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Cagles Mill Reservoir still has room for storage; Record pool expected

Louisville, KY -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Cagles Mill Lake Reservoir, Poland, Ind. is currently at 689.08 feet m.s.l. (mean sea level) or 66 percent full as of 4pm Friday, June 13. The lake level has risen .47 foot in the last 10 hours, Corps officials report.

Cagles Mill Lake is part of an overall system of reservoirs managed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The system is designed to minimize flood damages by storing water caused by heavy rains until the rivers and streams are at levels that releases from the reservoirs will not cause additional flooding downstream. At this time Cagles Mill Lake is still providing flood damage reduction benefits.

Currently, rainfall and runoff from the lake's watershed flow into the lake. Water is released from the lake under controlled conditions which minimizes impacts to downstream areas. Cagles Mill Lake provides flood protection in the Eel and White River watershed. It provides protection for Bowling Green, Clay City and Jasonville, for example.

If the lake reaches its highest pool of 704, the lake will have reached its maximum storage capacity and it will be "full," however at this time only record pool level is potentially expected to be surpassed. Record pool was 690.4 feet in June, 1996.

Reservoirs are designed to hold a large capacity of water in order to limit damage from flooding, but when rainfall is widespread or localized; engineering solutions can not always completely manage flooding. Corps flood protection projects seek to minimize potential flood damages.

The dam is continually under surveillance, and it is operational and safe. The lake has provided nearly \$200 million in flood damage reduction benefits since it was completed in 1953.

For information on conditions in Indiana and the Ohio River Basin, go to the National Weather Service <http://www.erh.noaa.gov/er/ohrfc/>. For information on the Army Corps of Engineers Louisville District lakes levels, go to www.lrl.usace.army.mil. On the left hand margin of the home page, click on Lake/River Reports; then click on Daily Lake Reports in the center of the page.