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Recreation Facility Impacts Due to Low Water

Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania – This year's dry summer weather has resulted in lower than average lake levels at some of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers multi-purpose reservoirs in the Pittsburgh District. The amount of water entering these reservoirs has been insufficient to compensate for the amount being released from the reservoirs to accomplish the congressionally authorized project purposes of downstream water quality and quantity.

The lake levels at Kinzua Dam/Allegheny Reservoir, East Branch Clarion River Lake, Woodcock Creek Lake, Youghiogheny River Lake, Tygart Lake, Stonewall Jackson Lake, Berlin Lake, and Michael J. Kirwan Dam and Reservoir are all currently below historical averages. The current lake levels typically occur in September instead of August. Even though these lake levels are below average, all of the reservoirs have sufficient water available to provide low water regulation. However, the early lower lake levels are impacting some recreation facilities. At this time, a few recreation facilities at Youghiogheny River Lake are already out of service and recreation impacts are either already being experienced or will soon be noticed at Allegheny Reservoir, Berlin Lake and East Branch Clarion River Lake.

At [Youghiogheny River Lake](#), the beach and boat launch ramp at Mill Run and the beach at Tub Run are out of service. The next facility to be affected will be the Jockey Hollow Boat Launch. It is expected that this ramp will be out of service for trailered boats before the end of August. Up-to-date information regarding facilities at Youghiogheny can be obtained by calling their 24-hour recorded message at 814-395-3166.

At [Kinzua Dam/Allegheny Reservoir](#), all recreation facilities are currently available. However, if current trends continue, it is likely that access to docks at the Onoville Marina will be affected by low water levels later this week. Up-to-date information regarding facility closures at Kinzua can be obtained by calling their 24-hour recorded message at 814-726-0164. Call 814-723-5150 for information on Allegheny National Forest recreation facilities and 716-354-2615 for information on Onoville Marina.

At [Berlin Lake](#), the Marko's Landing Boat Launch at Les's Bait Shop is out of service to trailered boats over 20 feet. It remains available for use by those with car-top boats and smaller trailered boats. Up-to-date information regarding facilities at Berlin can be obtained by calling their 24-hour recorded message at 330-547-5445.

At [East Branch Clarion River Lake](#), the Elk State Park Boat Launch at Instanter is also out of service to most trailered boats. Those with smaller car-top type boats are still able to use the launch ramp. Elk State Park can be reached at 814-965-2646. Up-to-date information regarding Corps of Engineers facilities at East Branch can be obtained by calling the lake project office at 814-965-2065.

Although there are many recreational opportunities available at Pittsburgh District lakes, receding lake levels may impact additional facilities. Visitors are encouraged to call the 24-hour recorded message or the lake project office for the most up-to-date information on available recreation facilities.

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