

October 6, 2015

Re: Claytor Project No. 739
Water Management Plan
2015 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 2015. The purpose of the drawdown is to provide property owners an opportunity to perform shoreline stabilization, cleanup and other maintenance related activities along the shoreline¹. Vegetation removal from within the Project boundary (generally the 1850 foot contour elevation and below) is not allowed unless prior approval is obtained from Appalachian.

The 2015 drawdown is scheduled to begin Wednesday, November 4, 2015 at 8 am. The reservoir will be lowered one (1) foot per day until it reaches the 1843 foot contour elevation (for a total of 3 feet) on Saturday morning, November 7, 2015. The reservoir will start refilling on the evening of Sunday, November 15, 2015 with a target date of being back to normal elevation by Wednesday evening, November 18, 2015. Water levels may fluctuate between three to four feet down from full pond (1846 feet) during the drawdown period.

Commission approval was based on a drawdown plan² developed in consultation with FOCL, Pulaski County and various state agencies. The drawdown plan includes proposed mitigation for impacts to mussels. This is where you come in. Mitigation for 2015 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 5-10 feet into the water. Complete the postcard that you will receive in FOCL's October newsletter to document your efforts and mail the completed card to FOCL. If you do not receive the FOCL postcard or would like additional information regarding mussel salvage efforts during the drawdown, please visit FOCL's website, www.focl.org. A mussel salvage event will be held Saturday November 7 during which organized teams of volunteers will walk along the shoreline returning mussels to the water. If you would like to participate in the mussel salvage event, contact Laura Bullard at 540-392-3055 or sunnyside@psknet.com.

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

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 cancelled.

Sincerely,

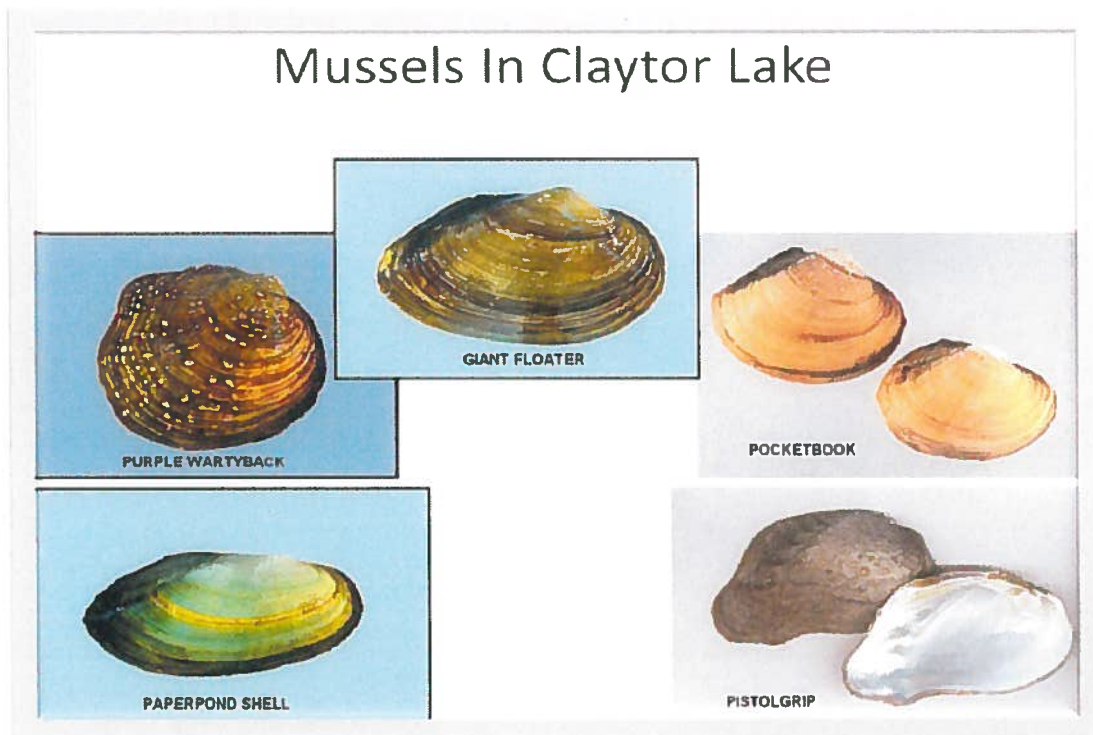


Elizabeth B. Parcell
Process Supervisor Senior

¹ A permit is required from Appalachian for new shoreline stabilization projects or dock expansions. Vegetation may not be removed from within the project boundary (generally the 1850 foot contour elevation) unless authorized by Appalachian. Please contact Wayne Alexander at wmalexander@aep.com or 540-985-2469 if you have questions. A Pulaski County permit is also required for dock expansions. A permit is needed from the Corps of Engineers (COE) for shoreline stabilization (NW13 for bank stabilization) or dredging (Regional Permit 40). Contact Pulaski County or COE if you have questions regarding their permit requirements.

² A copy of the drawdown plan can be found on www.claytorhydro.com.

Additional information regarding mussels:



There are five species found in Claytor Lake:

	<u>Typical Size*</u>
• 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 Clam (do not need to be returned to the reservoir):

