>> The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District

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News Release

(HOLDREGE, Neb.) — The Central Nebraska Public Power and Irrigation District plans to lower water levels at two of its regulating reservoirs this fall in preparation for maintenance projects at hydroelectric plants below the reservoirs.

The water level at Jeffrey Lake will begin to decline on Sept. 11 to an elevation about seven feet below normal operating levels. The reservoir south of Brady, Neb., will be down for several weeks and will be back to normal levels by Oct. 31.

The public boat ramp at Jeffrey Lake will be out of service during this period.

Johnson Lake's water levels will begin to drop on Oct. 1 to an elevation around 2,610 feet above sea level (eight feet below current levels), and then be back to normal levels by Oct. 31.

In addition, a smaller decline in Johnson Lake levels is planned for early December before the lake returns to normal winter operating levels around Dec. 10.

Water levels at Plum Creek Canyon Lake and Midway Lake will be somewhat lower than normal because of the reduced flow of water through the Supply Canal system, but the lakes will not decline as much as Johnson and Jeffrey lakes.

The maintenance projects will include upgrades to protection and control equipment at the Jeffrey, Johnson No. 1 and Johnson No. 2 hydroplants.

While the lakes are down, cabin-owners who may wish to perform shoreline maintenance are reminded to contact Central to obtain the necessary permits prior to initiating such projects.

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Aug. 31, 2017

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