

California Department of Water Resources NEWS

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Flood Debris Removal Continues at Lake Oroville

OROVILLE---Work continues to clear a record amount of storm debris from the surface of Lake Oroville, second largest reservoir in California.

While the main body of the Lake has been reopened for public use, including boating, some branches and forks of the Lake remain closed to allow debris-clearing work to proceed.

Currently, Lake Oroville is over 85 percent full and rising. The Lake has a maximum capacity exceeding 3.5 million acre-feet, a surface area covering 15,888 acres and a shoreline stretching for 167 miles.

January flooding brought enormous quantities of debris--including logs, stumps, trees and branches--into Lake Oroville. As the Lake was lowered for flood control purposes, some debris was deposited along the shoreline. As the Lake rises, some of this debris is refloated anew.

Debris is captured, boomed and removed from the Lake.

To facilitate debris removal, the ends of the Lake's West Branch, North Fork, and Middle Fork remain closed. The South Fork is now open, and will remain so until debris begins to refloat, at which time it will be closed again for removal of the debris.

Log booms are in place at the following locations:

- The West Branch at Nelson Bar East and Lime Saddle Road
- The North Fork at Berry Creek

- The Middle Fork at Cedar Ravine

Visitors to Lake Oroville must stay away from the log booms and debris areas for their own safety and to facilitate DWR's debris removal activities.

Lake Oroville is second only to Lake Shasta in size among reservoirs in Northern California. Lake Oroville is the largest reservoir of the State Water Project, the largest state-built multipurpose water project in the United States.

For further information on the availability of Lake Oroville recreational facilities, contact the following:

Lake Oroville Recreation Area (916) 538-2200

Lime Saddle Marina (916) 877-2414

Bidwell Canyon Marina (916) 589-3165

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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](#)