



Kayak the Nile  
C/O Nile River Explorers  
P.O. Box 277  
Jinja  
Uganda  
East Africa  
+256 (0)772880322  
[info@kayakthenile.com](mailto:info@kayakthenile.com)  
[www.kayakthenile.com](http://www.kayakthenile.com)

Press Release

Bujagali Dam, White Nile Uganda

Construction has begun, finally, on the site of the new Bujagali Dam. The work will take a minimum of 4-5 years to complete.

Link 1: <http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/12/582543>

Link 2: <http://www.newvision.co.ug/D/8/12/584793>

Link to Map Overview:

<http://www.kayakthenile.com/bujagalidammap.jpg>

When completed, the New Dam will wipe out arguably the best 45minute stretch of white water in the World.

The initial construction requires a cofferdam to be built across 'The Ugly Sisters' channel. We are likely to lose this run within the next two months. Furthermore the dam company has started blasting for rock beside the 'Total Gunga' rapid and during blasting they have established an exclusion zone stretching from 200metres below 'Bujagali Falls' to the top of Silverback.

We are working with the dam company to maintain access to this top section of the river for as long as it is safe to run. They have very kindly limited blasting until the afternoons for the moment, which permits rafting and kayaking to continue. During the blasting period we ask that all independent kayakers register with Kayak the Nile or Nile River Explorers and check the blasting schedule daily. We will post blasting-schedule notices both on-line and in the NRE bar.

We often receive less than 12 hours notice, so Kayakers please be aware of this, and ask a member of staff! The dam company do have the power to close this section with immediate effect if we do not adhere to the exclusion zone regulations. It is important that all kayakers stay off this section during the restricted periods. This will help to

maintain the current good relationship with the dam company.

If we can maintain this good relationship we should have access to the main stretch from 'Bujagali Falls' to Silverback for around two more years.

The Nile Freestyle Festival 2007 will take place this year from November 30th to December 2nd. It is possible that this could see the last-ever Bujagali- Hairy Lemon Extreme Race. This has to be the toughest race in the World and we are hoping for a huge turnout, to make sure that this 'section' goes down in history as it should. With discounted flights available from Brussels Airlines (details on [www.kayakthenile.com](http://www.kayakthenile.com)) There is no excuse to miss it!!

For more information and updates on the dam progress, log-on to [www.kayakthenile.com](http://www.kayakthenile.com). For festival details and flight discount details, log-on to [http://www.kayakthenile.com/events\\_freestyle07.htm](http://www.kayakthenile.com/events_freestyle07.htm)

It must be stressed that the new dam should not affect the levels of the lower sections of the River. We should still have 'Nile Special' and with luck, and a bit of higher water, 'Malalu' will again be available.

It will be a tragedy to lose the top section, but Uganda does desperately need power for economic development.

If you want the chance to paddle the top section again, then get here fast!

Jamie Simpson

Kayak the Nile  
[info@kayakthenile.com](mailto:info@kayakthenile.com)