



Website: lkcoalition.org
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Lake Keowee Coalition, Cane Creek Initiative

Background

Lake Keowee is a man-made reservoir formed in 1970 by Duke Energy. The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) issued a license to Duke Energy to operate and maintain Lake Keowee, not only for hydropower and cooling the Oconee Nuclear Generation Station, but also for recreation, scenic, and environmental purposes. Duke Energy is responsible for operating and maintaining the project for these designated purposes.

Current Issue

The Cane Creek region of Lake Keowee has not been monitored or maintained, and over the years, it has filled in with silt, debris, and sand, resulting in a significant reduction in depth. Water levels that were previously 26–40 feet deep are now between 0 and 3 feet, with sediment protruding above water frequently when levels are low. Testing reveals high levels of E. coli that live longer and grow in sediment. Additionally, there has been a negative impact on wildlife and aquatic life due to entrapment caused by the sediment. Furthermore, Cane Creek is no longer safe for navigation or recreational use, as many areas are now inaccessible by boat and are devoid of water in areas that were previously several feet deep in the main channel.

Who We Are

The Lake Keowee Coalition is a nonprofit organization dedicated to protecting, restoring, maintaining, and enhancing Lake Keowee in South Carolina. The Cane Creek Initiative is a collaborative effort to partner with responsible parties, organizations, and individuals to facilitate the restoration and maintenance of the Cane Creek area, ensuring its vitality for years to come.

How you can help

Visit us at lkcoalition.org and subscribe to receive updates on the Cane Creek Initiative. Reach out to us at info@lkcoalition.org for additional information or to learn how you can be part of the Lake Keowee Coalition. We look forward to working together to restore Cane Creek, Lake Keowee.