensee proposes to assess the impact to mussels based on the information collected during the drawdown. A mussel salvage event would take place on the first Saturday after the reservoir is lowered five feet to increase the number of dewatered mussels returned to the water. Prior to the day of the event, the FOCL would oversee recruitment of volunteers and work with organizers to plan and coordinate the details of the event. The licensee and cooperating agencies would select and prioritize sites based on likely mussel habitat and previous mussel findings. The licensee, the FOCL, the Virginia DWR, the Claytor Lake State Park, Pulaski County, and others would provide volunteers and team leaders, boat transportation, materials, meeting locations, and refreshments.

9. The Virginia DWR would provide volunteer training on Saturday morning prior to deployment in teams with team leaders. The Virginia DWR would provide up to three teams experienced in mussel identification to identify and tally mussels by species. In addition, other volunteer teams would focus on counting and salvaging total numbers of mussels.

### **Consultation**

10. The licensee provided a copy of the draft plan to the Virginia DWR, Virginia DCR, Virginia DEQ, Pulaski County, and the FOCL on April 23, 2021, and to the FWS on June 1, 2021. The licensee provided 30 days for agency comments. The licensee received replies from the Virginia DWR, Virginia DEQ, FWS, and the FOCL. The drawdown was also discussed at the Water Quality/Water Management Technical Review Committee annual meeting held on May 19, 2021.

11. On May 11, 2021, the FOCL recommended revising the mussel salvage event section of the proposed plan to begin planning and coordinating with the volunteers the day before the event. This would allow everyone to properly prepare prior to the mussel salvage event. The licensee revised the planning and coordinating section of the mussel salvage event in the final Reservoir Drawdown Plan to indicate planning and coordinating with the volunteers would be conducted the day before the mussel salvage event. On May 20, 2021, Virginia DWR supported a five-foot drawdown in 2021, but recommended that licensee perform a subsequent review of historical data with a view towards conducting a three-foot drawdown in 2023. Virginia DWR also requested that

the drawdown rate increase from 1-foot to 1.6-foot per day to reduce the overall duration of the drawdown. The licensee revised the drawdown rate to reflect a rate of 1.6-foot per day in the final Reservoir Drawdown Plan and stated it would consider a three-foot drawdown in 2023.

12. On May 25, 2021, the Virginia DEQ stated that the department had no comments on the draft plan. On June 1, 2021, FWS stated that the agency concurred with Virginia DWR's recommendation of the increased drawdown rate.

13. On September 3, 2021, the licensee filed a supplement documenting its consultation with the New River Valley Regional Commission. By letter dated August 30, 2021, the New River Valley Regional Commission stated that the drawdown plan was reviewed at its August 26, 2021 meeting and it determined the proposal is not in conflict with the regions plans, policies and goals.

### **Historic Properties**

14. On December 27, 2011, the Commission approved the Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP) implemented pursuant to the project's Programmatic Agreement and Article 415 of the project's license. The HPMP addresses management of historic properties for the project, which includes the following sites eligible for the National Register of Historic Places: the Claytor project facilities, the Peak Creek Rockshelter, and two archaeological sites that were identified in the surveys conducted between 2008-2009.

15. Although, the licensee did not conduct consultation regarding historic properties specific to this proposal, section 4.4 of the HPMP identifies routine maintenance activities that have been determined not to have an effect on historic resources developed in consultation with the Virginia SHPO. The maintenance of existing recreational facilities and construction of new facilities on previously disturbed land is listed as part of those activities that do not require consultation from the Virginia SHPO.

16. Section 5.3 of the approved HPMP requires the licensee, upon inadvertent discovery of a potential historic property during ground-disturbing activities, to conduct the following actions: (1) stop work in the area of concern and stabilize the area, if necessary; (2) notify the project's Shoreline Management Group and provide the details of the discovery; and (3) notify the Virginia SHPO within 3 days of discovery. The licensee would then, in coordination with a qualified professional and the Virginia SHPO complete the following actions: (1) identify and confirm the potential significance of the historic property; (2) plan and perform any field investigation and analysis; (3) document the investigations an analysis in a report to be submitted to the Virginia SHPO and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians; and (4) manage any artifacts that are collected in

accordance with the standards established in *The Secretary of Interior's Archaeological Standards and Guidelines*.

### Review

17. The licensee's Reservoir Drawdown Plan is necessary to allow property owners to perform shoreline maintenance and construction activities. The licensee provided the agencies and stakeholders 30 days to comment on the draft drawdown plan as required under Article 405. The proposed drawdown and refill rate of the reservoir would minimize adverse effects to aquatic resources. In addition, performing the drawdown during the month of November, when temperatures are cooler and vegetative and animal activities reduced, would minimize the effects on recreation and on biological resources. The licensee, in cooperation with the resource agencies and stakeholders, is taking measures to reduce effects to mussels within Claytor Lake caused by the drawdown. The licensee has adequately consulted and involved the resource agencies, local governments, stakeholders, and residents along the Claytor reservoir, and the parties involved are in support of the proposal. Additionally, Commission staff finds with the provisions included in the project's approved HPMP, any affects to historic properties would be mitigated. Based on Commission staff's review, the licensee's plan to drawdown the Claytor reservoir by as much as five feet for a period of nine days during November 2021 should be approved.

### The Director orders:

(A) Appalachian Power Company's Reservoir Drawdown Plan, filed on June 17, 2021 and supplemented on September 3, 2021, for the Claytor Hydroelectric Project No. 739, pursuant to Article 405 of the license, to allow a drawdown of Claytor reservoir by as much as five feet, for a period of nine days during November 2021, in order to allow property owners to perform shoreline maintenance and construction activities is approved. The temporary drawdown is approved until November 14, 2021.

(B) This order constitutes final agency action. Any party may file a request for rehearing of this order within 30 days from the date of its issuance, as provided in section 313(a) of the Federal Power Act, 16 U.S.C. § 8251 (2018), and the Commission's regulations at 18 C.F.R. § 385.713 (2020). The filing of a request for rehearing does not operate as a stay of the effective date of this order, or of any other date specified in this order. The licensee's failure to file a request for rehearing shall constitute acceptance of this order.

Kelly Houff  
Chief, Engineering Resources Branch  
Division of Hydropower Administration  
and Compliance



An AEP Company

BOUNDLESS ENERGY™

Appalachian Power  
P O Box 2021  
Roanoke, VA 24022-2121  
appalachianpower.com

October 5, 2021

Re: Claytor Project No. 739  
Water Management Plan  
2021 Drawdown of Claytor Lake

Dear Resident:

In cooperation with Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL) and Pulaski County, Appalachian Power Company (Appalachian) requested and received approval from the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (Commission) for a temporary drawdown of the Claytor reservoir during November 2021. The purpose of the drawdown is to provide property owners an opportunity to perform cleanup and other maintenance related activities along the shoreline. Permits are required for many activities so if you have not obtained your permits or started the process, please do so now so that the permits can be issued prior to the drawdown<sup>1</sup>. Vegetation removal from within the Project boundary (generally the 1850-foot elevation contour and below) is prohibited unless prior approval is obtained from Appalachian.

The 2021 drawdown is scheduled to begin Wednesday, November 3, 2021 at 1:30 PM. The reservoir will be lowered approximately 1.6 feet per day to reach an elevation of approximately 1841 feet (for a total of 5 feet) by 9 AM on Saturday morning, November 6, 2021. The reservoir will start refilling at 10 PM on Sunday, November 14, 2021, with a targeted return to normal elevation by 10 PM on Friday, November 19, 2021, depending upon inflow. Note that water levels may fluctuate during the drawdown period.

Commission approval was based on a drawdown plan<sup>2</sup> developed in consultation with the Friends of Claytor Lake (FOCL), Pulaski County and various state agencies. The drawdown plan includes proposed mitigation for impacts to mussels and we need your help. Mitigation for 2021 includes efforts to increase mussel salvage during the drawdown. This means we need your help in returning mussels (pictures attached) to the water if they are stranded along your shoreline during the drawdown. If you see mussels along the shoreline, please pick them up and gently toss them into the water. Please complete and mail the enclosed pre-paid postcard to document your use of drawdown and mussel salvage efforts. Appalachian will provide the returned postcards to FOCL. If you do not receive the postcard, wish to respond online, or would like additional information regarding mussel salvage efforts during the drawdown, please visit FOCL's website, [www.focl.org](http://www.focl.org).

For those who participate in mussel salvage, please note that Asian clams do not have to be returned to the reservoir. A picture of an Asian clam is attached.

BOUNDLESS ENERGY™

Please note that the drawdown may be cancelled or reduced on short notice if inflows are insufficient to refill the reservoir in a timely manner or if a flood event occurs. The public will be notified via a press release if the drawdown is extended or cancelled.

Sincerely,

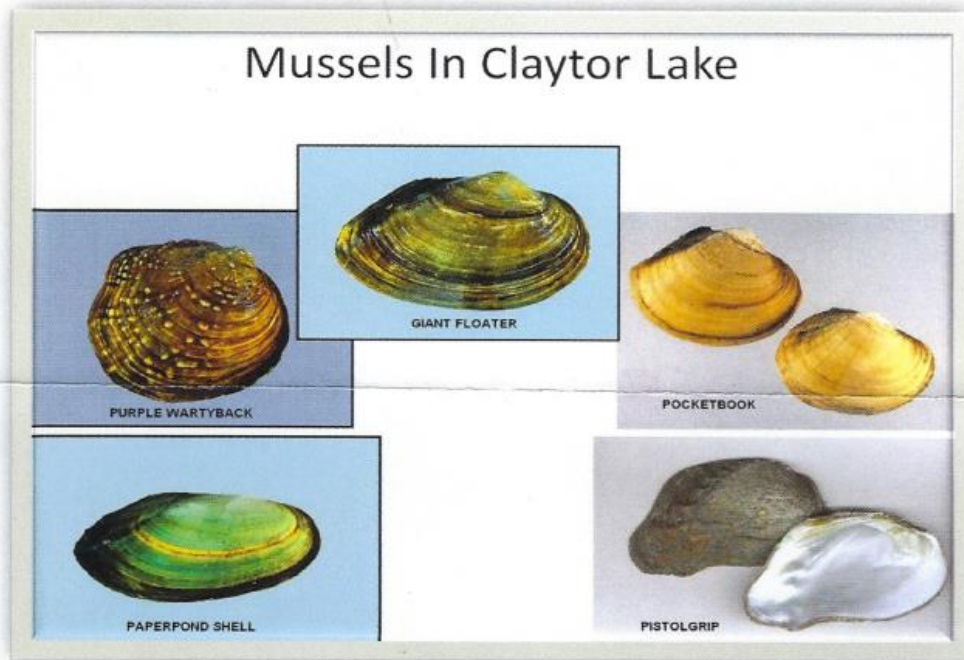


Elizabeth B. Parcell  
Process Supervisor

<sup>1</sup> A permit is required from Appalachian for new shoreline stabilization projects or dock modifications or expansions. Vegetation may not be removed from within the Project boundary (generally the 1850-foot elevation contour) unless authorized by Appalachian. Permit applications are available online at [www.claytorhydro.com](http://www.claytorhydro.com). Please contact Lisa Hammock at [lhhammock@aep.com](mailto:lhhammock@aep.com) or 540-489-2556 if you have questions. A Pulaski County building permit is also required for dock expansions. Permission is needed from the Corps of Engineers (COE) for shoreline stabilization (NW13 for bank stabilization) or dredging (Regional Permit 40). Contact Pulaski County at [choleton@pulaskicounty.org](mailto:choleton@pulaskicounty.org) or 540-980-7710 or COE at [Chester.C.Bigelow@usace.army.mil](mailto:Chester.C.Bigelow@usace.army.mil) if you have questions regarding their permit requirements.

<sup>2</sup> A copy of the drawdown plan can be found on [www.claytorhydro.com](http://www.claytorhydro.com).

Additional information regarding mussels:



There are five species found in Claytor Lake:      Typical Size\*

• Giant Floater ( <i>Pyganodon grandis</i> )	70 – 110 mm
• Pocketbook ( <i>Lampsilis ovata</i> )	70 – 110 mm
• Pistolgrip ( <i>Tritogonia verrucosa</i> )	70 – 100 mm
• Paper Pondshell ( <i>Utterbackia imbecillis</i> )	40 – 70 mm
• Purple Wartyback ( <i>Cyclonaias tuberculata</i> )	70 – 90 mm

**The pistolgrip is currently listed as a state threatened species.** If you find a suspected pistolgrip mussel, please take a digital photograph, call Brian Watson immediately at (434) 941-5990, and return the pistolgrip to the water. Photographs should be texted to Brian Watson at (434) 914-5990. Please limit the number of photographs of each mussel to a maximum of two and limit the size of each photo to 1 MB.

\* Smaller or larger individuals may still be found.

**Asian Clams** (do not need to be returned to the reservoir):









<b>2021 Mussel Salvage</b> (5' drawdown)	<b>Giant</b> <b>Floater</b>	<b>Paper</b> <b>Pondshel</b>	<b>Eastern</b> <b>Elliptio</b>	<b>Purple</b> <b>Wartybk</b>	<b>Pocket-</b> <b>book</b>	<b>Pistol-</b> <b>grip</b>	<b>Not</b> <b>ID'd</b>	<b>Mystery</b> <b>Snails</b>	<b>TOTALS</b>
<b>Sprakers/Fintels</b>									
John Copeland & Isabel Boyce (VT Mussel Lab) 3 VT TWS	1 1 dead	0	0	0	0	0			1 1 dead
11/10/21 Brian Watson & Caitlyn Carey	2 2 dead	4 2 dead				3			9 4 dead
<b>DeHaven</b>									
Tim Lane 3 FOCL Bd members	43 9 dead	410 18 dead	23	0	0	0		"thousands"	476 27 dead
Joe Ferraro 4 DWR CWF, 1 Floyd res. Linda Gette (CWF)	44 27 dead 4	399 148 dead 26	4 3 dead	0	0	0			447 178 dead 30
<b>Claytor Lake State Park</b>									
Dr. Karen Powers (west end) 9 RU TWS	280	275	0	0	1	0			556
L. Bullard/D. Bonsall (center)							71		71
Dr Kat Black (east end) 11 RU TWS	173	922	0	1	0	0			1,096
<b>Mallard Pt Island</b>									
Brian Watson, Tye Mitchell 3 AEP, 3 VT TWS	165 134	583 445	166 49	0 0	0 0	0 0		common uncommon	914 628
<b>Roseberry &amp; Dublin Hollows</b>									
Laura Walters/Mike Hoffman 8 area residents							992		992
<b>Bullard Farm</b>									
Dr. Jess Jones (west end) 6 NRV Master Naturalists	196	293	7	2	0	0		"abundant/ thousands"	498
<b>2021 Mussel Salvage</b> (5' drawdown)									
<b>Bullard Farm cont.</b>									
Caitlyn Carey (center) 4 VT AFS, 2 PCHS students 1 prop.owner&Jeff Williams Anne Bullard & Jeff Arnold	267 5 dead	336 11 dead	53 1 dead	0	7	0		common	663 17 dead
							60		60
Alissa Ganser (island) 2 NRV MN, ret. Bio teacher, 3 other adults & 1 PCHS stu.	63	31	1	0	0	0		common	95
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>Live</b> <b>Dead</b>	1,372 44	3,724 179	303 4	3	8	3	1,123	<b>6,536</b> <b>227</b>
assume "live" if not noted									

**Drawdown Work: Very important to complete!**

**Document of drawdown work is important. Please provide the following:**

**Name:** (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**Lake Address:** (optional) \_\_\_\_\_

**Total Lake Frontage:** \_\_\_\_\_ **feet. Feet of Shoreline Accessible:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Work completed during the drawdown:**

- Shoreline stabilization (new) \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ Type
- Dock Maintenance \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ Type
- Shoreline stabilization repair \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ Type
- Shoreline cleanup of debris \_\_\_\_\_ ft \_\_\_\_\_ (amount/type)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

**Mussels:**

Please pick up mussels encountered during the drawdown and gently toss them into deeper water. Let us know about your efforts:

\_\_\_\_\_ # Mussels found \_\_\_\_\_ # Mussels relocated \_\_\_\_\_ feet of shoreline

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_



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## MUSSEL SALVAGE REPORTING

Name \*

First

Last

Email \*

Total # of mussels salvaged during drawdown \*

Please pick up mussels encountered during the drawdown and gently toss them into deeper water. Let us know about your efforts: # Mussels found # Mussels relocated feet of shoreline

Please enter your lake address below: \*

Please indicate the reason you are utilizing drawdown this year. (shoreline stabilization, dock management, etc.)



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6580 Valley Center Drive, Rm 310

Fairlawn, VA 24141

(540) 395-FOCL

info@focl.org

Property Owners Use of Drawdown and Mussel Salvage Efforts

New	Stabilization	Dock			# Mussels	Total Feet	Comments/Notes
Stabilization	Repair	Maint.	Clean-up	Other	Salvaged	Shoreline	
			130'		19	130'	
		X	40'		26	46'	40' of shoreline accessible
	60'	X			13	60'	
			75'		7	170'	
	200'	X	125'		47	502'	
	4'	X	25'		1	120'	
		X	20'		0	315'	
			X		0	300'	
	X	X			40	100'	
			150'		30	150'	
	86'		86'		0	86'	
		X	15'		0	?	
	X	X				?	
					0	150'	no shoreline accessible
	451'		451'		1	451'	
		X	200'		2	200'	
		X	X	ocumented increasing siltatio	5	900'	4 Pistolgrips (Hurst Rd Hiwassee area); 45 last drawdown
		X	200'		60	200'	
		X	300'		12	300'	
			300'		0	300'	
			100'		0	100'	
			208'		0	208'	
					18	250'	also salvaged along 1000' of island facing house
			125'		0	125'	
			200'			200'	
	20'				15	100'	
			30'		0	30'	noted loss of cove due to mud & woody debris
		X			10	85'	
			X		0	220'	
	60'		60'		0	?	
			40'		450	5,280	
		X	X	inspected stabilization	0	?	
New	Stabilization	Dock			# Mussels	Total Feet	Comments/Notes
Stabilization	Repair	Maint.	Clean-up	Other	Salvaged	Shoreline	
	X		X	inspected dock	10	?	
		X			6	?	
		X	X		2	?	
		X			127	?	
			X		25	?	
			X		0	?	
			X		2	?	
			X		62	?	
250'					164	250'	Thank you for the 5' drawdown
					4	?	
Totals							
1	10	17	31	2 inspected dock/stabilization	1,158	11,328'	42 responses