

High Water / Lake Level

As you are probably aware, we are experiencing record high lake levels due to the prodigious rain event of the weekend, in excess of 6 inches.

Lake Cypress Springs has a fixed spillway structure called a morning glory. That means that when the level of the lake is above normal pool, 378 feet MSL, the water flows over the spillway and exits the reservoir. How fast the water can go over the spillway is dictated by the pressure of the water behind it in Lake Cypress Springs and the pressure of the water downstream in Lake Bob Sandlin.

Being a fixed structure means that the District cannot actively do anything to speed up the process.

At the current elevations of both reservoirs, the Lake Cypress Springs spillway is passing 1001.67 CFS (cubic feet per second) or 1,986.79 acre feet per day of water. As the lake level decreases, the pressure will also decrease and, as a result, the discharge rate will also decrease.

At the same time the spillway is releasing water, all the creeks that feed the lake are continuing to put water into the reservoir. At this time, we do not have a method to predict inflows into the reservoir. The current hydraulic model only predicts the reduction in lake level assuming no inflows. This model is showing approximately 3 days without the inflows to return to normal level. The inflows, active creeks feeding the lake, could increase that amount of time by several days. We will be continuing to gather data and will post revised predictions on the District's website. Please be advised that this information and prediction is for informational purposes only and is generated with the data that is available.

To protect people and property, the District has closed all boat ramps on the lake until the water level can come down to a safe level. We are not able to close access from private boathouses, but I would encourage all homeowners to refrain from getting out on the lake until the level comes back down. The fuel facility at the marina is also temporarily out of service as well until the lake level comes down.

The high water also causes a lot of watercraft to get loose from their moorings and drift around the lake. Please assist the District in locating and returning these watercraft by either reporting yours missing or any that have drifted up on your lake lot. You can make the reports to the District at 903.537.4536 or at fcwd@fcwd.com.