

**Lake Berryessa is Rising Faster**  
**Sunday, February 4, 2024**

Steady heavy rain has been falling at the lake al morning.

**Website: <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>**

**Facebook Page: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064928340101>**

**The 24 for 24 Donation Program still needs your support.**

\*\*\*\*\*

Valentine's Day is upon us. I used the photo below last year, but it reminds me of all the holidays I had to try to find a present for my wife. Thank goodness for See's Candy stores!



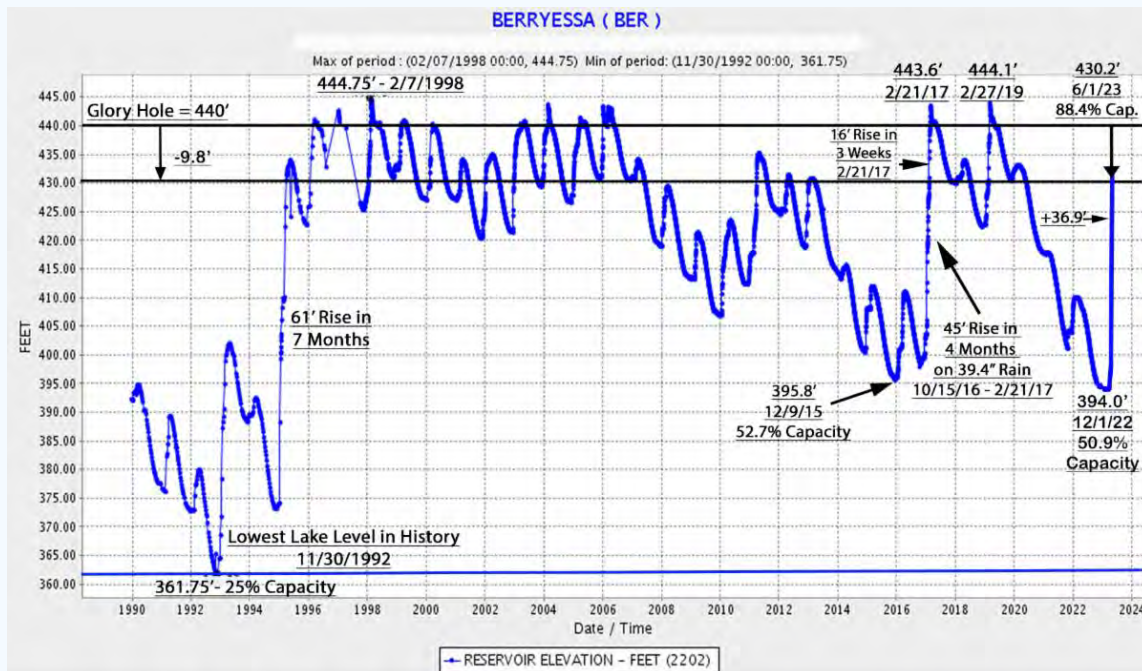
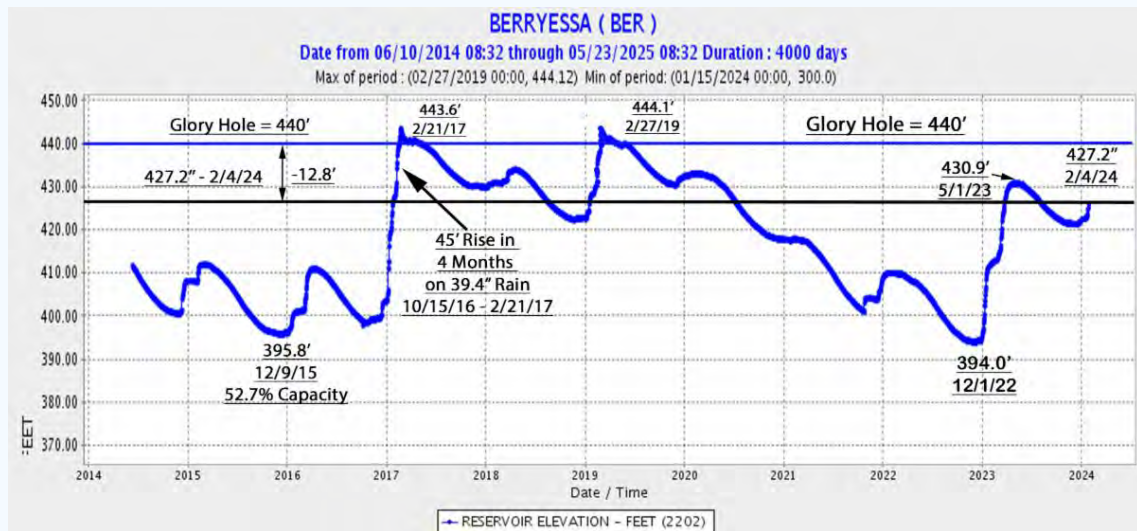
**Lake Berryessa Statistics: February 4, 2024**

- Recent rainfall has brought the season total at Monticello Dam to 14.93" and growing.
- The lake level has jumped more than a foot in two days to 427.3' - 12.7' below Glory Hole. It is rising fast.

- The dam output is flowing at an average 80 cfs (115 AF/day/ - 57,917 AF/yr - 35,906 gal/min).
- Last year at this time the lake was at 412.3' - 27' below Glory Hole on 26.6" of rain.
- The Gamble Gauge is up to 85% capacity.
- Lake water temperature remains at 52 degrees from 5' to the bottom

For comparison, the official rainfall at Monticello Dam is at 14.93 inches as of 2/4/2024. But the rainfall at Cobb Mountain at the north end of the watershed had already reached 47.3" by 1/31/24. If you wish to see hourly numbers on lake level, water temperature, and how much water is in the lake, you can go directly to:

<https://www.scwamonitoring.com/LakeBerryessa/>



This the same post as my last newsletter in case you haven't looked at th videos yet. With the excitement growing as the lake is rising the main question is, "Will Glory Hole Overlow this year?" Here again are the amazing videos by Associate Editor Evan Kilkus of the 2017 season when the lake level rose 45 feet and overflowed Gloy Hole in 4 months

on 39.4" of rain - which included a 16' rise in 3 Weeks on 6.4" Rain, 2/1/17- 2/21/17.

2/12/17: Breathtakingly Beautiful Drone Tour of Lake Berryessa  
(Heavy rains caused muddy water - as it is today on 1/28/24.)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=EH0LQW7iduY>

2/16/23: Lake Berryessa Is Full & Splashing Over the Spillway

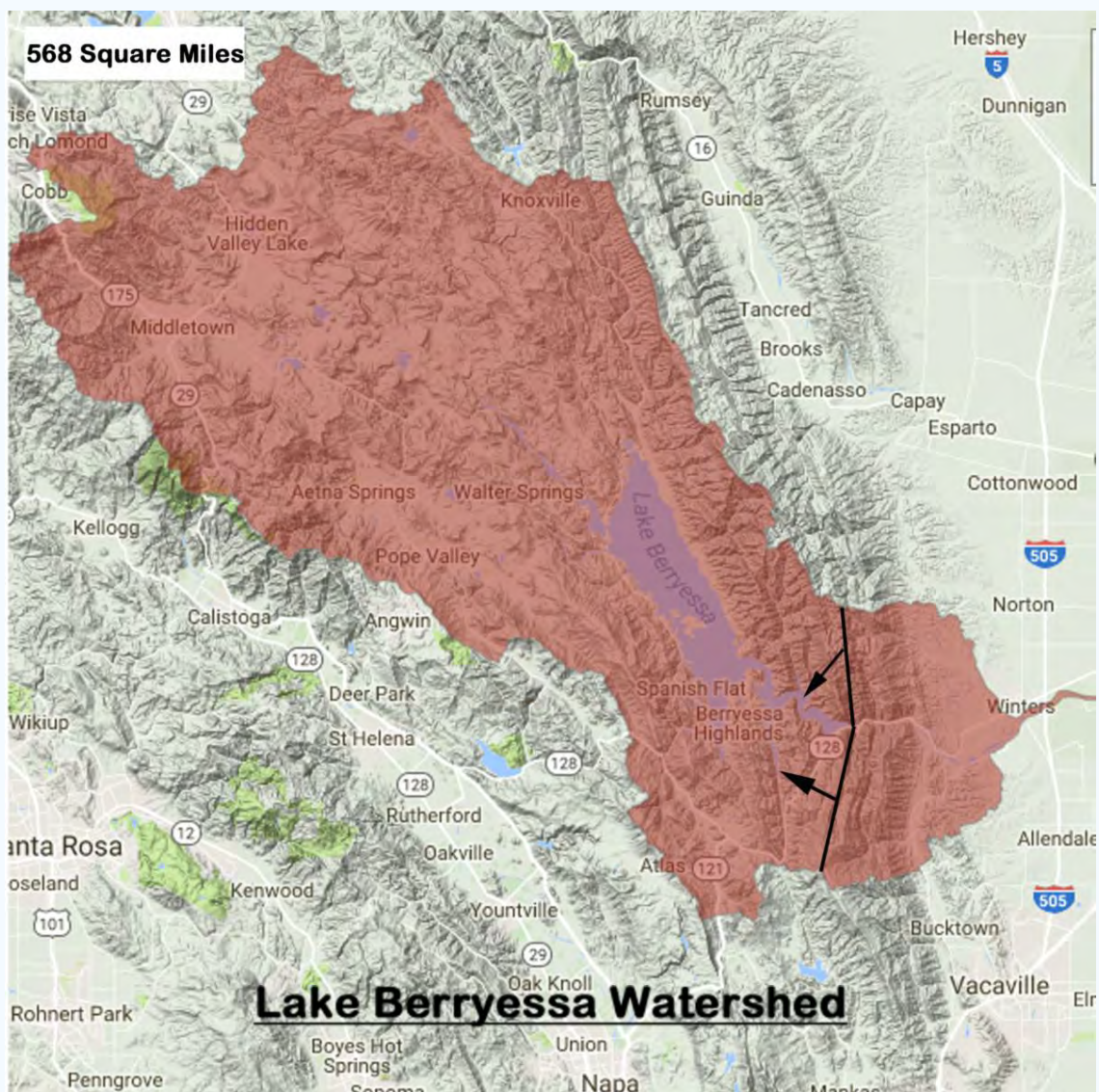
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cB0BKIm1EzM>

2/18/17: Lake Berryessa Is Spilling 1 Foot Over Glory Hole

<https://youtu.be/uQp0QConLY>

2/21/17: Lake Berryessa is 3.5' OVER the Glory Hole Spillway

<https://youtu.be/-iHAjOrrU4k>



**Napa Supervisor Elections Are Important To The Lake Berryessa Community!**

We need the full support of each supervisor for the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Process!  
Here is the contact information for each candidate. Check them out, even if they are not your supervisor. I will request a statement from each candidate about their position on

Lake Berryessa issues for publication in the Lake Berryessa News. The primary election is on Tuesday, March 5. Will Lake Berryessa overflow Glory Hole by then?

#### District 2:

##### Liz Alessio

<https://lizalessio.com/>

<https://lizalessio.com/contact/>

[lalessio@cityofnapa.org](mailto:lalessio@cityofnapa.org)

##### Doris Gentry

<https://dorisgentry.com/>

<https://dorisgentry.com/contact/>

#### District 4:

##### Amber Manfree

<https://www.amber4napa.com/>

<https://www.amber4napa.com/contact>

##### Pete Mott

<https://www.votepetemott.com/>

<https://www.votepetemott.com/priorities.php>

[Pete@VotePeteMott.com](mailto:Pete@VotePeteMott.com)

#### District 5:

##### Belia Ramos

<https://www.beliaforsupervisor.com/>

<https://www.beliaforsupervisor.com/issues>

##### Mariam Aboudamous

<https://vote4mariam.com/>

<https://vote4mariam.com/contact/>

---

No responses to my questions from supervisor candidates yet. As many people know, the key issue for most Napa voters can, in my opinion, be oversimplified as "for development" vs "against development". Many other important issues are relevant to Napa County, but those subjects are generally supported by all candidates and do not differentiate them substantively. One way to understand a candidates leanings is to review their candidate statements and their list of supporters on their web sites published above. The campaigns have also just released their latest financial statements. The following is from a recent article in the Napa Register.

#### **Napa County Board of Supervisors candidates report campaign donors**

Barry Eberling, Feb 1, 2024

Candidates filed their campaign financial information as required with the county Election Division, including lists of those donating more than \$99. The county caps donations from any single party at \$5,500 per election.

#### 2nd District

Napa City Councilmember Alessio led Gentry, a former Napa council member, in

fundraising, \$80,439 to \$4,646. Alessio received the \$5,500 maximum from both Paul and Betty Wools of O'Shaughnessy winery, Beckstoffer Vineyards owner Andrew Beckstoffer, Napa Wine Co. owner Rennick Harris, Holcomb Realty Group principal Maria Holcomb, David Moffitt, and the political action group for Service Employees International Union Local 1021. The union represents county employees.

Most of Gentry's money came from a \$3,000 loan she made to herself.

#### 4th District

Manfree, a geographer, led former Napa City Councilmember Mott, \$120,785 to \$52,404. She received the \$5,500 maximum from Beckstoffer Vineyards owner Andrew Beckstoffer, Julie Dickson, Ren Harris of Paradigm winery, Philips Family Farming, SEIU Local 1021 political action committee and Julia Winiarski.

Napa Vision 2050, a coalition of environmental and neighborhood groups, contributed \$2,000. The group speaks out on county land use and other issues, with members often addressing the Board of Supervisors. Manfree's forms include more than 50 pages listing contributions, many for a few hundred dollars to a couple thousand dollars.

Mott reported one \$5,500 maximum donation — from Silver Oaks Cellars winery manager Tony LeBlanc. Top donors include Circle R Ranch owner Peter Read at \$5,000, Cordeiro Vault Co. Inc. at \$4,900 and the Cal Fire Local 2881 political action committee at \$3,000. Non-monetary contributions include Cole's Chop House at \$4,950 and Whetstone winery at \$4,800.

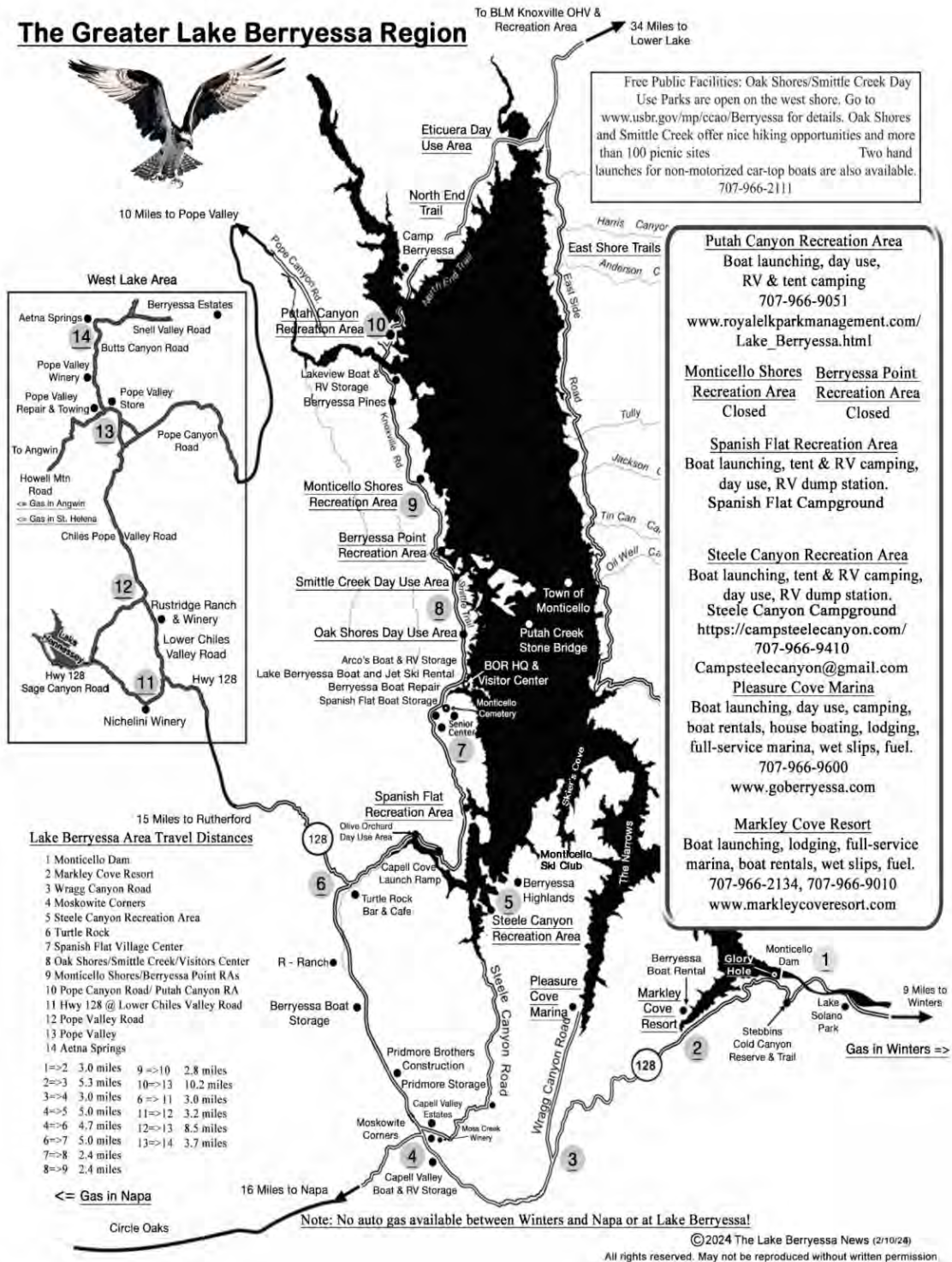
He received \$4,500 from Jackson Family Wines chair Barbara Banke and \$4,500 from Jackson Family Enterprises Inc. The Jackson family is seeking to build a hotel on unincorporated land near its Freemark Abbey winery. That issue could be decided before new county supervisors are seated in January 2025.

#### 5th District

Ramos, the 5th District incumbent, led American Canyon City Councilmember Aboudamous, \$83,968 to \$77,883. Ramos received the \$5,500 maximum from SEIU Local 1021 and vintner Michael Mondavi. Among her top donations were \$4,000 from Fulton Family Winery, \$3,000 from the Cal Fire Local 2881 political action committee and \$2,500 from Ed Matovcik, Constellation Brands' vice president of governmental affairs. Constellation owns Robert Mondavi and The Prisoner wineries in Napa Valley.

Aboudamous received the \$5,500 maximum from both Dave and Kathleen DiCesaris. The Board of Supervisors last year rejected the DiCesaris' controversial Le Colline vineyard. Other \$5,500 donors include vintner Charles Wagner, Paula Brooks and Silver Oak Cellars president Tony LeBlanc.

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



## The Lake Berryessa News 24 For 24 Program Still Needs Your Support!

I am working on the Lake Berryessa News budget for 2024. We still need your support to continue our social media presence and publish the print version of the Lake Berryessa News in 2024. Unfortunately, the number of donors this year is only at half of what it was in 2023 at this time. If you donated last year please do so again. Seriously, the Lake Berryessa News really needs your support!

I promise to stop asking for your financial help by March. I don't really like doing it, and I will cover the final costs myself. There is no profit for me personally in publishing the Lake Berryessa News. I do it as a community service (and because I must be genetically unable to retire.)

I challenge you to find any Lake Berryessa news anywhere. Hopefully the last few weeks of our intensive reporting about the latest Lake Berryessa issues will convince you of the truth of our motto, "Without The Lake Berryessa News there would be no Lake Berryessa News".

If you love Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms and want to support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program (Renaissance Lake Berryessa), please send a donation check of \$24 (or more if you feel so inclined) made out to Peter Killkus (not the Lake Berryessa News) and mail it to Peter Killkus, 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558. You can stick crinkly old cash in an envelope with your information and send it to the same address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My Venmo account is under @Peter-Kilkus, Paypal is Member #2051. You can email me at pkilkus@gmail.com. (Note: Your donation is NOT tax deductible)

Your decision as an individual or as an advertiser will show your support for the Lake Berryessa News and is your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community. I'll continue to do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting Lake Berryessa.

Thanks, Peter

---

---



With [meter.me](https://meter.me), you can:

- View and monitor your fire suppression tank levels in real-time
  - Get notified if you have a leak
  - Seamlessly share water-level information with fire agencies in case of a fire emergency
- 
- 
- 
-



Your Potential Dream Lake Retreat!

**Offered at: \$499,000**

**1039 Rimrock Drive**

<https://lakeberrypassahome.com/>

Enjoy the charm of this spacious 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom log cabin.

Immerse yourself in stunning sunset views in the Berryessa Highlands.

This residence invites you to experience a perfect blend of tranquility and adventure.

The Steele Canyon Recreation area, is your gateway to both relaxation and restoration.

Amber Payne



DRE #1302244

707-235-1124

See the details and photos at:

<https://lakeberrypassahome.com/>

---

## BUILD YOUR DREAM LAKE HOME!

Lake Berryessa: <https://lakeberrypassahome.com/>

Circle Oaks: <https://circleoakslots.com/>

AMBER PAYNE REALTOR

office: 707-235-1124, fax: 888-864-4133,

email: [amber.payne@corcorangl.com](mailto:amber.payne@corcorangl.com), dre#: 01302244

### 1070 Westridge Drive

APN# 019-492-010 • .21+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$75,000 Flat then downslope

### 1102 Arroyo Grande Drive

APN# 019-461-025-000 • .32+0 Acre Lot

Offered at \$34,999

Flat then upslope • cul de sac • backs up to open space on 2 sides

### 253 & 259 Sugarloaf Drive

Lot 50 • APN#'s 019-322-003 • 253 Sugarloaf Drive • .53+- Acre

Lot 51 • APN#'s 019-322-004 • 259 Sugarloaf Drive • .37+-Acre

Offered at \$87,500 each

Spanish Flat Woodlands

Water hook up paid for one parcel.

### 1013 Arroyo Lindo Court

APN# 019-441-004 • .224+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$89,500 Mostly flat then upslope.



**208 Manzanita Lane**

APN#019-381-002 • .2466+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$108,000

Lake View • Downslope • 1144+ Sq. Ft.

**1046 Headlands Drive**

APN# 019-484-001 • .20+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$99,000 Flat Corner Lot

**1268 Steele Canyon Road**

APN# 019- 432-001 • .21+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$70,000

Flat Space with a hill at the back of the lot

**817 Bahia Vista Court**

APN# 019-451-012 • .28+

Offered at \$39,000

Flat with downslope and canyon views

**1121 Steele Canyon Road**

APN# 019-442-004 • .31+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$33,000

Flat then downslope Approx.. 31 of an Acre

**19 Live Oak Lane**

APN# 019-331-006 • .45+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$49,000 Large Lot

**Live Oak Lane #21**

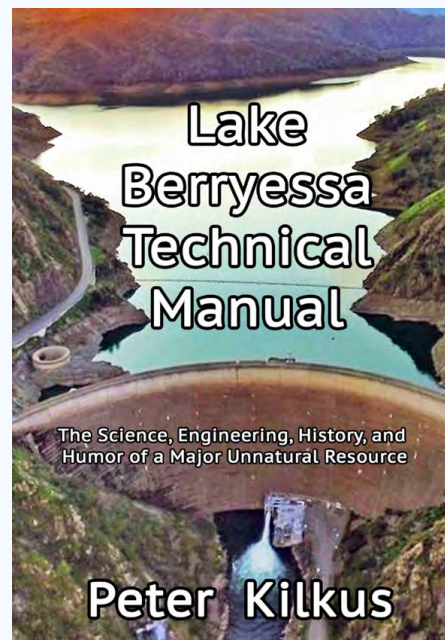
APN# 019-331-008- .47+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$54,000 Extra Large Lot

**16 Live Oak Lane**

APN# 019-331-007 • .64+ Acre Lot

Offered at \$102,000 Generous sized lake view lot



[https://www.amazon.com/Policy-Politics-Betray-People-Berryessa-ebook/dp/B08MFSQDBR/ref=sr\\_1\\_1?](https://www.amazon.com/Policy-Politics-Betray-People-Berryessa-ebook/dp/B08MFSQDBR/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=peter+kilkus&qid=1604774826&sr=8-1)  
[dchild=1&keywords=peter+kilkus&qid=1604774826&sr=8-1](https://www.amazon.com/Policy-Politics-Betray-People-Berryessa-ebook/dp/B08MFSQDBR/ref=sr_1_1?dchild=1&keywords=peter+kilkus&qid=1604774826&sr=8-1)

[https://www.amazon.com/Lake-Berryessa-Technical-Manual-Engineering-ebook/dp/B0C21DZ9M9/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?](https://www.amazon.com/Lake-Berryessa-Technical-Manual-Engineering-ebook/dp/B0C21DZ9M9/ref=sr_1_3?)

# BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



LAKE BERRYESSA BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



**NOW RENTING TO CUSTOMERS 18 YEARS & OLDER!**  
**Newest & Most Dependable Equipment!**

We Also Rent Tubes, Wakeboards, Skis,  
Wake Surfboards & Kneeboards

4420 Knoxville Road  
Next to the Spanish Flat Village Center

Reservations Recommended  
**707-966-4204**  
[lakeberryessaboats.com](http://lakeberryessaboats.com)



## BERRYESSA BOAT . JET SKI . RV REPAIR & STORAGE

4420 KNOXVILLE ROAD | 3 MIN NORTH OF SPANISH FLAT RESORT

We offer quality repairs and a gated storage facility. We service all makes and models of Boats, Jet Skis, and RVs. Whether you need a basic tune up, rebuilt engine, gel coat or upholstery, we are your best choice. We are Mobile too, land or water, we can come to you! Outdoor Storage from \$50 per month is available. Our Parts Department is available to order anything you need, whether a battery or an engine. Proshop coming soon with basic boating supplies and hot new products for fun on the water!!

[berryessboatrepair@gmail.com](mailto:berryessboatrepair@gmail.com) | 707.966.9954



MERCURY  
MerCruiser



YAMAHA

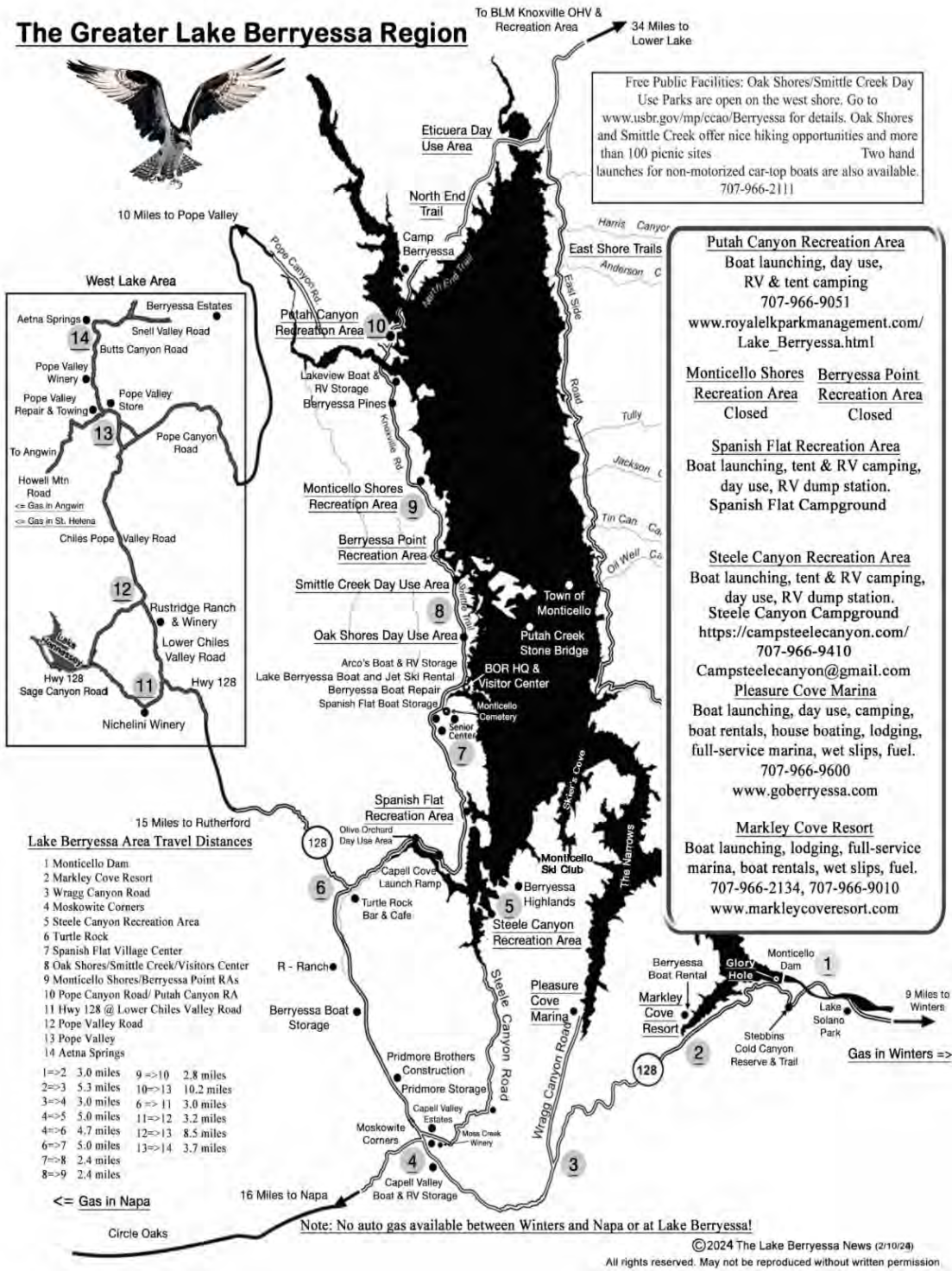


SEA DOO  
PENTA



**Updated Lake Berryessa Map (January 28, 2024)**

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



**Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 | [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com)**



The Lake Berryessa News | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

[Unsubscribe\\_pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:Unsubscribe_pkilkus@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [peter@thelakeberryessanews.ccsend.com](mailto:peter@thelakeberryessanews.ccsend.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

**Special Edition**

**Wednesday, February 8, 2024**

**Fire Recovery Grants Available**

**Some Napa County Homeowners Eligible for up to \$50,000  
in Home Hardening and Defensible Space Upgrades**



and



**NAPA FIREWISE**

**Present:**

**Special Community Information Meetings Introducing the...**

**ReCover CA Owner-Occupied Wildfire Mitigation Retrofits program...**

**Offering up to \$50,000 per qualifying Napa County  
homeowner for home hardening and defensible space!**

**Join us to find out more...**

**Friday, March 15<sup>th</sup> – Presentation and Q&A @ 5:30 PM**

**At the Capell Valley Volunteer Fire Station 14, 1193 Capell Valley Rd, Napa**

**Or**

**Saturday, March 16<sup>th</sup> – Visit our table from 10 AM - 2 PM**

**At the Napa Fire Resources Fair @ the Napa Valley Expo, 375 3<sup>rd</sup> St, Napa**

***In order to qualify, Napa County homeowners must:***

- Have occupied the home as their primary residence at the time of the 2020 LNU or Glass fires, and currently. (Rentals or second homes are not eligible)
- Be current on property and income taxes, and willing to provide documentation as outlined.
- Be a US Citizen or qualified alien.
- Priority is given to low and moderate income households, those that are below 80% of area median income (for example: \$74,700 for a one person household, or \$106,700 for a four person household)

If you meet all of the criteria and want more info, visit this website and attend the meeting for more details:

[hcd.ca.gov/recoverca](http://hcd.ca.gov/recoverca)



Outreach supported by:



**The  
Lake Berryessa  
News**

The ReCover CA “Owner-Occupied Wildfire Mitigation Retrofits” program has launched and wants to help homeowners in nine counties around the state that were impacted by the 2020 wildfires. The goal...to spend up to \$50,000 per eligible household to improve their wildfire resilience.

ReCover CA representatives will attend a special community meeting on Friday, March 15th at 5:30 PM at the Capell Valley Fire Station located at 1193 Capell Valley Rd, Napa, CA 94558. All residents who think they qualify are encouraged to attend. Representatives will also be attending the Napa County Fire Awareness Fair the following day at the Napa Valley Expo, free for anyone to attend from 10AM until 2 PM.

The program identifies areas of improvement around homes in 3 “Levels of Importance”. After they take all hazard mitigation steps in Tier 1, then if they have additional funding, they can move to Tier 2, and then Tier 3. See the itemized list below. If you look closely at the list, you will see that if you already have immaculate defensible space when it comes to your landscaping, the program hopefully can keep the Level 1 costs low, and move right up to level 2, where they may fund new cement exterior siding (with trim and paint), and/or enclosed soffits, and/or a new roof. This could be a great thing for a lot of our neighbors with 30+ year old homes full of woodpecker holes.

The program covers all costs and manages any permits if needed. They assign the homeowner a Case Manager and Construction Manager who work with the homeowner to perform the assessment, agree upon the “to do list”, and they then manage the work beginning to end.

If you meet all of the criteria and want more info, visit this website and attend the meeting for more details: <https://www.hcd.ca.gov/grants-and-funding/recoverca>

In order to qualify, Napa County homeowners must:

- Have occupied the home as their primary residence at the time of the 2020 LNU or Glass fires, and currently. (Rentals or second homes are not eligible)
- Be current on property and income taxes, and willing to provide documentation as outlined.
- Be a US Citizen or a qualified alien.
- Priority is given to households with incomes at or below 80% of area mean income (AMI), which is determined by the federal government at the county level, by household size.

For example, the currently published income limit for a one-person household making 80% AMI is \$74,700, or \$106,700 for a four-person household. You are encouraged to submit your application and then your case manager can help you determine your income eligibility.

Here are the Mitigation items and Tiers:

Level Importance Items: 1

- Pea Gravel under Home and decks/porches, if necessary, over weed prevention barrier and extend 5ft around home with no planted vegetation
- Fire resistant skirting around home plus trim and paint
- Enclose underside of elevated porches/decks with metal mesh ember resistant skirting
- Fire retardant paint type application to porches/decks
- Stump grinding
- Hazardous tree removal
- Defensible Space landscaping within zones "0" and zone"1"

Level Importance Items: 2

- Enclose soffits and fascia with fire resistant material such as fiber cement material (including screens and flame/ember resistant strip vents)
- Install metal gutters with gutter guards
- Fiber cement exterior siding plus trim and paint
- Roofing with Class A asphalt shingles, with underlayment, ridge vent, drip edge, flashing, ember-resistant exhaust caps for roof penetrations

Level Importance Items: 3

- Install metal exterior doors
- Install metal garage doors
- Install dual paned windows (one pane tempered glass) with screens

\*\*\*\*\*



This Program provides federal grants to low- and moderate-income homeowners whose residence is located in an eligible county affected by 2020 disasters.

*(See eligible disasters)*

**Program Highlights:**

- Federal grant funding up to \$50,000 per household for the Program to provide mitigation and home hardening for low- to moderate-income homeowners in eligible counties.
- Home does not need to have experienced damage in the 2020 disaster to be eligible.
- Program manages all landscaping, construction, inspection, and permitting start to finish.

**Eligible Participants Must:**

- Be a U.S. citizen or a qualified alien.
- Have legally owned and occupied a single-family dwelling in an eligible county as their primary residence.
- Have disaster mitigation and/or home hardening needs on the property.
- Be current on property taxes or have an approved payment plan or tax exemption.

**Eligible Home Hardening & Mitigation Costs Include:**

- Debris clearance, demolition, landscaping, repairs, etc. that increase the level of protection from future wildfires and disasters.
- Defensible Space and Home Hardening activities that increase resilience and reduce or eliminate long-term risks and impacts of future disasters.
- Activities that assist in bringing a home and property up to code with [Wildland Urban Interface \(WUI\)](#) standards.

**Required Eligibility Documentation Includes Proof of:**

- **Identity** (valid government-issued photo ID, valid passport, etc.)
- **Ownership** (current tax records, title/deed, etc.)
- **Occupancy** (recent utility bill, voter registration, insurance policy, etc.)
- **Federal benefits eligibility** (e.g., valid passport, birth certificate, qualified alien status, etc.)
- **Current property taxes/payment plan**
- **Income** (most recent tax returns, recent paystubs, pension/social security income statements, etc.)

**Eligible Disasters Include:**

**FEMA DR-4558** disasters taking place in Butte, Napa, Santa Cruz, Solano, and Sonoma Counties.

**FEMA DR-4569** disasters taking place in Fresno, Los Angeles, Napa, Shasta, Siskiyou, and Sonoma Counties.

*\*Note that homeowners/properties that have received funding from the California Wildfire Mitigation Program (CWMP) are not eligible to receive assistance from this OOM Program.*

**For assistance completing the application or to receive this flyer in additional languages, please email your contact information to [ReCoverCA@hcd.ca.gov](mailto:ReCoverCA@hcd.ca.gov).**

Assistance is available for individuals with disabilities, including access and functional needs.

**How to Get Started:**



**For information on how to apply, please visit [hcd.ca.gov/recoverca](http://hcd.ca.gov/recoverca) and follow the prompts for the 2020 Program.**

*Homes that sustained damages or were destroyed in eligible 2020 disasters may be eligible for up to \$500,000 in ReCoverCA Housing Programs - Owner-Occupied Rehabilitation and Reconstruction funds. Please see the website for more information.*

Call: (916) 263-6461

Website: [hcd.ca.gov/recoverca](http://hcd.ca.gov/recoverca)

Facebook: @ReCoverCA

Twitter: @California\_HCD



**Lake Berryessa Statistics: February 8, 2024**

The official word from the Solano County Water Agency is that the Lake Berryessa water level has hit 430.5', only 9.5' below Glory Hole!

The season total rainfall at Monticello Dam is now at 17.47".

The lake level has jumped more than 4' since 2/1/24 and is still rising. We're getting close to last year's high point.

Last year at this time the lake was at 412.6' - 27.4' below Glory Hole on 24.6" of rain. The lake did not reach its present 2024 level until 4/3/23. The highest it got was 430.9', 9.1'



below Glory Hole, on 4/24/23 on 41.1" of rain - 18 feet rise in 2 1/2 months on 16.5 inches of rain. A big jump late in the rainy season! But 2017 was a very remarkable year - see chart below.

The season total rainfall at Monticello Dam is now at 17.47".

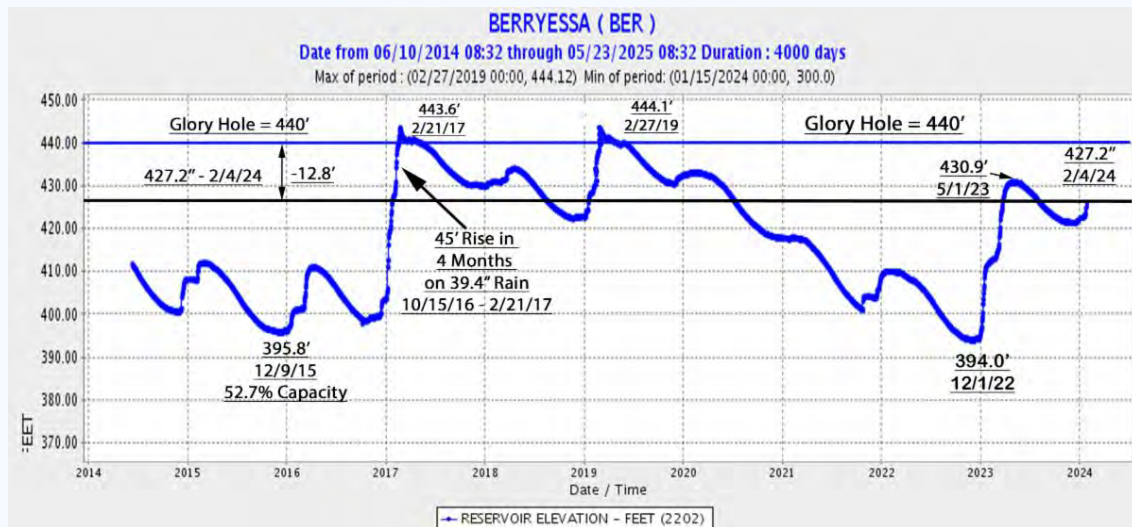
The dam output has dropped to 45 cfs (89.3 AF/day). This is the minimum required by law and contract to protect the fishery during the winter season. Plus, the dam output provides drinking water to 500,000 people in Solano County all year round.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake is up to 86.1% capacity.

Lake water temperature remains at 52 degrees from 5' to the bottom

If you wish to see hourly numbers on lake level, water temperature, and how much water is in the lake, you can go directly to:

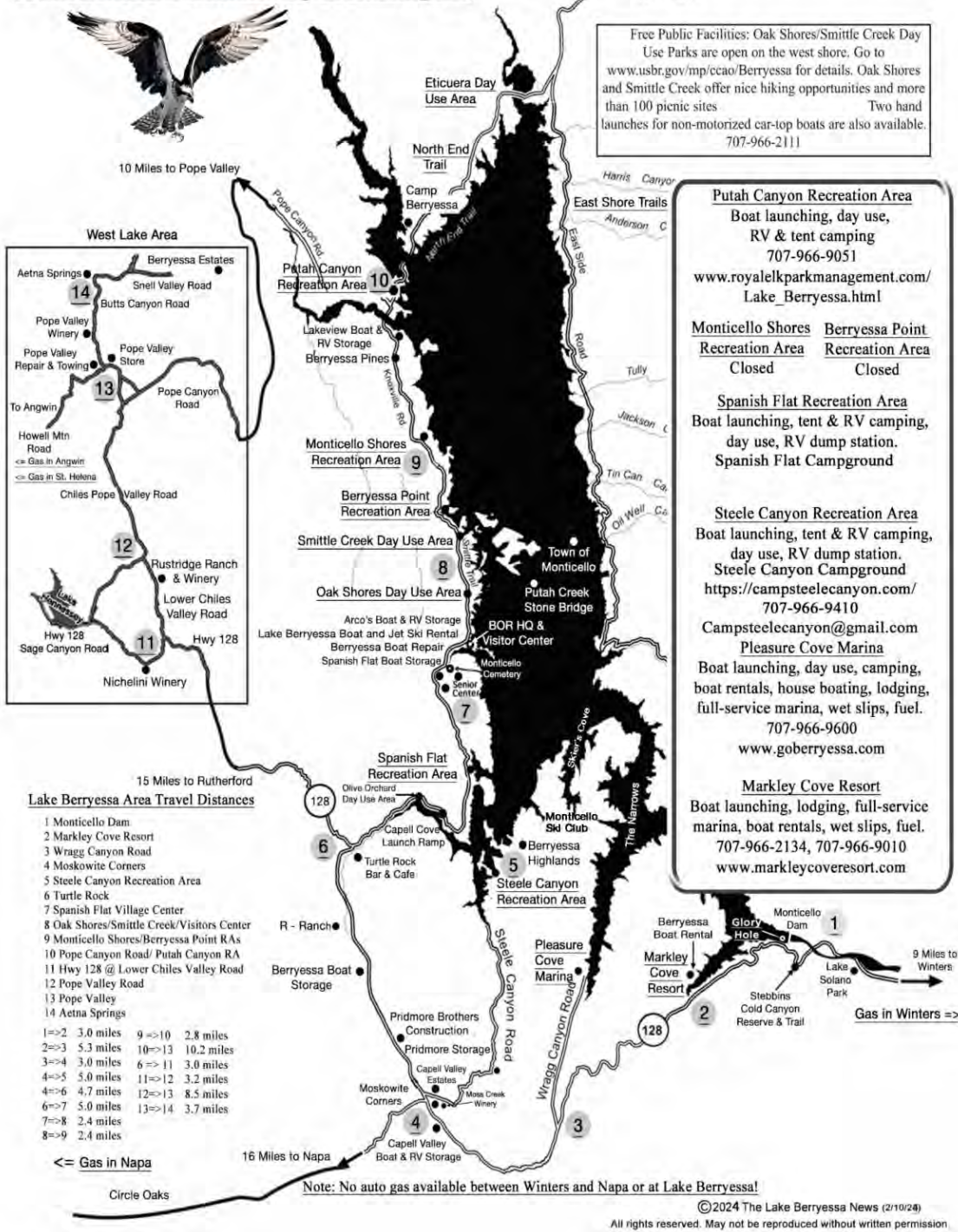
<https://www.scwamonitoring.com/LakeBerryessa/>



**Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)**

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

To BLM Knoxville OHV & Recreation Area  
34 Miles to Lower Lake



**Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 | [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com)**



The Lake Berryessa News | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

[Unsubscribe pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:Unsubscribe_pkilkus@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [peter@thelakeberryessanews.ccsend.com](mailto:peter@thelakeberryessanews.ccsend.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

**Friday, February 23, 2024**

## **The Glory Days of the Glory Hole**

---

### **Lake Berryessa Statistics: February 23, 2024**

The Lake Berryessa water level just hit 435.6' (9 AM, 2/23/24), only 4.4' below Glory Hole! Up another foot in 2 days - but slowing due to little rain!

The season total rainfall at Monticello Dam is now at 21.28".

Before 2017 Glory Hole had only overflowed 25 times in the 59 years since the dam was finished in 1958. By 2024 that number had risen to 27 times in 66 years. (See the small numbers on the attached lake level charts.) Will we add another overflow mark in 2024? It's possible.

At this level the lake rises 7 inches for every inch of rain. So, 8.2' of rise would require about 14" more rain. Last year the lake received 42" of rainfall total. In 2017 total rainfall hit 48". The average annual rainfall is only about 25".

The season total rainfall at Monticello Dam is now at 21.28" at the dam . The level at the Cobb Area Water District at the north end of the Lake Berryessa watershed hit 63.1" on 2/20/24. Cobb Mountain is usually three times the rainfall as at Monticello Dam.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake is up to 94.6% capacity.

Lake water temperature is 53 degrees at the surface and about 52 degrees from 5' to the bottom.

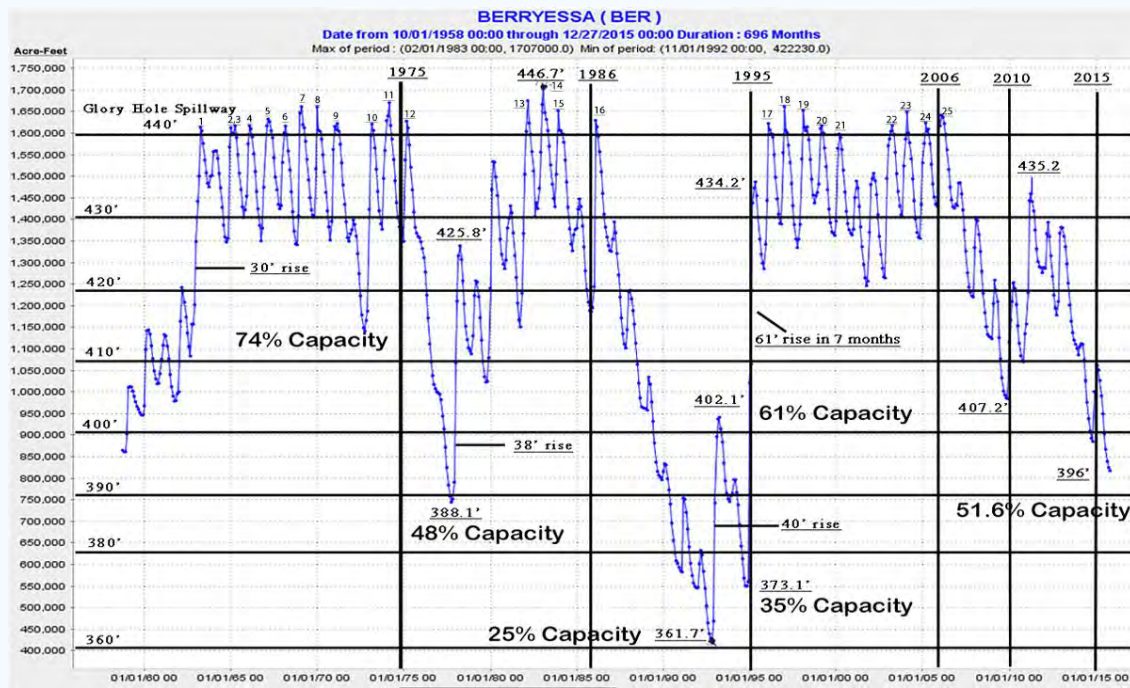
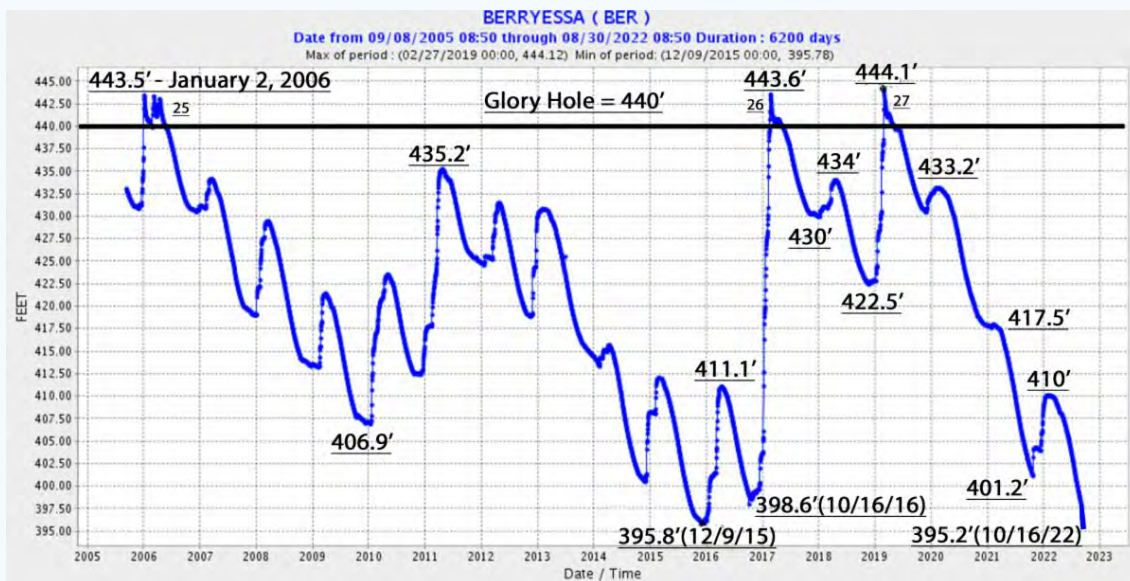
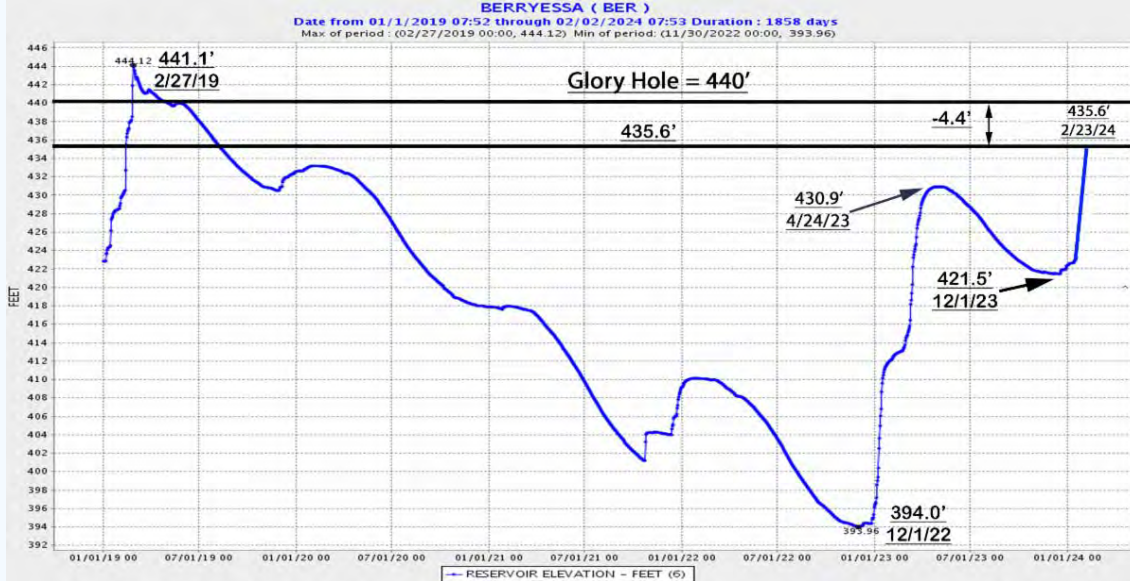
If you wish to see hourly numbers on lake level, water temperature, and how much water is in the lake, you can go directly to:

<https://www.scwamonitoring.com/LakeBerryessa/>



2/20/24 - 6 PM  
434.7' - 5.3' Below Glory Hole

Gary Stewart





Positioned behind the dam and to the left is the Glory Hole during a very dry year.

Jack Vickrey Photo

---

### **Election News**

The Lake Berryessa News refrains from political commentary unless we are fighting for the future of Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa region. But I was honored to have an article published in the Napa Valley Features (<https://www.napavalleyfeatures.com/>) about election statistics. I am a paid subscriber to this publication and to the digital version of the Napa Register. There's a poll where you can "vote" your opinion on several election topics.

\*\*\*\*\*

#### **[Peter Kilkus: nearly two decades of hyper-local news reporting in Napa County](#)**

Intro by Tim Carl and content by Peter Kilkus

<https://napavalleyfocus.substack.com/p/peter-kilkus-a-leader-in-napa-countys>

NAPA COUNTY, Calif. — Napa Valley Features is pleased to welcome Peter Kilkus as a new contributor. An important figure in local journalism, Kilkus has been delivering community news in Napa County for nearly two decades. His journalism journey began in 2005, when he joined Shirl Katleba, the previous owner of the Lake Berryessa News, a publication he later purchased for \$2,000 in 2009. Kilkus' extensive knowledge of Lake Berryessa, a haven for watersports and outdoor enthusiasts in Napa County and the broader region, is comprehensive.

Monticello Dam, a concrete arch dam located in Napa County, was constructed from 1953 to 1957. Lake Berryessa, formed by this dam, ranks as the seventh-largest man-made lake in California.

Kilkus' deep ties to the region and academic credentials that include a master of science degree in physics from UC Santa Barbara lend a distinct perspective to his journalistic work. He is also the author of three books, including "[Lake Berryessa Technical Manual: The Science](#)." His commitment to the local community and in-depth understanding of regional intricacies make him an important addition to our Napa Valley Features team.

Kilkus' contributions as a journalist have been particularly significant during challenging times, such as when destructive wildfires ravaged Napa County. In 2017, the [Los Angeles Times highlighted](#) the important role he and his son, Evan, played in providing timely news and support to the Berryessa Highlands community during the wildfires. Their GoFundMe initiative to support fire victims and local volunteer firefighters exemplified their dedication and community unity at such times.

Another noteworthy aspect of their work is the eagerly awaited "[Glory Hole](#)" watch at Lake Berryessa, a rare natural occurrence. This event, which happens when surplus lake water cascades into the Glory Hole, creates a stunning display reminiscent of a watery black hole. Onlookers and photographers travel great distances to see the spectacle, which has become a rite of passage for many local families. This moment is often marked by the Kilkuses' timely updates. [Evan's drone footage](#) of the event recently captivated more than 60 million viewers globally, showcasing the awe-inspiring power and beauty of nature.

At Napa Valley Features, we are eager to share Kilkus' voice. His first article, emphasizing the importance of local election participation, aims to statistically inspire our readers to vote. And with the recent heavy rains, we might soon receive updates on the current status of the Glory Hole, which was a little over 6 feet away from activating at last count.

### **A statistical look at election results**

By Peter Kilkus

NAPA VALLEY, Calif. — Surveys and statistics may or may not predict election results, especially in races with relatively large statistically random populations of voters. That's also true of Napa County supervisorial elections with smaller populations of voters.

Election seasons begin with public-opinion polls. It only takes 50.1% of any vote to win an election. If we want a 95% confidence level (the level used in most surveys) with a confidence interval of plus or minus 2% that a candidate will win with 52% of the vote (50% - 54%) in a 13,000-voter population (typical Napa County supervisor district), we only need to survey about 2,000 random voters. To get a 99% confidence level with a margin of error of 2%, we would need to interview about 3,000 voters.

As recent history has shown, pre-election public polls can be wrong for various reasons. The survey questions could be poorly worded, the interviewees might be unsure of their own opinions, or the interviewees could lie because they are contrarian and resent being considered a statistic. This voter-response bias has increased because the sheer number of pollsters has exploded over the last 20 years. This has created voter fatigue, tedium and less willingness to respond for privacy and social desirability reasons. Fortune Magazine addressed this issue in "[Pollsters got it wrong in 2018, 2020, and 2022. Here's why political polling is no more than statistical sophistry.](#)"



After the polls close there is usually an initial vote count made up of mail-in ballots that have been previously processed. In Napa County that vote count is released at 8:01 p.m., immediately after the polls close. Two additional releases later in the evening consist of live ballots voted at the Election Division beginning 29 days before the election and live ballots brought in from satellite vote centers that evening. Additional releases begin the Friday after the election and continue until 95% of the ballots have been counted. The final 5% are in the certified tally after the manual tally is completed and all damaged ballots have been duplicated and counted.

The difference between the initial vote count and the final vote count in an election is distinct from the difference between a final vote count in a close election and the results of a final vote recount in that election.

According to [Fair Vote](#), which describes itself as a "nonpartisan organization working for better elections for all," "An analysis of statewide election recounts 2000-2023 shows that statewide recounts are rare. Out of the 6,929 statewide general elections between 2000 and 2023, there were 36 statewide recounts. In other words, there was one recount for every 192 statewide elections. Outcome reversals are even rarer. Recounts resulted in only three reversals, or one out of every 2,310 statewide elections. All three reversals occurred when the initial margin was less than 0.06% of all votes cast for the top two candidates. Recounts tend to shift only a small number of votes. Statewide recounts resulted in an average margin shift of 551 votes between the frontrunners, representing 0.03% of the vote. Recounts typically widen the gap between the top two candidates instead of decreasing it."

This is the main reason political organizations work to "get out the base," especially in closely contested elections. The more advocates of a specific political view who go to the polls, as opposed to a random sample of voters, the more chance that view can have an influence in a close election. In this case, lower voter turnout favors the more active "get out the vote" proponents.

This is also why rural populations such as the Lake Berryessa region do not have as much influence in elections where they are a small part of a total electorate. In the 2010 District 3 election, there were about 2,500 rural voters (Lake Berryessa, Pope Valley, Angwin) matched against more than 10,000 urban voters (St. Helena, Calistoga and parts of Napa). If one candidate got 80% of the rural vote (2,000) the other candidate would only need to get 60% of the urban vote (6,000) plus the 20% of the rural vote (500) to win, 6,500 votes to 6,000 votes. Candidates only need to appeal to urban voters who may not understand the actual needs of their rural neighbors.

In 2010 I wrote a series of stories for Lake Barryessa News about the Napa County District 3 supervisor's election contest between incumbent Diane Dillon of St. Helena and challenger Jeff Parady of Pope Valley.

The original versus final vote results in that election confirmed the lack of influence of rural voters as shown in the table below. With all of the initial 9,073 ballots counted, Dillon claimed 4,660 votes, besting Parady's 4,413. Following the final update on election night, Dillon held a 161-vote lead over the challenger. Weeks later Dillon's lead had grown by 86 votes to 247, as 9,798 ballots made up the final count. As the table of precincts shows,

Parady won more than 80% of the rural votes and still lost the election by 247 votes out of 9,798 votes cast.

After the initial vote count some people held out hope that Parady could pull out a last-minute miracle. While the uncounted ballots made up nearly 40% of all votes cast in the Nov. 2 election, or nearly a third in the case of the District 3 supervisors' race, Registrar of Voters John Tuteur said that he didn't expect the remaining votes to swing any of the close races. He said that in his experience, large pools of voters tend to adhere to the same set of trends, meaning that the final 40% of ballots will likely favor the same candidates seen in the first 60%. Tuteur's experience was supported by mathematical statistics.

The basic question is how many votes really need to be cast and counted to determine the likely outcome of a District 3 election (or any election). The answer came to me through a Pope Valley connection. Bill Eaton, vice president of Creative Research Systems at the time, read my article, "[Parady Loses to Dillon — Finally!](#)" and sent me a paper he had written about the basics of statistical sampling.

The confidence level in a poll tells you how sure you can be of the result. It is expressed as a percentage and represents how often the true percentage of the population who would pick an answer lies within the confidence interval. The 95% confidence level means you can be 95% certain; the 99% confidence level means you can be 99% certain. Most pollsters use the 95% confidence level.

The larger your sample size, the more sure you can be (confidence interval) that their answers truly reflect the population. This indicates that for a given confidence level, the larger your sample size, the smaller (better) your confidence interval. However, the relationship is not linear (i.e., doubling the sample size does not halve the confidence interval).

As Eaton points out in his article, "To achieve a 4% confidence interval in a sample you need to survey 600 people. To halve that error to 2% you need a sample of 2,400 or four times as many. Once you get over a population size of 10,000 it makes little difference, and once you exceed 50,000 there's none really. So, we can effectively define a large population as larger than 10,000."

It doesn't make a difference whether you have a large population or not. The same law of large numbers applies. For example, Eaton writes, "To get a 95% confidence level with a 2% margin of error of our nearest city (Santa Rosa, California), which has a population of about 150,000, you need a sample of 2,364. To get the same 2% confidence interval on the population of the USA (308 million in 2010) you need a sample of 2,401. That's right, only 37 more people!"

The population of registered voters in District 3 in 2010 was approximately 13,000, technically a large statistical population. Using the [Sample Size Calculator](#), we can determine a range of possible sample sizes and confidence levels with confidence intervals.

Let's investigate the predictive value of the initial 2010 vote count of 5,933 (our sample size, 45.6% of registered voters). The vote count showed that Dillon was ahead by 161

votes with 51.4% of the vote. At a 99% confidence level, that percentage lead was accurate with a confidence interval of 1.23%. Her actual percentage lead in the whole population of voters was thus statistically between 52.6% and 50.2% — more than enough to win.

The final sample size was 9,798 votes. Dillon’s lead had actually remained at 51.4% of the vote. The confidence interval, though, had narrowed to 0.65%. Therefore, 5,933 votes (45.6% of registered voters) accurately predicted the outcome.

While later results may not change the final outcome, “It is my duty to make sure every ballot cast is counted accurately,” Tuteur said.

What does this exercise in statistics say about how many votes are needed to predict an outcome? If we want to have a 99% confidence level in a population of 13,000 voters that one candidate will receive 50.1% of the vote or more, the number of actual votes counted would have to be 7,299, or only 56% of the 13,000 registered. This would be considered a close election.

Every vote counts, whether in the initial count, subsequent counts or the final count. Recent history has shown that contests are being decided by smaller and smaller margins.

“I am concerned that statistical discussions can give voters the wrong impression about how important it is to cast their ballot,” Tuteur said.

Data from the Napa County Elections Department confirm that Napa County voters are very involved, with about a 75% turnout rate. But elections are about more than the winners and losers. They are a barometer of the basic strength of a democracy and the importance of an educated and involved citizenry.

Vote results by region — Data provided by the [Napa County Elections Department](#)

**2010 Supervisor Election — District 3 Final Results**

<b>Election Vote - 2010</b>	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>% turnout</b>	<b>Dillon</b>	<b>Parady</b>	<b>Difference (P - D)</b>	<b>Parady %</b>
Unincorporated Rural Areas	7014	5054	72.06%	2009	2626	617	56.66%
City of Napa District Precincts	969	712	73.48%	357	291	-66	44.91%
City of St. Helena District 3 Precincts	3248	2399	73.86%	1341	921	-420	40.72%
Calistoga District 3 Precincts	2215	1633	73.72%	953	575	-378	37.63%
<b>District 3 Totals</b>	<b>13446</b>	<b>9798</b>	<b>72.87%</b>	<b>4660</b>	<b>4413</b>	<b>-247</b>	<b>48.64%</b>

<b>Rural Precincts</b>	<b>Registered</b>	<b>Voted</b>	<b>% turnout</b>	<b>Dillon</b>	<b>Parady</b>	<b>Difference (P - D)</b>	<b>Parady %</b>
Pope Valley	464	362	78.02%	64	285	221	81.66%
North Lake & Chiles	244	177	72.54%	31	137	106	81.55%
South Lake	530	358	67.55%	65	275	210	80.88%
Angwin	1809	1119	61.86%	386	644	258	62.52%

---

## **Endorsements - None**

The Napa Register recently published its endorsements after thoroughly reviewing the candidates' positions. As Executive Editor Dan Evans writes "One of the more fraught things a newspaper or news outlet can do — despite it being more-or-less expected — are endorsements. Unlike public safety unions, labor coalitions, or trade and business groups — all of which are, rightly or wrongly, presumed to have a particular bend — newspapers are supposed to be unbiased.

How, then, can we say one candidate is better than the other? Well, the hope (from this end) is that newspapers are seen as evenhanded, and the recommendations we provide are not intended to benefit one particular group of citizens or workers — but all of us. Our recent set of endorsements — [https://napavalleyregister.com/opinion/editorial/napa-county-liz-alessio-doris-gentry-amber-manfree-peter-mott-belia-ramos-mariam-aboudamous/article\\_fb0bd98a-caa2-11ee-b935-6f3f7ca02ddc.html](https://napavalleyregister.com/opinion/editorial/napa-county-liz-alessio-doris-gentry-amber-manfree-peter-mott-belia-ramos-mariam-aboudamous/article_fb0bd98a-caa2-11ee-b935-6f3f7ca02ddc.html) — are a good example of this. We tried, and I think we succeeded, in explaining our logic. If you disagree with us, it certainly doesn't hurt our feelings. It's more important that you understand why we did what we did."

The Lake Berryessa "hyper-local" News does not do election endorsements. Our goal is to have a Board of Supervisors that diligently supports (as it has done so far) the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program. The election for District 4 Supervisor is very important to Lake Berryessa residents. Pete Mott and Amber Manfree are competing in that race. You can see the Register's endorsement in the article above. In the interest of the Lake Berryessa and its residents and visitors, I sent the following letter and references to both candidates:

"Lake Berryessa residents have clearly expressed their vision for the area for many, many years and have been closely involved in planning efforts. They overwhelmingly support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program instigated by the Lake Berryessa News and the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce. A major survey was completed as part of the excellent Ragatz Report. Napa County has been working hard to implement this program for several years. All the proposed plans are required to be family friendly and environmentally sustainable. If you are elected, I promise to work with you to positively improve the situation at Lake Berryessa."

**[2017 Ragatz Report Full](#)**

**[Lake Berryessa and the Napa General Plan](#)**

**[Nature Based Recreation at Lake Berryessa](#)**

**[Environmental Management at Lake Berryessa](#)**

---

Thanks to Paul Franson, publisher of NapaLife (<https://www.napalife.com/>) for the following in-depth article from a recent issue of NapaLife.

## Local journalism

by Paul Franson (Feb. 19, 2024)

Highway 29 Media celebrates first anniversary and upgrades its name to Napa Valley News Group. It has been a year since a small, dedicated group of people headed by Marc Hand saved the Calistoga Tribune and Yountville Sun from closing as their separate owners prepared to retire and no successors seemed forthcoming. They named the venture Highway29Media for the road that joined them.

About the same time, Lee Enterprises in Iowa, which owns the Napa Valley Register, cut the Register's budget and the editor of the Register eliminated the jobs of respected longtime feature editor Sasha Paulsen and wine business reporter Danielle Wilde. With them went most coverage of wine, food, entertainment, arts, travel, and home.

Immediately, writer and photographer Tim Carl jumped in with Napa Valley Features, a web-based publication that replaced the lost coverage, much written by the same people. Since then, he has since expanded his horizon significantly, including looking into issues facing the wine and hospitality businesses that many in our local establishment wish could be kept in the closet. Napa Valley Features now has more than 3,200 subscribers, though only part of them are paying supporters. It has no connection with Highway29 Media, though some writers write for both.

Meanwhile, Hand and others saw a greater need. The Register had closed its Weekly Calistogan and American Canyon Eagle some time ago. They kept the St. Helena Star, probably due to its voluminous real estate advertising, but reduced it to single employee, overworked editor Jesse Duarte.

Enter Napa Valley News Group, a sister to Highway29. It is a new umbrella organization that started with a partnership with NapaLife, which always has addressed the whole county, then added NapaLife Extra, a free monthly print publication included with the Sun and Tribune and, increasingly, found at popular sites throughout the valley. It features stories that should interest anyone who lives in Napa County. I have learned that most visitors to the valley want to find out what we who live here like to do, where we eat and taste wine and where we play, so it's of great interest to them, too.

The latest member of the family is Napa Valley Insider, a web-based publication that includes articles about our life in Napa County. It covers not only wine, food, music and fun, but more serious issues. Some of the pieces are from the Sun and Tribune, and some from NapaLife or NapaLife Extra, but many are written specifically for the Insider.

Here are locations online and contacts for Napa Valley News Group publications:

Calistoga Tribune: Weekly print: [www.calistogatribune.com](http://www.calistogatribune.com), editor@calistogatribune.com

Yountville Sun: Weekly print: [www.yountvillesun.com](http://www.yountvillesun.com), editor@yountvillesun.com

NapaLife Extra: Monthly print. Digital versions including archive.

[www.napavalleyinsider.com/napa-life-extra-past-issues](http://www.napavalleyinsider.com/napa-life-extra-past-issues)

Napa Valley Insider: Online magazine. Updated often. [www.napavalleyinsider.com](http://www.napavalleyinsider.com)

NapaLife: Weekly digital newsletter, [www.napalife.com](http://www.napalife.com), paul@napalife.com

Obviously, there are other media organizations in the valley and some of us also write (or talk) for them. Here's a rundown on local media with their editorial contacts for news and events.

Give me the news first (paul@napalife.com) but tell everyone about your events.

Lake Berryessa News: Website ([www.lakeberryessanews.com](http://www.lakeberryessanews.com), pkilkus@gmail.com), Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064928340101>), weekly email newsletter, print version published monthly from April to October.

Napa Valley Register: Three paid print editions per week mailed to subscribers. Daily editions online, but most don't have much local content. [napavalleyregister.com](http://napavalleyregister.com)

St. Helena Star: owned by Napa Valley Register/Lee Enterprises. Weekly print. [sthelenastar.com](http://sthelenastar.com). Editor jduarte@sthelenastar.com.

Press Democrat: Daily mailed to Napa County. Has dedicated staff for Napa County and publishes a Napa section each Sunday and adds stories that develop during the week. [www.pressdemocrat.com](http://www.pressdemocrat.com), Edward Booth [edward.booth@pressdemocrat.com](mailto:edward.booth@pressdemocrat.com). Send press releases to [news@pressdemocrat.com](mailto:news@pressdemocrat.com). Events [www.pressdemocrat.com/events](http://www.pressdemocrat.com/events)

Napa Valley Features: Webzine updated daily and more. Independently owned by Tim Carl. Contact [napavalleyfocus@substack.com](mailto:napavalleyfocus@substack.com)

Wine Down Media: Locally owned broadcasting group emphasizes community coverage: KVYN 93.3 MHz FM (English), [www.993thevine.com/news](http://www.993thevine.com/news); KVON 1440 kHz AM (Spanish). [Nate@winedownmedia.com](mailto:Nate@winedownmedia.com)

---



Your Potential Dream Lake Retreat!

**Offered at: \$499,000**

**1039 Rimrock Drive**

<https://lakeberryessahome.com/>

Enjoy the charm of this spacious 4-bedroom, 2.5-bathroom log cabin.

Immerse yourself in stunning sunset views in the Berryessa Highlands.

This residence invites you to experience a perfect blend of tranquility and adventure.

The Steele Canyon Recreation area, is your gateway to both relaxation and restoration.

Amber Payne



DRE #1302244

707-235-1124

**BUILD YOUR DREAM LAKE HOME!**

Lake Berryessa: <https://lakeberryessaland.com/>

**AMBER PAYNE REALTOR**

office:707-235-1124, fax:888-864-4133,

email:amber.payne@corcorangl.com, dre#:01302244

1070 Westridge Drive

APN# 019-492-010 • .21+· Acre Lot

Offered at \$75,000 Flat then downslope

1102 Arroyo Grande Drive

APN# 019-461-025-000 • .32+0· Acre Lot

Offered at \$34,999

Flat then upslope • cul de sac • backs up to open space on 2 sides

253 & 259 Sugarloaf Drive

Lot 50 • APN#'s 019-322-003 • 253 Sugarloaf Drive • .53+- Acre

Lot 51 • APN#'s 019-322-004 • 259 Sugarloaf Drive • .37+-Acre

Offered at \$87,500 each

Spanish Flat Woodlands

Water hook up paid for one parcel.

1013 Arroyo Lindo Court

APN# 019-441-004 • .224+· Acre Lot

Offered at \$89,500 Mostly flat then upslope.

208 Manzanita Lane

APN#019-381-002 • .2466+• Acre Lot  
Offered at \$108,000  
Lake View • Downslope • 1144+• Sq. Ft.

1046 Headlands Drive  
APN# 019-484-001 • .20+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$99,000 Flat Corner Lot

1268 Steele Canyon Road  
APN# 019- 432-001 • .21+. Acre Lot  
Offered at \$70,000  
Flat Space with a hill at the back of the lot

817 Bahia Vista Court  
APN# 019-451-012 • .28+•  
Offered at \$39,000  
Flat with downslope and canyon views

1121 Steele Canyon Road  
APN# 019-442-004 • .31+• Acre Lot  
Offered at \$33,000  
Flat then downslope Approx.. 31 of an Acre

19 Live Oak Lane  
APN# 019-331-006 • .45+• Acre Lot  
Offered at \$49,000 Large Lot

Live Oak Lane #21  
APN# 019-331-008- .47+• Acre Lot  
Offered at \$54,000 Extra Large Lot

16 Live Oak Lane  
APN# 019-331-007 • .64+• Acre Lot  
Offered at \$102,000 Generous sized lake view lot

1075 Rimrock Drive  
APN# 019-362-025 - .42+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$105,000  
Mostly Flat Then Downslope Lake View Lot

1370 Steele Canyon Road  
APN# 019-353-003- .4+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$40,000  
Nice Topography With Slight Downslope

272 Sugarloaf Drive  
APN# 019-321-008- .25+-Acre Lot  
Offered at \$45,000  
Downslope Lot



1103 Westridge Drive  
APN# 019-491-011- .29+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$60,000  
Flat Then Downslope Lot

135 Poppy Lane  
APN# 019-362-015- .86+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$225,000  
Three Lake View Lots To Be Sold Together

1005 Eastridge Drive  
APN# 019-484-003.18+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$42,500  
Mostly Flat Then Downslope

4370 Spanish Flat Loop Road  
APN# 019-261-007 - 1.25+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$245,000  
Lakefront Gem

---

**meter.me™**  
Complete Water Resource  
knowledge and control  
in your pocket.

  
meter.me™

[meter.me/know-your-tank-level/](https://meter.me/know-your-tank-level/)  
[info@meter.me](mailto:info@meter.me)

The advertisement features a hand holding a smartphone displaying the 'meter.me' app interface. The app screen shows a 'Water System' menu with items like 'Upper Tank', 'Water Meter', 'Lower Tank', 'Pump', 'Well', and 'Pond'. The background is a gradient of blue and orange.

---



## **BERRYESSA BOAT . JET SKI . RV REPAIR & STORAGE**

**4420 KNOXVILLE ROAD | 3 MIN NORTH OF SPANISH FLAT RESORT**

We offer quality repairs and a gated storage facility. We service all makes and models of Boats, Jet Skis, and RVs. Whether you need a basic tune up, rebuilt engine, gel coat or upholstery, we are your best choice. We are Mobile too, land or water, we can come to you! Outdoor Storage from \$50 per month is available. Our Parts Department is available to order anything you need, whether a battery or an engine. Proshop coming soon with basic boating supplies and hot new products for fun on the water!!

**[berrysboatrepair@gmail.com](mailto:berrysboatrepair@gmail.com) | 707.966.9954**



**MERCURY**  
MerCruiser



**VOLVO**  
PENTA



# BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



LAKE BERRYESSA BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



**NOW RENTING TO CUSTOMERS 18 YEARS & OLDER!**  
**Newest & Most Dependable Equipment!**

**We Also Rent Tubes, Wakeboards, Skis,  
Wake Surfboards & Kneeboards**

**4420 Knoxville Road**

**Next to the Spanish Flat Village Center**

*Reservations Recommended*

**707-966-4204**

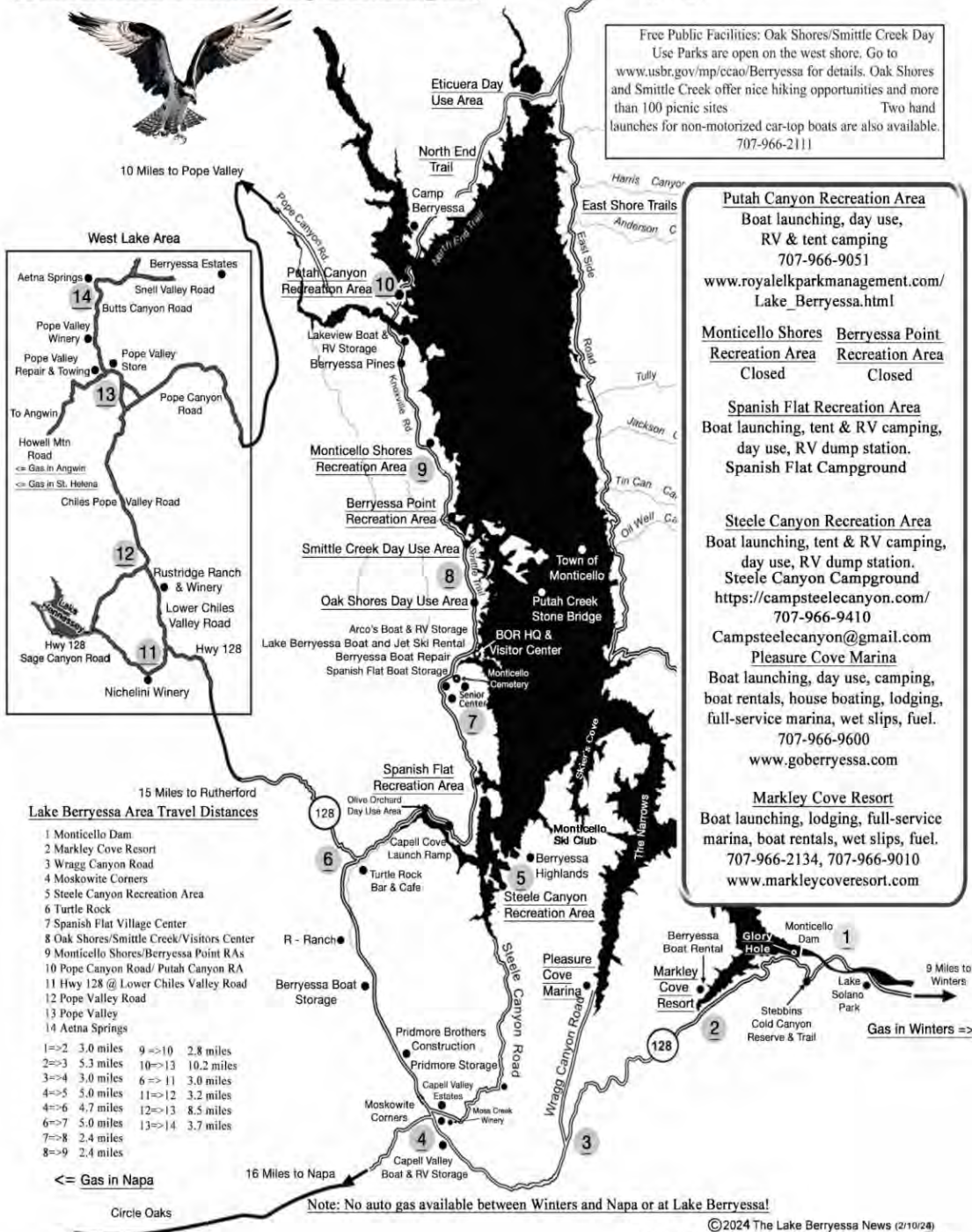
[lakeberryessaboats.com](http://lakeberryessaboats.com)

---

Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

To BLM Knoxville OHV & Recreation Area  
34 Miles to Lower Lake



**Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 | [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com)**



The Lake Berryessa News | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

[Unsubscribe pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!

**Thursday, February 29, 2024**

**This is Leap Day!**

Thursday, February 29th is an extra day in your life. Unlike Daylight Savings Time where you gain an hour, then lose an hour, Leap Day is all gain.

In this special edition:

**Glory Hole Watch - Let It Flow?**

**Support the 20 For 24 Donation Program - A Final Request**

**Lake Berryessa Technical Manual Free Chapters**

Here's a short historical video update from The Lake Berryessa News on 3/9/17. Will the lake look like this next week?

A Note From Evan Kilkus, Lake Berryessa Associate Editor and drone pilot: Our Throwback Thursday video (on Leap Day this week) from 2017 ... here is what it looked like in March 9, 2017, when the lake was a few feet over the spillway.

(Note: The survey referenced at the end was completed in 2027 and is included in the Ragatz Report, Lake Berryessa An Untapped Resort Development Opportunity

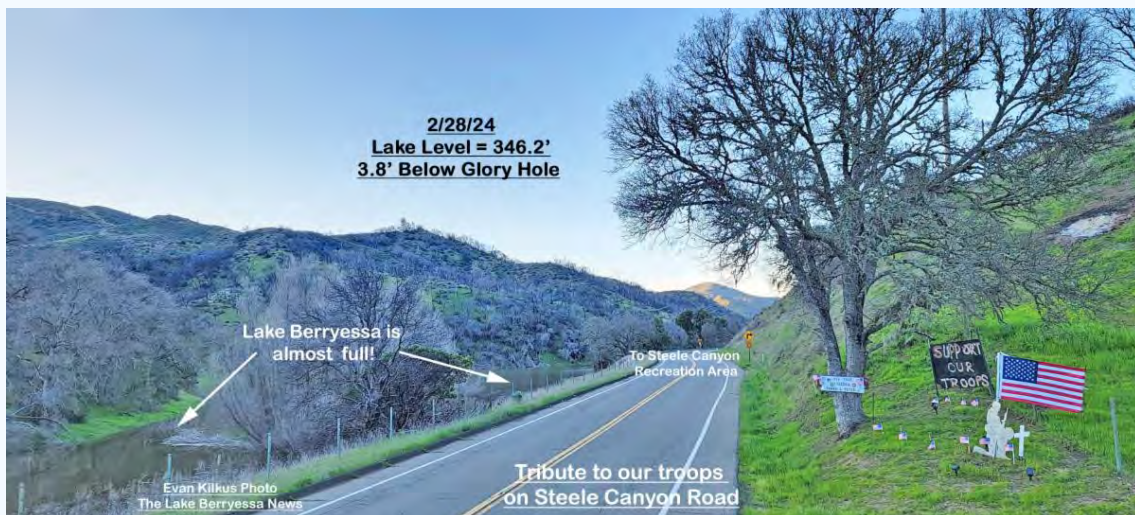
(<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/References-PDFs/2017-Ragatz-Report-Full.pdf>)

On this Leap Year's Leap Day, 2/29/24, the campgrounds currently look amazing, and this weekend's storm might bring us close to the top. Currently the lake is 3.7' down. Time will tell! We'll see you on the lake!



On the way to Steele Canyon Recreation Area - A Reminder

Thanks to whomever replaced the flag at one of several locally maintained tributes to our veterans. It is a great welcome to a full lake to be enjoyed and appreciated by all.



And when you get to Steele Canyon today, this is what you'll see! Rainbows in the Leap Day rain and a nearly full lake.



2/29/24 - Leap Day Rainbow in the Rain at 10 AM

Lake Level = 436.3'  
3.7' below Glory Hole



2/29/24 - Leap Day Rainbow in the Rain at 10 AM

Lake Level = 436.3'  
3.7' below Glory Hole



2/29/24 - Leap Day  
Steele Canyon Launch in the Rain at 10 AM

Lake Level = 436.3'  
3.7' below Glory Hole

---

### **Happy Leap Day!**

And you thought daylight savings time was annoying.

It would seem awfully hard to lose track of 0.24219 of a day. That not-inconsiderable amount adds up to five hours, 48 minutes, and 20 seconds. If it were added to the clock in any 24-hour period, you'd surely notice it. But if the same span of time were spread out over the course of an entire year, it would be a whole lot easier to let it slip by.

That, in fact, is exactly what has happened virtually every year since the dawn of time. We're accustomed to thinking of the clockwork of the solar system as a very precise thing. The moon takes a month to orbit the Earth; the Earth takes 24 hours to spin on its axis and



365 days to orbit the sun. But 365 is actually a rounded number. It takes Earth 365.242190 days to orbit the Sun, or 365 days 5 hours 48 minutes and 56 seconds. Ever since humans began keeping calendars, that extra bit of orbital day has been a headache—and it's the reason we came up with the concept of a leap year.

History does not precisely record which ancient culture was the first to notice the imprecision of the Earth's orbit, but most scholars credit the Egyptians, who, around 3000 BCE, first discovered a subtle calendrical drift, with the seasons seeming to occur a day later every four years. Over the course of 120 years, that would hold things up by a full month—and that, in turn, would make a mess of critical aspects of human enterprise, most significantly agriculture, with farmers losing track of when to plant and harvest their crops.

Egypt put up with the inconvenience for close to 2,700 years, before establishing a calendar in 300 or so BCE that added an extra quarter of a day every four years. They weren't the only culture to catch wise to the cosmic problem. In 54 BCE, Rome, under the rule of Julius Caesar, also elongated the calendar by about 6 hours every year. He later formalized things by adding an extra day to February—which was then the last month of the year—every four years.

Hebrew, Chinese, and Buddhist timekeepers addressed the same matter not by adding hours to a single year, but instead adding a full month every 120 years—creating so-called interstitial or intercalary months. Parts of all three cultures have continued the practice to the present day. The Romans toyed with this idea too, creating the relatively short-lived month known as Mercedonius, inserted every two years at the end of February—though that never found wide favor and the Julian rule of adding a day to February prevailed.

But not every four years is a leap year. The rule is that if the year is divisible by 100 and not divisible by 400, leap year is skipped. The year 2000 was a leap year, for example, but the years 1700, 1800, and 1900 were not. The next time a leap year will be skipped is the year 2100.

Why is it called "leap year"? A common year is 52 weeks and 1 day long. That means that if your birthday were to occur on a Monday one year, the next year it should occur on a Tuesday. However, the addition of an extra day during a leap year means that your birthday now "leaps" over a day. Instead of your birthday occurring on a Tuesday as it would following a common year, during a leap year, your birthday "leaps" over Tuesday and will now occur on a Wednesday. Big deal?

And if you happen to be born on leap day February 29, that doesn't mean you only celebrate a birthday every four years. On years without leap days, you get to celebrate your birthday on March 1 and continue to grow old like the rest of us.

#### Sources

The Science of Leap Year | National Air and Space Museum"  
<https://airandspace.si.edu/stories/editorial/science-leap-year>

"Why We Have Leap Years | TIME"

<https://time.com/6835208/leap-year-is-a-nifty-solution-to-an-ancient-problem/>

## Lake Berryessa Leap Day Glory Hole Watch: February 29, 2024 Will it happen this week?

The Lake Berryessa water level has hit 436.3' (Noon, 2/29/24), only 3.7' below Glory Hole!

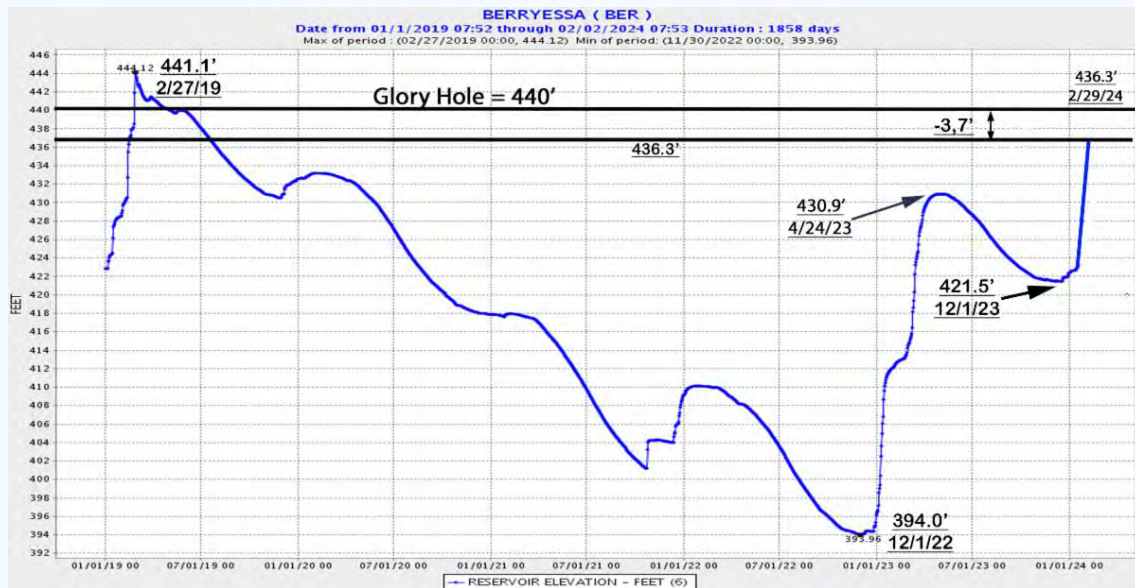
The season total rainfall at Monticello Dam is now at 21.28" and raining.

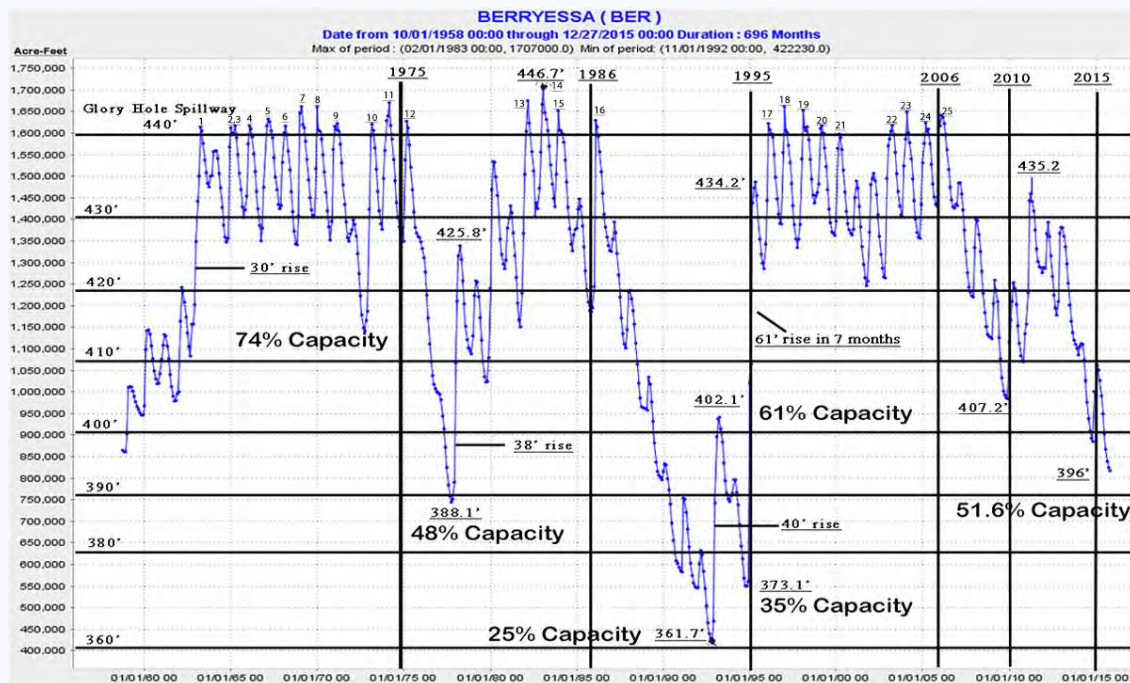
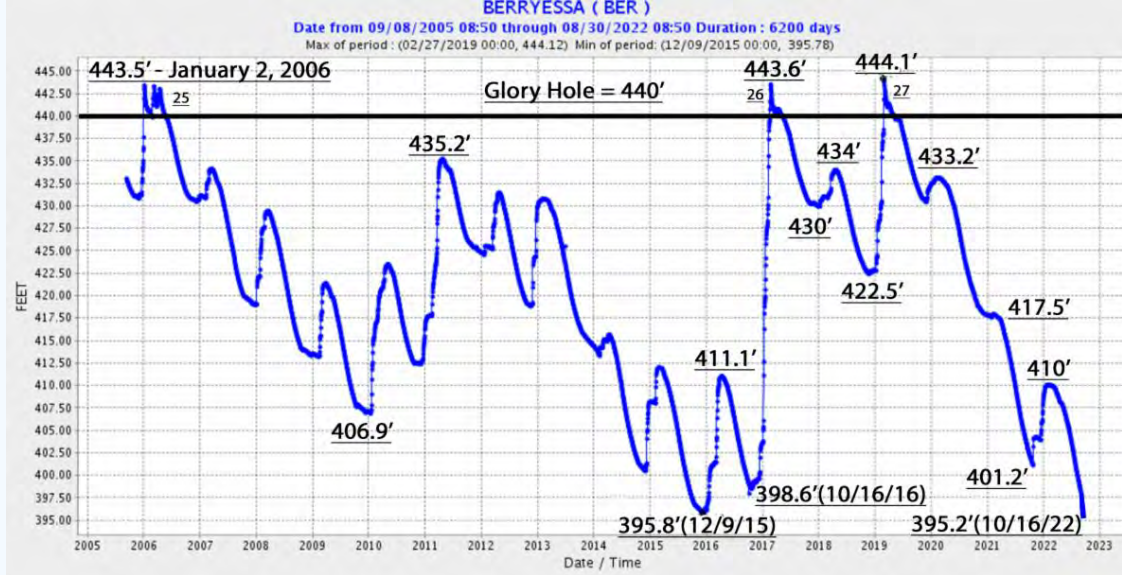
Lake water temperature is warming slightly, 54 degrees at the surface to 10 feet down and about 52 degrees from 40' to the bottom.

Rain started at Lake Berryessa News HQ above the Berryessa Highlands at about 9:30 AM. The wind is directly from the south at 39 mph with gusts of 53 mph! Rainfall as of noon has been quite light - only .04". Only a few inches are predicted by next week.

At this level the lake rises 7 inches for every inch of rain. So, 3.7 feet of rise would require about 6 more inches of rain.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake is up to 95.5% capacity.





**This is a repeat post, but appropriate for a special Leap Day with the possibility of Glory Hole spilling next week due to the storms coming in!**

2017 was an exciting year at Lake Berryessa, as our favorite lake became famous! Evan Kilkus captured the historic glory days of Glory Hole with his drone. Enjoy them again! Thanks to Evan for his videos and the narrative below.

\*\*\*\*\*

2/16/23: Lake Berryessa Is Full & Splashing Over the Spillway

<https://youtu.be/cB0BKlm1EzM>

\*\*\*\*\*

Two days later, the lake had risen another foot.

2/18/17: Lake Berryessa Is Spilling 1 Foot Over Glory Hole

<https://youtu.be/uQp0QConILY>

Editor's Note: The Lake Berryessa News initially shared the original version of the above video using the AC/DC song "Highway to Hell". YouTube flagged it as a copyrighted song and would not allow it to be used. So, the YouTube video uses a free non-copyrighted song. But if you want to see the original video with ACDC rocking Lake Berryessa and the Glory Hole, go to:

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Overflowing-Glory-Hole-Spillway-at-Lake-Berryessa-Drone-Report---Lake-Berryessa-News-2-18-17.mp4>

\*\*\*\*\*

The previous videos certainly put Lake Berryessa on the map to a US audience, but this next video brought our lake to more people across the world than we could have imagined. This YouTube video has more than 61 million views, and since 2017, this footage has been used in dozens of videos and photo stories internationally, showing curious TV and internet viewers this unique spillway design.

2/21/17: Lake Berryessa is 3.5' OVER the Glory Hole Spillway

<https://youtu.be/-iHAjOrrU4k>

????????????????????

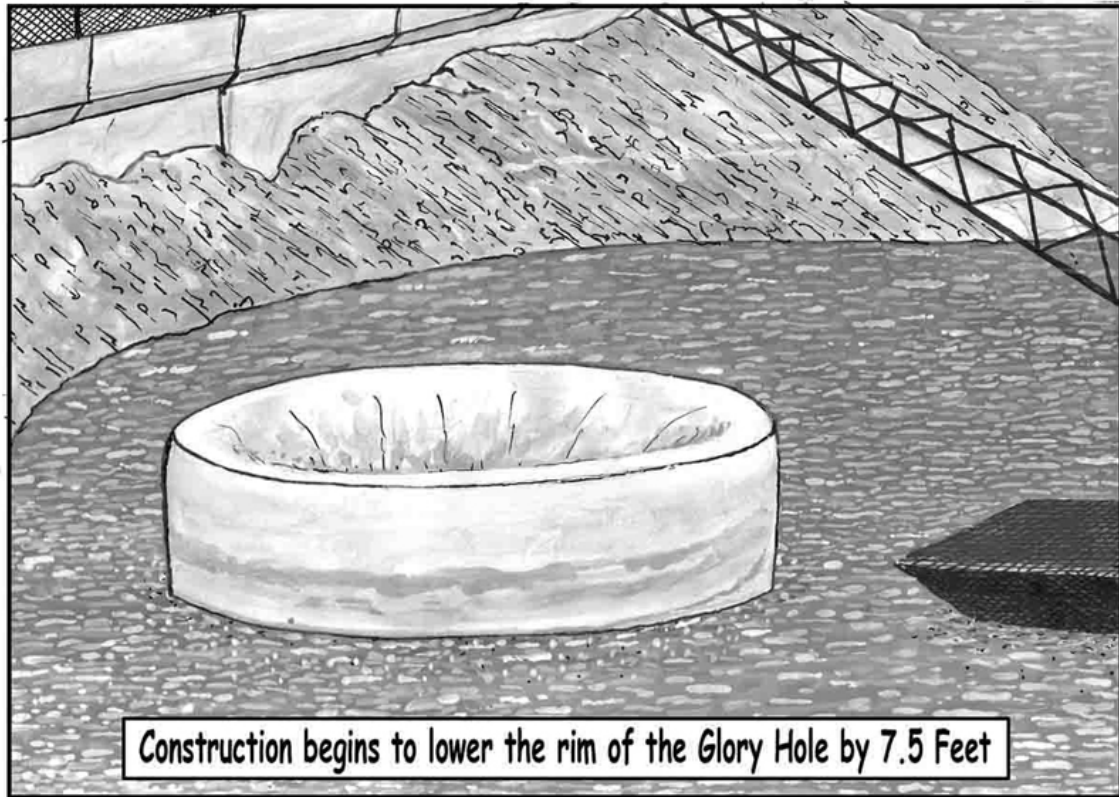
---

### Glory Hole Proposal

The amazing 2017 Lake Berryessa News drone videos by Evan Kilkus of Glory Hole overflowing after an 11 year drought were an amazing international attraction on YouTube - more than 61 million views! The Glory Hole overflow in 2019 was also a major attraction and again drew thousands of tourist to the lake adding positive economic impacts to the towns around the lake, especially the City of Winters. Before 2017 Glory Hole had overflowed only 25 times in the 59 years since the dam was finished in 1958. By 2024 that number had risen to 27 times in 66 years. Bill Scholer, our friend and Lake Berryessa News cartoonist for many years illustrated a proposal to increase lake visitation. What do you think?

---

# NAPALACHIA by Bill Scholer



An Alternative Glory Hole Proposal - A National Monument to Water Sports?



Another Alternative Glory Hole Proposal - A Method to Store More Water?



Here are some amazing drone pictures shot on Saturday, 2/24/23.  
Sunny and 65 degrees



## The Narrows 2/24/23



This beautiful panoramic drone video of the south end of the lake from above the Berryessa Highlands was shot by RC Hollenback and Evan Kilkus. Photo and video editing was done by Peter Kilkus. It is available on YouTube at:

<https://youtu.be/GGoQ7xmXTBY?si=IUoKoo4eQCckm-bb>



### **This Book Is Fun To Read!**

Thanks to all of you who have bought my new book. Although it is not a real moneymaker for me, I would like to sell as many copies as I can so that I don't have to keep answering the same questions over and over on my Lake Berryessa News Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=100064928340101>), the Lake Berryessa

Facebook group (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/231107393758315>).

I recommend the Kindle edition (\$0 royalty to me) since the color photos can be downloaded to your own computer and the links are all live to take you directly to the source document. The paperback version (\$3 royalty to me) has color photos and the printed links for you to copy and paste into your browser to download a pdf copy.

**[https://www.amazon.com/Lake-Berryessa-Technical-Manual-Engineering-ebook/dp/B0C21DZ9M9/ref=sr\\_1\\_3?](https://www.amazon.com/Lake-Berryessa-Technical-Manual-Engineering-ebook/dp/B0C21DZ9M9/ref=sr_1_3?)**

**As a Leap Day gift to my readers I have printed links below for you to download several informative chapters to see what is available. Thanks for your support.**

[Why Does Lake Berryessa Exist?](#)

[Napa Opposes Building the Monticello Dam](#)

[How High Is Lake Berryessa?](#)

[How Deep is Lake Berryessa?](#)

[How Much Water Does Lake Berryessa Hold?](#)

[Monticello Dam Construction](#)

[Raise Monticello Dam](#)

[Power Generation at Monticello Dam](#)

[Monticello Dam Failure Analysis](#)

[Glory Hole Introduction](#)

[How Does Glory Hole Work?](#)

[Glory Hole: Awesome, Frightening, But Dangerous?](#)

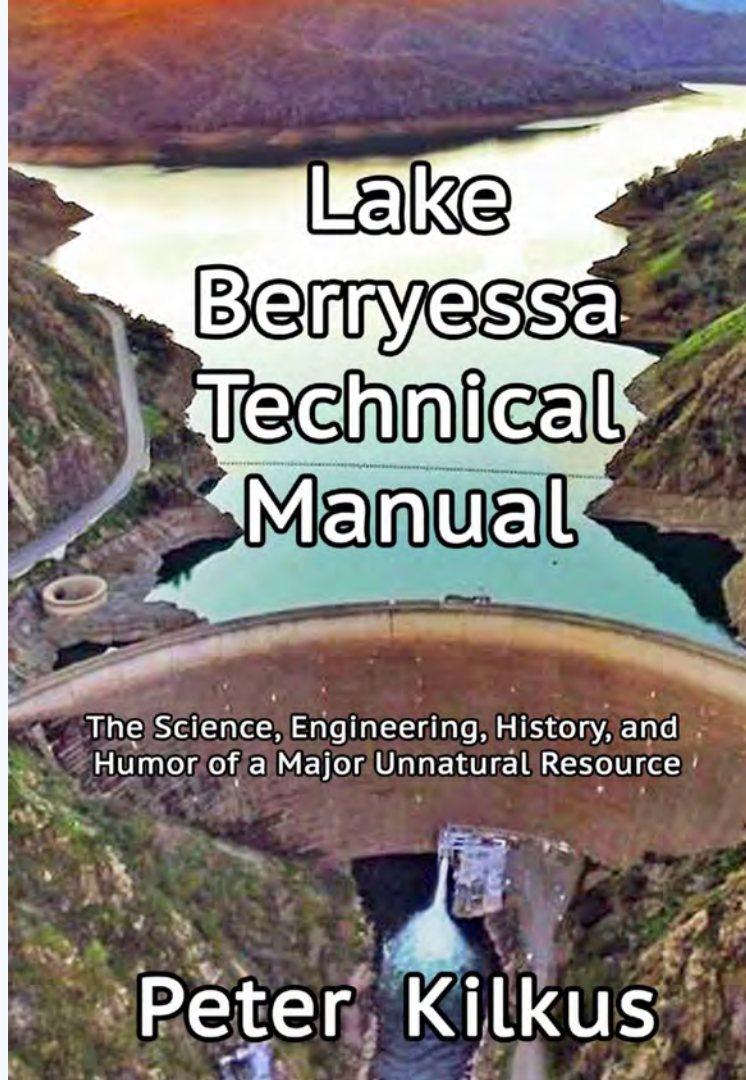
[Bird Goes Over the Glory Hole Waterfall Without A Barrel](#)

[Skateboarding the Glory Hole](#)

[Does It Snow at Lake Berryessa? Yes](#)

[Does Sierra Snowmelt Get To Lake Berryessa? No](#)





### **The Lake Berryessa News 24 For 24 Program Still Needs Your Support!**

Thanks to the generous contributions from so many readers, I will be able to start publishing the print version of the Lake Berryessa News again in April. There are still additional expenses for web site hosting, email distribution, internet connection, transportation and other costs (but no salary for my one employee - me.)

If you donated last year please consider doing so again (only \$2/month). If you wish to continue getting your Lake Berryessa News from all of my sites for free, ok. I hope you enjoy reading the Lake Berryessa News as much as I do writing it.

I challenge you to find any Lake Berryessa news anywhere. Hopefully, our intensive reporting about the latest Lake Berryessa issues will convince you of the truth of our motto, "Without The Lake Berryessa News there would be no Lake Berryessa News".

If you love Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms and want to support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program (Renaissance Lake Berryessa), please send a donation check of \$24 (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. You can stick crinkly old cash in an envelope with your information and send it

to the same address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My Venmo account is under @Peter-Kilkus, Paypal is Member #2051. You can email me at pkilkus@gmail.com. (Note: Your donation is NOT tax deductible)

Your decision as an individual or as an advertiser will show your support for the Lake Berryessa News and is your vote of confidence in the future of the Lake Berryessa community. I'll continue to do my best to keep you informed about every detail affecting Lake Berryessa.

Thanks, Peter

---

An advertisement for meter.me, a mobile water resource management app. The graphic features the app's logo in large blue letters at the top left. Below the logo is the tagline "Complete Water Resource knowledge and control in your pocket." in blue and orange text. To the right, a hand holds a smartphone displaying the app's interface, which lists various water system components like "Upper Tank", "Water Meter", "Lower Tank", "Pump", "Well", and "Pond". On the left side of the graphic, there is a QR code and the meter.me logo. At the bottom, the website URL "meter.me/know-your-tank-level/" and email address "info@meter.me" are provided. The background of the graphic is white with a blue border and a red-to-orange gradient at the bottom.

**meter.me™**  
Complete Water Resource  
knowledge and control  
in your pocket.



meter.me™

[meter.me/know-your-tank-level/](https://meter.me/know-your-tank-level/)  
[info@meter.me](mailto:info@meter.me)

---



## **BERRYESSA BOAT . JET SKI . RV REPAIR & STORAGE**

**4420 KNOXVILLE ROAD | 3 MIN NORTH OF SPANISH FLAT RESORT**

We offer quality repairs and a gated storage facility. We service all makes and models of Boats, Jet Skis, and RVs. Whether you need a basic tune up, rebuilt engine, gel coat or upholstery, we are your best choice. We are Mobile too, land or water, we can come to you! Outdoor Storage from \$50 per month is available. Our Parts Department is available to order anything you need, whether a battery or an engine. Proshop coming soon with basic boating supplies and hot new products for fun on the water!!

**[berrysboatrepair@gmail.com](mailto:berrysboatrepair@gmail.com) | 707.966.9954**



**MERCURY**  
MerCruiser



**VOLVO**  
PENTA



# BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



LAKE BERRYESSA BOAT & JET SKI RENTALS



**NOW RENTING TO CUSTOMERS 18 YEARS & OLDER!**  
**Newest & Most Dependable Equipment!**

**We Also Rent Tubes, Wakeboards, Skis,  
Wake Surfboards & Kneeboards**

**4420 Knoxville Road**

**Next to the Spanish Flat Village Center**

*Reservations Recommended*

**707-966-4204**

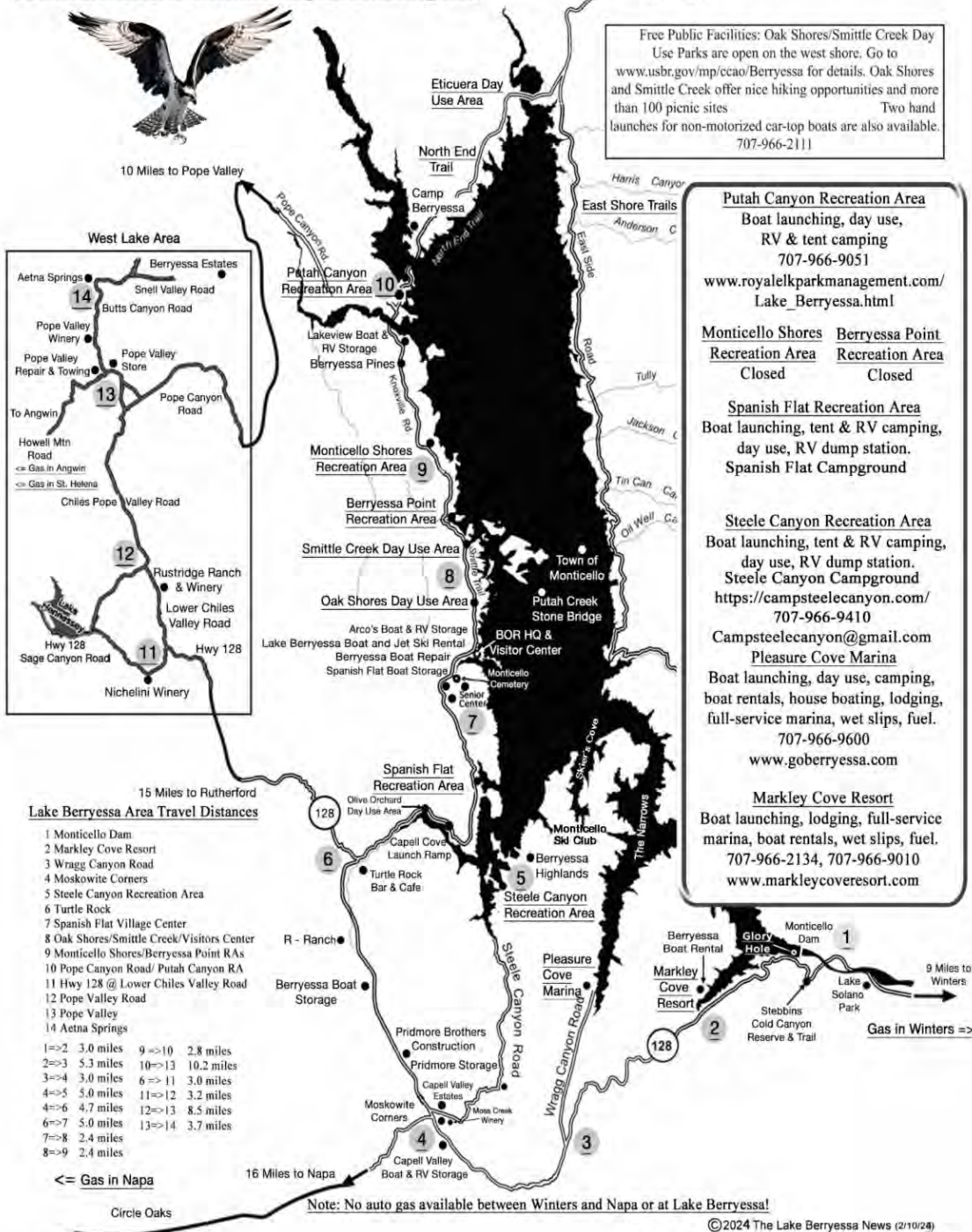
[lakeberryessaboats.com](http://lakeberryessaboats.com)

---

Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region

To BLM Knoxville OHV & Recreation Area  
34 Miles to Lower Lake



**Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 | [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com)**



The Lake Berryessa News | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558

[Unsubscribe pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com)

[Update Profile](#) | [Constant Contact Data Notice](#)

Sent by [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com) powered by



Try email marketing for free today!