

News Release

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For Release: <u>Immediate 4 July 07</u> Phone: <u>(817) 886-1312</u>

Corps of Engineers reports lakes are operating as designed

FORT WORTH, Texas – Reservoir Control staff with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth

District, are working 24 hours a day to monitor the 25 lakes in Texas that the District operates. All Corps lakes are operating as designed and all dams are structurally sound.

All eight Corps lakes in the Trinity River Basin have risen into the flood pool. These lakes include Benbrook, Joe Pool, Ray Roberts, Lewisville, Grapevine, Lavon, Bardwell, and Navarro Mills. The flood pools of Lewisville Lake and Ray Roberts Lake are 100 percent full. At Ray Roberts, the spillway is perched 5 feet above the flood pool at 640.5 feet. When the lake level is above elevation 640.5 feet, the Corps is required to make surcharge releases in the amount equal to inflow. If the rate of inflow exceeds the capacity of the outlet works, the floodgates must be opened to their full operating capacity. The last time this situation occurred was in May 1990. Water is being released at Ray Roberts at the rate of 4,000 cubic feet per second (cfs). A minimal amount of flood water is going over the spillway at Lewisville Lake but no flooding is expected as a result. As the main stem of the Trinity River at Dallas and below recedes into its banks, releases from Lewisville Lake will be initiated. Grapevine Lake, the smallest of the three lakes, is 57 percent into the flood pool. All these lakes will probably have some flood water the entire month of July.

In the Brazos River Basin, all nine Corps lakes are in the flood pool. These lakes include Whitney, Waco, Aquilla, Proctor, Belton, Stillhouse Hollow, Georgetown, Granger, and Somerville. Proctor, Belton and Stillhouse are filled to at least 65 percent of their flood pools. Flood releases were initiated on Saturday, June 30, from both Belton and Stillhouse. Releases from Proctor Dam were started June 29 at the rate of 3,000 cfs. The high flows from Possum Kingdom Lake have raised Whitney Lake to elevation 554.5 feet. It is forecasted to rise to elevation 560 feet (27 feet above normal) by this weekend. The high lake level may force the closing of several bridges at the upper end of the lake. Currently, there is approximately 30,000 cfs flowing through the city of Waco due to discharges from Whitney, Waco and Aquilla Lakes. This high flow may continue for several weeks in order to lower these lakes.

Residents are encouraged to use extreme caution in the areas near lakes and rivers and to have a safe $July\ 4^{th}$.

For current conditions, call the lake office nearest you or visit http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil/drought/drought.htm.

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Check out the Fort Worth District Web Site at www.swf.usace.army.mil or Reservoir Control's Web Site at http://www.swf-wc.usace.army.mil.

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