



Wisconsin River Power Company
(owners of the Petenwell & Castle Rock Hydroelectric Plants)

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Wisconsin River Power Company Reminds Petenwell, Castle Rock Users to Exercise Caution Following Heavy Rains

For Immediate Release
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(Necedah, WI) Wisconsin River Power Company (WPRC), operators of the Petenwell and Castle Rock dams on the Wisconsin River between Wisconsin Rapids and Wisconsin Dells advises boaters, anglers and all water recreationists to use caution following this past week's heavy rains. Many of the accidents that occur could be prevented by using common sense and practicing safety.

Residents, business owners and sport enthusiasts should be aware of the current and forecasted weather and water levels on rivers and reservoirs.

Some safety precautions include:

- Obey all warning signs, fences, buoys, booms and barriers. They are put there to protect you. The areas inside are dangerous, stay clear of them.
- Stay a safe distance outside of warning signs, buoys, booms and barriers when fishing, boating or swimming.
- Stay a safe distance from the edge of waters above and below hydroelectric dams and stations.
- Never stand below a dam, or anchor or tie your boat there. Rapidly changing water levels and flows can take you by surprise and could swamp your boat or put you in the grip of an undertow.
- When swimming, fishing, boating or paddling in a river, be aware of the water level and check upstream frequently for any sign of increasing currents or rising water levels. If the water level is rising or the flow is speeding up, get out of the water or move your boat downstream. Even when the hydroelectric dam or station is out of sight, changing water levels and flows can take you by surprise, pulling you into an undertow, leaving you stranded away from shore or swamping your boat.

Media Hotline: 800-977-2250
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- Set an example for children, who may not be aware of the dangers, even if they can read. State explicitly where they can and cannot go and make sure you are close to them and can see them at all times.
- Be aware of potential hazards as a result of high water levels, including navigation obstacles and unexpected current flow.

Should you come across any dangerous situations contact your local public safety department by dialing 911.

River users can check conditions on the WRPC Web site:
www.wisconsinriverpower.com for up-to-date information.

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