

KINGDOM CALLS

TRADING AS



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November 2015 news letter from Bob Collett

13/11/15

Dear Marineland boat owners, clients and customers,

Greetings to you all from us in a very hot and sunny Kariba.

We are sure that many of you are waiting to hear more about the current lake levels after the September figures raised so much general interest. It was indeed satisfying to realise how many people actually read the newsletters and take an interest.

Levels as of 11 November 2015 prove that our September predictions were reasonably close.



Harbour entrance today – 24m wide with middle 15m being 7m deep.

Current lake level 11/11/2015:	478.46 m
Current level lower than same date 2014 by:	5.34 m
Lake lowest level recorded Dec/22/1992:	475.97 m
Current Lake level left to reach 1992 low level:	2.49 m
Victoria Falls flow on 11/11/2015	171 cu/m/sec
Average daily turbine discharge:	1135 cu/m/sec
October average daily lake level drop:	0.0213 m
By 25 Dec estimated lake level:	477.50 m
Lowest generating level:	475.50 m

Please accept levels estimated by 25 Dec as personal estimates only, based on lake level figures obtained from Zambezi River Authority.

The on-going effects of the above levels on Marineland mooring capacity are as follows:

Marineland harbour entrance, total width, rock to rock: 24.0 m
In the centre of the entrance which is 15 m width, at a depth of average 7.0 m
From either side of entrance, within 3 m, depth is 3.5 to 5.0 m
Immediately outside entrance, depth 20.0 m+
Down centre of harbour depths varies from 11 m down to 4 m
Depth at fuel jetty having been moved outwards, currently 5 m,
Current depths behind most moored boats vary from 7 m down to 3.5m.
Provided normal rains are received we see no mooring depth problems before expected Lake level increases in Dec/Jan.

The Marineland excavator is repaired and currently working on increasing mooring space on the western side of harbour. This is however an expensive and difficult operation with silt and muddy conditions limiting the operating area of the machine. If any of our clients are aware of the whereabouts of any of the old dragline bucket scoops, or simple cable drum operated scoops, we would appreciate being put in touch with whoever we can to discuss the hiring of such equipment to assist in deepening the harbour.



We have a serious request to make to all boat owners reference the condition of their mooring ropes, as well as the discipline of their captains as regards securing their boats. Unfortunately we have asked this on numerous occasions and our requests generally fall on deaf ears. August /September/November being our windy months when we expect rain and wind storms is always a difficult period in the harbour. It often happens that staff and I are called out at night to secure numerous boats to save them and others from damage of collision. As a result of the last wind storm where Marineland staff had to spend hours securing boats we are going to

mention names of boats that had not been attended to by their captains hence causing Marineland staff hours of overtime doing the captains jobs for them. The worst offenders causing possible problems were Baobab, Ambuya Dambudzo, Domba, Xepa, Induna, Viking, Titamberei and Mukangopoto. We apologise for mentioning boats by name, but simple requests do not seem to help. There are also a number of boats needing either new ropes or, in the case of big boats, a second rope on either side. There are currently 25 boats needing urgent attention to their ropes for the safety of all. We will not mention names here, yet, but please attend to these requirements for the safety of all, especially your own assets.

Our changed launching area on the western side of the harbour is operating well with jetties having been moved to either side of the launch area. Please note that these jetties are not to be used for tying up of small boats as these are used for embarking and disembarking of both transfer passengers as well as loading and unloading facilities for day trippers or fishermen before or after launching of boats. A temporary shelter has been placed near to this launching and departure area for the comfort of people leaving or arriving whilst waiting for their boats to be ready. Cars can approach close to these jetties at the launching area for unloading or loading onto the jetties and into boats for departure or arrival. Safe parking is also available under the trees in this area. Security is good with guards patrolling the entire area 24 hours per day.



The Marineland Security and solar shop is now open with stock available for immediate purchase and collection. There are however over 3000 security and solar items which can be ordered from Marineland and paid for on order. To see all the items available, as well as pricing, look at the detailed Securityshop website www.securityshopzim.com. Batteries of all sizes are always available, including various sizes of deep cycle batteries used for solar and inverter applications. Please call in to discuss stocks and availability.

Bream fishing appears to have picked up substantially again. After the break of few weeks of few fish being caught, we are told that very good catches of good size bream are being made in the Palm Bay and Elephant point areas. There are various reports on varying methods and depths, but we are informed that bream in one to two meter depths near the emerging islands are being caught. Game blocks (available in our shop) appear to be working well, placed the evening before and fished in the morning. Small spinners are also being found successful in reasonably shallow water as above.

A warning must be mentioned once again of stumps and trees appearing all over the lake, as well as long hidden shallows and islands appearing. Take it slow on the low level lake or risk losing boat legs and propellers.

Poaching is unfortunately still rife in the whole Kariba lake area, despite good work being done by the various anti-poaching units operational around the lake in private capacities. Numerous poachers continue to be apprehended and brought in for prosecution by the authorities. There have been convictions and prison sentences passed down as a result of the Kariba elephant poisoning recently. Any help towards any of these anti-poaching units is always well accepted, as without private assistance poaching carries on unabated.

Once again we would like to remind all our clients that Marineland have a new website up and running, www.Marineland.co.zw. Have a look and let us know what you think, we would be happy to receive any improvement suggestions based on your suggestions.

We also have a Facebook page which is updated on a regular basis on Marineland happenings and other interesting occurrences in and around Kariba . Please have a look, and like our page, as this helps to get our name spread around and more people to know about us and make their houseboat bookings through us. Every little helps in these difficult times.

We would once again like to thank those of you who have visited and used our facilities. Please do not forget that drinks and ice and many other requirements are available at the Marineland shop, and can be ordered in advance of your trip. When asking for your boat to be launched, put your drinks and ice orders in which can then be ready with your boat for immediate departure. All houseboat drinks, ice and food orders and other requirements can be ordered in advance and placed on the boat ready for departure, before you arrive.

From Marineland management team we wish you all a good upcoming holiday season where we hope to see you in our harbour.
Happy boating.

Regards

Bob Collett and Marineland team.