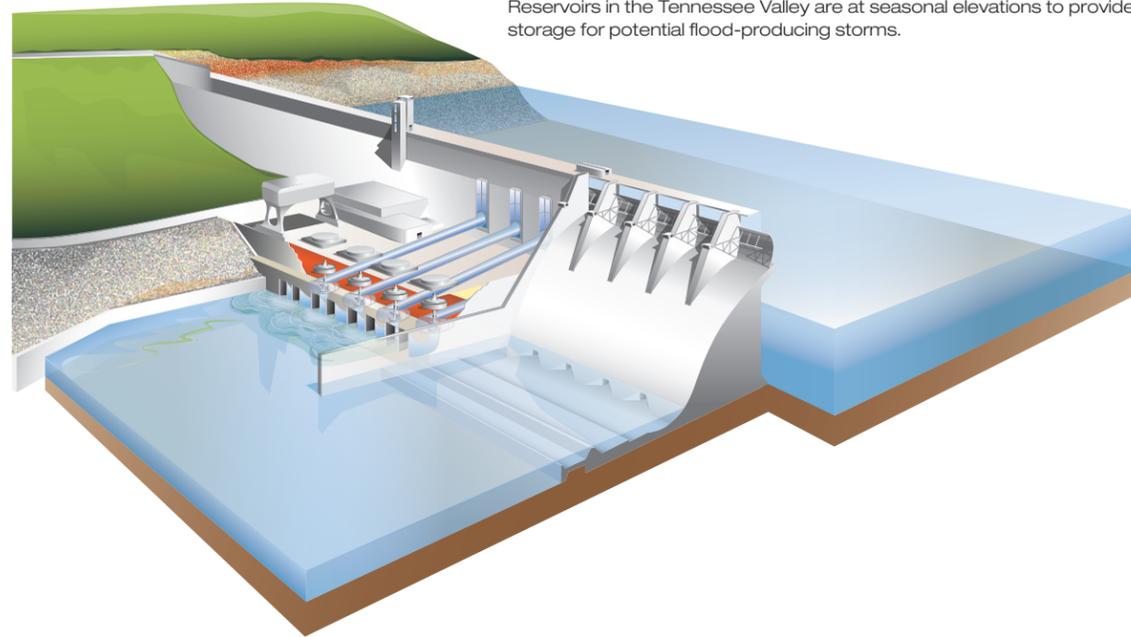


How TVA Reduces Flood Damages Along the Tennessee River System

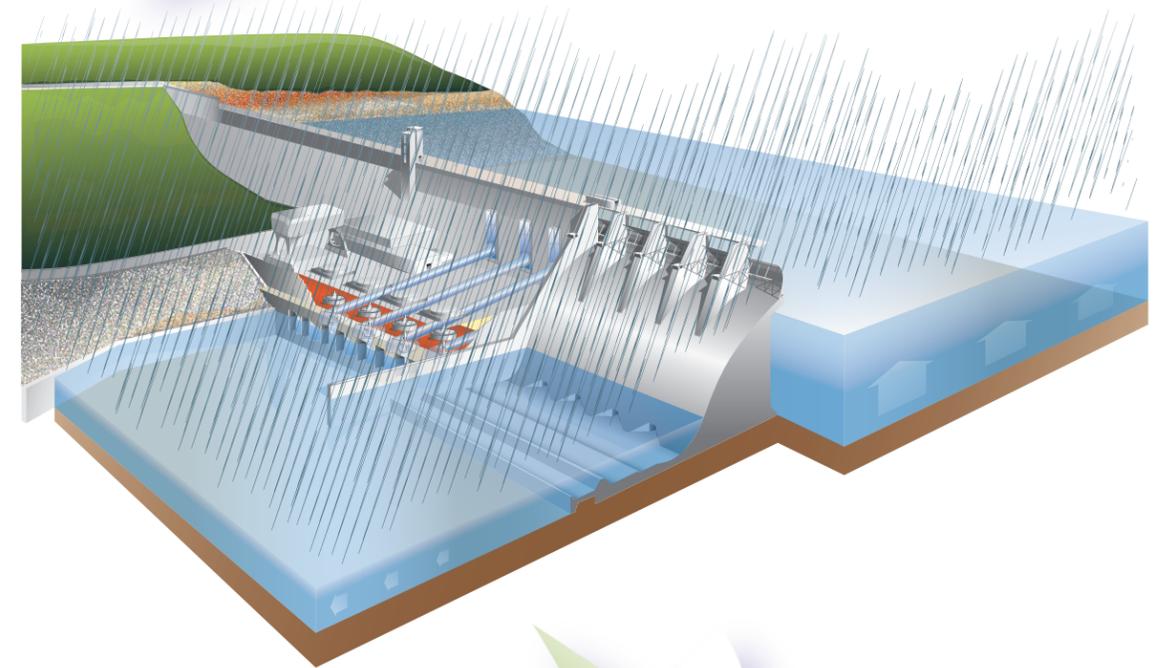
Reservoirs are at Ready State

Reservoirs in the Tennessee Valley are at seasonal elevations to provide storage for potential flood-producing storms.



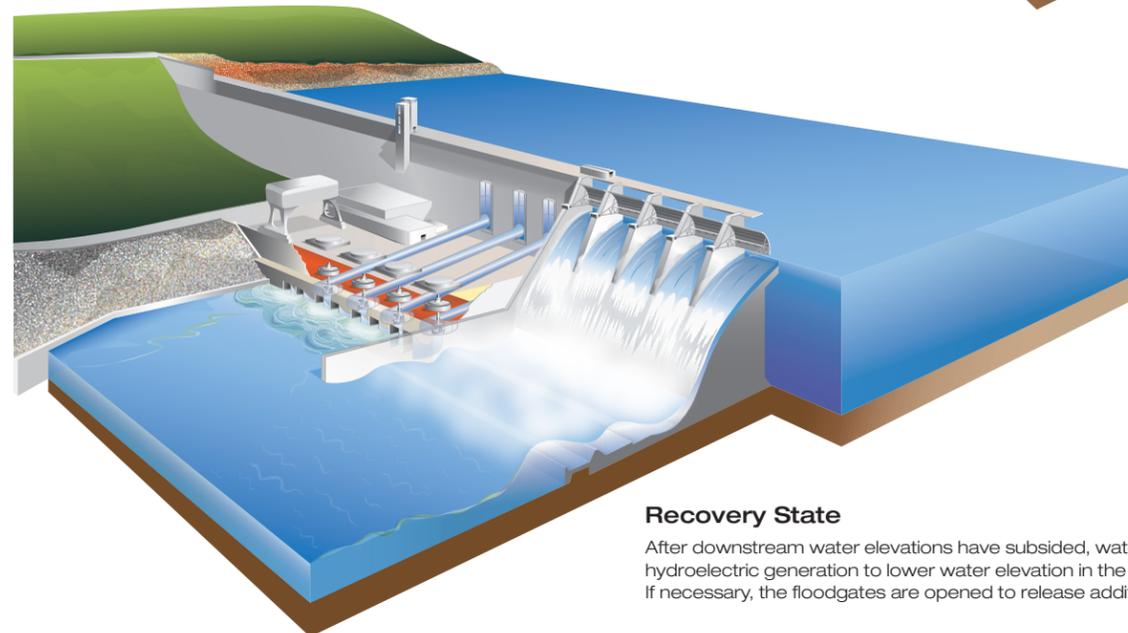
Flood-Damage-Reduction State

As rain and runoff occur, water releases from the dams are controlled to minimize downstream flooding.



Returning to Ready State

The cycle begins again when the reservoirs are returned to ready state and have adequate storage for the next storm.



Recovery State

After downstream water elevations have subsided, water releases are increased first through hydroelectric generation to lower water elevation in the reservoir and recover storage for the next storm. If necessary, the floodgates are opened to release additional water.

