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**Lake Berryessa News: New Year's 2022**

1 message

The Lake Berryessa News <pkilkus@gmail.com>  
Reply-To: pkilkus@gmail.com  
To: pkilkus@gmail.com

Sat, Jan 1, 2022 at 12:47 PM

**Welcome to the First Lake Berryessa News Newsletter of 2022**

"Without The Lake Berryessa News, there would be no Lake Berryessa news."

Goodby to a Hell Year 2021

Hello to a Renewal Year 2022

**A Special Appeal to Our Readers**

The end of the year is always filled with appeals for donations. The Lake Berryessa News is no exception.

Many of you may have noticed that there has been no print edition of the Lake Berryessa News since October, 2021. I hope to restart the print edition of the paper in April. But I need your support to make it happen. I need to make a personal appeal for your financial support.

As with all news organizations, including small ones like mine, costs are pushing higher and revenue is trending lower. Your financial support is vital so that the Lake Berryessa News can continue to publish. Our one-person operation is definitely a "not-for-profit".

Experience shows that without THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS, there would be no Lake Berryessa news!

The revitalization of Lake Berryessa Sun Communities LLC during the next few years will help the local community prosper. Your decision to support the Lake Berryessa News will show your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community.

The Lake Berryessa News print version is distributed widely throughout the Lake Berryessa region and reaches more than 1,000 readers per month. Website hits average hundreds per day - and up to a thousand per day during the summer season. Our Facebook page has more than 23,000 Likes. Our email newsletter reaches hundreds more readers per month. You can download searchable PDF files of the Lake Berryessa News since 2005 at: [www.lakeberryessanews.com/archives/](http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/archives/)

Any regular news about Lake Berryessa simply comes from my website ([www.LakeBerryessaNews.com](http://www.LakeBerryessaNews.com)), my Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/>), the print version of the paper, and the regular email newsletter.

What should I do to keep the Lake Berryessa News coming to you and everyone else who cares? In 2021 I decided to try something simple - the 20 for 21 Donation Program. The program was successful in 2021 with 54 donors (see names below) contributing about \$2,000. This kept the Lake Berryessa News afloat last year.

So I will make the appeal again - the 20 for 22 Donation Program!

If you like the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms please send a donation check of \$20 (or more if you feel so inclined) made out to Peter Kilkus (not the Lake Berryessa News) and mail it to Peter Kilkus, [1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558](#). If you trust the US Postal Service you can stick a crinkly old \$20 bill in an envelope with your information and send it to the same

address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My account is under the name Peter Kilkus. You can contact me directly at 415-307-6906 or email me at [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com). (Note: Your donation is NOT tax deductible)

A simple \$20 for 2022, a revitalization year for the lake, keeps the news coming.

Sun Communities, LLC is already working on the Steele Canyon Recreation Area which is to become "The Launch at Steele Canyon" and the Spanish Flat Recreation Area which is to become "The Outpost at Spanish Flat".

I'll do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting the lake community.

Thanks.

Peter  
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**20 fo 21 Donors**

Anonymous  
Albert Diaz  
Art Courville  
Bart & Cindy Barthelemy  
Bill Hardin  
Bill Marshall  
Bill Ryan  
Bonnie Fuller  
Carol Metcalf  
Chuck Baker  
Dan Sabalvaro  
Darryl Davis  
Dean Lumbert  
DeAnna Kneis  
Debbie Benzon  
Delores Asbury  
Diana Bacinett  
Dr. Gerald L. Bittner, Jr.  
Ed Stadelhofer  
Eric Gaustad  
Eugene Nehira  
George Bachich  
Jackie & John Barthel  
Jay Peterson  
Jeff & Sharon Gladieux  
Jenae Casalnuovo  
Jennifer Briley  
Jim Hammer  
JoAnne Bjerkhoel  
Judy Najera  
Kevin Kohler  
Mac & Cheryl Bean  
Mary Ellen Moskowite  
Mary Masini  
Mike & Gerry Cooper  
Nolando Banez  
Patrick & Judy Trihey  
Peter Breen  
Phil Burton  
Rick van Geldern  
RoseAnn & Don DeMoro  
Sarah Buckley  
Shannon and Mike Damonte  
Sharon Evensen  
Stephen & Kathy Bockrath  
Steve Clark  
Steve Whitney  
Stu Williams

Suzie Gardner-Gambill  
 Teresa Daniels  
 Tim Cantillon  
 Tony Larosa  
 Vic Aissa  
 Vince Haavisto



DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT: Steele Canyon RFP SECTION 7a

AT STEELE CANYON

<p><b>WAYS TO STAY:</b></p> <p><b>RV, HOUSEBOAT, GLAMPING</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>GETTING AROUND:</b></p> <p>Kayak &amp; Canoe Rentals, Boat Launch &amp; Marina, Ferry &amp; Water Taxi</p> <hr/> <p><b>PROPERTY FEATURES</b></p> <p>Safe Harbor Full-Service Marina        Steele Canyon Provisions: Grocery        PADI Dive Center        Forestry &amp; Conservation Center</p>	<p><b>AMENITIES</b></p> <p>Boardwalk: Dining and Retail        Steele Canyon Provisions: Grocery &amp; Marketplace        Craft Brews Restaurant        Old Fashioned Ice Cream Shop        Pasta &amp; Pizza Carryout        Container Coffee Cafe        BBQ &amp; Picnic Pavilion        Full Service Marina &amp; Boat Storage        Dive Center &amp; PADI Certification        Leisure &amp; Activity Pool        Floating Fitness Center        Forestry and Conservation Center</p>	<p><b>ACTIVITIES</b></p> <p>Glow-in-the-dark Mini Golf        PADI Certification        Sunken Ship Guided Dive        Snorkeling        Boat Rentals        High Ropes Course        Sugar Sand Beach        Floating Obstacle Course        Kayak, Canoe, &amp; Paddleboard Rental        Hiking &amp; Nature Trails        Conservation/Forestry Workshops        Swims to Spanish Flat</p>
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DEVELOPMENT CONCEPT: Spanish Flat RFP SECTION 7a

BY STANWOOD OUTDOORS

AT SPANISH FLAT

<p><b>WAYS TO STAY:</b></p> <p><b>GLAMPING</b></p> <hr/> <p><b>GETTING AROUND:</b></p> <p>Kayak &amp; Canoe Rentals, Electric Boat Marina, Ferry &amp; Water Taxi</p> <hr/> <p><b>PROPERTY FEATURES</b></p> <p>Lookout Tower &amp; Restaurant        RAND Electric Boat Marina        Wedding &amp; Event Space        Protected Swim Only Cove</p>	<p><b>Amenities</b></p> <p>Lookout Tower &amp; Sunset Restaurant        Star Gazing Deck        Clubhouse, Infinity Pool, &amp; Swim Up Bar        Electric Boat Marina &amp; Rentals        Hillside Therapeutic Soaking Tubs        Fitness Center &amp; Wellness Spa        Room Service/Housekeeping</p>	<p><b>Activities</b></p> <p>Creative Center        Taco Shop &amp; Wood Fired Pizza        Container Coffee Cafe        Sunrise / Sunset Outdoor Yoga        Challenge stairs        Sandy Beach &amp; Adventure Cove        Special Event &amp; Wedding Lawn        Protected Swim Only Cove        Swim &amp; Activity Dock        Hiking Trails &amp; Nature Trails        Wellness Expeditions        Swims to Steele Canyon</p>
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### Lake Berryessa Statistics - January 1, 2022

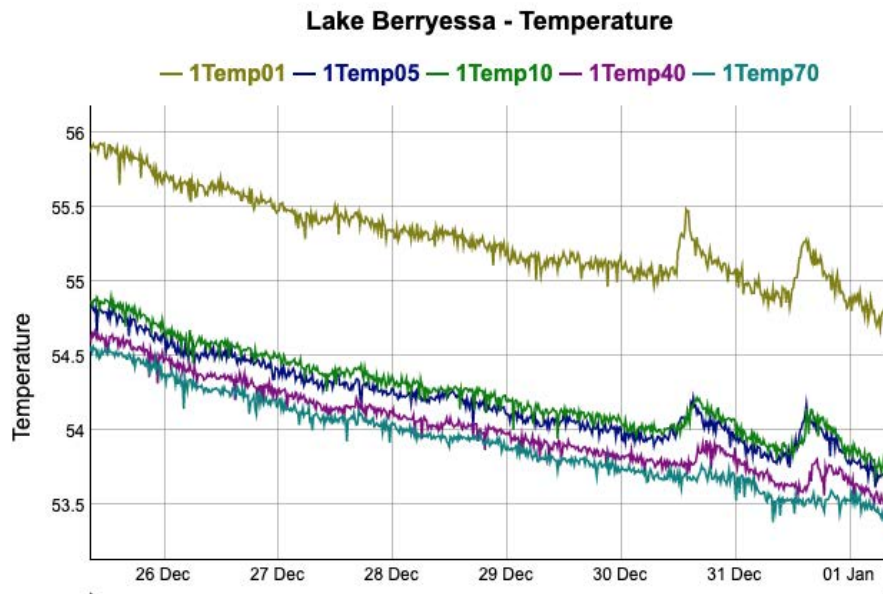
Welcome to the New Year!

The official rainfall total at Monticello Dam has reached 15.6 inches.

The lake level has risen 4.9 feet since December 1, to 409.2 feet 30.8 feet below Glory Hole.

The lake is at 63.6% capacity.

Last year on this date the lake was at 417.9 feet, 22.1 feet below Glory Hole. Rainfall was at 1.9 inches. Only 9.44 inches fell that whole year.



#### New Year Smiles

Free Sunday Funnies at: <https://comics.azcentral.com/>

I'm not buying a 2022 calendar until I see the trailer.

My New Year's resolution was to read more, so I turned on the subtitles on my TV.

I'm going to stay up late this New Year's Eve—not to ring in the New Year, but to make sure this one leaves.

My New Year's resolution is to procrastinate. I'll start tomorrow.

My New Year's resolution was to stay out of shape. Maybe I won't stick to this one either.

I was going to give up all of my bad habits for the new year, but then I remembered that no one likes a quitter.

Not to brag, but I already have a date for New Year's Eve—it's December 31.

At the beginning of the year, I made a resolution to lose 15 pounds. Only 20 more to go!

#### New Year's Brain Exercise

Have you ever wondered how different cultures can see the world as we do when they have different spoken languages and their written language is often so far different from ours? Below is the simple phrase, "Hello, how are you" shown in various written languages. If you were born in one of these cultures, how do you learn to speak and especially how do you learn to write and read? Which culture would you like to be born into to learn to write?

**Hello, how are you?**

Language

As Written

As Pronounced

Arabic

مرحبا كيف حالك

marhaban kayf haluk

Japanese

こんにちは元気ですか

Kon'nichiwa genkidesuka

Chinese simplified

你好吗

Nǐ hǎo ma

Chinese traditional

你好嗎

Nǐ hǎo ma

Sindhi

سلام توهان ڪيئن آهيو

Hindi

नमस्ते कैसी हो तुम

namaste kaisee ho tum

Korean

안녕하세요. 어떻게 지내세요

annyeonghaseyo. eotteohge jinaeseyo

Russian

Привет, как ты

Privet, kak ty

Punjabi

. ਲ ਤਸੀ ਕਿਵੇ ਹ

Hailō tusī kivēṁ hō

Burmese

မင်္ဂလာပါ, နေကောင်းလား

maingalarpar, naykaungglarr

Thai

Śwạsđī pěn ngị băng

Tamil

வணக்க. எப்போது இருக்கிறாய்

Vaṇakkam eppaṭi irukkiṛāy

Ukranian

Привіт як ти

Pryvit yak ty

Mongolian

сайн уу, сайн байна уу

sain uu, sain baina uu



EVAN KILKUS

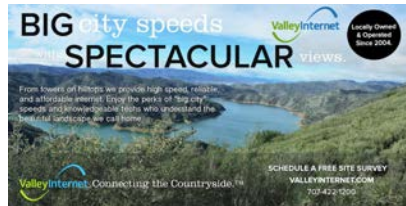
707-210-4897

Evan@CompleteWildfireDefense.com

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Wildfire Risk Assessments  
Defensible Space/Land Management  
Home Hardening Upgrades  
Water System Design & Install  
Community Project Planning

Complete Wildfire Defense website: <https://completewildfiredefense.com/>



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## **Welcome to the Lake Berryessa News Newsletter**

**"Without The Lake Berryessa News, there would be no Lake Berryessa news."**

I am deeply gratified by the responses to my 20 for 22 appeal in my last newsletter! Thanks for your donations to keep the Lake Berryessa News moving forward. But also for your compliments and notes of encouragement. These are the things that help keep me going.

The descriptions of your love of the lake, your experiences here, your family history at the lake convince me that there is a real Lake Berryessa Community. We may be geographically dispersed, but we are united in spirit. And looking forward to the revitalization of our lake.

### **One Last Special Appeal to Our Readers**

Experience shows that without THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS, there would be no Lake Berryessa news! Where else could you find the kind of information about Lake Berryessa that you see in today's newsletter below?

Your decision to support the Lake Berryessa News will show your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community. So I will make the appeal only once more - the 20 for 22 Donation Program!

If you like the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms please send a donation check of \$20 (or more if you feel so inclined) made out to Peter Kilkus (not the Lake Berryessa News) and mail it to Peter Kilkus, 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558. If you trust the US Postal Service you can stick a crinkly old \$20 bill in an envelope with your information and send it to the same address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My account is under the name Peter Kilkus. You can contact me directly at 415-307-6906 or email me at [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com). (Note: Your donation is NOT tax deductible)

If you have not yet decided to donate, please do so. If you wish to keep getting your Lake Berryessa News for free, that's fine too. I hope you enjoy reading the Lake Berryessa News as much as I enjoy writing it. I'll do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting the lake community.

Thanks.  
Peter Kilkus

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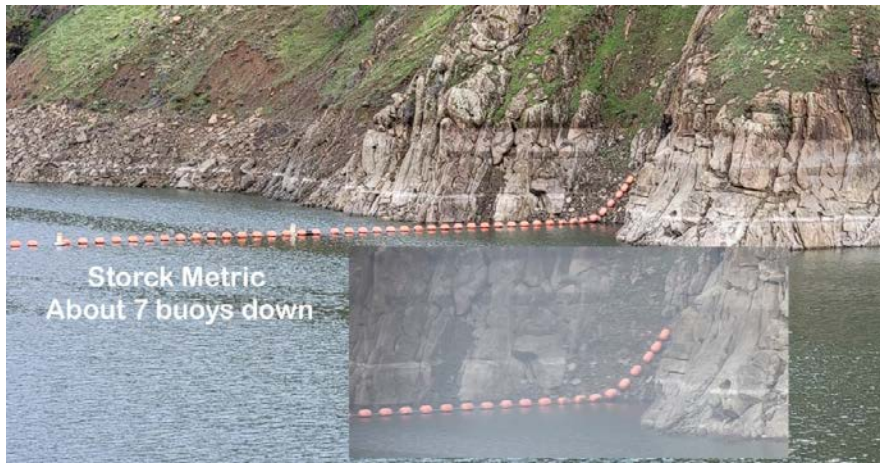
### **Lake Berryessa Statistics - January 9, 2022**

The official rainfall total at Monticello Dam has reached 15.8 inches.

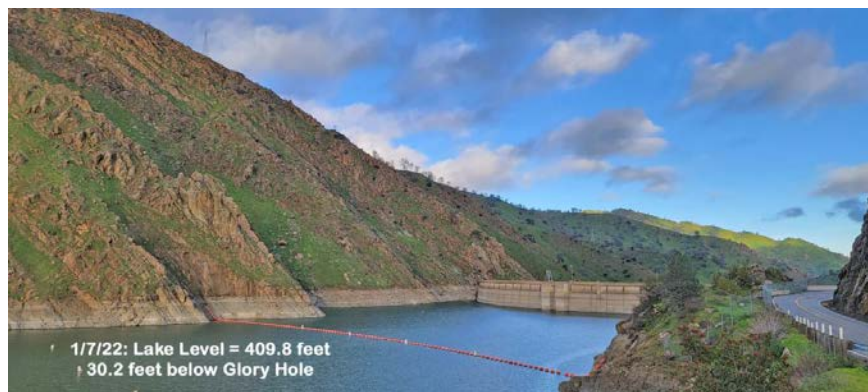
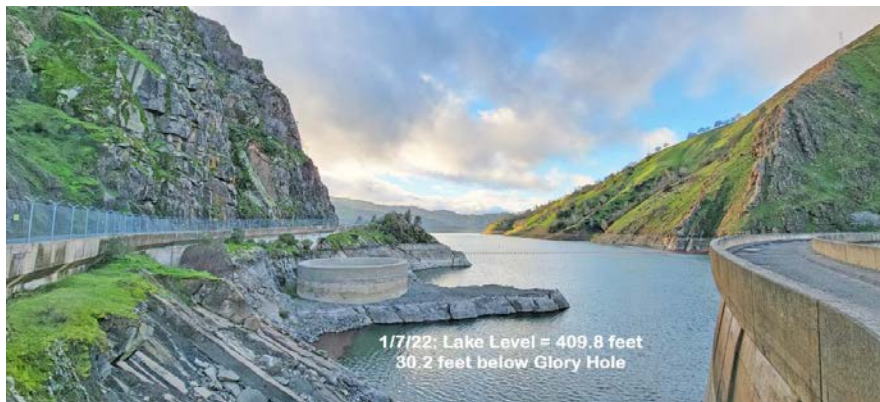
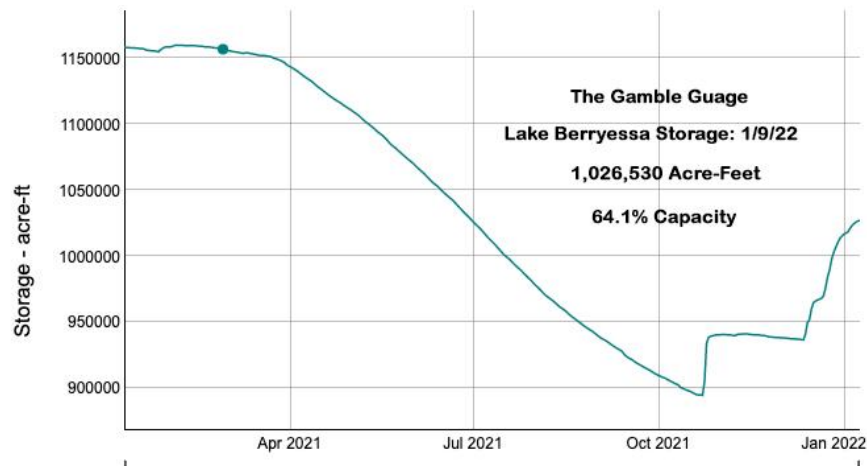
The lake level has risen to 409.8 feet 30.2 feet below Glory Hole.

The Stork Metric is "about 7 buoys down".





The Gamble Guage: The lake is at 64.1% capacity.





[Free Sunday Funnies at: https://comics.azcentral.com/](https://comics.azcentral.com/)

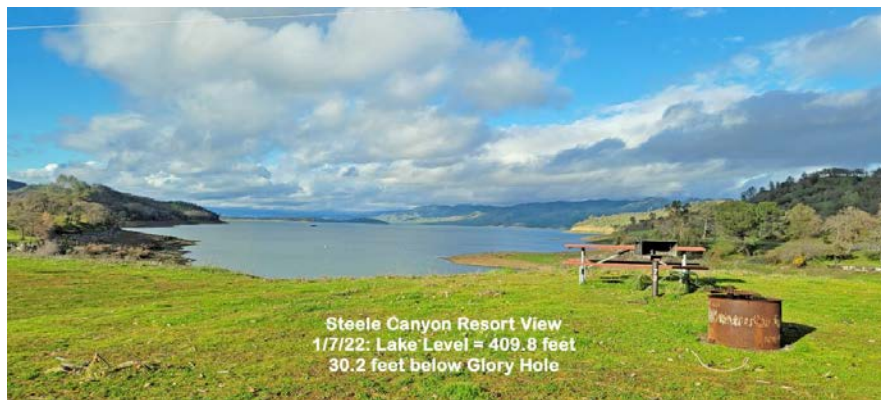
### **Steele Canyon Resort Update**

Steele Canyon Resort is open for business as Sun Lake Berryessa continues its clean-up in preparation for rebuilding. The front gate is open. Local residents, Stacy and Rocky, welcome you. The launch is open and the view is spectacular.

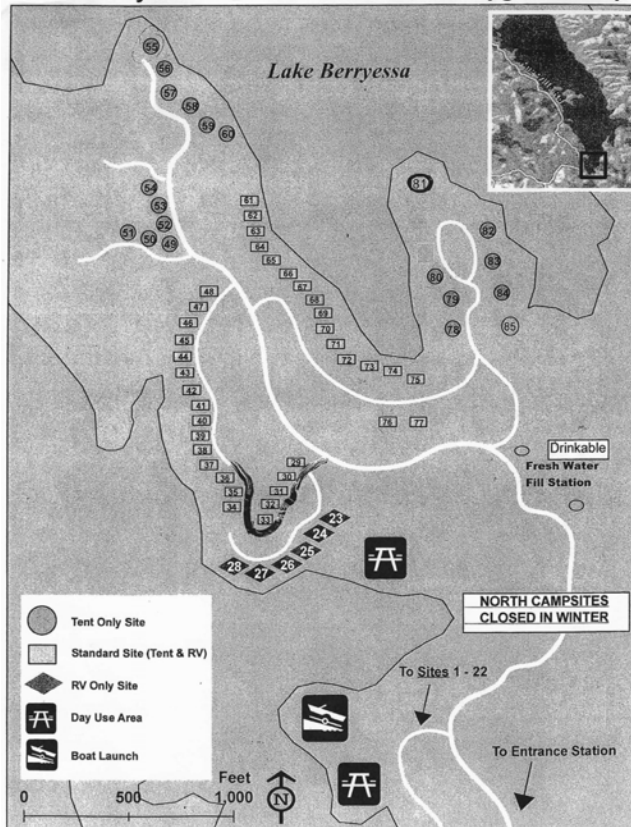
Steele Canyon online booking site:  
[www.campspot.com/book/steele-canyon](http://www.campspot.com/book/steele-canyon)

Spanish Flat also has an online booking site:  
[www.campspot.com/book/spanish-flat](http://www.campspot.com/book/spanish-flat)

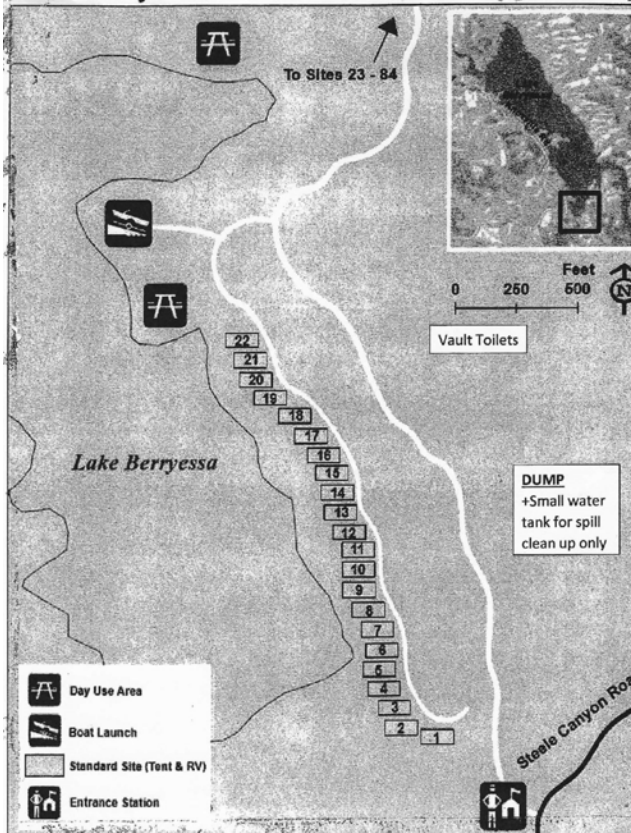
Sun Outdoors Booking Number: 1 (888) 734-5317



# Steele Canyon Recreation Area - North Campground Map



# Steele Canyon Recreation Area - South Campground Map



Facility or Service	Fee
RV Campsite (Max 2 vehicles) (2 guests)	\$55
(each add'l guest – max 8 guests)	\$5
Standard Campsite (Max 2 vehicles) (2 guests)	\$50
(each add'l guest – max 8 guests)	\$5
Tent Only Campsite (Max 1 vehicle) (2 guests)	\$45
(each add'l guest – max 4 guests)	\$5
Extra Person (day use) per person, walk in	\$5
Pet Fee per pet, per day or night of camping	\$5
Extra Vehicle/Parking per vehicle, per night of camping	\$10
Day Use per vehicle	
Option 1: per vehicle up to 4 guests	\$20
(each add'l guest)	\$5
Option 2: per vehicle up to 2 guests	\$14
(each add'l guest)	\$5
Boat Launch	
registered camper	\$10
general public	\$30
Annual Day Use Pass	\$175
Annual Boat Launch Pass	\$350
RV Dump Fee	\$25

### **Markley Cove Recovery!**

While the Lake Berryessa News was out and about we stopped by Markley Cove. There's not been too much news about Markley lately. They suffered significant fire damage and had to go through a rebuilding process. They lost their offices and the nice store at the entrance which has been replaced by temporary building.

### **But they are open!**







**Lake Berryessa News Print Edition Returns on April 1, 2022 (April Fool's Day)!**

Due to the success of the 20 for 22 Donation Program the print version will return featuring my favorite topic - the April Fool's Day edition. You can read many previous year's editions including the classic "Floating Native American Casino Coming to Lake Berryessa" at:

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/archives/1-best-of-april-1-stories.pdf>

But this year I hve a small problem. I'm not sure I can come with new ideas. I need your help. If you have an idea for an April Fool's Day story or product, please send it to me at

[illegible]

Exercise More: It's time to finally accept your body for the damaged, irreparable pile of trash that it is.

Be Kinder To Yourself: Ha! You're going to give up on day one and hate yourself for it the rest of the year for it.

Be More Confident: You know you'll never do it, but try hard anyway.

Binging All Old Prestige TV: Sad to think that even this purely frivolous goal that contributes nothing to society will be too much for you to handle this year.

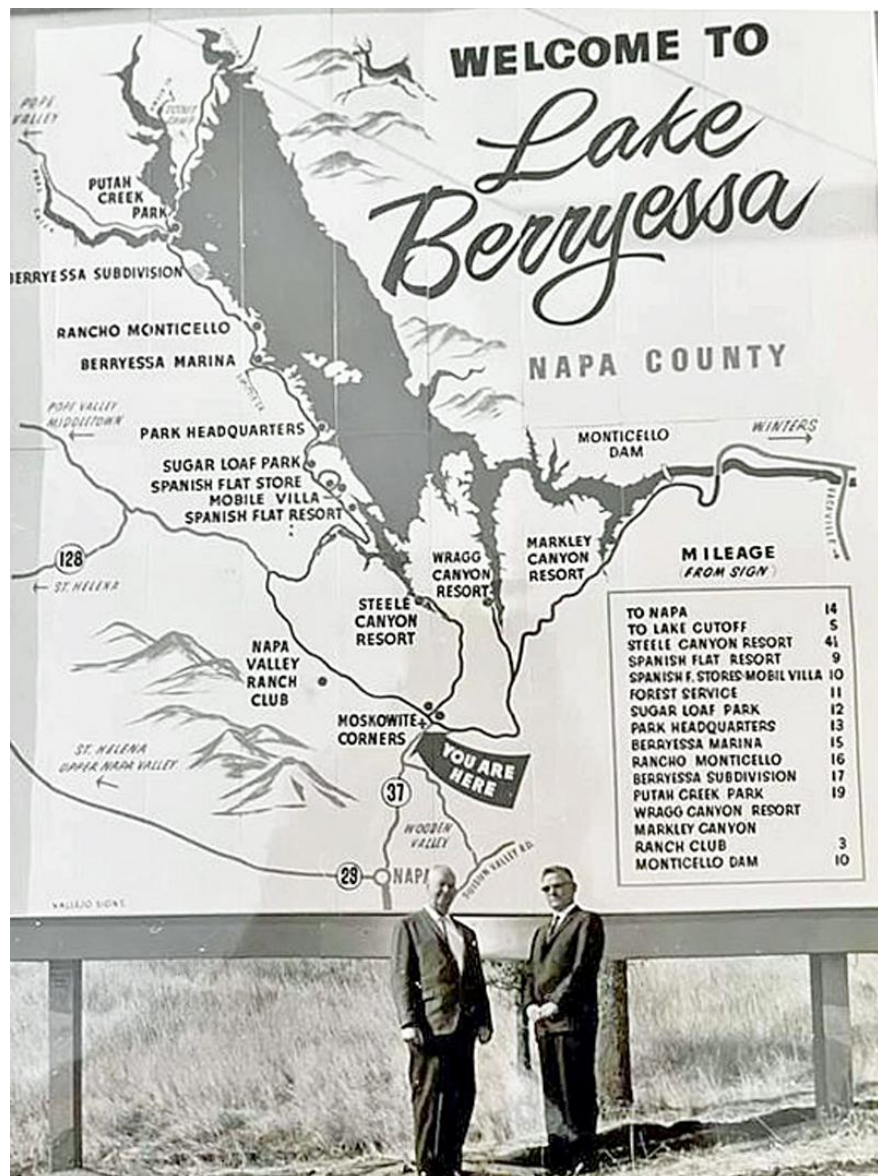
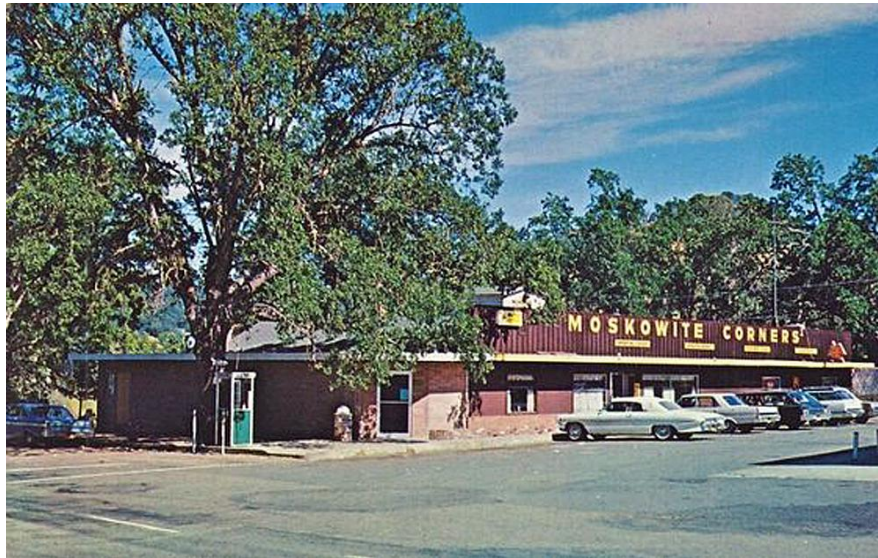
Read More Books: Yeah, the person who got overwhelmed by “How to Appear Normal at Social Events: And Other Essential Wisdom” is definitely going to tackle Anna Karenina.

Do Something About That Eagle Devouring Your Liver: Ever since you gave humanity the gift of fire and Zeus sentenced you to have an organ torn out of your body every night, you've been moaning about making a change. But you know you'll somehow never get around to it.



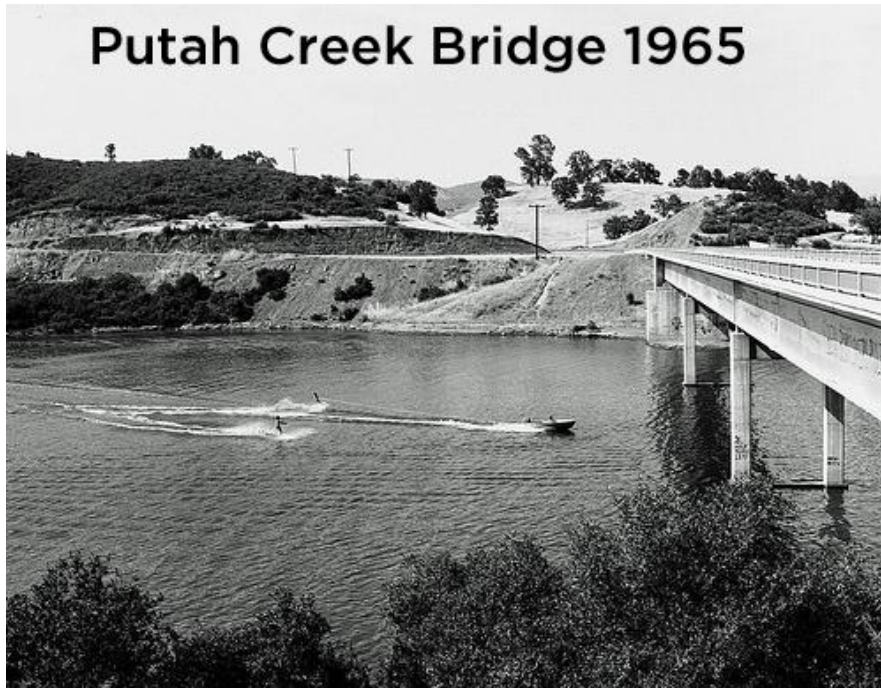
Just Make It Through Till Next Year: Good luck, pal.

Lake Berryessa History: A Few Historical Photos





# Putah Creek Bridge 1965



## Onion Headlines

Florida's Governor DeSantis Threatens To Cut Hospital Funding If Surgeons Keep Wearing Masks

Trump commands his followers to siege Twitter HQ and force them to reinstate his account

Statistic: 1 out of every 14 Minnesotans play ice hockey

A prominent Russian window who was a Putin critic, was found dead after falling through a journalist

Epidemiologists Expect Pi Variant To Arrive By 3/14

Woman leasing all-electric Nissan Leaf really sticking it to Saudi regime

Creationists Vow Not To Be Vaccinated For Fear It Will Alter The DNA They Don't Believe In

Senators Josh Hawley and Ted Cruz were spotted driving tanks through Washington, D.C. for unclear reasons

Scientists agree: your baby cries because it wishes it were born to a wealthier family

How Do Self-Driving Cars Avoid Driving Straight To The Beach?



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Wildfire Risk Assessments  
Defensible Space/Land Management  
Home Hardening Upgrades  
Water System Design & Install  
Community Project Planning

## **Lake Berryessa News Newsletter: January 23, 2022**

"Without The Lake Berryessa News, there would be no Lake Berryessa news."

It's been a quiet few weeks here at the lake. So this edition will highlight some interesting stories about Lake Berryessa's world famous Morning Glory Spillway, better known as the Glory Hole.



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### **Sunday Funnies**

**Free Sunday Funnies at:**

**<https://comics.azcentral.com/>**

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### **Steele Canyon Recreation Area and Spanish Flat Recreation Area Update**

Although it's been relatively quiet at the lake several sources report that Sun Lake Berryessa is continuing to work on resort development. They are still in the National Environmental Protection Act (NEPA) and California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) approval processes.

Although this is an unofficial statement, Sun has not formally commented, Sun appears to be getting ready to ramp up both sites with extra amenities and services. Their goal appears to be to get the sites improved by the upcoming peak summer season. They're also looking forward to launching new websites for both Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat by the first week of February. This will allow for guests of the campgrounds to make their reservations online up to a year in advance.

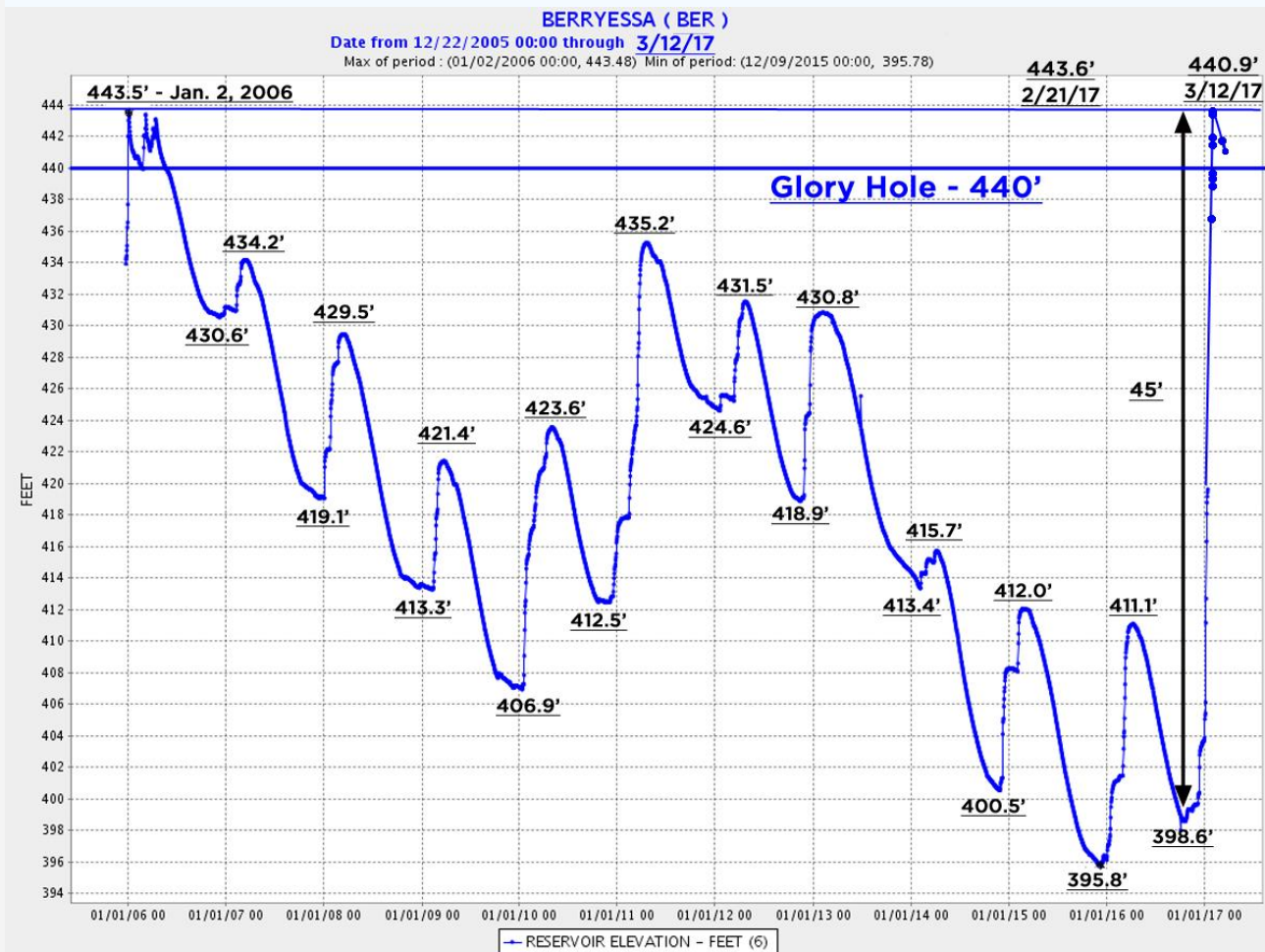
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### **Lake Berryessa Statistics - January 23, 2022**

The lake level is 410.1 feet - 29.9 feet below Glory Hole. The official rainfall total at Monticello Dam has reached 15.6 inches. The Gamble Gauge shows the lake is at 64.4% capacity.

It's been a dry January with no rain in sight. Although we've had about half an inch in the first week of this month, it's not as bad as January, 2015 when NO rain fell at all in January.

Rainfall had reached 13.3 inches by the end of December, 2014. Annual rainfall that 2014-2015 year totaled 19.6 inches. Lake level in 2016 reached only 411.1 feet - 28.9 feet below Glory Hole. But in 2017 the lake rose 42.3 feet in a three weeks on 13 inches of almost continuous rain. The total rainfall that year 47.6 inches.



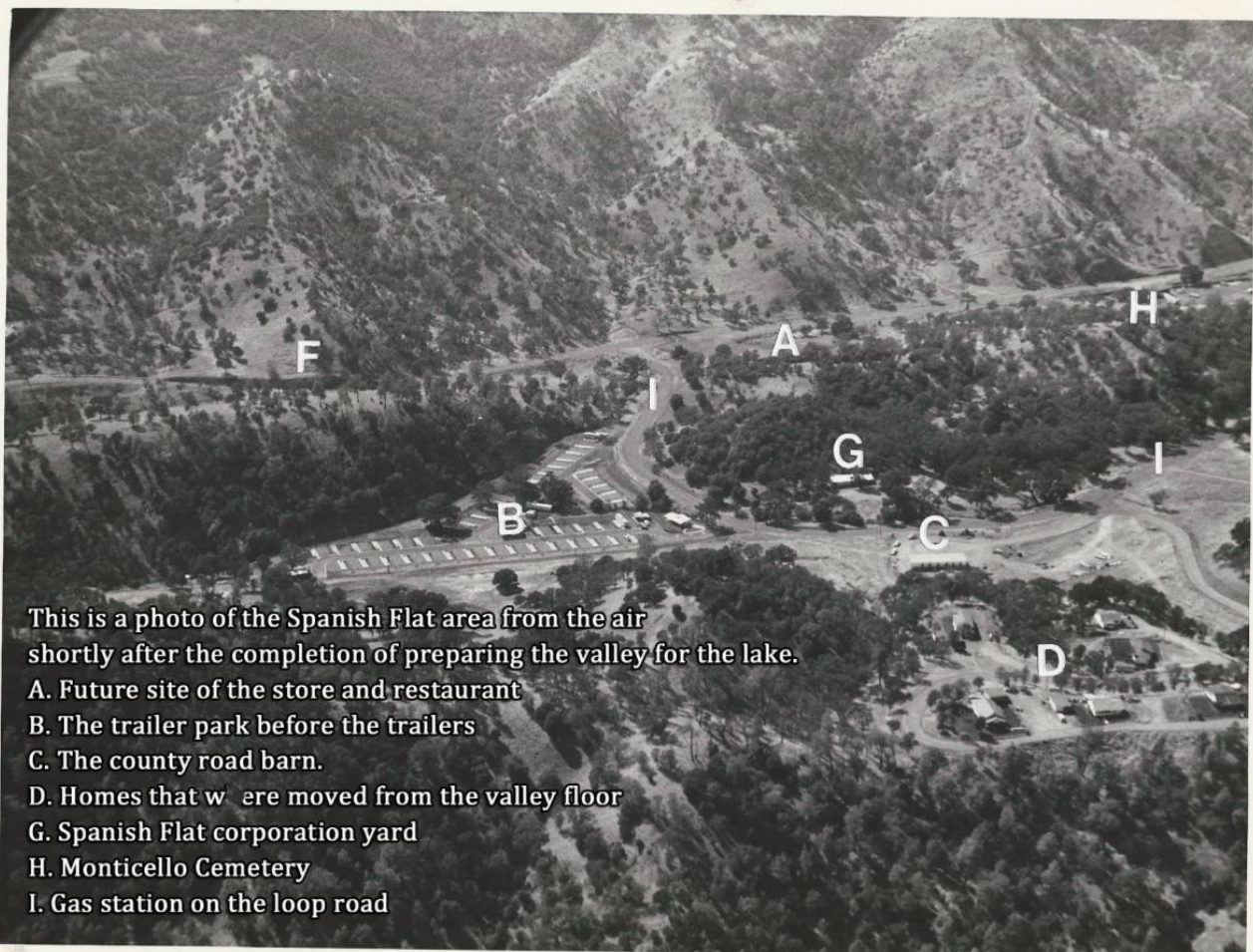
Now for some frosting on this data cake. Recall that we were in the middle of a ten year drought from 2006 - 2017. The lowest lake level during the period was 395.8 feet on December 9, 2015 - 44.2 feet below Glory Hole. Below is a photo from October, 2016 at 398.6 feet - 41.4 feet below Glory Hole.



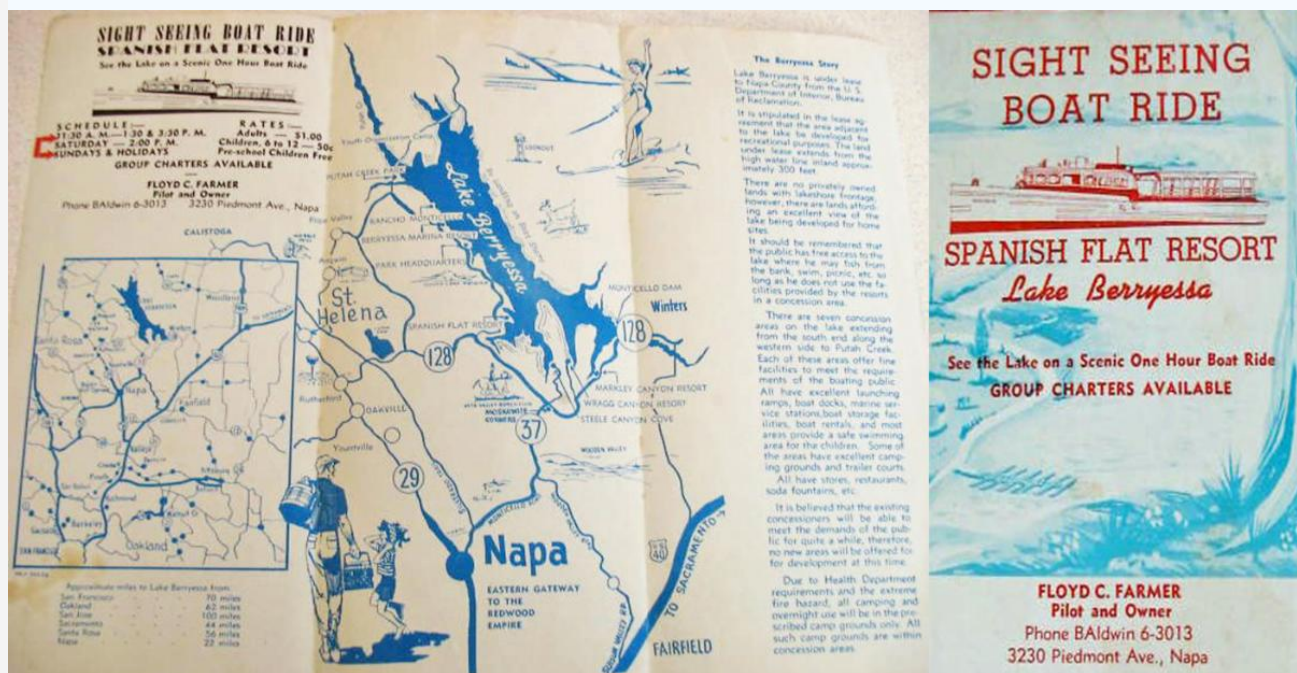


### Spanish Flat History

Here are a couple of historical Spanish Flat Resort items for your amusement. A photo of the original Spanish Flat layout before the lake filled. And a flyer advertising my dream job when the new resorts are rebuilt.







## Glory Hole: Awesome, Frightening, But Dangerous?

by Peter Kilkus (1/19/22)

There was a lot of news coverage of Lake Berryessa in 2017 (47.6 inches of rain) and then again in 2019 (40.5 inches of rain) when Glory Hole spilled for the second time in three years. The photos and drone videos taken by the Lake Berryessa News have amazed, and frightened, people who have never seen the Glory Hole in action before.

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/photo-album/videos.html>

As a counterpoint, the rainfall total in 2020 was 10.9 inches, and in 2021 was only a measly 9.2 inches, the lowest in 24 years.

Inevitably the question is raised about the danger of Glory Hole itself.

Fact: There has never been anyone “sucked” into Glory Hole since it was constructed!

It's difficult to get close to the Glory Hole at any time due to the barriers in place. And only a fool would cross the buoy line to get close to it when it's flowing strongly four feet over the edge, as it did in 2017 (3.6 feet over) and 2019 (4.1 feet over). The Glory Hole has only spilled 26 times in 60 years.

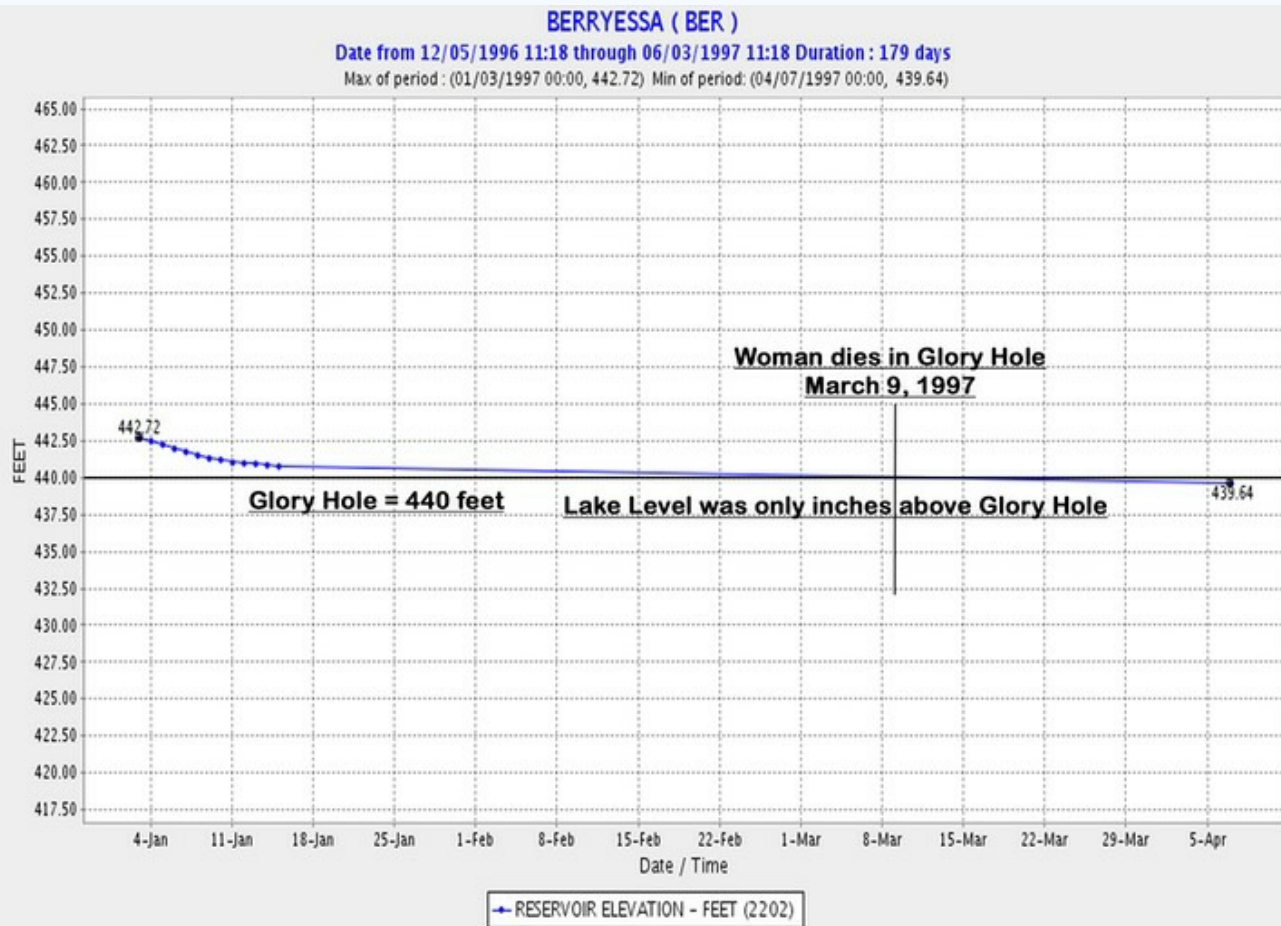
But back in 1997 a woman did die when she “fell” into the spillway. In the story from SFGATE below you can see that the water was not very high if she were able to grip the top for so long. There was speculation at the time that she had purposely pushed herself over the edge, committing suicide, not been “sucked” in.

Witnesses had tried to talk to the lady for many minutes to convince her to swim to shore, but she refused. Data shows that the lake level was only a few inches above the lip of the spillway. She was never “sucked” into the spillway. Her body was found several hours later in Lower Putah Creek.

The story from 1997 resurfaced at other news sites due to the coverage of the Glory Hole spilling over in February 2017 and 2019.

SFGate Editor's Note - 2017 Update: Woman Sucked Into Lake Berryessa Spillway (Wednesday, March 12, 1997)

Napa -- Emily Schwalek, 41, of Davis was killed Sunday when she was "sucked" down a spillway at the Monticello Dam at Lake Berryessa. The spillway, which drops straight down more than 200 feet, is known as the Glory Hole. It routes excess water from the lake into a 72 foot diameter entrance structure known as the Glory Hole down to a 28-foot-wide exit pipe. Authorities said witnesses reported seeing Schwalek swimming toward the spillway at about 6:30 p.m. Sunday. The woman dropped out of sight after gripping the edge of the hole for about 20 minutes, witnesses said. There has never been a documented case of anyone else falling through the Glory Hole, said Don Burbey of the Solano Irrigation District.







**2/26/19 - Noon**

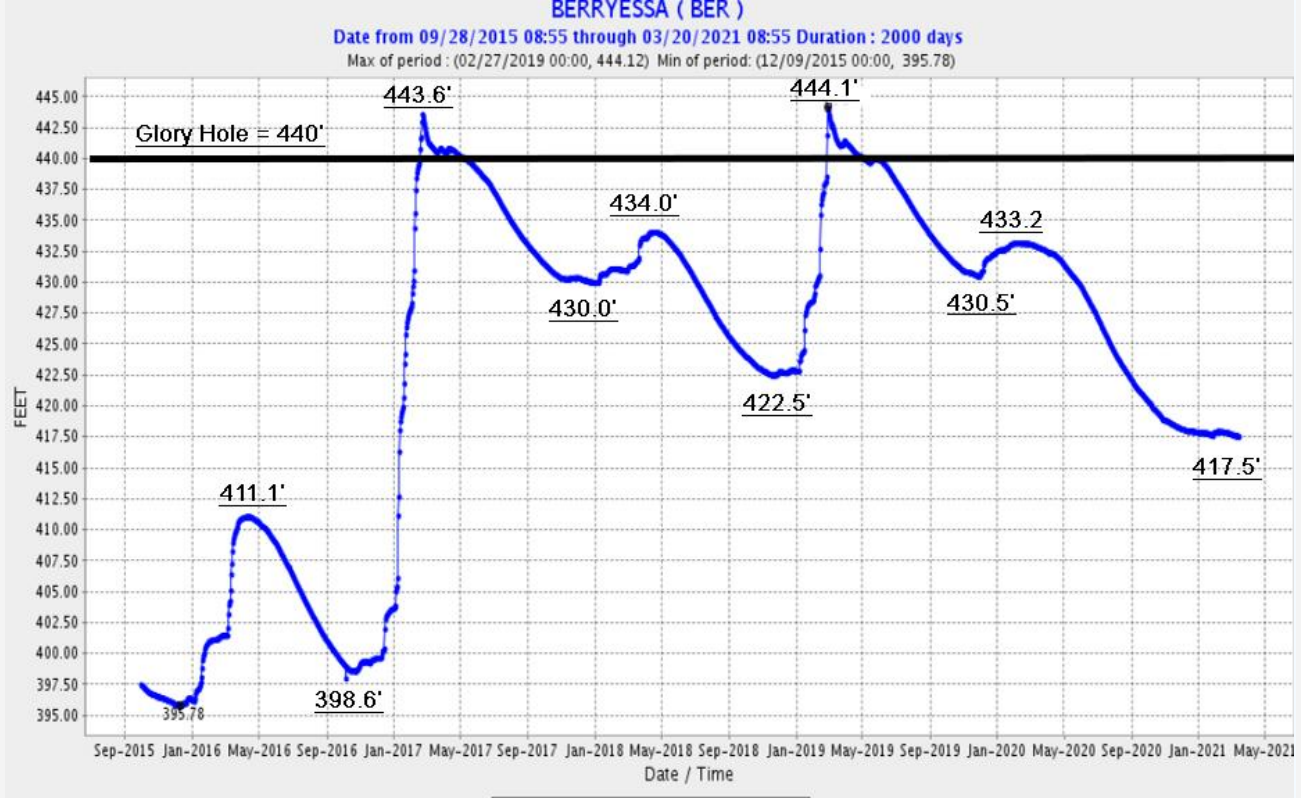
**440.1 feet - 1.2 inches above Glory Hole**



**2/21/17**

**Lake Level = 443.5 Feet**  
**3.5 Feet Above Glory Hole**





### Am I Using Critical Thinking?

- Curiosity: Am I open-minded or am I biased?
- Skepticism: Am I carefully evaluating the credibility of the information?
  - Analysis: Am I examining and evaluating the evidence carefully?
- Logic: Am I reaching well-founded conclusions?
- Creativity: Am I trying to look at information from multiple perspectives?

### How Does Glory Hole Work?

Lake Berryessa is a man-made lake (reservoir) in Napa County that was created in 1958 with the construction of Monticello Dam. It is the seventh-largest lake in California. During wet winters the when the lake hits capacity (defined as a lake level above 440 feet msl), water starts flowing over this circular spillway popularly known as the Glory Hole - more formally known as a Morning Glory Spillway - into Putah Creek on its way to the City of Winters.

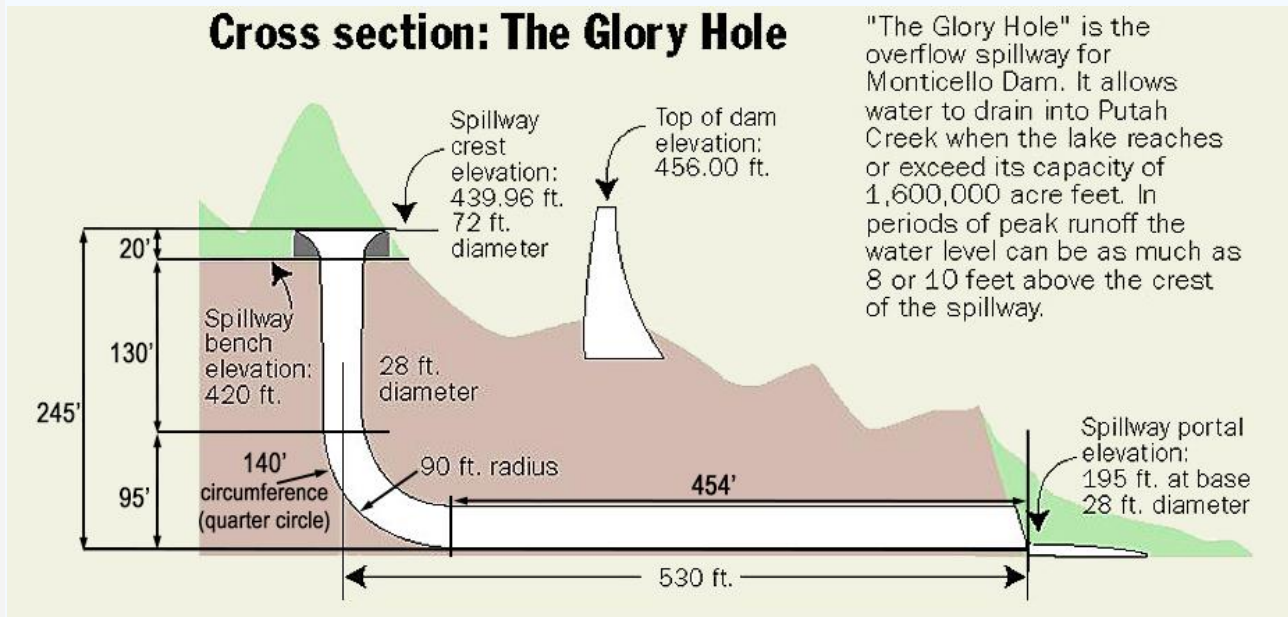
The spillway is 72 feet wide at the top and curves down to about 28 feet wide at 20 feet below

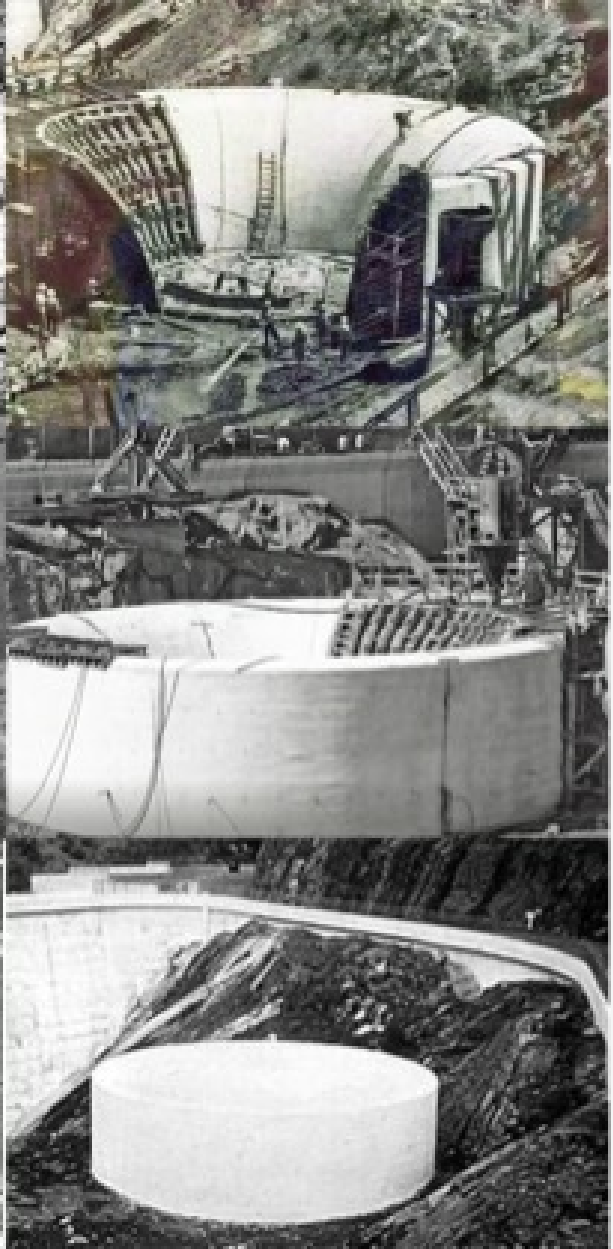
the spillway lip. The spillway can drain 48,400 cubic feet per second (96,000 acre-feet per day) in the unlikely event that the lake level would rise to 15.5 feet above the level of the funnel - which is almost the height of Monticello Dam (456 feet above mean sea level - msl).

48,400 cubic feet per second in a full 28 foot diameter circular pipe means the water would be flowing at 53 miles per hour.

If the lake ever reached 455.5 feet msl the system is designed so that water would first go over Highway 128 before it overtopped the dam. The highest level the lake ever reached was 446.7 feet msl in 1983.

During dry years skateboarders have used the Glory Hole output tunnel for doing tricks.









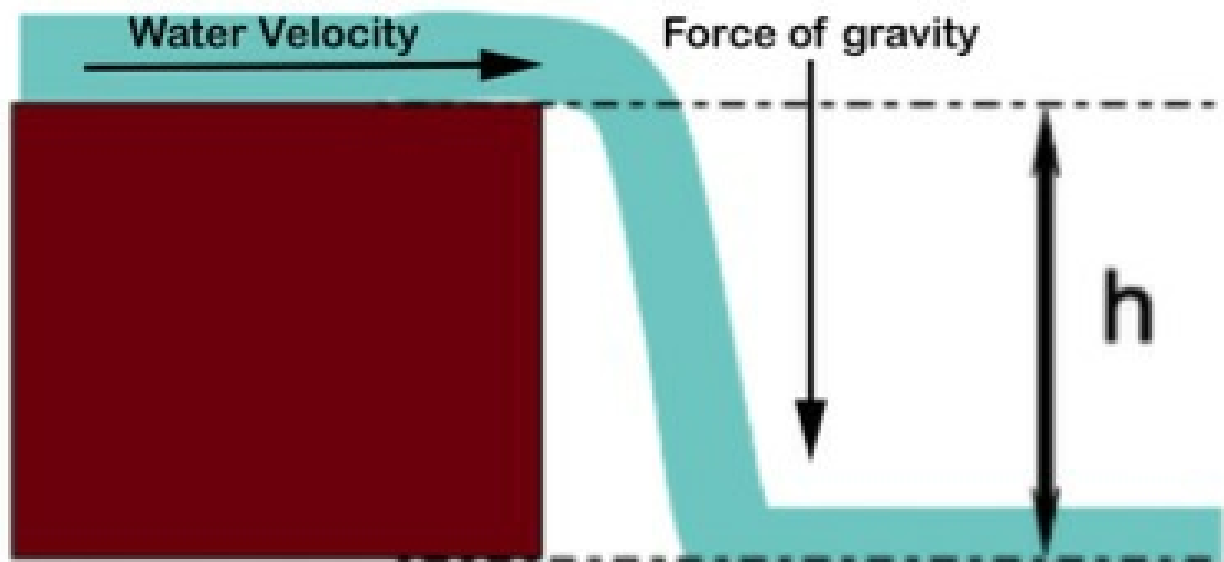




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### The Glory Hole Is A Circular Waterfall

A review of photos and videos shows that laminar (smooth) flow over the lip of Glory Hole and down the spillway is the same as the flow over a waterfall.





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"How to Write Big Books" by Warren Peace  
"The Lion Attacked" by Claude Yarnoff  
"The Art of Archery" by Beau N. Arrow  
"Songs for Children" by Barbara Blacksheep  
"Irish Heart Surgery" by Angie O'Plasty  
"Desert Crossing" by I. Rhoda Camel  
"School Truancy" by Marcus Absent  
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