

May 20, 2021**DUE TO CRITICALLY DRY YEAR, EXPECT LOWER SUMMER WATER LEVELS
AT LAKE ALMANOR, BUCKS LAKE**

CHESTER, Calif. —Pacific Gas and Electric Company (PG&E) announced today that water levels for Lake Almanor and Bucks Lake are projected to be lower than normal this summer due to below-average precipitation and snowpack this season.

The company reported the lake level projections today at the 2105 Lake Level Committee meeting in Chester, which is held to review and discuss PG&E's planned water operations for Lake Almanor and Bucks Lake for the remainder of the year. The committee name refers to Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC) Project No. 2105, which is the license number for PG&E's Upper North Fork Feather River Hydroelectric Project and includes Lake Almanor.

PG&E plans its operations to balance recreation, the environment, electric power generation and other needs. With below-average precipitation and snowpack for the northern Sierra Nevada and southern Cascade mountain ranges, Lake Almanor is expected to be about 4 to 5 feet below normal this summer.

Total precipitation for the season to date in the Lake Almanor basin is at 53% of average, and the spring runoff is forecast to be 33% percent of average. Runoff is usually helped by underground aquifers prevalent in the southern Cascade's porous volcanic rock, but after two critically dry years in a row, these aquifers have become somewhat depleted.

This year, based on current data and historical modeling, PG&E projects Lake Almanor levels will reach approximately 4,484 feet elevation by July 4, and approximately 4,479 feet by Labor Day.

For Bucks Lake, levels are projected to be 7 to 8 feet below normal, remaining above 5,145 feet elevation through July 4, and reaching approximately 5,143 feet by Labor Day.

PG&E expects Butt Valley Reservoir to be within its normal operating range this summer.

PG&E encourages the public to take appropriate safety precautions when recreating in and near water:

- Obey all warning signs and restrictive buoys while swimming or boating.
- Use the "buddy system." Never fish, swim, boat or raft alone.
- Don't dive or jump into unfamiliar water. Shallow water or submerged trees or rocks could cause serious injury.
- Swimming in open water is more difficult than in a swimming pool – people tire more quickly and can get into trouble.

- Wear a Coast Guard-approved life jacket.
- Actively supervise children in and around open bodies of water, giving them your undivided attention. Do not assume that someone is watching them. Appoint a designated “water watcher,” taking turns with other adults.

For more water safety tips, visit www.pge.com/watersafety

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About PG&E

Pacific Gas and Electric Company, a subsidiary of [PG&E Corporation](http://www.pge.com) (NYSE:PCG), is a combined natural gas and electric utility serving more than 16 million people across 70,000 square miles in Northern and Central California. For more information, visit pge.com and pge.com/news.

