

An aerial photograph of a large dam and reservoir system. The dam is a concrete structure with a dark, textured surface. In front of the dam, there is a large, dark reservoir. A bright, white plume of water is visible, indicating that water is being released from the dam. To the right of the dam, there is a green, grassy area with a paved road. In the background, there are green, forested hills and mountains under a cloudy sky.

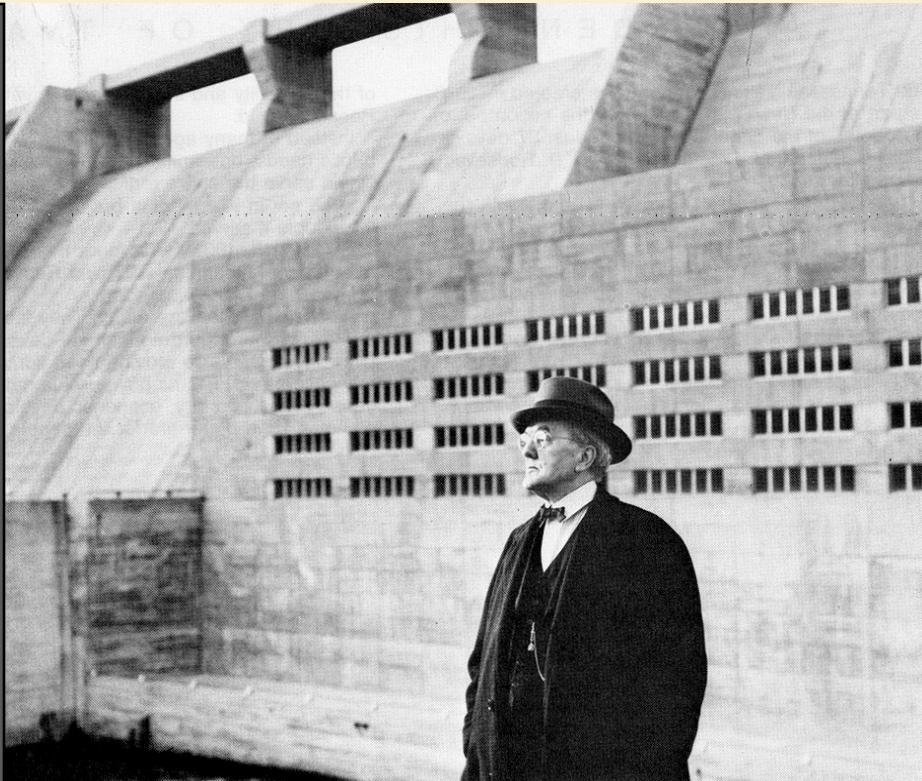
Multipurpose Reservoir System Operations

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Operations Support



Tennessee Valley Authority

(section 9a) ...to regulate the stream flow primarily for the purposes of promoting navigation and controlling floods. So far as may be consistent with such purposes, ...for the generation of electric energy...



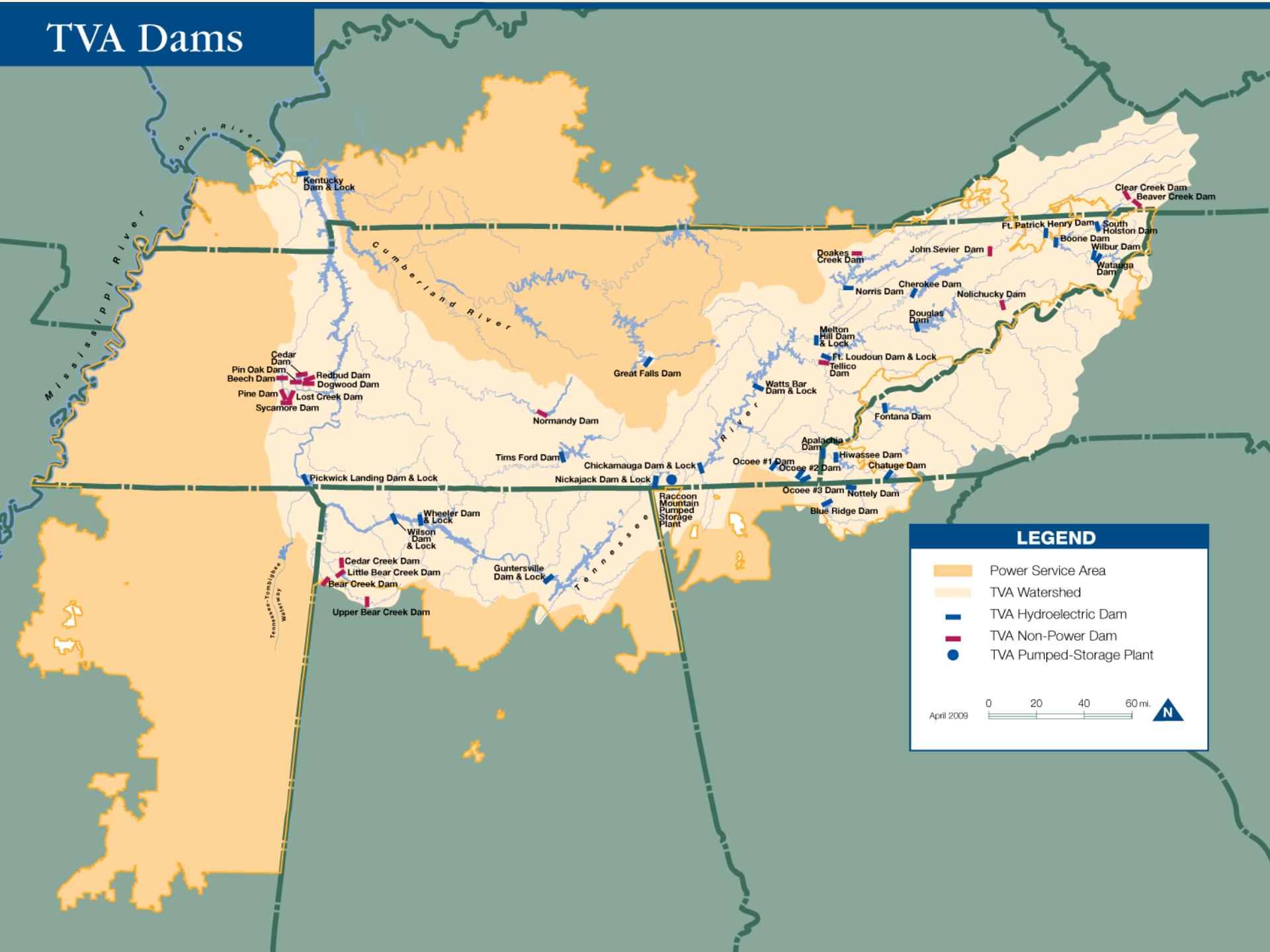
Senator George Norris, Norris Dam, TN

Reservoir System operated in an integrated manner for multiple benefits

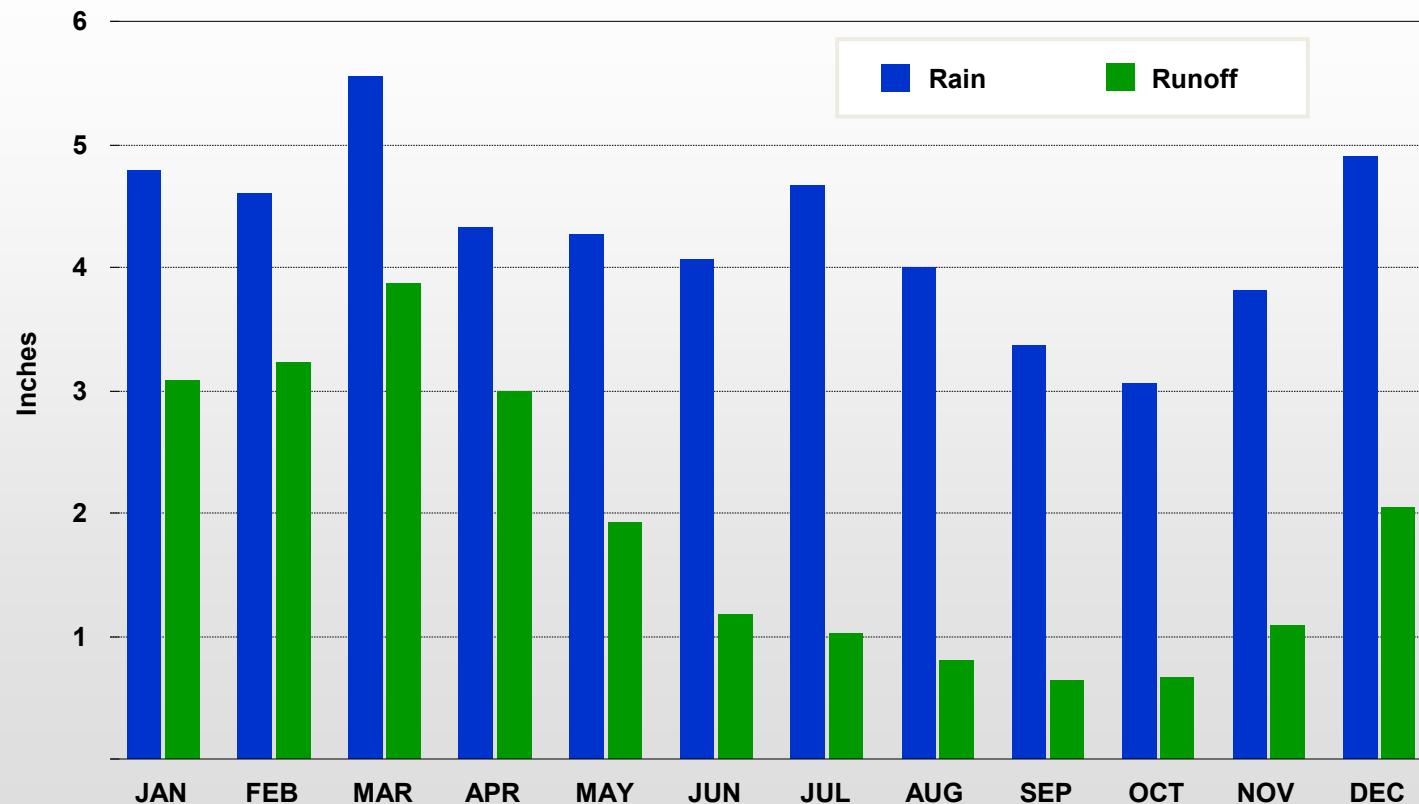
- Flood control
- Navigation
- Power
- Recreation
- Water quality
- Water supply



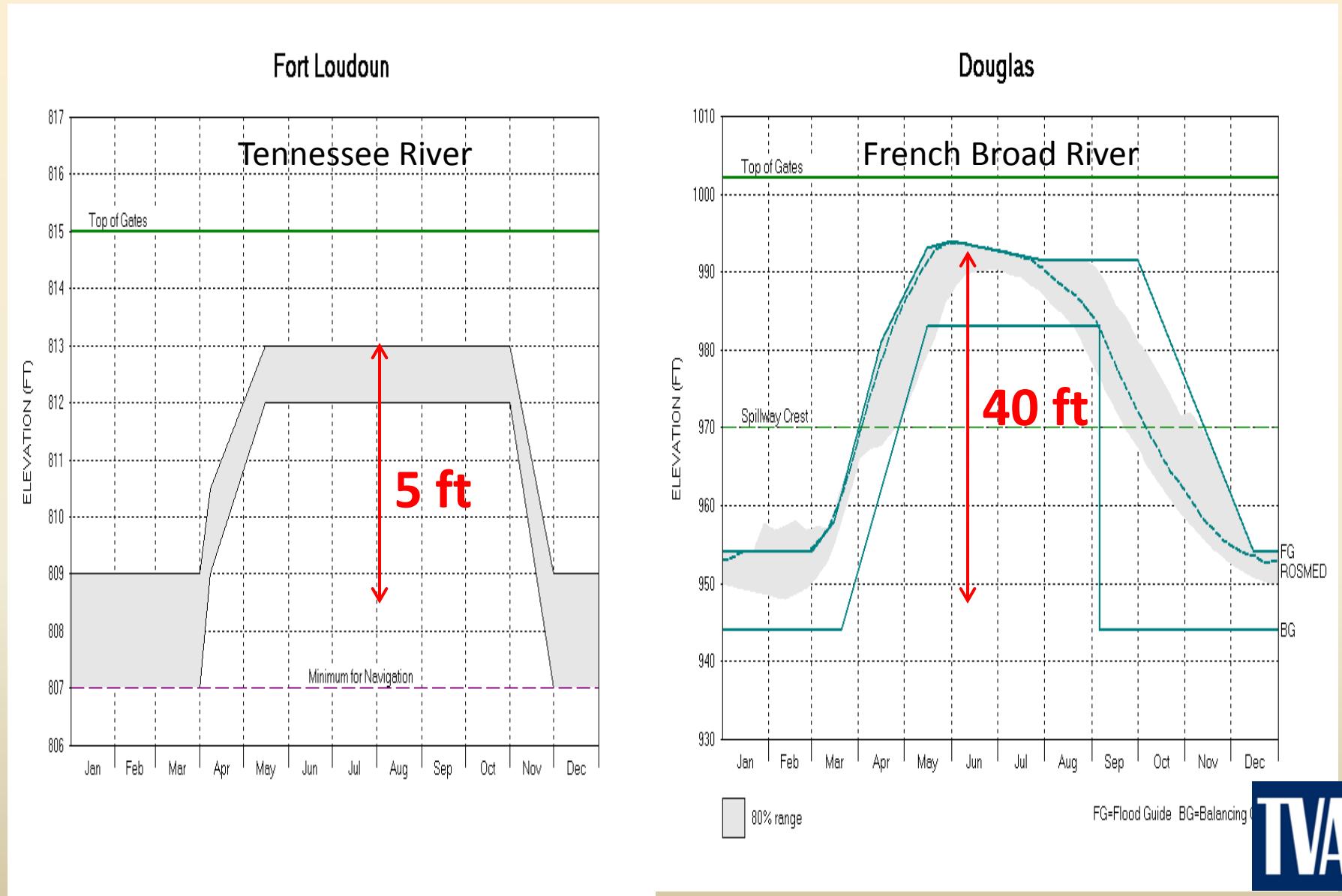
TVA Dams



Valley Rainfall and Runoff



Annual Reservoir Pool Cycle

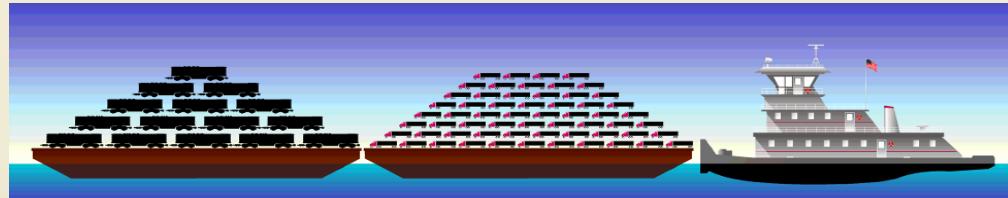


Flood Control & Navigation



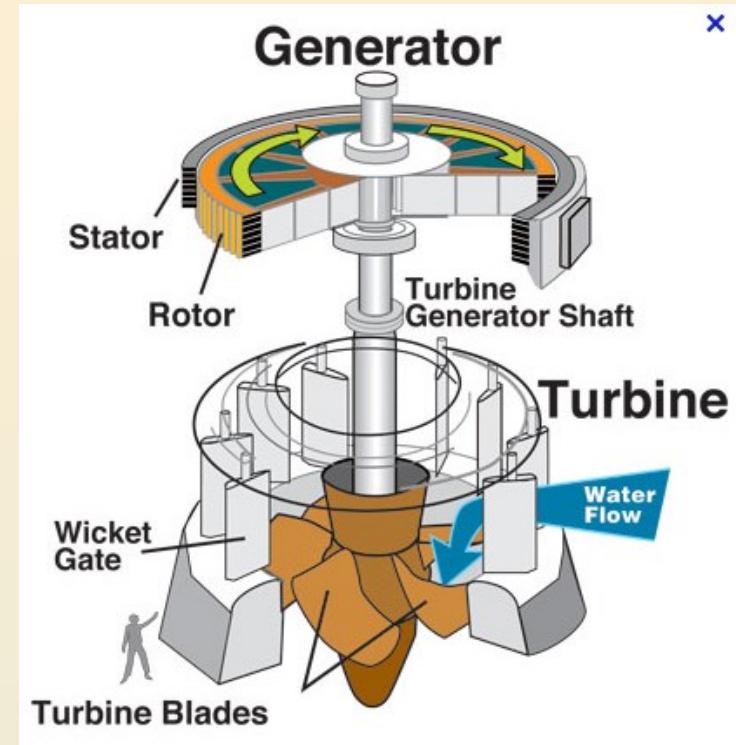
- Store water during flood to reduce crest
- Issue flood forecasts for regulated system
- Release water at non-flood rate after crest
- Annual average flood damages averted are \$260 million (\$6.8 billion to date)

- Cost-effective transportation
- Raw Materials, Coal, Grains, Aggregates, Iron, Steel, Petroleum
- ~ \$1B/year in shipper savings
- 652 Miles of Navigable Waterways
- Partners the U.S. Corps of Engineers



Hydropower

- 3,538 MW Conv. generating capacity (109 Units)
- 1,653 MW Pump-storage capacity (4 units)
- Peaking power demand
- Rapid Dispatch and Flexibility
- ~ 10% of TVA's energy portfolio
- Low O&M Costs
- Used to displace more expensive fuels
- Water temperature support at thermal generating plants



<http://water.usgs.gov/edu/hyhowworks.html>



Water Supply and Quality



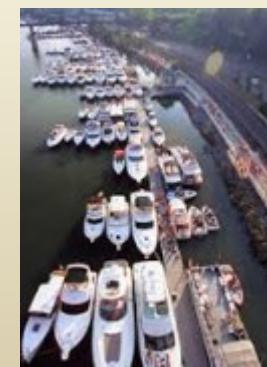
- 700 Water Intakes
- Process water for industry, thermal-electric cooling, municipal, irrigation
- Drinking water for nearly 5 million people
- Provide minimum depths for intakes
- Manage inter-basin transfers

- Temperature and Dissolved Oxygen monitoring
- Adaptive Management for T&E species
- Minimum flow for downstream habitat
- Thermal compliance at TVA fossil and nuclear sites



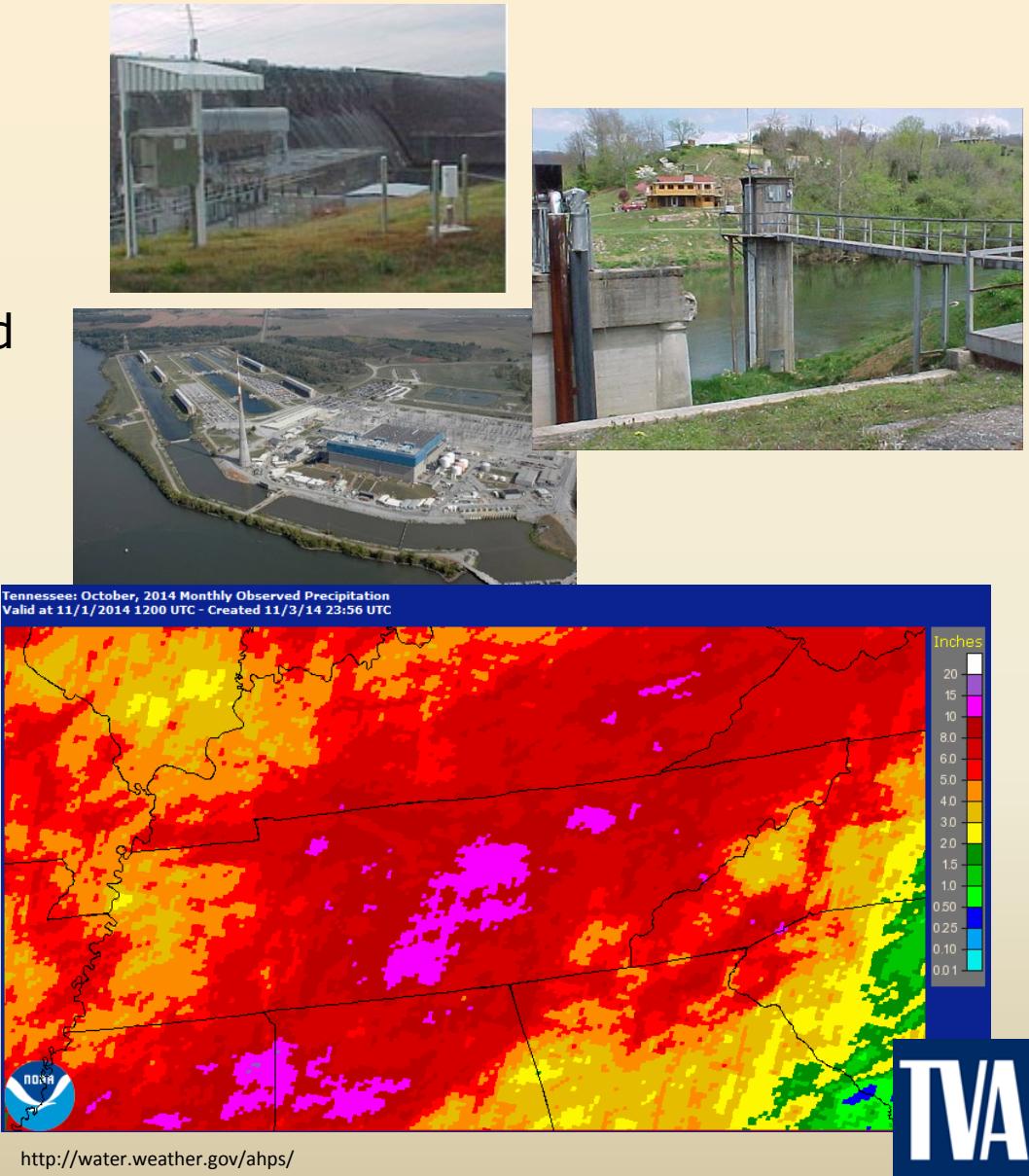
Recreation

- 230 Commercial Marinas
- 260 Campgrounds
- Drawdown restricted June 1 – Labor to provide higher summer lake levels
- Numerous tailwater releases to support trout fishing, whitewater rafting and drift-boating
- Economic Boost
- Stakeholder Involvement
- Special flows and elevations to support community events



Forecasting and Decision Support

- 240 Rain Gages
- 60 Stream Gages
- Inflow and Runoff Modeling
- Reservoir Release Routing and Simulation
- Hydropower Optimization
- Hydrothermal modeling
- Liquid Oxygen System Operations
- Reservoir Release dispatch and scheduling
- Dissemination of Information to stakeholders and partners

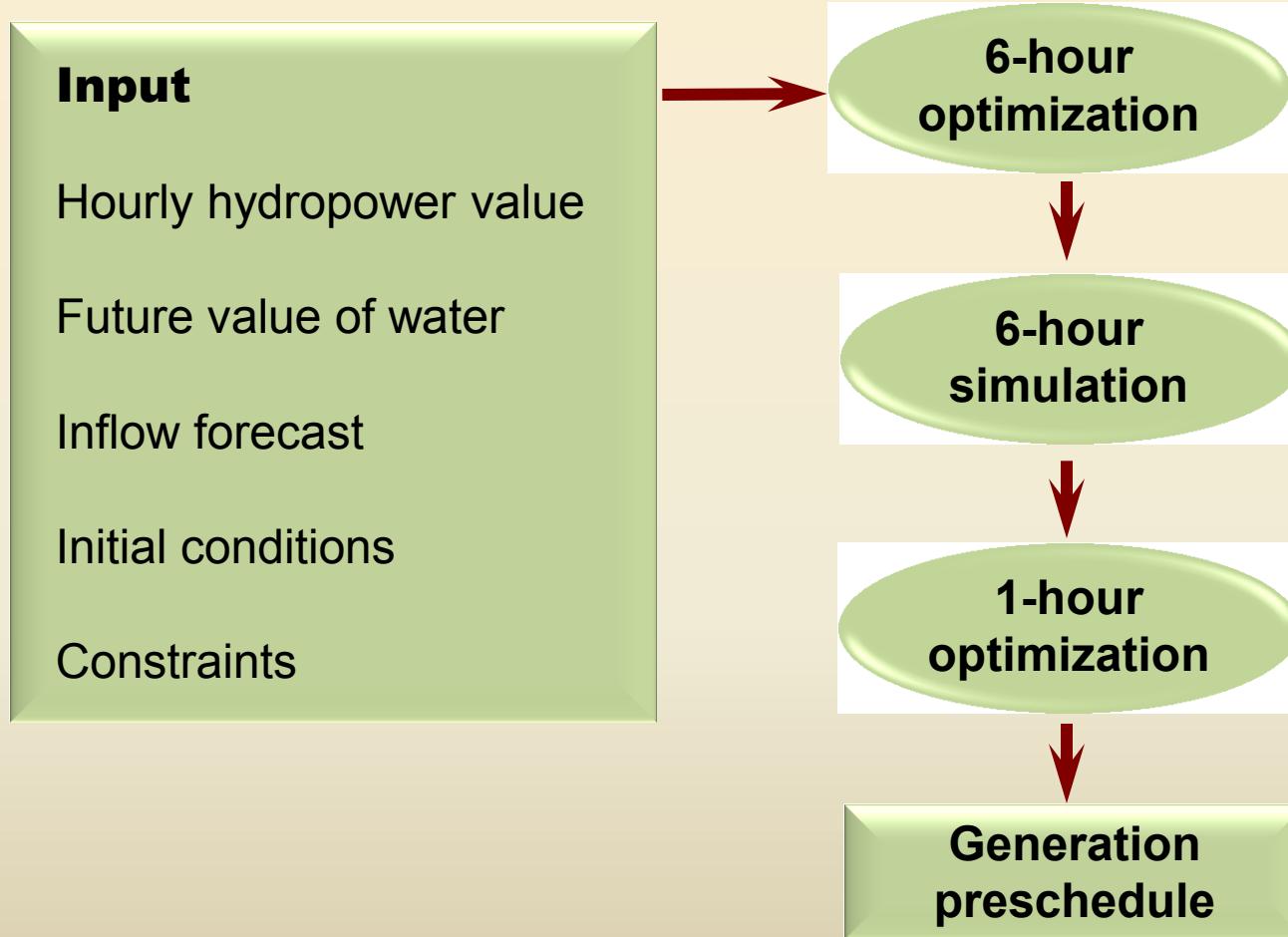


Using RiverWare to Optimize the TVA Reservoir System

- TVA's RFC is staffed 24/7/365
- Teams issue 2 - 4 river forecasts per day
- Precipitation & Inflow Input
- 14 day elevation/outflow/power - simulated operations
 - Day ahead and next day hourly hydropower releases for 109 power assets – optimized to offset higher cost thermal asset use
 - 14 day optimization routine used to maximize hydro value with given constraint set



Optimization Process



Decision Horizons and Tools

Historic

Observed
Values
3 - 14 Days

Today

Real-time Reservoir
Data, Real-time radar
data, Real-time
Decisions

2 Days

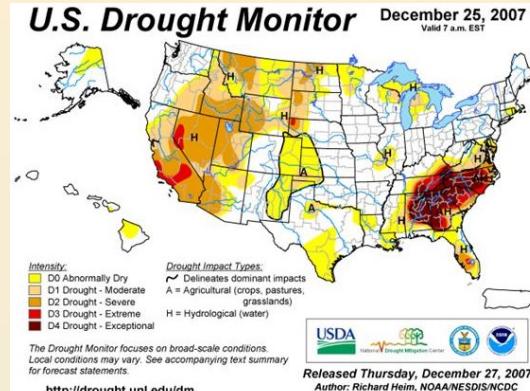
Hourly Economic Modeling, Reservoir
Simulation, Power System Planning,
Reservoir Release Dispatch,
Quantitative Precip

14 Days

Reservoir Simulations, Reservoir Optimization, Economic
Forecasts, Load Forecasts, Weather Forecast, Planned Constraints

Months - Years

Planning Models, Long-term power studies, Capacity Constraints, Resource Strategy



Data Dissemination

Model Results

- Hourly Hydropower Schedule (next 48 hours)
- Daily Avg. Flows & Daily Total Power (next 1-30 days)
- Forecasted Reservoir Elevations



Transmission
Operations &
Balancing

Hydro-automation
and Dispatched
Releases



Partnering
Agencies



Forecasting System Modernization

- Majority of current systems are in-house developed and custom tailored to TVA needs, expensive to maintain
- TVA is recognizing a shift to broader user base and platforms by partnering with similar agencies, NWS, USBR, BPA, etc.
- Adapting more modern tools and decision support systems
- Improved visualization of results to aid in decision process
- Recognizing importance of ensemble forecasting and communication of forecasts to stakeholders
- Regulatory impact – Post Fukushima and Nuclear Licensing



Forecasting System Modernization

Data Collection and QC

- Consolidate processing into a uniform automated system

Rainfall

- Thiessen polygon method to MPE, NSSL Q2
- Use NWS QPF, move to QPF ensemble

Inflows

- Event-based API to Continuous SAC-SMA with data assimilation

Decision making

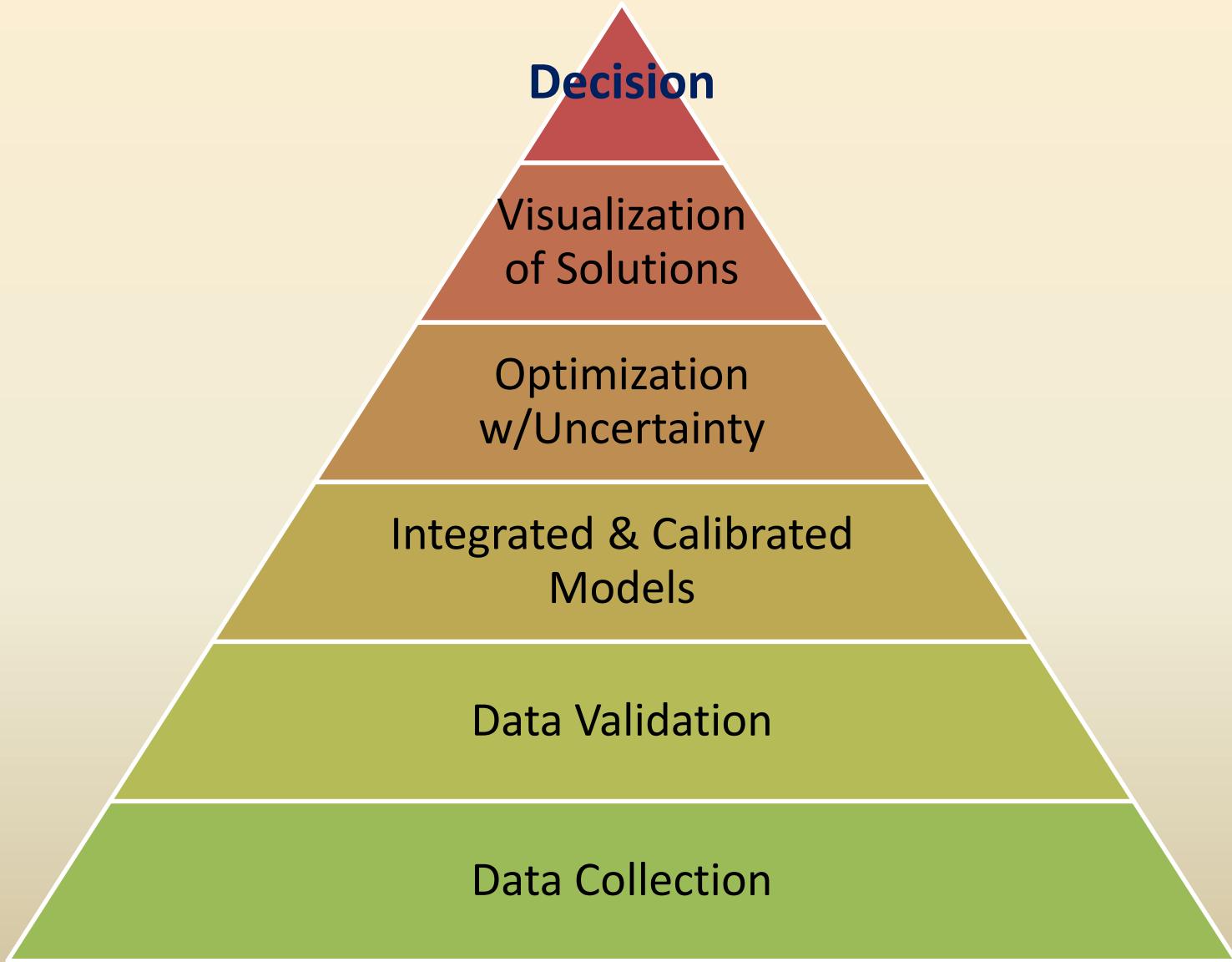
- Riverware optimization improvements

Decision evaluation

- Hydraulics to HEC-RAS
- Explore using HEC-RAS and Delft-3D for temperature simulation



Value Chain



Summary

- TVA has a long history that began with its river management mission
- Operations are driven by rainfall and runoff as guided by Reservoir Operations Policy
- Integrated operation allows TVA to balance river system benefits:
 - Navigation
 - Flood-damage reduction
 - Affordable and reliable electricity
 - Improved water quality
 - Dependable water supply
 - Recreation
- Decision Support Tools as well as reliable real-time data are vital to meeting these objectives
- As technology continues to advance, TVA has chosen to modernize tool-set

River Forecast Center





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