

California Department of Water Resources NEWS

June 24, 1998

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Free Giant July 4 Fireworks Display Will Illuminate Lake Oroville

OROVILLE--A major, free fireworks display the night of July 4 will illuminate Lake Oroville. Almost 30 minutes of fireworks will light up the night sky over the huge State Water Project reservoir near Oroville in Butte County, starting at 9:45 pm.

Sponsored by the Rotary Club of Oroville/Sunrise, in cooperation with the Department of Water Resources, the Department of Parks and Recreation and local businesses, this will be the third consecutive year for the spectacular presentation.

Several thousand spectators are expected to view the fireworks display from vantage points around the Lake, which has 167 miles of shoreline and a surface area greater than 15,000 acres.

"This July 4 fireworks display celebrates our nation's Independence Day and draws attention to the many recreation facilities we have here at Lake Oroville," said Rolland Williams, Sr., Chief of DWR's Oroville Field Division.

Pyrotechnic rockets will be programmed to explode 200 to 800 feet over the Lake. Fireworks will be reflected on the surface of the Lake, California's second largest reservoir.

DAM CREST ROAD WILL CLOSE AT 4 PM

At 4 pm on July 4, the main road on the crest of Oroville Dam will be closed to vehicular traffic except

for shuttle transportation sponsored by the City of Oroville to allow spectators to assemble for the fireworks display.

TRANSPORTATION

Downtown to Dam and Return

Between 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm, shuttle transportation will be available every 15 minutes from downtown Oroville to the Dam. Shuttle boarding locations will be at the Montgomery Wards and Municipal Auditorium parking lots, as well as parking lots B, C and D. These buses will deliver their passengers to the viewing area at the center of the Dam.

At the conclusion of the event, shuttle transportation will be available from the CENTER of the Dam to downtown Oroville. For safety reasons, passengers will be allowed to board the buses **ONLY AT THAT LOCATION**.

Kelly Ridge Area to Dam

Between 5:30 pm and 8:30 pm, shuttle transportation will cover the following route: Dam Crest Road and Canyon Drive to Royal Oaks Drive; Royal Oaks Drive to Kelly Ridge Road; Kelly Ridge Road to Olive Highway; return on Kelly Ridge Road to Hillcrest Avenue; Hillcrest Avenue to Almond Avenue; Almond Avenue to Canyon Drive; and Canyon Drive to Dam Crest Road. Riders will be picked up anywhere along this route. Passengers boarding along this route will be delivered to the restroom area at Canyon Drive and Dam Crest Road. By request, the Kelly Ridge route driver will deliver riders to the Bidwell Marina parking lot. At the conclusion of the display, shuttle transportation will be available from Canyon Drive/Dam Crest Road to return riders to their vehicles along the Kelly Ridge route.

DAM PARKING LOTS

Free parking will be allowed from 2 pm to 4 pm at the Lake Oroville Spillway parking lot. After 5:30 pm, shuttle transportation will be made available from the lower parking lot on Oro Dam Boulevard and the upper parking lot on Canyon and Royal Oaks Drives. There will be no charge for parking in the upper and lower lots.

Come early and enjoy food and non-alcoholic beverages available for purchase from vendors on the Dam.

It is recommended that attendees bring lawn chairs. As a "sky concert" will be simulcast by KEWE Radio, the public is invited to bring personal radios. Consideration for those near you is requested. No private fireworks will be allowed. Security will be provided.

American flags will be mounted on the light fixtures on Dam Crest Road for the activities. Dam lights will be extinguished during the fireworks for maximum viewing effect and then returned to full brightness for safety.

Located about 75 miles north of Sacramento, Lake Oroville is easily reached via State Highway 70.

Lake Oroville is the key Northern California storage reservoir of the State Water Project, storing up to 3.5 million acre-feet of water. DWR operates the State Water Project and Oroville Dam, the tallest earthfill dam in the United States.

RECREATION AT LAKE OROVILLE

Lake Oroville offers a full range of recreational attractions, including fishing, boating, camping, hiking and riding. Anglers can fish for trout, salmon, bass and catfish.

The Department of Parks and Recreation operates the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, which offers land and floating campsites, boat ramp facilities, riding trails and a group equestrian camp.

Boat launch facilities are available at Thermalito Afterbay, the North and South Forebays, as well as at Loafer Creek, Spillway, Lime Saddle Marine and Bidwell Canyon Marina and Camping Area.

For more information on visiting the recreation area, call (530) 538-2200. For campground information, call ParkNet at 1-800-444-7275.

LAKE OROVILLE VISITOR CENTER

DWR and DPR jointly operate the Lake Oroville Visitor Center, which overlooks the Lake. The Center is located at 917 Kelly Ridge Road. The Center offers exhibits about the construction of the Dam during the 1960s, the historic legacy of the Oroville region, more than 20 films to watch free of charge, access to easy walking nature trails, and a spectacular view of the Lake from atop the 46-foot tall viewing tower.

For additional information regarding the fireworks display, you may contact Rolland Williams, Sr., at (530) 534-2323.

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The Department of Water Resources operates and maintains the State Water Project, provides dam safety and flood control and inspection services, assists local water districts in water management and water conservation planning, and plans for future statewide water needs. The State Water Project provides water to two-thirds of California's population.

For more on-line information, see [Find DWR Info](#) or return to the [DWR California Water Page](#)