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Recent hydrological and geochemical changes of lake Kyzyl-Kul (southern Kazakhstan)

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Lake Kyzyk-Kul is located in the Chu river basin in the Southern Kazakhstan, at the northern slope of the Kara-Tau ridge. The lake regime depends on the Chu discharges on the one hand and on the seasonal inflow from the Kara-Tau catchment on the other, and, therefore, is a subject to both anthropogenic and climatic impacts. At present, lake Kyzyl-Kul is saturated with the halogenic salts such as halite. In this paper, we present the recent changes in the physical and chemical changes of the lake and investigate their possible links with the human and natural factors.