Public Information: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Portland District P.O. Box 2946 Portland, Oregon 97208-2946 http://www.nwp.usace.army.mil

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2009



# Fall Creek Lake, Oregon

# TO ENJOY A SAFE OUTING OBSERVE THESE SAFETY TIPS

### **BOATING**

Wear a personal flotation device (PFD), and observe posted boating speeds at all times.

### **WATER SKIING**

Have two people in the tow boat, one to drive and one to watch the skier. Avoid skiing near swimmers and fishermen. ALWAYS wear a life jacket when skiing and NEVER ski after dusk.

### **FISHING**

Stay clear of boat channels and swimming areas. While trolling, watch the water ahead for boats, swimmers and underwater obstacles.

#### SWIMMING

Use the buddy system. Swim only in posted swimming areas away from docks and boating areas.

#### **UNDERWATER HAZARDS**

Floating logs, submerged stumps and rocks are present in the lake. Be especially watchful for obstructions near the shoreline.

### **SMALL CRAFT WARNINGS**

Dangerous waves can build up suddenly. Stay out of open waters when winds become threatening.

# **SEAPLANE INSTRUCTIONS**

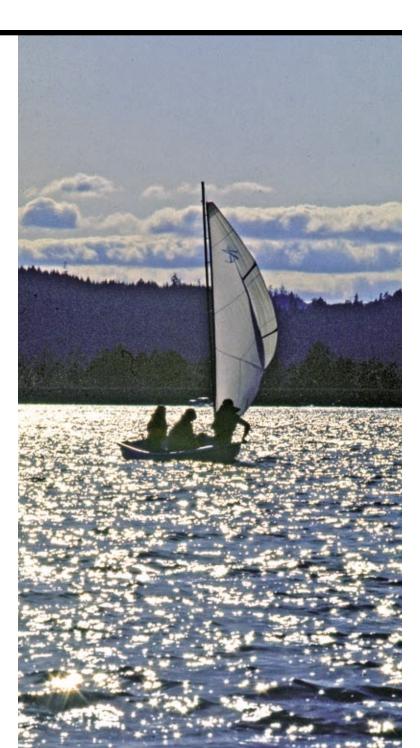
Please exercise caution - heavy boat traffic may be encountered when landing on the lake. Refer to Seaplane Operations at Corps Lakes for specific regulations.

#### **FIRE PREVENTION**

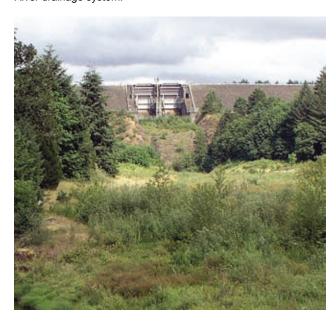
The fire potential is generally high during the recreation season. Help prevent forest fires by putting out camp fires completely and disposing of all refuse in trash cans. Build fires only in designated fire rings.

Under the Archeological Resources Protection Act of 1979, it is illegal to excavate or remove artifacts from federal land. Violators are subject to a fine of not more than \$100,000, imprisonment of not more than five years, and forfeiture of all equipment (including vehicles) used in connection with a violation.

Federal rules and regulations concerning the use of areas are set forth in Title 36, Chaper III of the Code of Federal Regulations and are on display in the areas of the project most frequently used by the public.



Fall Creek Lake, located 25 miles southeast of Eugene, is operated by the Corps of Engineers as part of a system of thirteen multi-purpose dams and reservoirs that make up the Willamette Valley Project. These dams and reservoirs work together for the purposes of flood damage reduction, hydropower generation, irrigation, recreation, fish and wildlife enhancement, and downstream water quality improvement within the Willamette River drainage system.



#### **Dam Operations**

Fall Creek Dam is a rockfill structure with a gated concrete spillway and outlet works for regulating lake levels. The dam was completed in 1966 at a cost of \$22 million. Since then, it has prevented more than \$2.5 billion in potential flood damages. During flood season, the dams hold back water to regulate downstream flows. During summer and fall, the cool, clean water that is slowly released from the dams improves downstream water quality.

## Recreation

The scenic 1,582 acre lake with its 22 miles of forested shoreline is a popular destination for fishing, boating, water skiing, swimming, camping and picnicking. Most of the recreation areas around the lake are operated by the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation, 541-937-1173.

### Fish and Wildlife

The lake and shoreline are managed to provide habitat for a wide variety of wildlife including waterfowl, upland game birds, song birds, bald eagles, osprey, black-tailed deer and many other species.

To mitigate impacts to salmon and steelhead caused by the dams, the Corps of Engineers built the Willamette Fish Hatchery and a fish collection facility at the base of Fall Creek Dam. Fish collected at the facility are transported back to the hatchery or released above Fall Creek Dam to access upstream spawning habitat. The fish facilities are operated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, with funds provided by the Corps and the State of Oregon.

# **Project Data**

### **Fall Creek Lake**

	Measure	Metric
Dam		
Length	5,100 ft	1,554.5 m
Height	180 ft	54.9 m
Elevation (NGVD*)	839 ft	255.7 m
Lake		
Length	6.8 mi	10.9 km
Area when full	1,820 ac	736.5 ha

<sup>\*</sup> NGVD National Geodetic Vertical Datum (Mean Sea Level)





