

Shade Balls on California Reservoirs: A Revolutionary Approach to Water Conservation

Prof. Aishwarya Shinde and Alister Quinny

Asst. Professor and Research Scholar

St. Rock's College of Commerce and Science, Borivali (W), Mumbai, India

Abstract: *In a proactive effort to address water scarcity and the adverse effects of prolonged drought in California, a unique approach involving the deployment of 96 million shade balls on a reservoir has garnered significant attention. This innovative solution, implemented in reservoirs like the Los Angeles Reservoir, aims to combat water loss due to evaporation and minimize the proliferation of harmful algae. The shade balls, typically black in color, create a barrier that reduces sunlight exposure to the water surface, subsequently decreasing evaporation rates and inhibiting the growth of algae. This abstract explores the background, purpose, and outcomes of this remarkable strategy, underscoring its significance in achieving sustainable water resource management in water-stressed regions. The 96 million shade balls serve as a testament to the creativity and adaptability required in the face of growing environmental challenges, ultimately contributing to water conservation efforts in California and beyond.*

Keywords: Shade, Balls, Evaporation, Reduction, Reservoir, Management