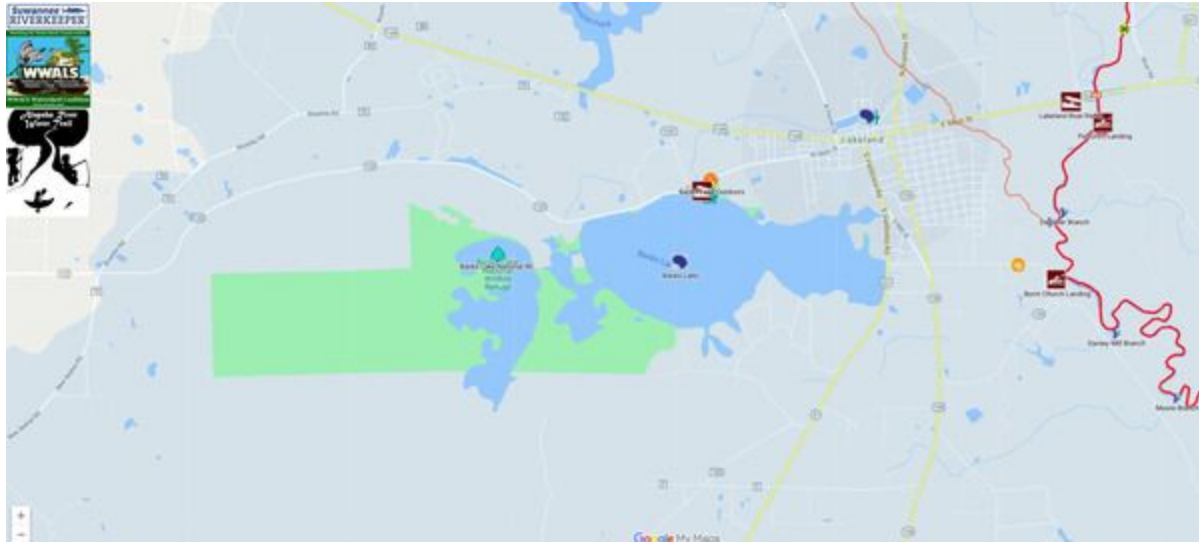


Banks Lake, changing its Designated Use to Recreational

- *Name and length of the waterbody.*

Banks Lake. 4,049 acres in Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge.

- *Location of the reach, shown on a map.*



- *Any 305(b)/303(d) impairment(s) &/or TMDL(s).*

MERCURY AND FISH CONSUMPTION GUIDELINES DUE TO MERCURY TMDL

http://epd.georgia.gov/sites/epd.georgia.gov/files/tmdl/TMDL_Implementation_Plans/SouthGA4_ProgramPlans/TMDLIP_SouthGA4_FCG_Hg_Y2002.pdf

- *Current users of the waterbody, including but not limited to*

- *businesses or industries,*

- The Lanier-Lakeland Chamber of Commerce advertises Banks Lake as a “Fisherman’s Paradise” first among Parks & Trails. <http://www.lakelandchamber.org/parks-trails.htm>
- Banks Lake Outdoors provides supplies and rents boats at Banks Lake Boat Ramp. https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Banks_Lake/visit/visitor_activities.html
“Night fishing is allowed. Fishing tournaments require a special use permit and privately-sponsored bass tournaments are held frequently year-round. Largemouth bass is the most popular sport fish, and ten-pounders are occasionally caught. Other favorites are speckled perch (crappie), bream (bluegill), and catfish.”
- WWALS organizes monthly Full Moon paddles on Banks Lake; see <http://wwals.net/events-2/outings-events/>
- See also attached letter from Georgia Beer Co.

- *parks within the waterbody and watershed,*

Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge is managed as part of the Okefenokee Complex by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, along with Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge.
https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Okefenokee/About_the_Complex.html

- *and any “blue trails” on the water for water-craft recreation activities.*

The WWALS Alapaha River Water Trail includes Banks Lake. <http://wwals.net/maps/alapaha-water-trail/>

- *Letters of support from:*

- *dischargers, domestic &/or industrial, to the reach.*

See next bullet item (stakeholders) for Lanier County.

- *municipalities, county Board of Commissioners, other affected governmental bodies, and other stakeholders who live in the watershed.*

All those who endorsed the Alapaha River Water Trail, especially Lanier County. See Alapaha River.

Georgia Tourism:

<https://www.exploregeorgia.org/lakeland/outdoors-nature/bird-watching/banks-lake-national-wildlife-refuge>

- *Investments, both completed and pending, for improved use of the waterbody such as boat ramps, parks, trails, or drinking water systems. Include the amount of the investment, as well as who funded the project(s) and for what purpose.*

“Facilities at Banks Lake NWR include restrooms, boat ramp, short walking trail, boardwalk and platform, and accessible fishing dock. Night fishing is permitted, and there is no launch fee. The concession operation, Banks Lake Outdoors, has canoe and kayak rentals and a place to buy your bait before you launch your boat!”

https://www.fws.gov/refuge/Banks_Lake/visit/visitor_activities.html