



## News Release

# Lake monitoring system at Lake Dardanelle an unexpected catch for B.A.S.S. Elite Series Tournament participants

**Reporters: For opportunities to visit with a USGS scientist please contact Jim Petersen at 501-228-3620 or cell phone 501-416-2750.**

Little Rock, Ark. – March 24, 2009- To demonstrate information and scientific monitoring capabilities, researchers from the U.S. Geological Survey Arkansas Water Science Center installed a Lake Diagnostic System (LDS) in Lake Dardanelle for the Diamond Drive Bassmaster Elite Series Tournament, which will take place from March 26 – 29, 2009. The LDS is a floating system that collects water temperature and dissolved oxygen data every 30 seconds, and has above surface meteorology sensors for monitoring air temperature, wind speed and direction, and other meteorological data.

Real time data are available for public viewing on the USGS web site ([ar.water.usgs.gov/lake\\_dardanelle](http://ar.water.usgs.gov/lake_dardanelle)), and can be accessed at <http://www.lakediagnostics.com>. Temperature and dissolved oxygen from the top to the bottom of Lake Dardanelle are measured every 30 seconds. Air temperature, wind speed and direction, humidity, and solar radiation are also measured every 30 seconds. Real time data are transmitted via cell phone to the USGS.

The Diamond Drive Tournament will be held at Lake Dardanelle, Russellville, Ark.as part of the Bassmaster Elite Series from March 26-29, 2009. Top angler professionals will compete for the tournament title. The last major tournament hosted at Lake Dardanelle was the Bassmaster Legends in 2007.

"The Lake Diagnostic System is an instrument used for research purposes, but can provide valuable information for anglers, boaters, and recreation enthusiasts about recent trends and current information related to lake and weather conditions," said USGS researcher Reed Green. "The tournament provided us an opportunity to temporarily install the LDS in a setting that should draw special public interest."

Several entities contributed to the temporary installation. Lake Diagnostic System sensors are provided for this tournament by the Beaver Water District, a northwestern Arkansas water utility that cooperates with the USGS in a monitoring program of Beaver Reservoir, the major drinking water source for northwestern Arkansas.

The LDS station is provided by Precision Measurement Engineering, Inc., a sensor design company located in California. The LDS project is supported by the Centre for Water Research, which is part of the University of Western Australia in Perth.

The USGS Arkansas Water Science Center currently operates a LDS at Beaver Reservoir to collect water quality data that can be used to provide information for USGS researchers developing a scientific model of water quality and movement in the reservoir. Researchers and Beaver Water District managers can use the model to predict how changes in the quality of streams flowing into the reservoir will affect the quality of the water that is used as the source of raw water that is treated for use as the drinking water for much of northwestern Arkansas.

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