

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
September 20, 2007

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Lanier Boaters Must Use Caution

The water level at Lake Lanier continues to decline as drought conditions worsen. As of Thursday, September 20, 2007 the lake level was at 1059.89 feet above mean sea level (msl). This is approximately 11.1 feet below the lake's full level of 1071. Without significant rainfall the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers predicts Lanier will fall an additional 4 to 5 feet by October 19th.

The Corps advises boaters to take extra precautions due to lower lake levels. Boaters should be especially observant for underwater obstructions such as shallow areas, rocks, stumps and trees. Permanent lake hazard markers are now high and dry and temporary orange ball floats are being placed on emerging hazards as they are discovered. Boaters are urged to contact the Corps at 770-945-9531 to report unmarked hazards.

With the lake down over 11 feet boating at night is extremely dangerous and is not recommended. Boaters are urged to plan their trip during daylight hours by studying navigation maps and using GPS mapping systems as well as depth finders. Reduced speed on the lake is also recommended.

Currently only 14 of the Corps boat ramps are still usable. Ramps still usable as of Thursday include:

Balus Creek	Big Creek	Bolding Mill
East Bank	Keith's Bridge	Little Hall
Little River	Old Federal	Sardis Creek
Shoal Creek	Tidwell	Vann's Tavern
Thompson Bridge	Little Ridge	

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