

# WALLACE DAM



*Lake Oconee*

## LAND MANAGEMENT BRIEF

- Georgia Power owns a fee-simple strip of land along Lake Oconee that provides direct control of the shoreline for land management purposes. Georgia Power manages this land in compliance with the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) license, and with other applicable federal and state laws and regulations.
- The Wallace Dam Project has 374 miles of shoreline.
- The full pool elevation is 435 feet (ft) plant datum (PD). The project boundary is the 435-ft PD contour plus an additional buffer measured as metes and bounds or contour, depending on location around the reservoir. Larger bulk parcels are owned in the areas of the project works and the company's public recreation areas.
- There are approximately 23,500 acres of project lands inside the project boundary. Project lands provide a reservoir buffer for aesthetics, wildlife habitat, water quality protection, and recreation.
- Georgia Power owns and manages approximately 8,000 acres adjacent to project lands. The topography on this acreage offers excellent views of the reservoir and shoreline areas. These non-project lands are managed by Georgia Power as forests, in compliance with the Georgia Forestry Commission's Best Management Practices (BMPs). Georgia Power foresters and wildlife biologists work cooperatively to manage these lands for wildlife habitat, prescribed burning, identification of rare, threatened, endangered species, cultural resources, and control of invasive plant species.
- Georgia Power leases, at no cost, over 5,000 acres in and adjacent to project lands to the Georgia Department of Natural Resources for use as the Oconee Wildlife Management Area, which is managed for waterfowl habitat as well as hunting and other recreational purposes.
- There are over 3,500 parcels of shoreline area leased by residents for lake access (non-exclusive use). No residences, residential outbuildings, or permanent structures, other than permitted shoreline structures, are allowed within the project boundary.
- The shoreline is managed under Georgia Power's Shoreline Management Guidelines to ensure compliance with the FERC license and other applicable federal and state laws and regulations
- There are about 370 acres of U.S. Forest Service (USFS) lands within the project boundary, as well as additional USFS lands adjacent to the project.

**Summary:** Georgia Power provides management of the natural resources surrounding the project to benefit lake users as well as local fauna and flora. Cooperative efforts that involve Georgia Power, local and state agencies, and private entities assure the protection of the scenic, environmental, and recreational properties of the project.

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