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Reducing Reservoir Evaporation with Simple Buoys

By developing buoys that will displace, reflect or dissipate upwards the solar energy that falls on it, the water loss at reservoirs could be greatly reduced. Evaporation will be proportional to both the amount of sunlight and the warmth that reaches the water through the air. Simple white or reflective topped, foam or rubber "lilies"™ or floats, placed on the water to reflect light and insulate the reservoir water could be manufactured cheaply and deployed in great number quickly. Even more effective might be a spherical buoy with an insulated bottom, and a self contained water supply that will evaporate and condense in a continual cycle, to absorb heat energy as a miniature rain cycle.

These are both proven technologies, one as a way to keep swimming pools warm with dark floating covers, but could be modified to cool water; the other is a solar method to purify water. Buoys that support plant life, or floating plants themselves could also be substituted or combined with these other methods, to reduce total evaporation at a reservoir by 50% or more.