

COLUMBIA DAM -- FACT SHEET:

- 1 Studies of potential Duck River dam sites date back as far as 1930. In 1951, TVA considered two sites but decided they were not economically attractive at the time.
- 2 In 1964 leaders in Maury, Marshall, Bedford, and Coffee Counties organized the Upper Duck River Development Association. In 1965 State Legislature created the Tennessee Upper Duck River Development Agency. In 1966 the State Planning Commission created the Upper Duck River Regional Planning Commission. Each was part of the overall effort to further economic development of the four-county area.
- 3 Two-dam project (Normandy and Columbia) proposed; benefit/cost ratio (1969) 1.3:1.
- 4 Congress appropriates first funds for Duck River Project, December 1969.
- 5 Normandy: Construction begun June 7, 1972; completed January 5, 1976; Cost \$37.4 million.
- 6 Columbia: Construction begun August 27, 1973; Construction halted September 1983; Dam and reservoir about 45 percent complete; Original cost estimated at \$50 million; Current estimate for completion \$159 million (plus \$10 million in other funds for recreational development around the shoreline). Six-year construction period.
- 7 Columbia Dam 105 feet high, 2,325 feet long; lake 12,400 acres; length of lake 54 miles.
- 8 In 1972 the Environmental Defense Fund, Inc., filed suit challenging adequacy of Environmental Impact Statement; Statement amended and approved by Federal Court in 1974. Other challenges at State and local level subsequently settled in favor of project completion.
- 9 In 1971 TVA entered into an agreement with the Upper Duck River Development Agency covering local participation; Part of agreement a commitment involving water supply for major communities in the area.

Key Endangered Species: In 1982 TVA transplanted 4,000 birdwing pearly mussels (*Conradilla caelata*) to four locations; failed to meet criteria for likely success. Other endangered mussel, Cumberland monkeyface pearly mussel (*Quadrula intermedia*), not a major factor at Columbia site, but conservation depends on habitat improvement for a Powell River population.

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