

PROJECT STATISTICS

Project Name:	Lake Cachuma
Location:	Santa Barbara County, CA
Owner:	Santa Barbara County
Description:	TUFFBOOM Debris Boom
Date:	January, 2008
Notes:	Debris barrier to combat heavy debris from recent forest fires.



Lake Cachuma is a man-made lake located in central Santa Barbara County, California on the Santa Ynez River. It is formed by Bradbury Dam, a 201 foot (61 m) earth-fill dam built by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation in 1953. At capacity it can hold 205,000 acre-feet (253,000,000 m³) and has a surface area of 3,100 acres (13 km²).

In 2007, Lake Cachuma and Santa Barbara was the site of devastating forest fires that raged for weeks. In the path of the fires were the burnt up remnants of the surrounding hillsides. Dam operators feared this debris would wash into their reservoir during the next weather event possibly clogging emergency spillways and threatening the safe operation of the dam. Little did they know this would occur just weeks after installing their TUFFBOOM barrier.

County officials requested Worthington to provide an emergency shipment of nearly 1,800 lineal feet of boom line within 3-weeks so it could be installed before the rainy season began. Booms were delivered on time and installed immediately. Just weeks after installing the booms, California was hit by a massive low pressure system that dumped mass amounts of rain on the surrounding hillsides and water basins.

The debris that operators feared would arrive did indeed wash into the reservoir. The TUFFBOOM barrier they installed to hold back this debris did as they expected and kept all the debris a safe distance from the dam. When you need reliable proven debris solutions, you can count on the experience that only Worthington can offer.

