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Halloween



The Lake Berryessa News

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October, 2016



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A Tale of Two Cases

"It was the best of times, it was the worst of times, it was the age of wisdom, it was the age of foolishness..."

The Case for the Creation of a Lake Berryessa Recreation Commission

The Charles Dickens quote above is particularly relevant to the present situation in Napa County. The Napa Valley has recovered from the economic downturn and is showing record improvements in tourism and profits. But the Lake Berryessa region is still suffering from past mismanagement by the Bureau of Reclamation and decades-long neglect by the county.

The County is now in serious discussions with the Bureau of Reclamation regarding re-assuming the management of the Lake Berryessa Recreation Areas through a Managing Partner Agreement. The county managed the resorts from 1958 to 1975. See the article on Page 4 of this issue describing the controversy of the early 1970s.

A report to the supervisors regarding the costs and benefits of this new arrangement is scheduled to be presented to the supervisors in November. The majority of the businesses and residents in the Lake Berryessa region support this proposal.

Lake Berryessa is not just another "lake in the country." It is a major economic, social, and recreation resource whose value to Napa County is being utterly wasted.

And it is not only the present "recreation areas" (the seven previous "resorts") that need to be considered. The coordinated management of the whole region, including the public and private lands outside the federal "take-zone", must be done effectively

for the good of county residents. Only Napa County can do that. A Lake Berryessa Recreation Commission should be created reporting directly to the Napa Board of Supervisors. The Commission would consist of members with the professional expertise and competence needed to restore the Lake Berryessa Recreation Area as a successful and profitable family recreation destination.

Members should include representatives of the Board Directors of Visit Napa Valley - Napa's premier tourism association, other Napa recreation and hospitality management professionals, finance and contract experts, sustainability design consultants, and business owners and residents of the Lake Berryessa region.

The County Planning, Building & Environmental Department already includes a Parks and Open Space Division (actually the present Regional Park and Open Space District).

If Measure Z passes, more than \$800,000 per year will be available and much of that total should be dedicated to the revitalization of the Lake Berryessa region. In fact, Measure Z (if passed) funds themselves should be targeted at Berryessa watershed projects like new sewer systems and launch ramps for the recreation areas.

It's time for the county to finally provide the economic and social leadership Lake Berryessa deserves.

The Case for the Elimination of the Park and Open Space District

The Napa Regional Park and Open Space District (RPOSD) was created in 2006. It was born under intense controversy during a low turnout election and won by only 2,500 votes of 29,000 cast - hardly a mandate.

The Napa Register was against it: "The proposal...is flawed in fundamental ways...Supervisors need to address the parks issue, but not by creating an ill-defined new bureaucracy run by a separate set of elected officials."

Supervisor Bill Dodd strongly opposed it and predicted, "Sooner or later, this new layer of government will create a new tax or fee to fund their program." That's Measure Z, the Zombie Tax. A strong case can be made that Napa County voters made a mistake by creating it.

The RPOSD, with its policy of questionable land acquisitions and trails-at-any-cost philosophy, has done little of compelling benefit for Napa County residents. Most of what they have accomplished could have been done by a Parks and Open Space Division within the Napa County governing structure. Then the parks and open space strategy could be coordinated directly by the Supervisors..

This new structure might also make voters more likely to pass a park and open space sales tax.

It's a radical proposal to some, but the county has changed its organizational structure before.

An argument against folding the RPOSD into the county

structure is that the Board of Supervisors may be too development-oriented and would ignore open space priorities.

Skyline Park is an example. If the park were finally bought by Napa County it would be possible for the county to change its use of that land from strictly a park to other perceived beneficial uses. One supervisor has suggested that part of the Skyline Park land could be used for affordable housing. The Park and Open Space District could only use it as a park.

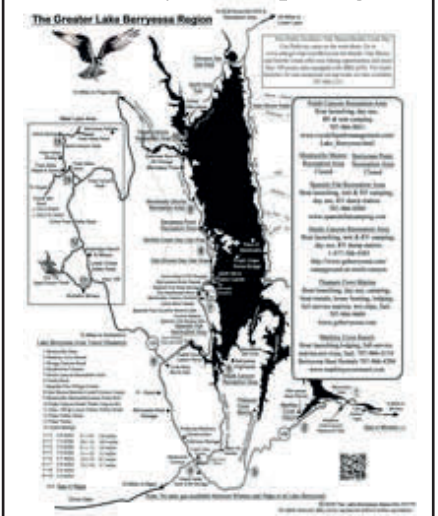
If we look at the county as a whole, very little has been done by the RPOSD in the Lake Berryessa Region. But now that the county is in serious discussions with the Bureau of Reclamation regarding taking over the management of the lake recreation areas, a coordinated structure including a county-managed Park and Open Space Division within the Planning, Building & Environmental Department which includes a Lake Berryessa Recreation Commission makes long-term sense.

State law allows the dissolution of a special district by Petition-Initiated Dissolution, LAFCO-Initiated Dissolution, or District-Initiated Dissolution.

Voters may request a Petition-Initiated Dissolution to dissolve a special district by a petition signed by not less than 10 percent of the registered voters within the district.

Napa County has 93,331 registered voters as of the June, 2016 primary election.

Lake Berryessa Map - Page 5



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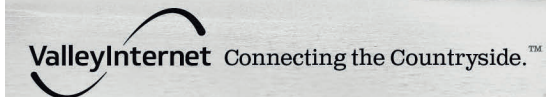
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**2016 Rainy Season:
What Are The Chances?**

Once again speculation about rainfall at Lake Berryessa has begun. We had an El Nino last year and it did nothing for Lake Berryessa. Will the lake fill this year? Unlikely, since it would take more than 60 inches of rain for the lake to go up 40 feet. But there’s always a chance.

Lake level rise depends on many variables like the actual lake level when it rains and how saturated is the ground. The lake rose 38 feet in 1978, 40 feet in 1993, and 61 feet in 1995 due to an unusually wet season with two significant storm periods. But this raises the question as to what would happen if the lake were already at or near the Glory Hole level and the rain still kept coming. Could there be a year when the lake went over the dam?

The water supply for Lake Berryessa is derived from the 568 square mile drainage basin above the dam. There are four principal creeks that flow into Lake Berryessa: Capell Creek, Pope Creek, Eticuera Creek, and Putah Creek - the main drainage of the basin. There is no connection to the Sierras so snow is not a factor.

Lake Berryessa has a storage capacity of 1,600,000 acre-feet (AF) at elevation 440 feet (Glory Hole). The average annual inflow to the reservoir is 369,000 AF and the annual firm yield is 201,000 AF. An additional release of 22,000 AF is required annually to meet prior downstream water rights along Putah Creek. An upstream reservation of 33,000 AF was established by the State Water Resource Control Board to provide water for future development of the area above Monticello Dam. Reclamation appropriated 7,500 AF of the 33,000 AF to provide for future development around the reservoir.

The reservoir water level may fluctuate from 455 feet (lip of dam) to a minimum elevation of 253 feet - no

further output allowed. A water level of 309 feet is considered dead storage elevation. During the severe drought of 1977 the level decreased to 388 feet - 52 feet below Glory Hole.

Water Elevation Frequency		
Years	Feet	Confidence Range (Feet)
1.25	440 Glory Hole	+ or - .05
5	445	+ or - 1.5
10	446.5	+ or - 2.0
25	447.5	+ or - 2.5
50	448.5	+ or - 2.75
100	449.5	+ or - 3.0

The latest Probable Maximum Flood (PMF) study was published on August 28, 1984. Experience since then indicates that the study results were conservative. Worst case results show the lake would overtop the dam by about 7.7 feet to an elevation 463.7' for 51 hours.

Of course, the probability of this happening is only 0.01% - a 10,000 year flood. Overtopping the dam is not expected to affect the safety of the dam.

The Water Elevation Frequency table, based on an analysis completed in 1986, depicts the water elevation that, on the average, can be expected to be reached or exceeded for various time periods.

The probability graph below shows that the chance of the lake rising to overtop the dam is only about .05% - a 2,000 year flood of 456 feet + or -5 feet.

The highest level the lake has ever reached in 58 years

was 446.7 feet (6.7 feet above Glory Hole) in 1983. In those same 58 years the level has only reached Glory Hole itself 24 times.

This data proves that the figures in the above table are conservative. The discharge flow capacity when the lake is at the Glory Hole level of 440 feet is 2,660 cu.ft/sec so there is a significant safety valve there too.

So flooding is the least of our worries. Bring on the rain!

Strange Southern Phrases

These are actual expressions, primarily from the Southern United States. Many of these colloquialisms are fading away, as they aren’t often continued by younger generations. But many of older folks have fond memories of hearing many of these funny sayings and expressions back when they were knee high to a bull frog.

Well that just dills my pickle!

That’s about as useful as a trap door on a canoe!

I’m finer than frog hair split four ways.

If you don’t stop I’ll knock you in the head and tell God you died.

He couldn’t carry a tune in a bucket.

She was so tall if she fell down she would be halfway home.

He was as mad as a mule chewing on bumblebees!

You’re liyin’ like a no-legged dog!

Hell, she could even depress the devil.

You could start an argument in an empty house.

You look as happy as a dead pig in the sunshine.

He’d gripe with a ham under each arm.

Each one of his sermons is better than the next!

He’s so windy he could blow up an onion sack.

He’s so useless if he had a third hand he would need another pocket to put it in!

She’s resting in peace in the marble orchard.

He’s about as handy as a back pocket on a shirt.

She’s so clumsy she could trip over a cordless phone!

He’s about as useful as a pogo stick in quicksand.

Well tie me to a pig and role me in the mud!

Well tie me to an anthill and fill my ears with jam!

The engine’s runnin’ but nobody’s driving.

If his brains were dynamite, he couldn’t blow his nose

He’s so dumb, he could throw himself on the ground and miss.

He’s acting crazier than a sprayed roach!

You’ve got champagne taste with a beer pocketbook.

It’s so dry the trees are bribing the dogs.

He is so ugly that my mother had to tie pork chops to his ears so the dog would play with him.”

**Reclamation Announces Seasonal Recreation Area
Closures and Seasonal Changes to Park Hours at Lake
Berryessa**

The Bureau of Reclamation, Central California Area Office, has scheduled a seasonal closure of the north side of Oak Shores Day Use Area and the two restrooms along the Smittle Creek Trail at Lake Berryessa beginning Saturday, Oct. 1, 2016, through Saturday, April 1, 2017.

The south side of Oak Shores will continue to offer restroom facilities, picnic tables, barbeque grills, water access, and a kayak/canoe hand launch. This seasonal closure allows Reclamation to perform necessary maintenance tasks and provides time for natural resource recovery. All other Reclamation-operated locations will remain open year-round.

Seasonal changes to park hours include the following Reclamation-operated areas: Oak Shores Day Use Area, Smittle Creek Day Use Area and Eticuera Day Use Area. Beginning Saturday, October 1, gates will close at 5 p.m. to reflect changes in daylight hours.

The Capell Cove Boat Launch Ramp is currently closed due to drought conditions and receding water levels; the ramp will re-open when water levels rise. Boaters are encouraged to use other ramps at Lake Berryessa, including those at the Putah Canyon Recreation Area, Steele Canyon Recreation Area, Pleasure Cove Marina, Spanish Flat Recreation Area and Markley Cove Resort (see the map at www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/berryessa/index.html).

Please note that these concession areas charge a fee to use their launch ramps. Please contact the locations to ensure ramps are still in operation prior to traveling, as some will likely be closing soon due to the dropping lake level. For information, please visit the following websites:

Markley Cove: www.markleycoveresort.com

Pleasure Cove Marina and Steele Canyon Recreation Area: www.goberryessa.com

Spanish Flat Recreation Area- <http://www.spanishflatcamping.com>

Putah Canyon Recreation Area - www.royalelcparkmanagement.com

The Dufer Point Visitor Center is open Saturdays and Sundays from noon to 3 p.m. from Oct. 1, 2016, through April 1, 2017. For information on activities, directions, pet restrictions, or other questions, please call the Visitor Center at 707-966-2111, ext. 113, or the Lake Berryessa Administration Office at 707-966-2111.

The Administration Office will continue to be open Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m.; it is located at 5520 Knoxville Road, Napa, CA 94558. Maps and information are available at both the Administration Office and the Visitor Center.

October Horoscopes

Aries (3/21-4/19): The suit jacket and tie might make you look more professional, but at the end of the day, you’re still not wearing any pants.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): Try as you might, you’ll find yourself completely unable to escape this week’s M.C. Escher Museum fire.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): In many ways, you’re still a child. None of them, however, will prevent you from being tried this week as an adult.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Long, gray beards have for centuries been linked to wisdom and shrewdness. Sadly, you get yours caught in the fax machine far too often for that to be the case.

Leo (7/23-8/22): When it comes to race relations, you’re colorblind. Also when it comes to sofas, desk chairs, and traffic lights.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Farm animals can often sense an earthquake seconds before it hits, which explains why they’re all looking at you with that huge grin on their face.

Libra (9/23-10/22): You’ll continue to grow as a human being this week, much to the relief of all those geneticists.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Every day on Earth is like a beautiful gift from God, which is thoughtful and all, but you’d probably prefer something you can actually use.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Juggling three young children isn’t easy for any mother, but then, that’s why you start with tennis balls and bowling pins first.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Were it officially sanctioned, judged by an impartial panel, and taking place somewhere other than your kitchen late at night, you’d pretty much shatter all existing hot dog eating records.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Your support system is loving, reassuring, and always there for you, but sooner or later its bound to run out of donuts.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Judging by that lightheaded, dreamy feeling, this would be a good time to stop giving blood.



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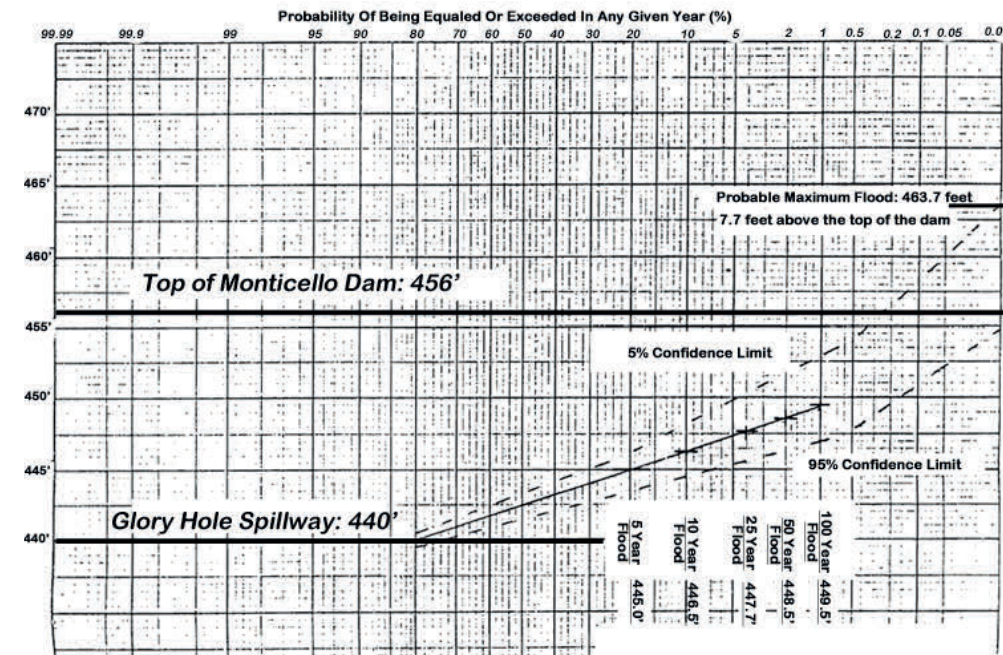
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6 (Continued from Page 5)

Don McFarland, manager of Steele Park Resort and member of the County Planning Commission, said that in the spring of 1970 the owners had expected to get a new contract in which the 90-day clause would be thrown out, but it fell through.

Then the Bureau of Reclamation slapped the moratorium on the area and all bets were off until the Park Service plan was finished.

Meanwhile the county worked up its own plan, issued in June, which called for more of the same with the 90-day clause out.

When the Park Service dropped its bombshell, the county still continued to stand behind the operators, claiming the "private enterprise" can provide the needed improvements if given a chance.

The county boasts the "not a nickel of outside tax money" has ever gone into Berryessa. The county ran things on \$165,000 last year from possessory interest taxes and boat stickers.

Why does the county want to continue to run Berryessa when it's turned into such a headache? "Some counties would say, 'Let the U.S. Government do it' Haberber says, "But that's the erosion of local government and we don't want ours eroded. No gimmicks and no payoffs...we just think we're the ones to be in charge."

"It's a lousy plan. It's ridiculous," he says of the Park Service's report. He and the operators take particular aim at the "optimum use" figure of nine million persons annually which the plan projects. About 1.8 million people use the lake now, and they believe that's about where it should be kept.

Tent camping is not one of the uses Berryessa lends itself to at least in summer when the temperatures are hot. Haberber

maintains that the main attraction is Berryessa's superiority as a boating lake, something the Park Service plan fails to recognize.

He also objects strongly to the suggestion that the lake is polluted. The county hired a sanitarian for \$5,000 to make a comprehensive study which showed that it wasn't.

Most of the users and the fish agree with him, although most of the resorts use a rather primitive ponding system for sewage which depends on evaporation.

County Planning Director, Jim Hickey, former planning chief for the Association of Bay Area Governments said:

"The idea that Napa County is tearing up Lake Berryessa is false. The Bureau of Reclamation knows what's been going on and everything that's been done has the BOR signature on it.

"Some are saying that we're incompetent because we are local and can't see the regional significance of the area. But we're not stupid...if we had the money we'd do it but we haven't got dollar one and won't have until the 90-day clause is dropped."

So the county finds itself in the position of fighting to keep control of a lake whose creation it also fought because it meant the loss of prime agricultural land.

Much of the trouble at Lake Berryessa can be traced to a time in 1967 when the Park Service, doing its original study for the Bureau of Reclamation, came to the conclusion that because of the steep sides of the lake and the large annual drawdown, the lake had no significant national recreation significance and recommended that a regional or state agency take over. The service is saying now that it was wrong, and should have done the job itself. **(by Norm Hannon)**

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Fishing has economic impact on county, state

(Editor's Note: Although this is a story about Clear Lake, it is relevant to what is happening at Lake Berryessa and the future possibilities for attracting even more anglers here.)

The University of California Cooperative Extension Lake County has released a report profiling the economic value of fishing on Clear Lake highlighting the importance of angling to the local economy.

"Freshwater fishing in California represents a \$1.4 billion industry generating 22,000 jobs, and providing more than \$920 million in salaries and wages," the report's author, Greg Giusti, said. "California ranks fifth in the nation based on the value of fishing economics."

According to the report, California annually collects more than \$50 million in license sales with more than 150,000 potential anglers within a day's drive of Clear Lake.

Contrary to popular belief the most attractive boating months on Clear Lake are between March and June. Anglers are concentrating their efforts during the pre-spawn and spawning months. Most folks think of summer as the height of the boating season on Clear Lake. The data clearly shows that anglers are the biggest users of the Lake during the spring months.

The data also shows that starting in September boating activity begins to increase until November as anglers are targeting fish before the winter months.

"The fishing community fully recognizes the gem that is Clear Lake," Giusti pointed out. "There are consistently more than 100 fishing tournaments a year on the Lake."

Though not all of the tournaments are large, the report points out that regardless of the number of boats registered in a tournament each boat represents potential economic value as boaters need fuel, food and sometimes lodging while in the county.

Using a formula estimating angler expenditures combined with the spring month's mussel sticker sales, the report estimates that the spring months conservatively generate \$100,000 a month in local angling related expenditures.

The internet has changed how anglers share information. According to Giusti the information age hastens awareness of fishing action, as well as the response. This past spring literally hundreds of people came to Clear Lake from throughout California to fish for Crappie. People from Fresno, the Bay Area, and south of Sacramento heard about the crappie bite and traveled to be part of the action.

Onion Headlines

New Study Finds Solving Every Single Personal Problem Reduces Anxiety

Wistful Kim Jong-Un Stumbles Onto Childhood Drawings He Made Of Nuclear Attacks On West

God Rewinds Time To Watch Man Fall Off Trampoline Again

Handmade Banner That Football Team Runs Through Before Game The Closest High School Comes To Supporting Arts

Parents Trying To Gauge If Son Complete Idiot Before Deciding Whether To Move To Better School District

Report: U.S. Students Lack Language Skills, Vocabulary To Effectively Belittle Classmates

Report: Feeling Bad Right Now Most Reliable Predictor Of Feeling Bad Forever

Man Just Waiting Tables Until Fundamental Structure Of U.S. Economy Changes

Pastor Going On Little Spiel About Seeing How In Love Couple Are Despite Not Knowing Them For Very Long

Rustic Italian Village Just Killing Time Between Wedding Feasts

Experts Advise Against Throwing Laptop Across Office Even Though It Will Feel Incredible

The Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce 3

wants you to know that

Beautiful Lake Berryessa is OPEN!

All recreation areas - Markley Cove, Pleasure Cove, Steele Canyon, Spanish Flat, and Putah Canyon - are open for launching and will remain open all summer and beyond. The Capell Public Launch Ramp is closed until next year due to low water levels.

Oak Shores Day Use Area is great for picnics and viewing the lake and wildlife. After touring around the lake and stopping at local wineries like Rustridge and Nichelini, a wide variety of food and drink is available at Cucina Italiana, Spanish Flat Country Store & Deli, and Turtle Rock.

Delve into the fascinating past of the Town of Monticello, now at the bottom of the lake, by visiting the Berryessa Valley History Exhibit at the Spanish Flat Village Center. Please use this web site to contact our members to make use of their services:

www.lakeberryessanews.com/chamber-of-commerce/



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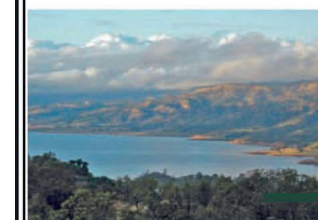
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Editor's Note: In my research of the history of Lake Berryessa I came upon this interesting 45-year old Oakland Tribune article. It discusses the turmoil of the early '70s which led to Napa County giving management of the lake back to the Bureau of Reclamation in 1975. I'm sure many local people will remember these times. It appears the federal government was no more competent then than it is now.

This was the period which spawned "The Big Lie" about the lake which was used again in the 2000s and led to the present situation. Let's take back our lake and do it right this time.

County, Lake Businesses Losing in Lake Berryessa Fuss
Oakland Tribune, November 27, 1971

"Pat Botts has completely stymied the government," says Napa County Administrator Al Habegger, a little helplessly. "Don't say one person can't do anything," he goes on with grudging admiration. "She has raised hell. She's brought in Nader's Raiders, Senator Tunney, and the General Accounting Office. The federal bureaucracy is incapable of making a decision because of Pat Botts," he concludes.

Mrs. Botts is the Lake Berryessa real estate agent and antique dealer who for a number of years has been blasting the way Napa County has been running things at Lake Berryessa, the popular 25-square mile reservoir which it took over in 1958 from the Bureau of Reclamation.

So far her efforts have resulted in:

- A moratorium on any further development by the seven concessionaires at the lake whose mobile home developments and docks cover substantial areas of the west and south sides.
- A broadside in Ralph Naders report, "Power and Land in California," charging misuse of government land.
- A report by the National Park Service, issued last month, recommending that it take over and operate Berryessa as a National Recreation Area, which would push Napa County out of the picture and conceivably wipe out the concessionaires.

A bill introduced in Congress by Sen. John Tunney implementing the Park Service's recommendation.

An audit by the General Accounting Office which absolves the seven concessionaires of any profit gouging and reveals, in fact, that only two of them are making any money.

In a remodeled schoolhouse on Route 121 near the lake, where she lives with her husband, Mrs.

Botts keeps a metal filing box full of documents to support her charges. Her concise presentation is followed by a slide show of conditions at the various resorts, and she will offer to accompany any doubters on a guided tour of the lake.

Her answers are quick and she has hundreds of facts and figures at the ready. Her remarks sometimes get a bit personal.

She admits to one economic motive for her campaign. Real estate in the area is hard to sell when it's so much cheaper to buy a mobile home and put it on federal land at the water's edge.

Mobile home sites and hook-ups go for about \$500 per year. Taxes outside the federal "take line" runs as high as \$18 per hundred.

She would like to see a faster pace of development on surrounding lands, but she says the visual pollution on the lake shore and other ecological considerations also concern her, including lack of public access to most of the 7,000 federal acres surrounding the lake.

This last point hits the crux of the argument over what has happened at Berryessa in the last 13 years.

At the northern end of the lake, on a gate which bars access to the road down the forbidden east side, there are two signs. The big one reads, "Farm Access Road, Do Not Enter." Beside it, only inches away, is a smaller sign: "Boundary, Lake Berryessa, U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Reclamation." The bureau's buffalo seal makes it official.

This is federal land from which the public has been barred by a county ordinance.

About 15 people have been arrested for trespassing on the east side of the lake in the last 12 years.

A strong case can be made for keeping any kind of permanent development off the east side. The area is covered with fragile native grasses and small oaks and the curiously folded ridge behind it frames the lake beautifully and sets its character.

Yet the only use allowed on it is grazing by three private lessees, Herbert Gunn, a member of the Park Commission, the Procter and Gamble Company which owns 13,000 adjoining acres,

and Jose DelSante. Ed Bernard, a Napa County supervisor from St. Helena, remarks that the Bureau of Reclamation made some "odd compromises with the property owners on the east side."

The park service's report says, "Appropriate uses (for the east side) include shoreline fishing access and grazing (the latter at least until such time as minor development is warranted or the pollution from cattle wastes reaches a point at which it becomes unacceptable.)"

Gil Yates, the park director, points out that a serious fire hazard exists on the east side in the summer. But he is more concerned about the problem of policing it. For the 10 years the county has run things at the lake, the same five rangers, using four boats, have had responsibility for the entire area.

County, Lake Businesses Losing in Berryessa Fuss

Oakland Tribune
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 1971 3-E

Pat Botts
Pat Botts, a real estate agent and antique dealer, is the driving force behind the campaign to have Lake Berryessa declared a National Recreation Area. She has successfully attracted the attention of Senator John Tunney, the General Accounting Office, and the National Park Service.

Local Businesses
The campaign has caused significant economic hardship for local businesses, particularly those in the mobile home and boat rental sectors. Many businesses have been forced to close or operate at a loss due to the moratorium on development.

Environmental Concerns
Botts argues that the current management of the lake is environmentally unsound. She points to the lack of public access, the presence of toxic waste, and the degradation of the shoreline as evidence of mismanagement.

Public Access
One of Botts' primary goals is to open up the lake to the public. She believes that the current restrictions on access are unjustified and that the lake should be managed for the benefit of all citizens.

Under present financing there is no prospect of beefing up Yates' thinly stretched ranger force, so his concerns are understandable. It's easier just to keep people off the east side, which is probably 60 miles long or more, counting all the coves and inlets.

It's a rather uncomfortable place in the afternoon summer sun anyway, with temperature often topping 100. In the winter, however, when fishermen are the main users, they can't see why they should be kept off when cattle aren't.

Yates is a one-time owner of the Berryessa

Marina, which he sold in 1966. He denies one published report that suggested he might still retain an interest in it. He states flatly that he doesn't.

On the west side where all the uproar centers, there is as much complaining about what the county hasn't done as there is about the space the resort owners have taken up.

A 25-mile drive from the dam to the Fill, a popular fishing area at the north end, won't bring you to a picnic table. The only toilets are two pairs at "Bum's Beach," the largest continuous stretch of public access on the west side.

All the trash cans have been provided by a beer company, although the county does spot burlap sacks at intervals on trees and picks them up periodically with the garbage boat.

Among dozens of fishermen this reporter spoke with up and down the west side the main complaints were the lack of access to the choicest areas and the high cost of getting a boat in the water. This is what made bank fishermen of them. There are enough good spots between the resorts to catch fish.

They complain about everything except the fishing, which is fabulous. Bass, rainbow trout, silver salmon, and crappies teem in the lake. If it's polluted they're lapping it up. And they grow big. None of them believe the lake is polluted, except perhaps near the docks. "I drink the water right out of the lake when I'm out in my boat," said Merle Lear of Fairfield, a vehicle inspector for the state.

All but one of the anglers favored the plan for a National Recreation Area. They came from throughout the Bay Area and from as far away as Long Beach.

Boating and launching fees were often mentioned. It can cost up to \$8.50 to get your boat in the water if you're a first time visitor. The county's annual sticker costs \$5 and resorts usually **charge \$3 for a launch**.

"The only thing that matters to the people up here is money," said Bill Vaughn of Fremont, who had two nice silver salmon on a stringer near the Berryessa Marina. He said he only went there in winter.

His companion, Henry Reager of Newark, said he wasn't sure if the proposed federal takeover would help. "I'd like the specifics of what they've got in mind, first."

H. D. Lalonde of Napa, who had just landed a four-pound rainbow at The Fill said: "Absolutely not! If we're going to turn everything over to Uncle Sam we're in trouble." But like many of the others he felt there should be public boat

ramps/outside the resorts. The Park Service's report maintained, and the complaints bear it out, that the resorts have not provided enough facilities for day use, such as picnic areas, and for transient use by overnight campers. This was all supposed to be part of the deal, according to the lease arrangement.

They have given over more and more space to the lucrative "mobile home" developments and the county has apparently gone along.

The trouble has been that mobile homes have tended to become semi-permanent second homes on plots of federal lakefront, with private docks. The operators defend the practice:

"Many people take the position that they are entitled to use the lake in this way (mobile homes) rather than to camp, so long as their use is proportionately representative of the total public use required or to be served by this regional facility.

"Economic experience with mobile homes assures certain revenues which help overcome operating losses inherent in such seasonally oriented businesses..." one of their written statements says.

The biggest part of the difficulty, the operators and the county maintain, is that the resorts have been laboring under a 90-day termination clause in their leases which makes it impossible to borrow money for improvements.

If this were removed - and they've been trying to have it stricken for some years - they would be able to "develop to ultimate standards" inside their own areas and provide the kind of facilities the public wants.

This would supposedly mean an increase in the return to the county from the 3 percent possessory interest tax which the operators pay on their gross. The county then would supposedly have the wherewithal for better facilities outside the resorts.

Don McFarland, manager of Steele Park Resort and member of the County Planning Commission, said that in the spring of 1970 the owners had expected to get a new contract in which the 90-day clause would be thrown out, but it fell through.

Then the Bureau of Reclamation slapped the moratorium on the area and all bets were off until the Park Service plan was finished. Meanwhile the county worked up its own plan, issued in June, which called for more of the same with the 90-day clause out.

(Continued on Page 6)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

Free Public Facilities: Oak Shores/Smittle Creek Day Use Parks are open on the west shore. Go to www.usbr.gov/mp/ccao/Berryessa for details. Oak Shores and Smittle Creek offer nice hiking opportunities and more than 100 picnic sites equipped with BBQ grills. Two hand launches for non-motorized car-top boats are also available. 707-966-2111

Putah Canyon Recreation Area
Boat launching, day use, RV & tent camping
707-966-9051
www.royalelcparkmanagement.com/Lake_Berryessa.html

Monticello Shores Recreation Area **Berryessa Point Recreation Area**
Closed Closed

Spanish Flat Recreation Area
Boat launching, tent & RV camping, day use, RV dump station.
707-966-0200
www.spanishflatcamping.com

Steele Canyon Recreation Area
Boat launching, tent & RV camping, day use, RV dump station.
1-877-386-4383
<http://www.goberryessa.com/campground-at-steele-canyon>

Pleasure Cove Marina
Boat launching, day use, camping, boat rentals, house boating, lodging, full-service marina, wet slips, fuel.
707-966-9600
www.goberryessa.com

Markley Cove Resort
Boat launching, lodging, full-service marina, wet slips, fuel. 707-966-2134
Berryessa Boat Rentals 707-966-4204
www.markleycoveresort.com

Travel Distances:

Point	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
1 Monticello Dam														
2 Markley Cove Resort														
3 Wragg Canyon Road														
4 Moskowite Corners														
5 Steele Canyon Recreation Area														
6 Turtle Rock														
7 Spanish Flat Village Center														
8 Oak Shores/Smittle Creek/Visitors Center														
9 Monticello Shores/Berryessa Point RAs														
10 Pope Canyon Road/ Putah Canyon RA														
11 Hwy 128 @ Lower Chiles Valley Road														
12 Pope Valley Road														
13 Pope Valley														
14 Aetna Springs														

Distances:

From	To	Distance
1=>2	3.0 miles	
2=>3	5.3 miles	
3=>4	3.0 miles	
4=>5	5.0 miles	
4=>6	4.7 miles	
6=>7	5.0 miles	
7=>8	2.4 miles	
8=>9	2.4 miles	
9=>10	2.8 miles	
10=>11	10.2 miles	
6=>11	3.0 miles	
11=>12	3.2 miles	
12=>13	8.5 miles	
13=>14	3.7 miles	

Note: No auto gas available between Winters and Napa or at Lake Berryessa!

Circle Oaks

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