

✓ Loch Lomond may not open 2-4-86 this year — insufficient water

By JOAN RAYMOND

Sentinel Staff Writer

SANTA CRUZ — It was going to be a great recreational season at Loch Lomond reservoir this year — or so boaters and city officials thought.

When the recreational area opened on March 1, there would be a newly built snack bar and concession stands, repaired docks and more motorboats available to the public.

But now there is a major problem.

It's the water — the lack of it, that is.

There isn't enough water in the reservoir to allow it to be open this season, Water Department Director Morris Allen said today.

Water Commissioners Monday night accepted a recommendation from Allen to close the reservoir for the season. The Municipal Code gives him the authority to open or close the reservoir to the public.

Even if the reservoir remained

open, Allen reported, there would probably not be enough visitors and fishermen using it — because of the low water level and warmer water — to justify opening it.

Unless there is a "dramatic" change in the amount of rain runoff in coming weeks, it will have to stay closed, Allen said.

If the reservoir stays closed all season until Sept. 15, it will be a first since the drought of 1977.

Please see back of section