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Drought's Impact Felt at Castaic Lake as Drawdown Affects Boating Recreation

SACRAMENTO – The water level in Castaic Lake in northern Los Angeles County continues to fall during California's drought and is now too low for boaters to use the lake's west boat ramp.

The lake provides recreational activities for Southern California and, as a key component of the State Water Project (SWP), serves as a reservoir for water that's distributed to nearby local communities.

The continued lowering of Castaic Lake's level will affect recreation in other ways:

- Boating navigational and safety hazards will be increased
- Boating capacity will be reduced from 500 to 300 boats
- Surface area of the arms of the lake will shrink, which will detract from the boating experience
- Bank angling will be lost

The upper lake's east ramp will remain open to boating, and launches there will not be curtailed by the drawdown. The lower lake's launches are being limited to non-motorized boats and to motorized boats that use only their trolling motors.

Boaters are advised to call the Castaic Lake office if they have questions about boating operations at the lake: (661) 257-4050.

For simple, everyday water conservation tips, visit <http://SaveOurH2O.org>.

