

CAUTION ADVISORY

Be Aware of Hazards and Changing Water Level at Castaic Lake

The County of Los Angeles Department of Parks and Recreation and California Department of Water Resource advise all visitors to Castaic Lake in Los Angeles County to stay safe during fluctuating water levels by being aware and keeping away from marked and unmarked hazards in the water.

Hazard Buoys will have a diamond shape on the buoy warning of hazards, such as rocks, shoals, or turbulent waters.

Always proceed with caution and keep a safe distance. Never assume that every hazard will be marked by a buoy.

For questions, please contact Castaic Lake State Recreation Area at 661-257-4050.





Castaic Dam Modernization Program Update – March 2021

As part of the Castaic Dam Modernization Program, the California Department of Water Resources is performing seismic retrofits to the tower access bridge and bridge piers at Castaic Lake in Los Angeles County. The Castaic Dam Modernization Project began in Fall of 2019 with investigations that are expected to be completed by 2023. The investigations will identify seismic or other risks to the dam that may require further work under the Castaic Dam Modernization Program to ensure public safety and a reliable water supply.

In Spring of 2021, DWR plans to initiate a temporary drawdown of Castaic Lake, reaching a low elevation of 1,380 feet above mean sea level (this equals 135 feet lower than the maximum operating water elevation) in Fall 2021, and refilling of Castaic Lake by Spring of 2022. The temporary drawdown is needed to access the bridge piers for their seismic retrofit. The actual construction effort is scheduled to occur between Summer 2021 to Spring 2022.

Other Project Highlights

In March 2021, DWR completed field work for the Castaic Dam Spillway Geologic Investigation. This work included drilling twenty holes within and around the spillway to assess the complex geologic conditions underlying the structure. Instrumentation was also installed to enhance the monitoring of the structure and its foundation.

In April 2021, DWR plans to install additional piezometers in Castaic Dam's left abutment. These instruments will improve the monitoring of groundwater conditions in the left abutment and replace aging instruments.

Construction equipment, such as drill rigs and heavy machinery, will be used to perform the work. Localized noise and increased activity at the site are expected.

For more information about the Castaic Dam Modernization Program, go to <https://water.ca.gov/Programs/State-Water-Project/SWP-Facilities/Southern/Castaic-Dam-Modernization> or email SWPdamsafety@water.ca.gov