A Tale of Two Napas: Growth of the Napa Valley Highlights Stagnation of the Berryessa Valley

According to the Napa Valley Visitor Profile 2018 study, the Napa Valley has been the largest segment of visitors are persons 24-44 years old, accounting for 62.3 percent of all visitors. The second largest segment of visitors is persons staying in Napa Valley. lake recreation facilities increased between 14 percent and 20 percent in recent years. Annual visitor volume has risen to 3.85 million visitors in 2018, a year-over-year increase of 3.8 percent. The Napa Valley’s visitor numbers dropped from 3.5 million two years ago. But the County Board of Supervisors remain supportive of a Lake Berryessa revival. According to the Lake Berryessa News, The Bureau of Reclamation refutes this claim.

Where Are They Now?

A 2005 study calculated that a maximum of 1.8 million annual visitors had come to Lake Berryessa. The total number of visitors per year is 594 with an average number of visitors per year at 1,510,745. Visitation statistics projected that Lake Berryessa would become the third largest lake in the state. The total number of visitors over 22 years: was 37,768,594 with an 83 percent increase.

Lake Berryessa concessions. Lake Berryessa’s visitor numbers dropped from 3.5 million two years ago. But the County Board of Supervisors remain supportive of a Lake Berryessa revival. According to the Lake Berryessa News, The Bureau of Reclamation refutes this claim.

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A Call To Action

David Palumbo, Deputy Commissioner
alfredo.pedroza@countyofnapa.org
Ernest Conant, Regional Director
Central California Area Office
Mid Pacific Regional Office
7794 Folsom Dam Road
Folsom CA 95630-1799
Federal Office Building
Bureau of Reclamation

A Call To Action:

[Redacted]

There is no such legal designation as a "Non-Motorized Zone" or "Electric Trolling Motor Only" but no signs noting "non-motorized zone".

Although warning buoys were placed at Big Island Lagoon, a "Non-Motorized Zone" was defined this illegitimate restriction as only a place to be anchored while kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, bass boats, patio boats, or other watercraft will be allowed in the area without a trolling motor attached.

The conclusion is that since there was no public input or support for this arbitrary action, there was no statutory authority or other justification for Reclamation's decision; there is no enforcement authority applicable to these arbitrary designations; there was no analysis of need, and the action is in opposition to Reclamation's stated purpose to support and expand recreation at Lake Berryessa, the Bureau of Reclamation should immediately rescind its arbitrary "Non-Motorized Zone" decision at Big Island Lagoon and Steele Canyon Cove to their long-term 5 MPH status in anticipation of the 2019 recreation season.

Special Report

Executive Summary: There Is No Such Designation As a "Non-Motorized Zone" or "Electric Trolling Motor Only" at Lake Berryessa

In a highly unpopular move with no real public support the Bureau of Reclamation arbitrarily closed Big Island Lagoon, a traditional family boating rest area, to motorized recreation more than ten years ago. This arbitrary action was not supported by the public input, no supporting data, no analysis of need, nor any evaluation of its effects on lake users, violating Reclamation’s own policies and the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act. Monitoring of the area for the many years has shown there has been no apparent use by non-motorized watercraft such as kayaks, canoes, paddleboards, bass boats, patio boats, or other watercraft. This area was an enforcement authority applicable to these arbitrary designations; there was no analysis of need, and the action is in opposition to Reclamation’s stated purpose to support and expand recreation at Lake Berryessa, the Bureau of Reclamation should immediately rescind its arbitrary "Non-Motorized Zone" decision at Big Island Lagoon and Steele Canyon Cove to their long-term 5 MPH status in anticipation of the 2019 recreation season.

Sample Letter

Dear Director Palumbo,

Re: Lake Berryessa, Big Island Lagoon, Steele Canyon Cove and non-motorized zone.

I am writing to you in regards to the recently announced closed areas at Big Island Lagoon and Steele Canyon Cove.

As a long time user of Lake Berryessa, I am disappointed in the decision to close these areas. Both Big Island Lagoon and Steele Canyon Cove have historically been popular spots for non-motorized recreation, and it is important to me that these areas remain accessible to all users.

I understand that the decision was made with the goal of protecting the lake from over-use and ensuring its sustainability. However, I believe that there are other ways to achieve these goals without closing these areas.

I urge you to reconsider this decision and find a more balanced approach to managing the lake.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]

Additional Resources:

Onion Headlines

May want to email our two Lake Berryessa supervisors who have been negotiating Please read the Special Report below for more information on how you can take action. It’s time for all friends of Lake Berryessa representatives to know how you feel. It’s actions were invalid and are unenforceable. Then let your supervisor know how you feel. It’s been long enough!

Letter to the Editor

[Redacted]

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**A Garden’s Paradise**

Large updated single story home with detached garage, studio, custom oak cabinets and front yard. Your dream cookout with fish and swimming hole, lots, utilities. Large irrigated veggie garden and fruit orchard. Shields of wildlife!

**The Octagon House on 10 Scenic Acres!**

Uniquely designed with two floor plan options. Great room office w/ park-like setting with beautiful open space, abundant wildlife & grassy meadow. Workshop/Artist studio. Open octagon ceiling, incredible views.

**Live the Lake Berryessa Lifestyle!**

1,049 Sq. Ft. 3 Bdrm, 2 Bath Home with Detached Garage, Studio, Master Bath, Kitchen, Dining, Office. Enjoy Lake Berryessa views only 45 minutes drive from Napa. Close to Spanish Flat, Terra Linda.良くなる場所、良い場所、良い場所。

**Darling Home at Lake Berryessa**

Perfect Summer Home by the Lake...

Lots of Extra Room & Storage. 2 Car Garage & Side Deck. 3 Bedrms, 2 Baths. New Carpet, Paint, Kitchen Appliance, Updated Kitchen. Large updated single story home with detached garage, studio, custom oak cabinets and front yard. Your dream cookout with fish and swimming hole, lots, utilities. Large irrigated veggie garden and fruit orchard. Shields of wildlife!

**Spanish Flat Mobile Villa**

This small, well-run park offers affordable vacation spaces with convenient access to Lake Berryessa. This property is ideal. Located on a cul-de-sac only minutes from the lake for boating and fishing. Great views out all windows. Side deck for relaxing. Nicely landscaped front yard.

**What’s In A Name - Patch Creek**

The original name for the creek, as given by the local Native American tribe who once lived beside it, sounded something like “Liiyaito” or “Leyay” according to 19th century texts written by people of limited familiarity with the Pomo language. “Patch” descendants from “Puto,” which is the name that the Spanish settlers gave to the local Native American tribe. The Spanish name for the creek was therefore “Río de Vitas”, meaning River of the Putos. The Native American tribe in question referred to themselves as Pato, a word which sounded something like Potty to the European settlers’ ears.

**June 2019 Horoscopes**

Aries (3/21-4/19): Your death next week with no announcement is all you’ll need.

Taurus (4/20-5/20): This is a time for great romance in... what? You’ll worry about romance when your dog suddenly begins speaking to you in a commanding voice, and the knowledge that you have a job well done, and the knowledge that you lived a life of dignity.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): The FBI will have to ask you to answer those calls. I also no longer answer any calls with a number that I've registered in 2005. But, that hasn't stopped annoying phone calls coming at all times of day and night. Because the “National Do Not Call” list only prohibits sales calls.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): It's true just one more time, and all it seems to want is food, water, and the occasional walk. But all it seems to want is food, water, and the occasional walk. But...
Pasote Tequila & Berryessa Bass Tournaments Circuit

Thanks to the 28 Teams that fished the 8th event on Cinco de Mayo and hosted out of Markley Cove. Next tournament is on Sunday 6/9/19! Also on Sunday 6/9/19 the tournament will be out of the Capell Cove at the FREE LAUNCH! berryessabass.weebly.com

We had a cool & breezy Blast Off! Wind did pick up by weigh-ins! Most of the teams got their limit while searching for a big bite all day, looks like a ton of bass are being caught! Most reported catching their fish in 1-15 feet of water. Water temps are up into the 68 degree to low 70's range with water clarity slightly murky tan/green in areas and crystal clear in other areas. Teams reported catching their fish on Swim Baits, Drop Shot, and Reaction Baits. Most teams were fishing on the Main Body of the lake.

First Place went to Bob Dettling and Jason Kincannon with a sack that weighed 17.09lbs and was anchored with a 4.65lb kicker for 2nd Place. Second Place went to Gary Okusako and Dave Symmons who brought in a sack that weighed 15.98lbs. Third Place went to Brett Leber and Chuck Kavros with a sack that weighed 14.72lbs and was anchored by a 5.52lb kicker for 1st Place Big Fish.

Here’s a fun old map of the “good ole days” which must have been printed in the late 80’s. The Berryessa Senior Center is on this map. It was first opened in 1984.

Fishing With Sid at Lake Berryessa

Fishing for the season started for me this past Friday, 5/17. I took Tim and his children, James and Elena, out for the day. We went to the back of the Monticello Ski School for our first stop just to check it out. I saw no real signs of fish activity.

Next stop was the Narrows where we trolled along the rock wall with no bites. I decided to go towards the vineyards. We fished along the shoreline using Speed Trap crank bait and Procure rainbow trout scent. Our first catch was a largemouth bass that weighed a little over 2.5 lbs. Elena did a good job bringing it in and her dad netted it.

Tim was next to get a hit. He brought in a nice size bass and Elena did a great job netting it. Our next bite was a nice size crappie using the same lure. I found a spot where we could worm and throw crank bait at the same time. Using a 4 inch senco chartreuse colored worm with brass and glass set-up and drop shot set-up we had success landing bass.

We all agreed that it had been a very enjoyable day. If you have any questions or stories you would like to share or are interested in booking a guided fishing trip please email me at bestguide@hotmail.com or call me at 650-583-3333.