

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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Boaters Encouraged to Use Caution on West Point Lake

MOBILE, Ala.—The US Army Corps of Engineers announced today as the water level in West Point Lake continues to decline during the ongoing drought, many of the boat launching ramps are quickly becoming unusable. In addition, shoals, "humps", rocks, and other items normally several feet underwater are now exposed.

Five popular boat ramps around the lake, however, will continue to remain usable even when the water level reaches elevation 622' above mean sea level as projected in the near future. These ramps are located at Rocky Point Recreation Area and Dewberry Park on the Alabama side of the reservoir, and Horace King Park, Yellowjacket Recreation Area, and Sunny Point Park on the Georgia side. The deeper ramps are identified with "Extended Ramp" painted at their entrances.

Boaters are reminded of the need to use caution and be observant when using the lake during this time of unusually low water levels. Most hazards on the lake are well marked with buoys and shoal markers. Park Rangers are checking the lake periodically and marking newly emerged hazards when they are found. Proceed with caution, operate at a safe speed and always wear a personal flotation device (life jacket).

Up to date information on current and projected water levels, boat ramp availability, park operating schedules and related topics can be found at the West Point Project home page on the Internet: http://www.sam.usace.army.mil/westpt/.

To speak to a park ranger about any matter related to West Point Lake, call 706-645-2937.