



News for Immediate Release
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DWR Announces Lake Oroville Is Brimful -- Ready for Summer Fun!

OROVILLE -- Lake Oroville hit the full mark in early June and is ready for summer recreation fun! The second largest reservoir in California, with 167 miles of shoreline, Lake Oroville offers fishing, camping, swimming, boating and riding in an easy-to-reach Northern California venue, just 70 miles north of Sacramento.

A premier recreation lake with 16,000 surface acres of water and hundreds of campsites, Lake Oroville is a top rated bass fishery, with equestrian and bike riding opportunities and a Visitors Center packed with information, films and exhibits. Floating campsites are a signature camping attraction at Lake Oroville, easily reached via US 99 or State Highway 70.

A new postage stamp unveiled in May pays tribute to Oroville Dam, at 770 feet the tallest dam in the United States.

The Oroville area offers myriad attractions, including the Feather River Fish Hatchery, raising millions of salmon annually, and Riverbend Park, offering a multitude of recreation opportunities. Both are on the Feather River near downtown Oroville. Feather Falls, at 640 feet the sixth highest waterfall in the nation, is located east of the lake. Besides lake angling, the Feather River offers excellent summertime salmon fishing, starting this month.

Information on Lake Oroville recreation, including fishing tournaments, is available online from the Oroville Area Chamber of Commerce at its Web site at www.lakeoroville.net.

Many lake recreation facilities lie within the Lake Oroville State Recreation Area, operated by the California Department of Parks and Recreation. For State camping information at Lake Oroville, call (530) 538-2219. Reservations can be made by calling Reserve America at 800-444-7275.

Houseboats, fishing craft and water skiing boats may be rented at the lake's two marinas:

Bidwell Canyon Marina 800-637-1767 and Lake Oroville Marina 800-225-5561.

The Lake Oroville Visitors Center, overlooking Oroville Dam and the lake, provides visual displays, videos, maps and publications describing lake and regional attractions. Videos show vivid filmed history of the dam's construction during the 1960s as part of California's State Water Project (SWP).

A 47-foot viewing tower offers visitors a sweeping view of the lake, second only to Lake Shasta in size among California reservoirs, and the upper Sacramento Valley, including the Sutter Buttes.

Operated jointly by the Department of Water Resources (DWR), which administers the lake and dam as SWP facilities, and State Parks, the Visitors Center is open free to visitors daily from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., except Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's. The center phone number is (530) 538-2219. For information on Lake Oroville tours, call John Ford, DWR Tour Guide in Oroville, at (530) 534-2306.

The key State Water Project storage lake in Northern California, Lake Oroville has a total storage capacity slightly exceeding 3.5 million acre-feet. The SWP provides at least some of the water used by more than 23 million Californians. Besides storing water, Lake Oroville is operated also for flood protection purposes and provides flows benefiting fish and the environment, including the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta.

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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