

How to Monitor Information From LCRA During Flooding

Key Resources

- www.lcra.org
- **Flood Operations Report:**
floodstatus.lcra.org
- **LCRA's Hydromet:**
hydromet.lcra.org
- **LCRA Flood Operations Notification Service:**
www.lcra.org/fons
- **Twitter:** @LCRA
- **Facebook:**
lowercoloradoriver authority
- **NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards broadcasts:** AM 1610 around the Highland Lakes and AM 1670 downstream of Austin
- Local emergency officials
- Area media

Flash floods can occur with little or no warning, especially in the area around the Highland Lakes known as Flash Flood Alley.

LCRA shares information about operations at the Highland Lakes dams, as well as current and projected lake and river levels, in a variety of ways, including posting information on www.lcra.org, providing information to local media, and offering a free service that will call, text and/or email subscribers when floodgates along the Highland Lakes are opened.



Near real-time information about flooding and the threat of flooding is available on www.lcra.org:

- The Hydromet at hydromet.lcra.org provides current rainfall, streamflow and lake level information from LCRA's extensive network of more than 275 gauges in the lower Colorado River basin.
- The Flood Operations Report at floodstatus.lcra.org provides current and projected information on lake levels, floodgate operations, and downstream river forecasts provided by the National Weather Service. The report is updated frequently during flooding conditions.

When LCRA opens floodgates at any of the Highland Lakes dams, it also activates the LCRA Flood Operations Notification Service (FONS), a free service that will call, text and/or email subscribers when flood operations begin along the Highland Lakes and at Lake Bastrop. Water moving through floodgates creates strong currents, and anyone nearby should stay off the water and take immediate action to protect people and property.

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LCRA also uses social media sites such as Facebook and Twitter.

LCRA's Emergency Management team notifies local emergency officials when floodgates are opened. Local officials make the decisions to close roads or evacuate neighborhoods.

NOAA Weather Radio All Hazards broadcasts provides alerts on flood watches and warnings. A flood watch means conditions are favorable for flooding. A flood warning means flooding is imminent or occurring, and people should move quickly to a safe place.



The Highland Lakes portion of the lower Colorado River is northwest of Austin, shown here in the red box.