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Be careful if you go swimming in Lake Berryessa's Philosophy Cove. It's deep.  
I took my dog to the lake to day and noticed he floats very well. He's a good buoy  
What do you call goat swimming really fast in a lake? A motor goat  
What state is Lake Berryessa in? A liquid state.  
A couple of outdoorsmen were on a lake in their kayak when they started getting cold. But when they lit a fire in their craft it immediately began to sink, proving once and for all that...  
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Rain Year (7/1 - 6/31)	First Rain	Total By 1/1 (At Dam)	Season Total (At Dam)
97-98		10.77"	46.26"
98-99	11/10/98	7.18"	23.46"
99-00	10/30/99	6.5"	26"
00-01	10/20/00	4.54"	24.7"
01-02	10/29/01	15.73"	23.38"
02-03	11/7/02	19.34"	31.6"
03-04	10/31/03	12.01"	25.64"
04-05	10/19/04	15.55"	36.36"
05-06	9/26/05	17.4"	40.56"
06-07	10/3/06 - .22"	5.36"	12.7"
07-08	9/19/07 - .1"	4.48"	25.32"
08-09	10/3/08 - .2"	6.6"	23.96"
09-10	9/14/09 - .24"	6.5"	26.41"
10-11	10/18/10 - .21"	12.62"	37.92"
11-12	10/4/11 - .2"	3.04"	19.56"
12-13	10/22/12 - .73"	17.97"	20.65"
13-14	9/22/13 - .43"	1.88"	13.69"
14-15	9/19/14 - .11"	13.34"	19.56"
15-16	10/2/15 - .68"	6.23"	24.57
16-17	10/4/16 - .04"	8.8"	47.55"
17-18	10/20/17 - .21"	3.41"	14.89"
18-19	10/2/18 - .51"	7.28"	40.53"
19-20	11/27/19 - .73"	7.14"	10.93"
20-21	11/15/20 - .09"	1.92"	9.21"
21-22	9/10/21 .05"	15.36"	18.73"

# The Lake Berryessa News

Without *THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS* there would be no Lake Berryessa news!

## September 2022

**This Is The Last Print Edition Of The Year! See You Again In April 2023. Let's All Do A Rain Dance.**

### PTSD in the Country

Lightning, wind, and fire. Rain, flooding, and mudslides. Megadroughts, tornadoes, and hurricanes. And a random earthquake or two to wake us up. Who wouldn't have a mild case of post-traumatic stress disorder? The Lake Berryessa community is no exception. But for us there is also the nagging fear of the lake level dropping quickly. Below is a chart of the last 10 year drought at the lake.

Since 1958 the lake has suffered through several droughts. The lowest level reached was in 1993 when the lake dropped to 361.7' – 78.3' below Glory Hole at only 25% capacity! The Capell Creek Bridge came out of the water and some foundations of the old Town of Monticello surfaced.

In 1978 the lake was at 388.1' – 51.9' below Glory Hole at 48% capacity. And in 2015, at the depth of the last drought, the lowest level was 395.8' – 44.2' below Glory Hole at 51.6% capacity.

A bit of worrisome data is that the lake is now almost down to the lowest level of 2015 at 398.1' and 54.7

capacity. Only another two feet to go, which will likely happen by October. The worrisome part is that it took ten years to reach this level in 2015. But this time it only took three years to drop to that same level.

Global climate change is a scientific reality – just ask the people of the Maldives, Bangladesh, or Venice, Italy. But all the results of climate change are still unclear. The one accepted prediction, besides seal level rise is that there will be more extreme weather events. So, all is not lost at Lake Berryessa. In 2017 the lake went up 41 feet in three weeks. In 1994 the level went up 61' in seven months. Two other large increases in one year were 38' and 40'.

Remember that worrying about things you can't control or change is not good for your body or mind. It's best to avoid that low level PTSD that we all may have – which is obviously easier said than done. As my son likes to counsel me,

“Another day in paradise at the lake. Enjoy it!”

Everyone is looking forward to that first rain in October!

**BERRYESSA ( BER )**  
Date from 09/08/2005 08:50 through 08/30/2022 08:50 Duration : 6200 days  
Max of period : (02/27/2019 00:00, 444.12) Min of period: (12/09/2015 00:00, 395.78)

443.5' - January 2, 2006  
Glory Hole = 440'  
443.6' 444.1'  
435.2' 434' 430' 422.5' 433.2' 417.5' 410' 401.2' 398.1'  
406.9' 411.1' 395.8' 398.6'

### Community Emergency Response Training Berryessa Area – Capell Valley Fire Station 1193 Capell Valley Rd.

If we had a major earthquake right now, would you know what to do? Would you know how to provide first aid to a loved one, rescue someone, or get drinking water? Are you ready to have your life disrupted and not have any help for 24 to 72 hours?

As recent disasters and emergencies have demonstrated there will not be enough emergency responders to help everyone in a timely manner. You must be able to take care of yourself and family. As a community, we will need to rely on each other for our immediate lifesaving and life sustaining needs. *The Napa Valley communities may be without enough emergency help for several days!*

Community Emergency Response Training is a nationally recognized emergency training course that teaches essential emergency response skills. By taking and completing the CERT course you will gain the skills and confidence necessary to help yourself, your family, and your community during a disaster.

The training is available free of charge to anyone living in Napa County or a volunteer with Napa CERT. To complete the course, you must attend all three sessions.

To enroll in the class please email the following information to [napacert@aol.com](mailto:napacert@aol.com)  
**Name, address, contact number, email**

Block 1 – Emergency Preparedness	Saturday, September 10, 2022	8am – 5pm
Block 2 – Fire Awareness and Search & Rescue		
Block 3 – Disaster First Aid	Saturday, September 17, 2022	8am – 5pm
Block 4 – Emergency Management		
Block 5 – Final Exercise	Sunday, September 18, 2022	8am – 12pm

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2	<div><div><div>Keep the Lake Berryessa News Alive!</div><div>Donate to the "20 for 23" Program</div></div><div><div>If you are reading this September paper edition of the Lake Berryessa News, it's due to the generosity of the list of people to the right. They donated to our "20 for 22" program which allowed me to publish the Lake Berryessa in all its forms in 2022. The next paper edition will be printed in April 2023.</div><div>You can still get all the current Lake Berryessa News at:</div><div>Our website:www.LakeBerryessaNews.com</div><div>Our Facebook page: <a href="https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/">https://www.facebook.com/Lake-Berryessa-News-114810958535085/</a></div><div>Our regular bi-monthly email newsletter: Please send your email address to <a href="mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com">pkilkus@gmail.com</a> if you wish to receive the newsletter.</div><div>I am now promoting my "20 for 23" donation program. Your financial support is vital so that the Lake Berryessa News can continue to publish in 2023. Our one-person operation is definitely a "not-for-profit".</div><div>Experience shows that without THE LAKE BERRYESSA NEWS, there would be no Lake Berryessa news!</div><div>The revitalization of Lake Berryessa will continue at full speed in 2023. Sun Outdoors is working on revitalizing Steele Canyon, Spanish Flat, and Monticello Shores. Suntex Marinas, which is now managing Pleasure Cove Marina, has won the bid to revitalize Berryessa Point. Suntex has begun the development planning process.</div><div>Your decision to support the Lake Berryessa News will show your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community.</div><div>The Lake Berryessa News print version is distributed widely throughout the Lake Berryessa region and reaches about 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: <a href="http://www.lakeberryessanews.com/archives/">www.lakeberryessanews.com/archives/</a></div><div>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 call 415-307-6906 or email me at <a href="mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com">pkilkus@gmail.com</a>. (Note: Your donation is NOT tax deductible)</div><div>A simple \$20 for 2023, a major revitalization year for the lake.</div><div>I'll do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting the lake community.</div><div>Thanks.</div><div>Peter</div></div></div>	<div><div>Adam Forest</div><div>Amber Payne</div><div>Andrew Gai</div><div>Anonymous</div><div>Anonymous</div><div>Art Courville</div><div>Bart &amp;</div><div>CindyBarthelemy</div><div>Ben Tadano</div><div>Bernadine Ridgeway</div><div>Bette Maron</div><div>Betty Bussey</div><div>Bill Hardin</div><div>Bob Bacinett</div><div>Brad Bennett</div><div>Cathy Calleja-Lombardi</div><div>Chris Lacombe</div><div>Chuck Baker</div><div>Connie Ng</div><div>Craig Morton</div><div>Craig Philpott</div><div>Dan Sabalvaro</div><div>Darryl Davis</div><div>Dave Lund</div><div>David Spinetta</div><div>Dean Lukehart</div><div>Dean Lumbert</div><div>DeAnna Kneis</div><div>Dee Eva</div></div>	<div><div>Don &amp; Debra Bezon</div><div>Douglas Rogers</div><div>Edward Litwin</div><div>Elizabeth Conrad</div><div>Eric Gaustad</div><div>Eugene Nehira</div><div>Gary Nooteboom</div><div>Gary&amp; Katherine Dixon</div><div>George Gamble</div><div>Georgw Asbury</div><div>Gerald Bittner</div><div>Grant Sedgwick</div><div>Helen Nelson</div><div>Helen Sinelnikoff-Nowak</div><div>Jack Vickrey</div><div>Jay Peterson</div><div>Jennifer Briley</div><div>Jim &amp; Linda Tschida</div><div>Johnny Ng</div><div>Julie Bullene-McIntyre</div><div>Justin Jones</div><div>Justin Morris</div><div>Karrie Grasso</div><div>Kevin Kohler</div><div>Lakeview Boat Storage</div><div>Larry &amp; Judy Parady</div></div>	<div><div>Lary Kamer</div><div>Lawrence Jenkins</div><div>Lee Miller</div><div>Lloyd &amp; Patricia</div><div>Tincher</div><div>Lynn Graham</div><div>Mac &amp; Cheryl Bean</div><div>Mary Ellen</div><div>Moskowite</div><div>Michael Manry</div><div>Michael Plisek</div><div>Michael Shaw</div><div>Mike &amp; Gerry Cooper</div><div>Mike Hernandez</div><div>Nicholas George</div><div>Nick Hardeman</div><div>Nicole Booth</div><div>Nolan Banez</div><div>Paul &amp; Beth Mayer</div><div>Paul Franson</div><div>Peggy Frost</div><div>Pete Craig</div><div>Peter Fracchia</div><div>Phil Burton</div><div>Ralph Martin</div><div>Richard Plato</div><div>Richard Rico</div><div>Rick von Geldern</div><div>Rob Wolf</div><div>Robby Mckenna</div></div>	<div><div>Robert Bernard</div><div>Robert Kleis</div><div>Robert Riparbelli</div><div>Robert Sweet</div><div>Roger Meagor</div><div>Ron Abbes</div><div>Ron Blair</div><div>Rosalind Coates</div><div>Sarah Buckley</div><div>Sarah Meyer</div><div>Sharyn Simmons</div><div>Soup Sandwich</div><div>Stephanie Rayman</div><div>Stephen Bockrath</div><div>Stephen Troy</div><div>Steve Clark</div><div>Steve Whitney</div><div>Sue Seva</div><div>Suzanne Hanrahan</div><div>Teresa Marquez</div><div>Tim Cantillon</div><div>Tony &amp; Marlyn</div><div>Larosa</div><div>Tony Alire</div><div>Tonya Wofford</div><div>Vince Haavisto</div><div>William O'Brien</div><div>William Pannell</div></div>	<div><div>How many wineries are there in Napa County?</div><div>By Paul Franson</div><div>(<a href="https://www.napalife.com/">https://www.napalife.com/</a>)</div><div>I blithely stated that there are more than 500 wineries in Napa Valley on Barry Martin's radio program last Thursday, and a reader challenged that.</div><div>He said, "There aren't over 500 wineries in Napa. That figure comes from an outdated list from county planning that includes numerous abandoned wineries that cannot be reopened because of current building and fire regulations, numerous 'wineries' that are actually just part of a larger custom crush facility like Laird and Napa Wine Company. They need to look at ABC data and find there are about 400 operating wineries in the county."</div><div>I actually thought there were more than 500 physical wineries and many more wine brands. That doesn't include the many "virtual wineries" that are legally just wholesalers who buy wine from winegrowers and resell it with their label and also hold retail licenses (17/20 licenses). The state's official name for producing wineries with Type 02 licenses is "winegrower."</div><div>I went to the ABC records and quickly found 1,840 Type 02 bonded wineries in Napa County. But that's misleading. Many custom (crush) wineries (and other wineries) make wine for other winegrowers under what is called an alternating proprietorship. For example,</div></div>	<div><div>there are 16 listed for Cuvaision and 32 for Napa Wine Company in the current list. Those aren't "virtual wineries." Those are real bonded wineries by law.</div><div>So I turned to the experts, Wines Vines Analytics, the sister of <i>Wine Business Monthly</i>. Lynne Skinner is their long-term vice president of data management. She said that they confirm records every 12 months for wineries in the Wines Vines Analytics winery database, both bonded California type 02 winegrower permit and the virtual wineries that hold the other California permit types, 17 and 20, which produce at host wineries.</div><div>She emphasized that the bonded premises is not only about address and equipment. "We don't count permits, we maintain a database of active, viable wineries, and their state and federal permits are attributes of their profile. If a bonded winery has six BW permits and four facilities, we track that as a single winery."</div><div>According to their numbers, as of August 2022, Napa County has 940 bonded wineries and 291 "virtual wineries," which are winery businesses with unique management, producing at least one brand at a host-bonded winery.</div><div>Virtual wineries don't have "wineries" of their own by definition, so they are irrelevant to my question, but for what it's worth, the two total 1,231. So, pending further information, I'll go with Wine Communication's numbers.</div><div>There are 940 wineries in Napa County. I await your comments at <a href="mailto:paul@paulfranson.com">paul@paulfranson.com</a>.</div><div>By the way, The Gomberg-Fredriksen Report and BW 166, both experts in wine information, are also partners with the Wine Communications Group. Their information, such as the Wine and Vines Directory and Buyers' Guide, is exhaustively detailed, as I learned in the almost two decades during which I contributed to their publications.</div><div>*****</div><div>There are two types of people in the world:</div><div>1. Those who can extrapolate from incomplete data</div></div>	<div><div>September Headlines</div><div>Iraqi Head Seeks Arms</div><div>Something Went Wrong in Jet Crash, Expert Says</div><div>Enraged Cow Injures Farmer with Ax</div><div>Farmer Bill Dies in House</div><div>British Left Waffles on Falkland Islands</div><div>Teacher Strikes Idle Kids</div><div>Miners Refuse to Work after Death</div><div>Juvenile Court to Try Shooting Defendant</div><div>War Dims Hope for Peace</div><div>If Strike Isn't Settled Quickly, It May Last Awhile</div><div>Cold Wave Linked to Temperatures</div><div>Red Tape Holds Up New Bridges</div><div>New Study of Obesity Looks for Larger Test Group</div><div>Kids Make Nutritious Snacks</div><div>Local High School Dropouts Cut in Half</div><div>Hospitals are Sued by 7 Foot Doctors</div><div>Climate Bill Allocates \$3 Billion To Paint Snowy Peaks Onto Mountains</div><div>Lawyer Working on Airtight Case Nearly Suffocates</div><div>Astrophysicists Gather, Declare Dark Matter Really Just Aether This Whole Time</div><div>Studies Show Millennials Complaining Over NFTs Own At Least One</div><div>Band member of the Village People Mr. Yungman has passed away</div><div>Sting operation results in thousands arrested for removing tag from mattress they didn't own</div><div>USAID Announces Multi-Billion Aid Package of Air Conditioners for United Kingdom and Europe</div><div>Federal Reserve buys Mega Millions ticket to turn this economy around</div></div>	7
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**September Horoscopes**

Aries (3/21-4/19): Any spikes that you see in your power usage may be due to unforeseen and deadly circumstances.

Taurus (4/20 – 5/20): Today you will find that your favorite attribute in a person is their ability to tell you how fantastic you are.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): Any advice given to you today will seem like poppycock, and it probably is.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Your lucky goat name for today is: Penelope.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Regret can hurt you over a long period. Lament today, but tomorrow must be a day for anger and retribution.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): You are trapped in a cave with a panther and a sound system playing Michael Bolton's greatest hits. What do you do?

Libra (9/23-10/22): You will be glad of a loved one's ability to almost painlessly remove splinters from your backside.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): Everyone wants what's best for you, in terms of reducing the amount of time you are allowed to show your face outside of your house.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): To make yourself feel beautiful, hug a tree, kiss a baby, read a classic, and then take a long train journey. After that, you'll still be an ugly bugger, but you'll be so tired you won't even care.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Today might be the day when you get stuck in a hole with a dwarf. Remember all the research you did into dwarf habits in order to prevent mental breakdown.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Your appetites may diminish today as you fall into a vat of gravy with no inside ladder.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): Avoiding the cracks on pavements can seem like a fun game, and probably is. Your ability to play this game may be affected by one or more broken legs.

**Napa Opposes Building the Monticello Dam**

The following article answers questions that many people have as to why Napa County has little present access to Lake Berryessa water. Excerpt from: Roots of the Present: Napa Valley 1900 to 1950, by Lin Weber

“In September of 1945, two Napans' attended a meeting of the Central Valley Water Project, the huge irrigation and riparian management program that sought to control the state's liquid wealth. They raced back to the County Board of Supervisors with word that 26 California counties had passed a resolution favoring the construction of a dam at Devil's Gate. Official bodies in Solano County, they said, would make a "concerted effort" to have work proceed. The Napans vigorously opposed it, and the resolution was sent to the Project's executive committee without action.

Surveys of the area continued, nevertheless. An idea for the proposed dam that stirred up additional controversy was to drill a tunnel from Clear Lake to Putah Creek so that floodwaters from Clear Lake could be collected in the dam, thus removing a winter weather problem that had troubled owners of Lake County resorts.

Already unhappy that Lake County had sucked tourist dollars from the Napa Valley, local leaders were disgusted that beautiful Berryessa might be utilized as a holding tank for someone else's floodwater. The Clear Lake water proved to be too full of boron and other chemicals unfriendly to plant-life, however, and the idea went away.

While the forces in favor of the dam were formidable, there were a few agencies outside of Napa County that withdrew their support once they understood the Berryessa residents' position. The California State Chamber of Commerce, for example, recanted an earlier stance and came out against to the project. Every piece of good news was music to the ears of Monticello's worried grain farmers and cattle ranchers, whose labors produced a sixth of the county's agricultural wealth.

The Bureau of Reclamation presented a bill to Congress in the summer of 1946 urging early approval of the Devil's Gate dam. Nathan S. Coombs drew up a resolution seeking a delay while other places further up Putah Creek could be investigated as alternative sites. Berryessans donated \$4,000 for the problem to be professionally studied and sought matching funds. The Board of Supervisors hired hydraulic engineer, August Kempkey, to concoct the stratagem that could save Berryessa, and by March of 1947 he was ready to report. His proposal required the active cooperation of

Napa's "sister city." It had three key components:

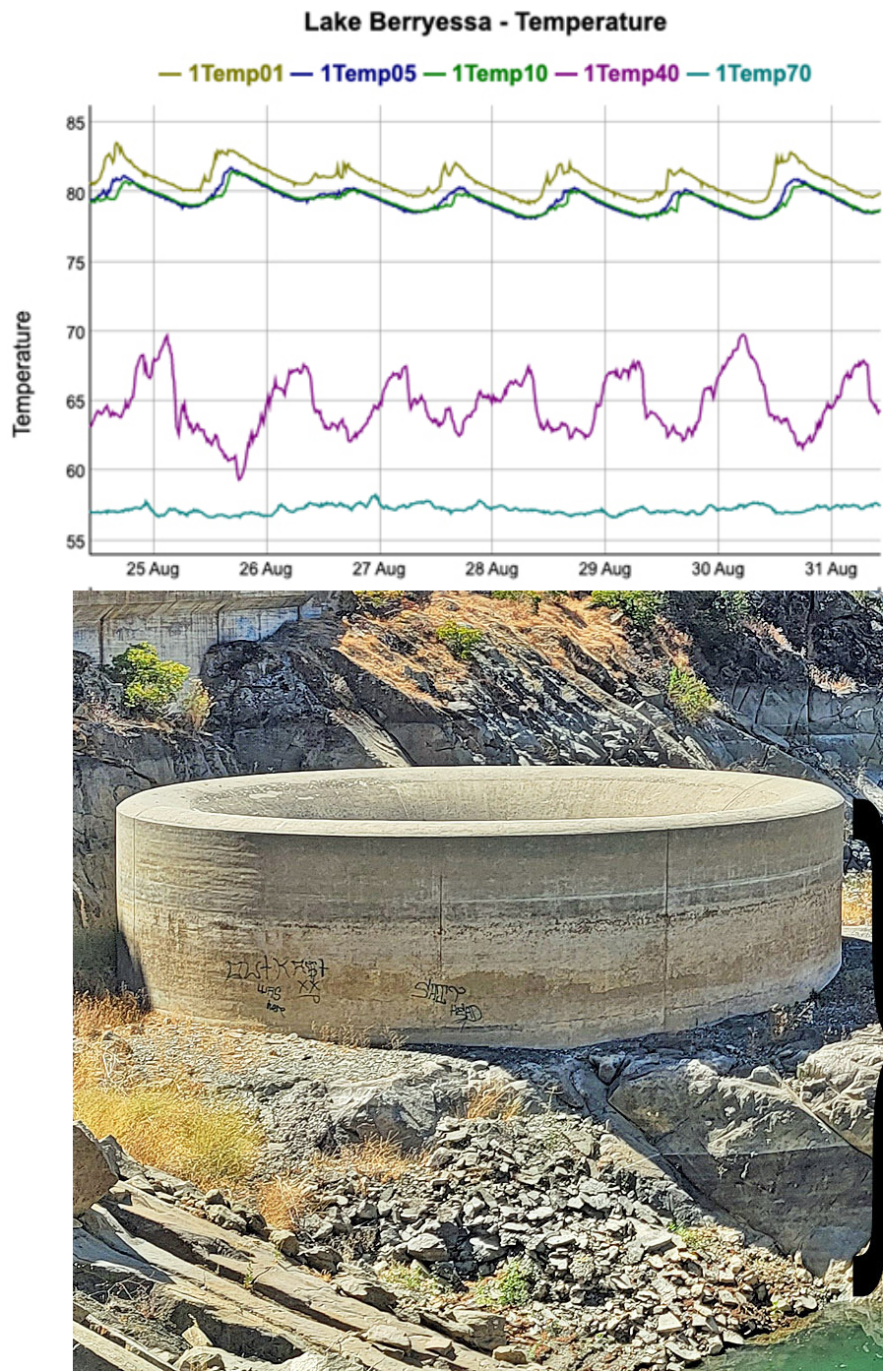
- Vallejo should relinquish its reservoir in Gordon Valley to other Solano County users, namely Suisun, Fairfield and the Benicia Arsenal,
- Conn dam should be heightened and its capacity increased so that the City of Vallejo could receive all its water from Conn,
- Putah creek should be dammed in uninhabited Coyote Valley, and the water impounded there should be added to the Conn supply. Other small dams should also be built in remote locations.

Saving Berryessa was not consistent with newly emerging thought regarding resource management. The state of California now viewed itself as a huge thirsty organism, a gigantic system of mutually interdependent needs and resources. Water from the proposed Monticello Dam, for example, would not only irrigate Yolo and Solano farmland, but some of it would be sent to the San Joaquin Valley to supplement their water supply, which came from the dam at Shasta. This would leave more water at Shasta for use in generating power. Capturing and taming Putah Creek would, moreover, abate some of the winter flood problems experienced by the Sacramento River. Seen from this perspective, little valleys like Berryessa, and even large ones, like Owens in the south, could be sacrificed if necessary for the good of the whole.

Napa and Solano drew up competing plans to form "irrigation districts" that would use Putah Creek water, a formality that preceded any final decision regarding a dam site. In the Napa plan, a "Berryessa Irrigation District" would use water from Coyote Valley and other uninhabited locations. In contrast, 757 Solano County residents petitioned for a "Solano County Irrigation District" that would drown Berryessa.

Napa County Supervisor Lowell Edington flew to Washington to garner whatever help he could in fighting off the dam. He also tried to find money to improve the Napa River, a perennial problem that never seemed to get resolved. What he found was that, despite the big muscles behind the Monticello Dam movement, Congress itself was preoccupied with something having nothing to do with water management.

Both houses were crammed with bills to fight Communism. A Southern California politician named Richard M. Nixon was riding to power on the crest of anti-Communist paranoia, together with a frightening hater named Joseph McCarthy. Congress sidelined the issue of building a dam at Devil's Gate.



The lake level is now down to 398 feet – 42 feet below Glory Hole.

The official rainfall total at Monticello Dam is 18.73 inches for the 2021 - 2022 rainfall season.

A “rainfall season” runs from July 1 through June 30 of the following year.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake dropped to 54.6% capacity.

The Stork Metric is 11 buoys down.

Water temperature is 80 degrees from the surface to 10 feet. Temperature is around 65 degrees at 40 feet and 57 degrees at 70 feet and below.

**Storck Metric, 11 Buoys Down**

**8/28/22**

**8/28/22**

**Lake Level = 398.2'**

**41.8' below Glory Hole**

**-41.8'**

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#### 4 A Bit of Monticello Dam History from 2013

Since the 9/11 attack Monticello Dam has been locked and blocked. The ugly concrete barriers are eyesores and could probably be removed with no danger of a terrorist attack. Or something more esthetic but practical and effective might be found to replace them. Before the attack the top of the dam was open to the public and regular tours of the inside of the dam were provided. The following story provides a unique glimpse of the dam and its operation.

#### Don, the guy and his dam

By Richard Rico, TheReporter.Com

12/15/13

So there we were, 230 feet beneath the surface of Lake Berryessa. No submarine, no SCUBA. No need. We were inside the belly of Monticello Dam, 320,000 cubic yards of concrete known affectionately by Don Burbey as the "big, giant plug." He's earned that right.

Burbey is the dam guy for Solano Irrigation District. For the past 32 years he's known the Putah plug up close and personal. I've known it since it was built in 1957 as a Herculean hand holding back the Creek, inundating bucolic Monticello and helping grass, flowers and Solano progress to grow. For perspective, 320,000 cubic yards of concrete could make a sidewalk, 3-ft. wide, 4-inches thick, and run 1,667 miles to Omaha. Fellow voyeur Mike Segura did the math.

Tuesday, I finally asked Burbey to get me in. The door is at the base, which is 100 feet thick. It tapers to 12 feet at the top. Care to guess how cold it was inside?

In about 1981, Don hired on as apprentice dam tender. Through the years he became the dam tender, then grew to be-come superintendent of ops and maintenance. After all that, Burbey is retiring April 2 from "a fantastic job; I could not have asked for anything I liked better."

Before Putah Creek slams into that wall, we drove through the first of several security gates. Since 9/11, everything has tightened up. Burbey once gave up to 30 tours a year, but they've mostly been cut. Imagine the worst: If the dam were to rupture, the lake would end up in the Yolo Causeway. Next to the steel door is SID's power plant, which went online in 1983. Its three generators can send 11.5 megawatts to the PG&E grid in Rohnert Park, just as releases can send water for people, animals and plants through 32 miles of Putah South Canal. It's a wet miracle.

Inside, a dam-wide corridor stretches north and south, housing monitors for stress and movement. One is primitive, and ingenious. A taut wire stretches from the

dam top to the bottom where a plumb bob weight hangs over a reference point. If it moves, so has the dam. They also do celestial mapping -- dam checking by stars.

Outside, Burbey said, "Lean back on the face, and look up." The thin curve of the rim swirled around us, like a photo of Earth from a satellite. A privileged view. Beyond the crest length of 1,023 feet is the Glory Hole. When it spills, it's at 48,400 cubic yards a second. We make bets on when it'll spill again. Burbey sees a spill as "The best way to clean out the creek."

In 1997, a UC Davis student in the lake died when she jumped into the hole -- an apparent suicide. Burbey said he was first to recover her. The Glory Hole's integrity is checked periodically by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. They do it by lowering a person by rope into the hole. He rappels its 275-ft. depth, looking for cracks. Some kind of moxie.

With a 302-feet-high dam behind you, holding back a max 1,602,000 acre-feet of water, you imagine what the movers and shakers were thinking in the 1950s when they urged a "plug" across Devil's Gate to the Bureau of Reclamation. Lots of locals -- politicians and civilians - got in the act.

Agman Ed Uhl made more than 17 trips to D.C. to argue our case. Timing was everything. Imagine again trying to build the dam today. Impossible. Construction began in 1953. It was built and managed by the U.S. Bureau until 1981, when SID and Solano County Water Agency took over.

Whiskey is for drinking, and water is for fighting over. So far, it's been peaceful. Solano cities, ag, industries are nurtured by Berryessa water, and by its dam. Into that historic pageant came Don Burbey, a lifelong Vacan and a Vaca High grad of 1974. He was born in 1956, about a year before Monticello Dam was finished.

He goes so far back that his late mother, Sue Hurley, and he had the same K-1 teacher, "Mrs. Burton," at Ulatis. Burbey has a son, Adam, who works for SID -- no surprise -- in water metering. His daughter, Breanne, is a teacher at Browns Valley School. It's with his granddaughter, Grace, that Don Burbey now hopes to spend time that for 32 years was focused on his dam.

After years of monitoring, unclogging debris from Lake Solano screens, answering calls of power outages, and the tribulations of keeping water flowing, I'd say "his dam" is right on. The steward of a life element is moving on.

A solid wall of concrete is not a living thing. But in its belly Tuesday, I swear I felt it breathe.



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What kind of exercise do lazy people do? Diddly-squats.

What do you call a pony with a cough? A little horse!

What is Forrest Gump's password? 1Forrest1.

What do you call bears with no ears? B.

Why do French people eat snails? They don't like fast food!

I invented a new word today: Plagiarism.

How does a rabbi make coffee? Hebrews it!

#### Lake Berryessa Fishing: Catch Bass, Salmon, and Trout

<https://www.bestfishinginamerica.com/california-berryessa-lake-fishing.html>

A bass angler's paradise that also harbors abundant populations of trout and salmon, Lake Berryessa ranks among California's finest fishing lakes. Nestled in the heart of Napa County, Lake Berryessa is a very large reservoir encompassing 20,700 acres at full pool, with a shoreline that stretches over 160 miles. Its waters harbor some of the most diverse and abundant fish populations in California. Yet, compared to many other lakes in the state, it receives relatively little fishing pressure at times.

With being this close to the Bay Area, you can bet that nice weekends will bring out hordes of pleasure boaters. Still, there are times all year long when you can find plenty of quiet water, especially when you strike out during the week and head off away from the major access points. Lake Berryessa's shoreline is home to a handful of resorts and marinas and several more modest boat access sites.

It may lack some of the grand facilities that would be conducive to major fishing tournaments but nonetheless holds dozens of regional tournaments spread across the year, especially in the cooler months. Whether you fish tournaments or not, make no mistake—there are big fish here, and lots of them.

However, with so many types of popular gamefish, there is some tension about how the lake should be managed for fishing. Anglers report swings between time periods when success of either coldwater fishing or warmwater fishing has been dominant. Some of Lake Berryessa's anglers want more priority placed on the coldwater trout and landlocked salmon, while others are happy to reel in big bass, catfish and crappie.

<https://www.bestfishinginamerica.com/how-to-bass-fishing-simple-techniques-and-tips.html>

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#### The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

