

Boaters staying away from Lake Tahoe

By Jeff DeLong, Reno Gazette-Journal

A tough economy is showing itself with decreased boating activity at Lake Tahoe, a report released by Lake Tahoe regulators shows.

Monitoring of boat traffic over the last two years shows the number of vessels using Tahoe dropped by more than 1,200 from 2009 to 2010, a decrease of nearly 8 percent.



Unused buoys signal fewer boaters on Lake Tahoe.

Photo/LTN

The recession and high gas prices likely prompted fewer boaters to spend the money to hit the lake, said officials with the Tahoe Regional Planning Agency.

“Definitely it’s the economy and less disposable income,” TRPA spokesman Jeff Cowen said. “There’s less people traveling and fewer people boating.”

While no precise numbers are yet available for this summer, the trend appears to be continuing, Cowen said.

“It’s flat or a little bit less,” than the 2010 boating

season, Cowen said.

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