

To implement the production of hydroelectric power at the dam, the Federal Energy Regulation Commission issued a license to the Borough of Saltsburg, in association with PA Renewable Resources Associates, for construction

Since its completion in 1952, the project has prevented more than \$582 million in flood damages. In June 1972, when tropic storm Agnes struck the area, this project alone prevented \$2.4 billion in flood damage. These flood control benefits were the greatest ever realized by a project in the Pittsburgh District. The dam was able to prevent four feet of flood waters from reaching Point State Park in Pittsburgh.

Authorized by the Flood Control Acts of 1936 and 1938, Conemaugh River Lake is one of 16 flood damage reduction projects in the Pittsburgh District. Conemaugh Dam provides flood protection for the lower Conemaugh Valley, the Kiskiminetas Valley, the lower Allegheny Valley, and the upper Ohio River Valley.

CONEMANCH RIVER LAKE

LAKE AND DAM STATISTICS

Location: On the Conemaugh River, between Blairsville and Saltsburg, 7.5 miles upriver from the junction where the Conemaugh River and Loyalhanna Creek unite to form the Kiskiminetas River.

Total Area: 8,954 acres

Drainage area above dam:

Drainage area above dam: 1,351 sq. mi. Construction costs: \$302,880,000

Dam

Type structure: Concrete gravity Volume of concretefill: 355,500 cu. yd. Maximum height above streambed: 137 ft. Total length: 1,265 ft. Maximum width at base: 128 ft.

Outlet works:

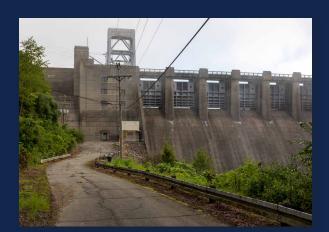
Thirteen 5.67' x 10' sluice gates Fourteen 30' x 30' crest gates

Lake

Length at normal pool: 7.6 mi. Summer Area: 800 acres Maximum Area: 6,820 acres

Elevation above sea level:

River at bottom: 850 ft. Maximum Pool: 975 ft. Normal Pool: 900 ft.





Adjacent to the Dam Recreation Area, historical development is currently underway with the construction of the West-Penn Trail and the Tunnel View Historic Site. The riverside trail includes a walk along the Main Line Canal that once connected Philadelphia to Pittsburgh (1834-1854). Overlooks along the trail will provide views of the historic canal and railroad structures, a canal tunnel and aqueduct dating from 1830, two railroad tunnels and three railroad bridges. This historic site is maintained by the Indiana County Parks Department.

Bow Ridge Area offers a loop trail that runs along the edge of a bluff overlooking the lake, a disabled accessible area for disabled access only. Another disabled accessible area is Virginia Farms. Permits for Bow Ridge may be obtained at the park office.

Hiking

Up river from the dam, 6,756 acres of reservoir land is leased to the Pennsylvania Game Commission for use as public hunting ground.

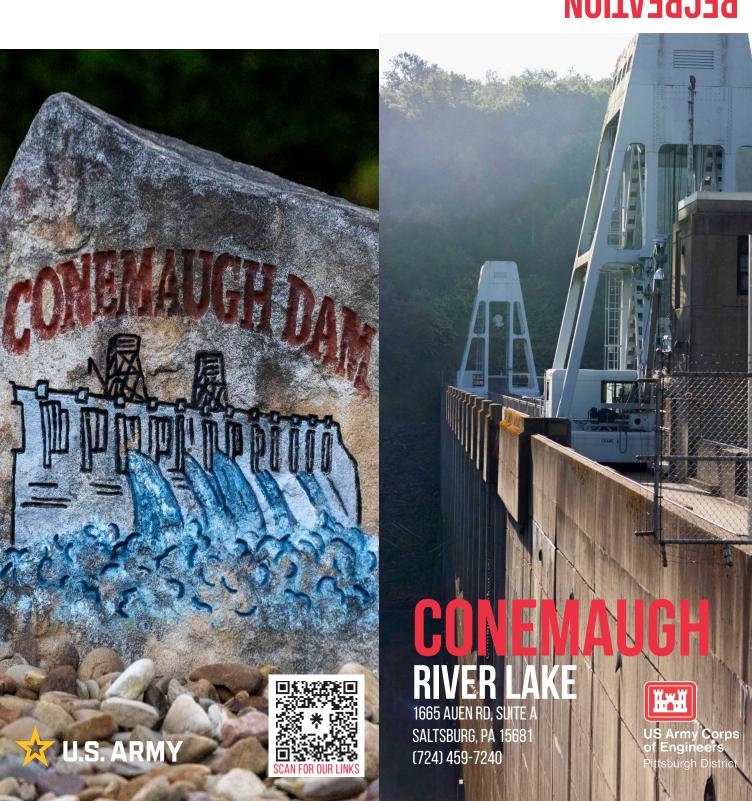
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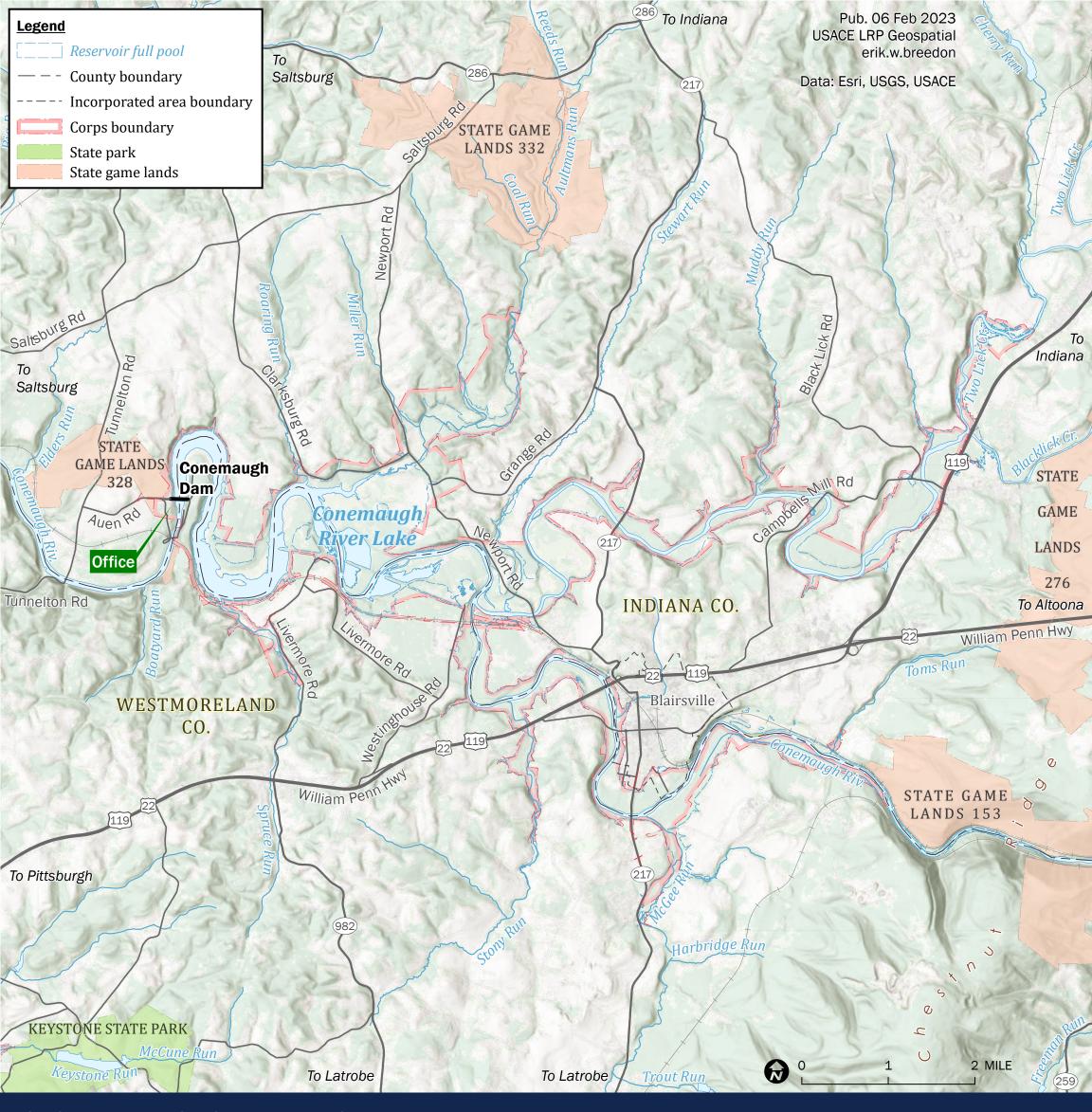
Lake fishermen have an excellent prospect of landing a largemouth base, perch, pan fish or the occasional musky or northern pike. The outflow below the dam has a variety of fish populations including walleye, perch, several bass species, catfish, panfish, gar and northern pike. There are several catfish, gar and northern pike. There are several malking paths that provide access to the outflow area.

Fishing

At the dam, visitors will find picnic pavilions, an extensive playground with a volleyball court and basketball court, nature trails, an outdoor fitness center and an information center. Pavilions can be rented from April through October at Recreation.gov. The information center contains exhibits devoted to flood management and the construction of the dam and the transportation history of the Conemaugh Valley. Organized groups can schedule private dam tours with the Park Asnger at the office. There are several access points to the 14-mile West Penn Trail along Conemaugh property.

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OBSERVE THESE SAFETY TIPS!

Water Hazards

Boat with caution! Be especially aware of the existence of underwater obstructions. In addition, floating debris may be at or near the lake surface due to fluctuating lake levels. Boaters should be watchful for these hazards; because of these floating and underwater threats, diving is discouraged.

Personal Flotation Device (PFD)

When boating, wearing your Personal Flotation Device is the best protection against drowning. U.S. Coast Guard approved PFDs are required if you are less than 13 years old or a non-swimmer. PFDs are also required on boats less than 16 feet in length, canoes, and kayaks. Know the rules before you go out on the water.

Fire Protection

The fire potential is generally high during the recreation season. Help prevent forest fires by obeying the No Open Fire regulation in effect.

Boaters

Be considerate of those in canoes or fishing at anchor.

Alcohol and Boating Don't Mix

Don't drink while operating a boat. Alcohol is involved in at least 50 percent of all drownings and is a major cause of death in recreational boating accidents.

Be Alert to Changing Weather/Lake Conditions

Storms can come on very quickly. If lightning is spotted, head for shore immediately and seek a safe location.

Anglers

Use a wading stick to check for sudden drop-offs in the water and extra balance.

Alcoholic Beverages

Regulations prohibit alcohol on U.S. Army Corps of Engineersmanaged lakes, lands, and waters. Visitors can find rules and regulations concerning the use of the reservoir in Title 36, Chapter III of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display throughout the recreation areas of the site.