

Whitefish Lake water level at lowest point since 1967

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Whitefish Lake has set an all-time record for lowest water level as of Monday, which is now at 2,996.24 feet.

There are several factors for the low lake levels, but the biggest contributors were lack of moisture and evaporation during the hot summer.

At the Whitefish Lake Institute, executive director Mike Koopal tells us that the lake will likely break the record several more times as we head deeper into the fall.



Officials say Whitefish Lake will likely break the record several more times as we head deeper into the fall. (MTN News photo)

Koopal tells us that the main concerns relate to lake ecology.

"We've had warmer temperatures this year, and lower nutrients, so this means different things for the lake ecology," Koopal said. "For instance, we had higher water clarity earlier in the year, but that's largely because we had fewer nutrients going into the lake, and the algae basically used up all those nutrients and then died, and so we had good water clarity."

Koopal tells us that the previous low was set back in 1967.