



Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority
933 E. Court Street, Seguin TX 78155
www.gbra.org

Page 1 of 1
July 06, 2011

Lake Dunlap to be Lowered for Repairs to Dam

For more information

LaMarriol Smith, GBRA, (830) 379-5822, lsmith@gbra.org

SEGUIN — Late Sunday evening, July 10, 2011, Guadalupe-Blanco River Authority (GBRA) hydroelectric crews will begin lowering the level of Lake Dunlap so that the lake will be the necessary 18 to 24 inches down by Monday, July 11, to begin repairs to the dam.

Initially, repairs to the dam would have commenced earlier. On May 18, the GBRA's Board of Directors had authorized GBRA's general manager to enter into an agreement with the lowest project bidder to conduct repairs on the dam at Lake Dunlap. However, after having met with Preserve Lake Dunlap Association board members, GBRA staff adjusted the schedule, allowing the repair work to commence July 11, 2011, and continuing for an approximate 60- to 90-day period.

James Murphy, GBRA's executive manager of Water Resources and Utility Operations, said that GBRA staff has a myriad of factors to consider in scheduling such repairs, including but not limited to:

the condition of the gates on the 80+ year-old structure,
low flow conditions that are more conducive to making repairs in a safe manner,
manpower,
work conditions,
the schedule of repairs on the next hydroelectric dam given fiscal year budgeting,
fisheries and recreation, and
maintaining safe drinking water supplies.

"Recreation may not be ideal on all areas of Lake Dunlap, so lake users should exercise caution while the lake level is lowered," Murphy explained. "We recognize that a lot of lake residents remain displeased with our repair schedule, but we still have a responsibility with respect to safety to the community and safety for work crews."

"The intent of initially adjusting the schedule was to give lake residents the full enjoyment of recreational activities throughout the month of June, as well as over the Memorial Day and Independence Day holidays," Murphy said, adding, "We will continue to try to take positive steps in our efforts to be good stewards of the hydro lakes, and good partners working with the residents along the affected hydro lakes."

The GBRA was established by the Texas Legislature in 1933 as a water conservation and reclamation district. GBRA provides stewardship for the water resources in its 10-county statutory district, which begins near the headwaters of the Guadalupe and Blanco rivers, ends at San Antonio Bay, and includes Kendall, Comal, Hays, Caldwell, Guadalupe, Gonzales, DeWitt, Victoria, Calhoun, and Refugio counties.