

California Department of Water Resources



July 5, 2001

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FREE FOURTH OF JULY FIREWORKS LIGHT UP LAKE OROVILLE

OROVILLE - In what has become an annual Fourth of July tradition, nearly 30 minutes of fireworks illuminated Lake Oroville last night, at no cost to the public.

The colorful display exploded over the huge State Water Project reservoir near Oroville in Butte County, starting at 9:45 p.m.

Sponsored by the Sunrise Rotary Club of Oroville and the Department of Water Resources (in cooperation with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, the City of Oroville, and local businesses) it was the sixth consecutive year for the spectacular presentation.

Thousands of spectators viewed the fireworks from vantage points around the lake, which has 167 miles of shoreline and a surface area of nearly 16,000 acres. Many watched the show from atop the mile-long Oroville Dam.

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

Beginning around 6 p.m., free shuttle buses and vans sponsored by the City of Oroville helped transport spectators.

Food and non-alcoholic beverages were available for purchase from vendors on the Dam.

Located about 75 miles north of Sacramento, 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 dam in the United States.

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 Spillway, Lime Saddle Marina and Bidwell Canyon Marina and Camping Area.

DWR and DPR jointly operate the Lake Oroville Visitor Center at 917 Kelly Ridge Road. The Center offers exhibits about dam construction during the 1960s, the historic legacy of the Oroville region, more than 20 films free of charge, access to easy walking nature trails.

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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.

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