

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Lack of Rainfall Affecting West Point Lake Level

The U. S. Army Corps of Engineers Water Management Section in Mobile, Alabama, stated Tuesday that the reservoir level at West Point Lake continues to decline because of ongoing drought conditions across the Chattahoochee-Flint river basin. Inflows into the reservoir have decreased dramatically, causing a decline in the level to near 628 feet above mean sea level (msl). The full pool level is 635' msl. The normal winter pool level is 628' msl. Water management officials project the level will reach 627' msl by the end of November.

West Point Lake Operations Manager Steve Logan asks boaters to use caution while using the reservoir. "All of our boat launching ramps are usable at the projected reservoir level, and most potential hazards are well marked," he said. "A few of our courtesy docks at the ramps may be closed because their walkways are too steep for safe use when the reservoir is low." Boat launching ramps are usable, even at the lower reservoir level, at over 20 locations around the lake, he said.

Navigation buoys are in place on the reservoir to mark the boating channel. Many of these buoys are equipped with lights to make them visible at night. Shoal markers on posts are in place to mark shallow areas near the boating channels. Boaters are asked to proceed with caution, operate at a safe speed, and always wear life jackets. Lake users are encouraged to notify the Corps' West Point Project Management Office at 706-645-2937, if significant, unmarked obstructions or navigation hazards are found.

For current information regarding the status of boat ramps and courtesy docks, as well as projected reservoir levels, visit the West Point Project home page on the web at http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/West-Point-Lake/ or contact the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers West Point Project Management Office at 706/645-2937.