

# WALLACE DAM



*Lake Oconee*

## TRIBAL CONSULTATION BRIEF

- Since the end of the last Ice Age, the Oconee River valley, including the Wallace Dam Project area, has served as an anchor for Native American cultures. Current Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) regulations require that federally recognized tribes be consulted to determine if there are concerns regarding the operation of the Wallace Dam Project and its effects on culturally or religiously significant resources.
- Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act and its implementing regulations (36 CFR 800) require that federally recognized tribes be consulted on undertakings that may affect resources to which they attach cultural and or religious significance. Although there are no federally recognized tribes active in the area today, there are tribes that have historical ties to the region.
- Based on information provided by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and FERC, four tribes were identified as possibly having an interest in consultation.
- In recognition of tribal sovereignty, consultation with the tribes is conducted on a government-to-government basis.
- While tribal consultation is technically between FERC and tribal governments, Georgia Power will play an active role in consultation as FERC's designated non-federal representative.

**Summary: Based on their historical ties to the region, tribes may have an interest in the Wallace Dam Project. Georgia Power looks forward to working with the tribes to explore the nature and extent of these interests during the consultation process.**

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