

Weather-Related Suspensions - Watercraft Inspection, Decontamination and Seal Checking Services at Lake Oroville Facilities

Watercraft inspection, decontamination, and seal checking services at Lake Oroville facilities may be suspended due to the weather conditions outlined below. Please note that operations may be suspended at any time if conditions are determined to be unsafe for workers.

When seal checking operations are suspended due to weather conditions, vessels will not be permitted to launch without seal verification and removal by launch ramp staff. While vessels may exit the waters during suspension of seal checking operations, re-entry seals will not be offered until operations resume. Watercraft owners may choose to wait until operations resume for a re-entry seal or visit the Inspection and Decontamination Station before returning to a Lake Oroville facility launch ramp.

1 Lightning

Seal Checking at Launch Ramps

In the event of thunderstorms, seal checking operations will be suspended when weather reports indicate lightning strikes within 10 miles of the seal check location. Operations will not resume until 30 minutes have passed since the last occurrence of lightning within the 10-mile radius.

Inspection/Decontamination Station

In the event of thunderstorms, watercraft inspection and decontamination operations will cease when weather reports indicate lightning strikes within 10 miles of the Inspection and Decontamination Station (930 Garden Drive, Oroville California 95965). Operations will not resume until 30 minutes have passed since the last occurrence of lightning within the 10-mile radius.

2 Rainfall and Hail Events

Seal Checking at Launch Ramps

Seal checking operations will continue during rainfall or hail events unless conditions are deemed unsafe for workers.

Inspection/Decontamination Station

Inspection and decontamination operations will be suspended during rainfall or hail events when precipitation exceeds 0.50 inches per hour (12.7 mm/hour), as reported by the National Weather Service for Oroville, California: [7-Day Forecast 39.51N 121.56W](#). Operations may also be suspended during low visibility caused by fog or other weather conditions creating unsafe working conditions. Operations will resume when precipitation is below 0.50 inches per hour (12.7 mm/hour) and visibility improves to safe working conditions.

3 Wind

Seal Checking at Launch Ramps

Seal checking operations will continue during wind events unless conditions are deemed unsafe for workers.

Inspection/Decontamination Station

Inspection and decontamination operations will be suspended in the event wind speeds over 40 miles per hour (mph) are experienced, as reported by the National Weather Service for Oroville, California: [7-Day Forecast 39.51N 121.56W](#). Operations will resume when wind speeds drop below 40 mph.

4 Wildfire

Seal Checking at Launch Ramps

Seal checking operations will be suspended if an Evacuation Order is issued by the Butte County Sherriff for the Zone where the seal check station is located in, as shown in the Butte County Evacuation Zones Map: [Butte County Evacuation Zones](#). Operations will resume when the Evacuation Order has been lifted.

Wildfire smoke may also lead to air quality concerns. Please reference the air quality thresholds for potential air quality-related operational suspensions.

Inspection/Decontamination Station

Inspection and decontamination operations will be suspended if an Evacuation Order is issued by the Butte County Sherriff for the Zone where the Inspection and Decontamination Station is located in (BUT-ONW-739), as shown in the Butte County Evacuation Zones Map: [Butte County Evacuation Zones](#). Operations will resume when the Evacuation Order has been lifted.

**Wildfire smoke may also lead to air quality concerns. Please reference the air quality section below for potential air quality-related operational suspensions.*

5 Air Quality

Seal Checking at Launch Ramps

Seal checking operations will be temporarily suspended if the local Air Quality Index (AQI) in Oroville, California exceeds 500, as reported by the U.S. EPA via: [AirNow.gov](#). Seal checking operations may only resume when the AQI drops below 500.

Inspection/Decontamination Station

Inspection and decontamination operations will be temporarily suspended if the local Air Quality Index (AQI) in Oroville, California exceeds 500, as reported by the U.S. EPA via: [AirNow.gov](#). Inspection and decontamination operations may only resume when the air quality index rating drops below 500.