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RECLAMATION

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Reclamation cautions public on dangerous ice conditions at Patterson Lake

**BISMARCK, N.D.** - The Bureau of Reclamation is advising the public to take precautions and be aware of rapidly changing ice conditions on Patterson Lake located 1 mile southwest of Dickinson, N.D., along the Heart River.

Reclamation is lowering the water level of Patterson Lake approximately one-foot over the next two weeks to allow safe operation of the Dickinson Dam gate/spillway throughout the winter months.

“Although ice has formed on the lake, we still have high water inflows from the Heart River into the lake,” said Dakotas Area Office Manager Arden Freitag. “Lowering the lake water level now will prevent ice build-up on the dam’s gate allowing us to safely operate the dam,” said Freitag.

Changing water elevations create dangerous areas of thin ice creating unsafe conditions for individuals recreating on the lake. Please be advised these fluctuating water elevations will change ice conditions without any warning creating rapid shifts in ice stability and safety.

For more information, please contact Patience Mosbrucker at 701.221.1204.

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