

Stay Out Of The River: Officials Warn Cold, Fast Yuba Waters Not Fit For Swimming

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NEVADA COUNTY (CBS13) – Nevada County officials warning swimmers to stay out of the Yuba River. After three people died earlier this year, they say it's just too dangerous.

“They’ve heard about it, they see it’s beautiful but they get in the water and they have no idea what’s at risk,” said Caleb Dardick, Executive Director of the South Yuba River Citizens League.

The announcement comes ahead of a busy time on area rivers this weekend.

Visitors from all over the world typically flock to the South Yuba River to take a swim. And heavy snowmelt in the Sierra has made the picture perfect river even more stunning.

“God, this is so beautiful and it’s so hot,” said Billy Bensing.

But officials in Nevada County are warning the public to look but not leap.

“Normally, we’re in the river, that’s where we’d all be,” Dardick said. “But this year, the water is too fast, and it’s too cold to be safe to swim.”

He says typically at this time of the year, the river moves at 12 cubic feet per second. But right now, it’s moving at 800 to 1400 cubic feet per second.