

Press Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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How Union County's Proposal Will Affect Lake Tillery

Lake Tillery has become a topic of conversation among several residents in Montgomery, Stanley and Union Counties.

With the latest discussion of Union County's request to the state to use water from Lake Tillery as a drinking water supply for their residents, many near the lake are wondering how much more can Lake Tillery give? Currently, when Lake Tillery is at its highest elevation, it reaches 278 feet above sea level and during summer months can drop to a minimum elevation of 275 feet above sea level. Both levels are still optimal conditions for water sports and scenic views. But what impact will removing additional water have on the lake?

Union County hired local, experienced engineers and scientists to consider all of Lake Tillery's gifts and examine environmental impacts to ensure plants, wildlife and other natural resources would not be significantly impacted. Engineers also developed an extensive water modeling test to determine how Union County's request for water would affect lake levels. The lake was evaluated by looking at lake elevations Yadkin River flows from the past 50 years as reference points to calculate lake elevation estimates until 2050.

By using established data from Lake Tillery's history, results show the lake can provide Union County with water and lake levels will remain between 275-278 feet during normal conditions. But what about potential drought conditions? Many lake goers remember the worst drought on record during 1999-2002 that had everyone concerned the lake would no longer be able to provide all of the amenities that we have enjoyed over the years. Union County's water modeling test also determined the results of lake levels during a potential drought – which we all hope never happens



again. Even if the worst drought on record occurs again, the impact during only a one-month period could be up to nine inches as result of Union County's water use. The lake would still remain above normal minimum elevations required during summer months.

Union County understands and appreciates all that Lake Tillery has to offer and has made every effort to keep the natural resource at its optimal potential for property owners, residents, nature lovers, and future generations.

To learn more about the Yadkin Regional Water Supply project, visit www.yadkinwater.com.

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