

## Fern Ridge Water Levels and Moorage Proration, Credit, and Refund Public Information Meeting Summary

Dustin Bengtson, Deputy Operations Project Manager from the Army Corps of Engineers (ACE) presented information about current water levels at Fern Ridge. Key Points from his remarks:

- The ACE operates their facilities, between the months of November and February, at minimum pool so that flood storage capacity can be provided during the winter months
  - Then, in February, they begin the slow/gradual progression of water into the reservoir. This gets the levels back up to “Conservation Storage” levels.
- This has been an exceptionally dry year. It is precipitation (rainfall), not snowpack that drives refill at Fern Ridge. Precipitation this year is down about 60% from normal levels.
- Latest forecast for lake levels show that the lake is expected to refill to levels between 370’ to 372’ by late May or early June. This is approximately 1.5’ – 3.5’ below the high water level.
- ACE’s plan for outflow of Fern Ridge is 50 cfs for now until mid-July and then reducing to 30 cfs from again in mid-July.
- During low-water years, like this one, please be sure to be mindful and careful to watch for increased debris in the lake or risks of hitting items low in the lake.

Dave Stockdale, Sr. Parks Analyst from Lane County Parks (LCP), presented the criteria for Moorage Proration, Credit, or Refund for this year. The detailed criteria are request form is available on the Lane County Parks website, Marina & Moorage Information page.

- LCP presented the criteria for a prorated refund/credit, or full refund or credit:
  - Any type of refund will be on a boat-by-boat and a slip-by-slip basis
  - Boats with a draft equal to or greater than 3.8’ at Richardson and 4.1’ at Orchard Point are eligible for a full refund
  - Boats with a draft between 3.2’ and 3.7’ at Richardson and 3.7’ and 4.2’ at Orchard Point are eligible for a 33% refund.
  - All other boats/slips are not eligible for a refund.
  - Special circumstances for each boat owner, such as inadequate or oversized launching trailers for low-water, extended rudders, etc. may be eligible for a refund after review of the request form, but are not guaranteed a refund due to not meeting the criteria.
    - Boat owners with a special circumstance are encouraged to fill out the request form for review
  - Only those who have submitted an official request form will be considered for a refund.
    - All request forms are due to the Lane County Parks office no later than Wednesday, May 29<sup>th</sup>.  
No other requests will be considered.
- Specific circumstance questions that may be relevant to several boaters were discussed and addressed
- LCP assisted boaters with filling out their forms at this meeting and answering questions about specific boat drafts, ramp information and launching recommendations, and general marina questions.

The meeting ended at approximately 7:15 p.m.