



# NEWS

GUADALUPE-BLANCO RIVER AUTHORITY  
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## GBRA Hydro Lakes Closed to Public Use Until February 17

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SEGUIN-... In a resolution issued and signed last Thursday by Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) general manager Bill West, hydroelectric lakes Dunlap, McQueeney, Placid, Meadow (Nolte), Gonzales (H-4) and Lake Wood (H-5) in Comal, Guadalupe and Gonzales counties will remain closed to the public until 8:00 a.m. on February 17, 2005. This will enable GBRA and lake associations to mark and remove debris from the November 2004 flood event.

“We are looking forward to completing the debris removal and reopening the lakes for public use,” according to GBRA director of project development David Welsch, “Lake inspections were completed last week in cooperation with local county and city officials, and showed substantially less debris than the 2002 flood event. Flood debris items are in the process of being marked with buoys for removal,” said Welsch. “Boat ramps and other access points will also be posted with advisory ‘Know Your Lake’ signs. Since federal funds are not available for this clean up, we’re asking local residents to do their share by cleaning along their property lines. We have had excellent cooperation from the associations,” Welsch said.

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According to GBRA Hydro system manager Alan Ognoskie, Lake Placid will remain low until flood related damage can be repaired. Ognoskie stated that the first phase of repairing the gates in the "down" position could be completed by mid-April. At this time the gates could be raised, allowing water to be impounded in the lake and lake use would be allowed. A second phase of repairs would continue with the gates in the "up" position and last another 12-16 weeks.

The GBRA resolution also prohibits the use of all watercraft, whether motorized or not, on these hydroelectric lakes. The resolution does not apply to watercraft operated for emergency purposes by local, state or federal agencies or for other authorized emergency purposes, or under temporary use permits issued by GBRA.