

Environmental Management at Lake Berryessa

by Peter Kilkus

Environmental Management has been a core requirement of every plan and bid prospectus since the 1990s and before that in every plan proposed by the Bureau of Reclamation. I've been a strong (but rational) environmental quality proponent since I first read Rachel Carlson's 1962 classic book, Silent Spring. I was VP of Manufacturing and Quality Assurance at two cutting-edge digital communications companies in Novato and Petaluma. I led the successful registration of two of these companies to the ISO 9000 international standards on quality management and quality assurance. As Mayor of San Anselmo I created our Quality of life Commission dedicated to improving the sustainability of all town activities.

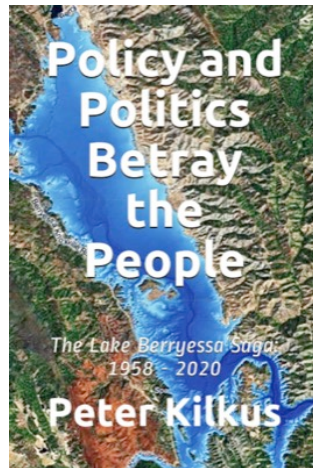
Since I retired in 1998 I've focused my efforts on protecting and improving Lake Berryessa as a family recreation destination. When I restarted the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce in 2005, we promoted nature-based recreation as a main reason to visit the lake. I wrote the Environmental Management Program responses for three of the resorts during the several Bureau of Reclamation bid processes. I also led the successful registration of Rancho Monticello Resort to the international ISO 14000 standard, which specify requirements for establishing an environmental management policy, determining environmental impacts of products or services, planning environmental objectives, implementing programs to meet objectives, and conducting corrective action and management review. This standard can be applied to outdoor recreation companies as well.

There are a lot of "I"s in the above paragraphs. I apologize. The reason I wrote it is to guarantee that people understand my commitment to environmental requirements, quality assurance, and customer service. I am seriously annoyed by the local environmental exclusionists who seem to think they are the only ones who are experts in this field and use scare tactics and misinformation to try to undermine the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program so important to the future of the Lake Berryessa community.

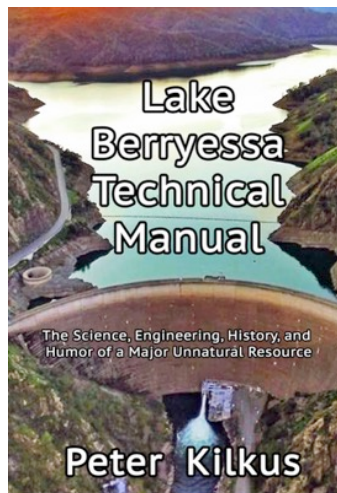
Below is a small part of the environmental Management programs I wrote for Steele Park and Rancho Monticello.

If people wish to participate in a discussion of the future of Lake Berryessa and its political and natural history, they need to read. Many people ask me about the history of the process that led to the present situation at Lake Berryessa. When I explain what happened most become incredulous and can't believe the government could have done something so stupid. "How could they have gotten away with that?" they exclaim. A good question! When I start to explain they stop me and say, "Can you give me the 5-minute version?" The answer is no! If you care, you must read. If you wish to participate in discussions on Facebook or Nextdoor, you must read. If you wish to make informed public statements at a Napa supervisors meeting, you must read! Sorry.

You should read these books. This is not an advertisement; it is a recommendation. I make very little royalty on book sales. I wrote them to educate the public and guarantee no one forgets the facts of what happened out here. If you read these books, you will become an expert on most Lake Berryessa issues.



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?

The best must-read report about Lake Berryessa's recreation potential (including "nature-based") is still the Ragatz Report:

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

The basic core documents are available for download at:

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/styled-3/>

Steele Park Resort's Environmental Policy is to be a responsible corporate citizen in protecting the environment in which we operate. Our core purpose is to create innovative and enriching recreational experiences for the general public in a sustainable environment.

We are committed to reducing the environmental impact of our activities upon the land and water resources of Lake Berryessa under our stewardship. To that end, Steele Park Resort is in the process of implementing an Environmental Management System (EMS) that meets the requirements of ISO 14001, the recognized international standard for environmental management systems.

Our business decisions balance economic viability with ecological responsibility by making a corporate commitment to continual improvement of our Environmental Management System and to the prevention of pollution. We reduce and recycle waste, conserve energy and water, educate our guests and employees on environmental stewardship, and promote the environmental education programs of local government agencies and environmental groups.

We also commit to comply with applicable legal requirements and with other requirements appropriate to the environmental aspects of our operations. Our corporate goal is to meet or exceed those requirements where practicable using a formal process of continual improvement.

Our Environmental Policy provides the framework for setting and reviewing environmental objectives and targets which are developed through a documented analysis of our environmental aspects and impacts. Environmental objectives, targets, and supporting programs will be managed as the primary method for implementing the continual improvement of our EMS and will incorporate the input of our various stakeholders.

Our EMS is documented, implemented and maintained through policies and procedures defined in our corporate EMS Manual. This EMS Manual and its contents will be communicated to all persons working for or on behalf of Steele Park Resort, and will be available to the public.

Senior management is committed to promoting and reviewing the Steele Park Resort Environmental Management System on a regular basis through program and process audit results reporting, with a formal Senior Management Review on an annual basis.

Rancho Monticello Resort Announces Compliance with the
ISO 14000 International Environmental Standard

Rancho Monticello, the largest family-owned and operated resort at Lake Berryessa, has implemented an Environmental Management System meeting the requirements of ISO 14001, the internationally recognized environmental management standard being used by leading companies around the world.

Although Rancho Monticello has long been dedicated to protecting the Lake Berryessa environment and has received several letters of appreciation from the Bureau of Reclamation and the Napa County Sheriff for its lake clean-up efforts, meeting a stringent international environmental standard has additional benefits.

Butch White, President of Rancho Monticello Resort, stated, "Lake Berryessa is one of the cleanest lakes in Northern California. Implementing ISO 14001 is not only consistent with our internal business plan, it provides assurance to our customers and to the local community that we will continue to be leaders in the future development of environmentally-sustainable recreational opportunities at the lake.

Rancho Monticello's ISO 14001 compliance is the result of an intensive six month process in which every environmental impact of resort operations was analyzed in detail and a full operational audit performed. The resort was assisted in this process by Berryessa Environmental Management Systems, a local Lake Berryessa consulting firm owned by Peter Kilkus.

Procedures were updated, environmental objectives determined, and management programs developed or extended, including an Energy Efficiency Program, Environmentally Preferable Purchasing Policy, Resort Recycling Program, California Clean Marinas Program, and Guidelines for Environmentally Sustainable Design and Construction and Road Maintenance.

Bob White, Chief Financial Officer, is proud of both Rancho Monticello's commitment to the environment and its commitment to family recreation. "It is appropriate that we announce our compliance to ISO 14001 as part of Earth Day 2007 on April 22. We are not only an environmentally-friendly resort, we are the premiere family-friendly resort at the lake. From our decision to not use styrofoam cups to our implementation of wireless internet access on our Café deck, we are dedicated to meeting the evolving recreation desires of contemporary families."