Italy’s worst drought in decades has reduced Lake Garda to near its lowest level ever recorded.

Reason:

Northern Italy saw significantly lower rainfall for months and snowfall in 2022 was also down 70%, drying up important rivers like the Po, which flows across Italy’s agricultural and industrial heartland.

The parched condition of the Po, Italy’s longest river, caused billions of euros in losses to farmers who normally rely on it to irrigate fields and rice paddies.

To compensate for the loss, authorities allowed more water from Lake Garda to flow out to local rivers.