

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE November 30, 2011 **CONTACT:** Jace Houston (936) 588-3111

City of Houston Suspends Release of Water from Lake Conroe

Citing recent rainfall events and the likelihood of additional rain in the near future, the City of Houston has ordered the suspension of water releases from the City's two-thirds share of the water rights in Lake Conroe. At 5:00 PM, San Jacinto River Authority staff closed the service outlet gates and shut off the flow of water out of Lake Conroe. This notice from the City came less than a week after the City reduced the release from 150 million gallons per day down to 60 million gallons per day.

Engineering staff for the City of Houston have indicated that the City will continue to monitor rainfall and lake levels in both Lake Houston and Lake Conroe and will notify the SJRA if any changes are requested.

In terms of impact to the level of Lake Conroe, now that the releases have stopped and evaporation rates are low due to cooler temperatures, future rainfall and runoff can be captured and stored in the lake, which will hopefully cause lake levels to begin to rise.

For more details and a list of available boat ramps, please visit the SJRA's website at <u>www.sjra.net</u>.

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