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Chickasaw National Recreation Area News Release

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Lake of the Arbuckles rises to Arbuckle Dam Spillway

SULPHUR, OK — On Sunday morning after a week of heavy rainfall Lake of the Arbuckles rose to the top of its flood control pool (885.30') and began flowing into the dam spillway. Lake waters have risen into boat launch and parking areas. As a result, until waters recede and for the duration of the event, boats are prohibited from launching from ramps. This measure has been taken to provide for visitor safety and protection of property.

As lake waters rose above normal shorelines, sewer lines that provided service to the Buckhorn campgrounds and day-use areas were threatened. As a result, park management determined it was necessary to close the Buckhorn area to camping, day use, and boat launch due to lack of restroom facilities and threats to the electrical system. Access and safety considerations necessitated closing other park areas impacted by heavy rainfall and high lake waters. These areas submerged under water presented safety risks to visitors. Areas affected are as follows: Buckhorn campgrounds and day-use areas, Buckhorn boat launch ramp, Point day-use area, Point boat launch ramp, Guy Sandy day-use area, Guy Sandy boat launch ramp, Catfish Bottoms, Blackjack Road, Eagle Bay, East Hunting Area and Bluestem Prairie.

Visitors are reminded that stream flow speed is often deceptive and park rangers caution swimmers to stay out of creeks and enjoy the park from the shoreline until waters recede.

For more information about Chickasaw National Recreation Area, visit www.nps.gov/chic or call the Travertine Nature Center at (580) 622-7234.

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