



The Lake Berryessa News

May 3, 2026

Lake Berryessa Statistics (5/3/26)

Lake Berryessa water level has remained relatively constant during the last 8 days - dropping only an inch. It now stands at 438.82 feet - 1.18 feet below Glory Hole.

4/25/26	438.90
4/26/26	438.88
4/27/28	438.87
4/28/26	438.87
4/29/26	438.85
4/30/26	438.84
5/1/26	438.83
5/2/26	438.82

Rainfall at Monticello Dam rose to 24.12 inches. The official rain year ends on June 30, 2026.

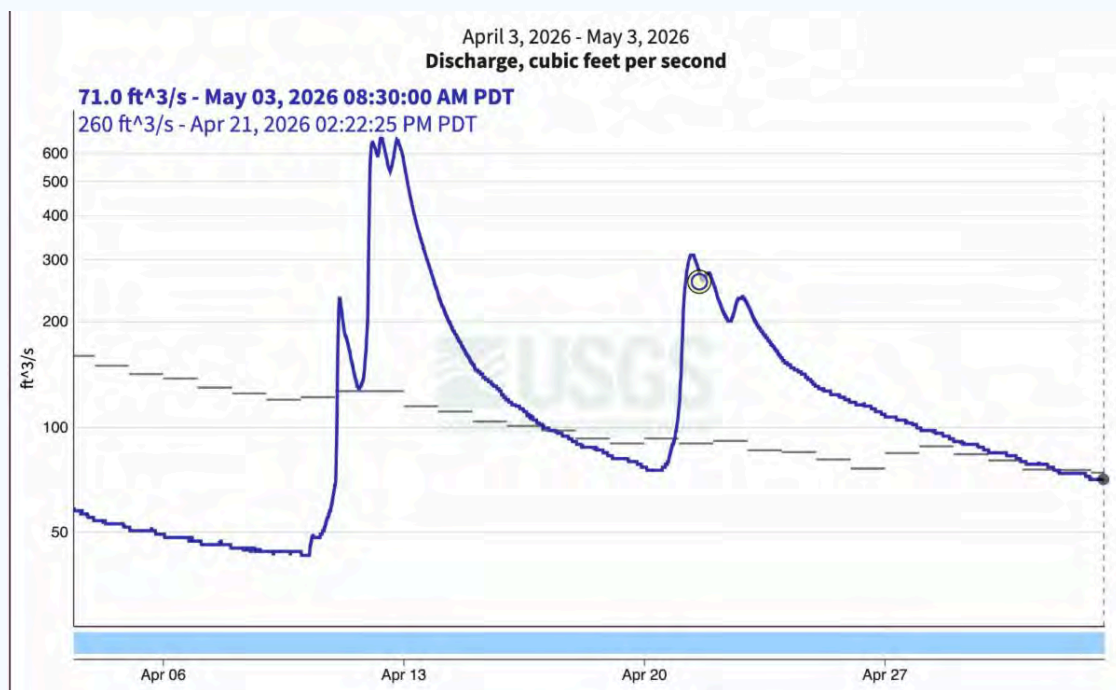
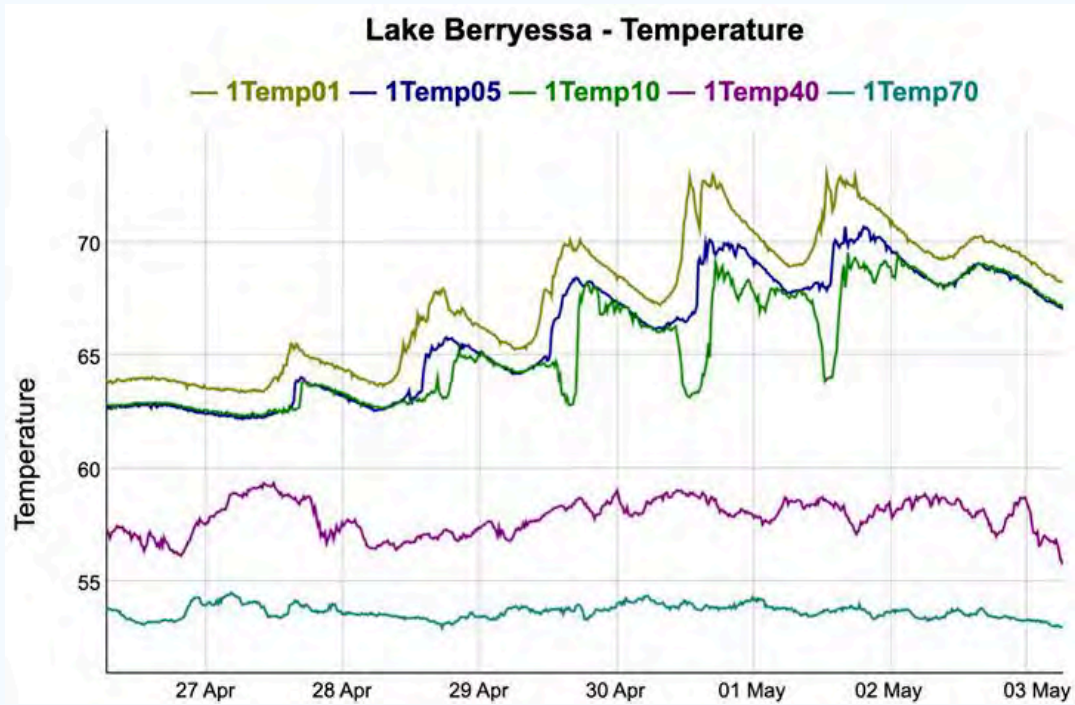
The lake output is at an average of 230 cfs (456 A-F per day). The highest output during the summer averages about 700 cfs (1,387 A-F per day).

The runoff at the Geunoc measuring site is down to 71 cfs. The Solano County Water Agency doubles that to 142 cfs as an estimate of the total flow into the lake from the whole watershed. That total estimated amount of input is now only about 62% of the present outflow from the dam.

When full (Glory Hole level) the lake contains 1,551,292 Acre-Feet of water.

Lake capacity is now at 1,529,083 Acre-Feet or 98.6%.

Water temperatures have risen slightly to an average of 70 degrees at the surface.



No News is Good News?... or Some News is No News?

The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program crawls on like a melting glacier. Old redevelopment proposals slowly evaporate and disappear. New ones slide down the mountain to take their place. The Camp Margaritaville Plan for Steele Canyon Recreation Area has encountered a few big boulders restraining its progress. The plan has been in limbo for many months as the principal investors are awaiting a Department of the Interior modification to the lease term from 30 years to 50 years. The longer lease is needed to support their financial investment goals. You don't spend \$20 million up front and many more millions during the first ten years without some long-term guarantees.

The latest news from the Napa Register states that "A new county report said the developer needs a "much longer" lease to obtain financing for the project, and cannot

proceed without one. He has been discussing this with the bureau and "little definitive progress has been made to date." The rest of the story contains minimal real information, but does misname Camp Margaritaville Resorts as Margaritaville. Camp Margaritaville is a separate franchise catering to luxury RV camping, and is not a traditional Margaritaville Resort - although the resort may be located close to a traditional Margaritaville Resort site. At present, Camp Margaritaville Resorts has six locations with several more planned. The Steele Canyon Recreation Area may possibly become one of them some day.....



In the "Some news is no news?" category, the Napa Valley Land Co. LLC could create El Campo del Sol at Monticello Shores (previousl Rancho Monticello) with 50 to 100 cabins, up to 150 safari tents and yurts, a lodge, a rope course and zip line, a restaurant, an amphitheater and a marina. The county and the potential developer are "in negotiations". The county update report said an advisory firm is doing "a deep dive" on diligence items, including scope, infrastructure and architectural designs. This same language has been used for several previous resort bids which finally quietly disappeared.

A new proposal would redevelop the former Spanish Flat Resort into "Wildhaven Napa, a year-round premier glamping destination and flagship Wildhaven resort". The plan is simple but nice. I wonder why they put the "I – Lodge w/ reception, store, F&B, event space, office" at the end of the peninsula so far from the entrance. The "K – Summit pergola & lake viewpoint" should have a great view of the lake. Rebuilding the roads, all of which had been bulldozed to the dirt by the Bureau of Reclamation in a hardball financial

move to bully the original concession owners to give up their concession, will require a major investment. As they say in this business, "I'll see it when I believe it."

Wildhaven Napa

California Camping Company, LLC
113 Tamal Vista Drive
San Rafael CA 94901

The CCC unofficially started when the two founders began organizing camping trips for their friends, co-workers, social groups, and college alumni back in the early 2000s. After running hundreds of trips over 15 years in the mountains of New England and Colorado, they moved to California to bring their model of camping to a state famous for its adventure. They tested the California waters by creating a hiking and camping group through Meetup, and were surprised with the response from Bay Area residents. Their group attracted 1,000 hiking and camping enthusiasts in just 7 months, and they started the California Camping Company to give the people what they wanted.

Proposal

<https://napa.legistar.com/gateway.aspx?M=F&ID=5616b0c6-4f02-40b6-a643-8a542253a40b.pdf>

Wildhaven Napa's proposed size and operations are comparable to both previous operations and Sun's proposal, and our glamping accommodations are exactly what modern travelers are seeking. Large, comfortable accommodations that immerse guests in nature with seamless indoor/outdoor spaces, large picture windows with lake views, and private decks/patios furnished with fire ring, furniture & hammocks.

60 glamping tents, including a mix of "Premium" tents with en suite bathrooms and "Classic" tents with shared bathrooms. 40 cabins, all with ensuite bathrooms & kitchenettes. Central lodge, Day Use Area, Marina with 75 boat slips, boat rentals, launch ramp, trailer parking and potentially boat gas.





See some beautiful photos of Canyon Creek Resort and the area near the dam:

<https://www.canyoncreekresort.com/gallery/>





The following report appears unique to Lake Oroville based on water temperatures in that lake. Water temperatures in Lake Berryessa are at 70degrees now and reach 80+ degrees for much of the summer. The Lake Berryessa News has asked the Solano County Water Agency for their analysis.

DWR Modifies its Invasive Mussel Inspection Program at Lake Oroville (April 29, 2026).

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) is modifying its inspection program for invasive mussels at Lake Oroville, the Thermalito Forebay, and the Thermalito Afterbay. Effective today, April 29, watercraft inspections, decontamination services, and seal checking at the Oroville facilities are no longer required. Blue Oroville seals are no longer required to launch watercraft, and owners have permission to remove seals themselves, as inspectors will no longer be stationed at launch ramps. DWR will also reopen facilities that were closed to trailered launching including those at the Thermalito Forebay and Thermalito Afterbay. At locations requiring the removal of physical barriers, additional time will be required for crews to fully reopen facilities. Launching access at Lake Oroville will once again be available 24 hours a day, every day.

The decision to implement an invasive mussel boat inspection program at DWR's Oroville facilities in May 2025 was based on available information about how best to protect DWR infrastructure from golden mussel establishment. While DWR does not control many of the lakes and reservoirs upstream of Lake Oroville, it quickly established a program to reduce the potential risk of invasive mussel introduction through recreational boating. Additional analyses of golden mussel biology and habitat requirements, as well as an assessment of DWR's Oroville infrastructure, have shown a lower risk of golden mussel establishment than was originally anticipated.

During the last year, DWR performed a vulnerability review of Lake Oroville, the Upper Feather River Lakes, the Feather River Fish Hatchery, and Oroville-Thermalito Complex infrastructure to golden mussel colonization. The seasonal water temperature conditions at Lake Oroville and the Upper Feather River Lakes were evaluated based on a 2017 study in which researchers assessed the conditions golden mussels need to survive and reproduce.

For golden mussel maturation and reproduction to occur, water temperatures greater than 61.7°F for about 150 days are necessary for successful spawning and the formation of veligers, the larval stage of mussels. For veligers to complete their development and settle into a hard-shell mussel, water temperatures must be nearly 70°F for approximately 70 days.

Temperature thresholds for golden mussel maturation exist within the top 60 feet of Lake Oroville, meaning that sustained mussel populations would be confined to specific areas of the reservoir, such as floating infrastructure, and boats that remain on the water for lengthy periods. Mussels could survive in shallow shoreline locations until lake levels drop, at which point they would dry out and die. Extended cold water temperatures in the Upper Feather River lakes, the depth of Lake Oroville, and the continuous cold water releases from Oroville Dam to support salmon habitat are limiting factors for golden mussel spawning and larval development. Any veligers that are transported through the dam at lower lake elevation temperatures would be unlikely to survive, would have a difficult time growing, and would not have a significant impact on the Feather River Fish Hatchery and Oroville-Thermalito Complex powerplants.

Given this analysis of potential impacts to State Water Project infrastructure, DWR is no longer requiring watercraft inspections at Oroville. Ongoing water testing and visual inspections of infrastructure for invasive mussels will continue. Golden mussels have not been detected at DWR's Oroville facilities or the Upper Feather River lakes. Program changes are being coordinated with local recreation partners at the California Department of Parks and Recreation and the California Department of Fish and Wildlife.

DWR continues to partner with federal, State, and local agencies to mitigate golden mussel colonization throughout California's water systems. This includes coordinating with partners on a statewide reporting system for watercraft, continued public education campaigns about golden mussels and how they spread, ongoing studies about effective treatment options, and implementing a variety of mitigation and maintenance actions to maintain State Water Project operations that are currently affected by the presence of golden mussels. More details about DWR's invasive mussel inspection program are available at water.ca.gov/mussels.





BOOK NOW FOR MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND!!

Beautiful Weather Ahead!!
Enjoy Off-Season Pricing through May 22nd
w/ 10% OFF!


Spanish Flat

J

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	Mon
06	07	08	09	10	11
					
77° 51°	82° 52°	82° 54°	85° 56°	87° 55°	83° 53°

See Below for Peak Season & Off-Season Coupons!!

Peak Season Sale!!
 Our surf boats sold out every weekend last summer.
Book early and SAVE!!
 Surf boats must be booked by phone. All other rentals can be done by phone or online.
 707-966-4204

10% off 8 & 10 Hour
 Wakesurf/Wakeboard/Ski Boats and Pontoon Boats

10% off Jet Skis 2-8 Hours
 Book by 5/15/2026 for Peak Season Reservations beginning 5/22/2026. Not valid on holiday weekends.

Off Season Pricing is now available with BIG Discounts!!
 Up to **\$315** off Wakesurf/Wakeboard/Ski Boats
 Up to **\$286** off Pontoon Boats
 Up to **\$146** off Jet Skis
w/ off season discount + coupon
 Book by 5/15/2026 for Rentals through 5/21/2026

Book Now

May Horoscopes

Aries (3/21-4/19): Endless complaints that your talents are being wasted at work will finally pay off when management decides to promote you to the new position of "Head Whiner."

Taurus (4/20-5/20): Continuing a proud, age-old tradition, you will hand down your family's priceless heirlooms to the next generation of Chinatown pawnbrokers this week.

Gemini (5/21-6/21): You're prepared to go to any length to get your wife back, which is funny, as finding what remains of her will actually require you to go to any depth.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Can you be held responsible for everything you *don't* do? Who knows.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Cartoon fun can be yours if you pick up the right set of pencils and think really hard about drawing.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): Armchair politicians will affect your life today as they rise from their dank pits and begin to conquer the known world.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Pants, socks, t-shirts, sweaters. These are all parts of your wardrobe. Remember this.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): The computer you are trying to access has forbidden you entry as it deems your horoscope too scary.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): Flapping your arms like a bird is a good way to call attention to yourself.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Buying a T-Shirt proclaiming that your bald patch makes you a solar powered sex machine is a good idea.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): Don't panic—if you can find a baby that looks just like yours, your wife might not notice.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): While you aren't descended from Egyptian royalty, you will soon have the honor of dying in one of their tombs.

Food Trucks Galore in Napa - But Where?

Paul Franson's weekly Napa Valley Life is jam-packed with interesting information about Napa Valley events and out-and abouts. His links to the ubiquitous food truck culture makes my mouth water.

Find the web version at www.napalife.org/7556.html

Where is what food truck?

It's very challenging to keep track of the many food trucks in our community, and it's not just because they have wheels. They change their offerings, disappear for private events and move to different locations. It's so challenging that I'm happy to see a new website that tracks them.

See www.napafoodtrucks.com.

**COME ENJOY
GRILLED BURGERS AND HOTDOGS
AT THE
LAKE BERRYESSA SENIOR CENTER
SATURDAY MAY 16TH 2-6PM
BBQ BBQ!**



Social Hour 2:00PM, Dinner 3:00PM

The Lake Berryessa Senior Center relies solely on the community's generosity and its invaluable members and volunteers.

THANK YOU FOR BEING A PART OF THE LAKE BERRYESSA SENIOR CENTER!

PLEASE RSVP (707) 266-3900

4380 Spanish Flat Loop Road
Napa/ Lake Berryessa

May Headlines

Mom, Dad Disagree About How Dad Likes Eggs

Supreme Court Rules 6-3 That the South Won the Civil War

Whitehouse Press Corps Demands Hazard Pay For Constant Exposure To Toxic Stupidity

Trump Supporters Confused By The King's Use Of Complete Sentences, Proper Grammar

Slumber-Party Confession Comes Back To Haunt Fourth Grader

Supreme Court Forgets Last Night's Homework Was To Read The Constitution

Racehorse Receives Carrot Every Time He Wins \$2 Million For Owner

Table Tennis Champion Too Weak To Hoist Trophy Over Head

DOJ To Bring Back Firing Squad As Means Of Entertainment

Chick-Fil-A Announces Two Halves Of Buns Must Be Married Before Becoming Sandwich

Office NCAA Bracket Marks Yearly Interaction With Coworkers

Unemployed Man Considers Going Back To School To Become AI

Pete Hegseth Questions What Girls Were Doing In School To Begin With

King Charles Alienates Republicans With Offensive Use of Complete & Coherent
Sentences

Welcome to your own 3 bedroom, 2 bath, private half-acre with
a new home overlooking beautiful Lake Berryessa!

4101 Berryessa Knoxville Road

\$369,000

Here is your chance at an affordable home and land ownership in Napa County
at its most amazing and overlooked treasure - Lake Berryessa.
Zoning allows a secondary dwelling should all county requirements be met.

Stunning Lake and Mountain Views



Sparkling New Interior



Robin Short, Realtor

707-738-3006

DRE # 01890377

<https://winevalleyhomes.com/>

**Lake Berryessa
Property Management and Sales**

Head over to Turtle Rock to pick up a bottle of Cowboy Cabernet,
and some "World Famous Egg Rolls".

Available at Turtle Rock Cafe



A LAKE BERRYESSA EXCLUSIVE: THE COWBOY CABERNET HAS ARRIVED!

We are thrilled to announce that Stephen and Leanne Troy's highly anticipated Cowboy Cabernet Sauvignon, crafted right here on the shores of Lake Berryessa, is now **officially available** for your enjoyment!

The passion and artistry described in their *'Maharajah Sleep Here?'* travelogue (seen below) have culminated in this superb vintage. This isn't just a wine; it's a taste of the Lake Berryessa lifestyle.

Visit us at Turtle Rock Cafe today to grab your your bottle of this local treasure, perfect for a picnic by the water or a relaxing evening under the stars. Don't miss out on this limited release!



**PICK UP YOUR BOTTLE AT
TURTLE ROCK CAFE TODAY!**

For more info, visit:
www.troyfamilyvineyard.com,
www.turtlerockcafe.com

Available at Amazon in paperback and audiobook.






& GET THE STORY BEHIND THE WINE.
 Visit www.troyfamilycafeandgrill.com
 for more info. Scan for Amazon.

Starbucks CEO: \$9 Is Fair Price For Coffee And Brief Human Acknowledgment

You Won't Get Anywhere Else! In a bold defense of the \$9 latte, Starbucks CEO Brian Niccol explained that customers aren't just buying coffee—they're buying the rare thrill of someone acknowledging their existence.

"Jim gets a latte. Sarah gets a smiley face. That's value," Niccol said, pointing to a cup labeled "Srah 😊." "You can't put a price on being seen... though we did. It's \$9."

Fans agree the experience hits differently, especially compared to opening a student loan statement, where the only thing growing faster than interest is emotional numbness. To enhance the premium feel, Starbucks is reportedly testing new upgrades:

- Eye contact (+\$2)
- "You got this" affirmation (+\$3.50)
- Name spelled correctly (market rate)

For many, it's a simple choice: save money at home, or spend \$9 for a latte and a brief, caffeinated reminder that someone, somewhere, pretended to care more than their loan servicer ever will.

Your A-Frame Retreat Awaits!

www.1017headlandsdr.com/

\$469,000

Welcome to this charming A-frame style home in the Berryessa Highlands!

Filtered lake views and relaxed Napa Valley living come together!

Just minutes to the lake's best recreation, this home offers the perfect balance of character, functionality, and relaxed lake living.



Set on a flat gated corner lot with a covered carport, covered patio with hot tub hookups, and plenty of yard space (complete with a whimsical wishing well!), this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home blends comfort, charm, and potential. Inside, vaulted ceilings and natural light create an open, airy feel, complemented by a cozy wood stove for those cool evenings.



Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-4124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Single-Level Living Just Minutes From Lake Berryessa!

6004 Monticello #41

\$79,500

Enjoy the welcoming front porch and both front and back yards, ideal for relaxing, gardening, or entertaining.

Located in Capell Valley Mobile Home Estates, a family park with no age restrictions, this home blends space, setting, and lifestyle in a sought-after Lake Berryessa area.



This 1991 Baywood manufactured home offers 1,448 sq. ft. of comfortable space with 2 bedrooms + den and 2 full baths perfect for flexible living, a home office, or guests. A newer roof and water filtration system add peace of mind and everyday comfort.

www.homes.com/property/6004-monticello-rd-napa-ca-unit-41/d8m93n0f9r7h3/

Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-4124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Coming Soon

1610 Capell Valley - \$1,195,000 - One Acre/Pool/Outdoor Kitchen & Fireplace

3955 E HWY 128 - \$1,175,000 41+ Acres, House, Ag Building with Full Bath, Pool, Views

Circle Oaks:

<https://www.258circleoaksdr.com/>

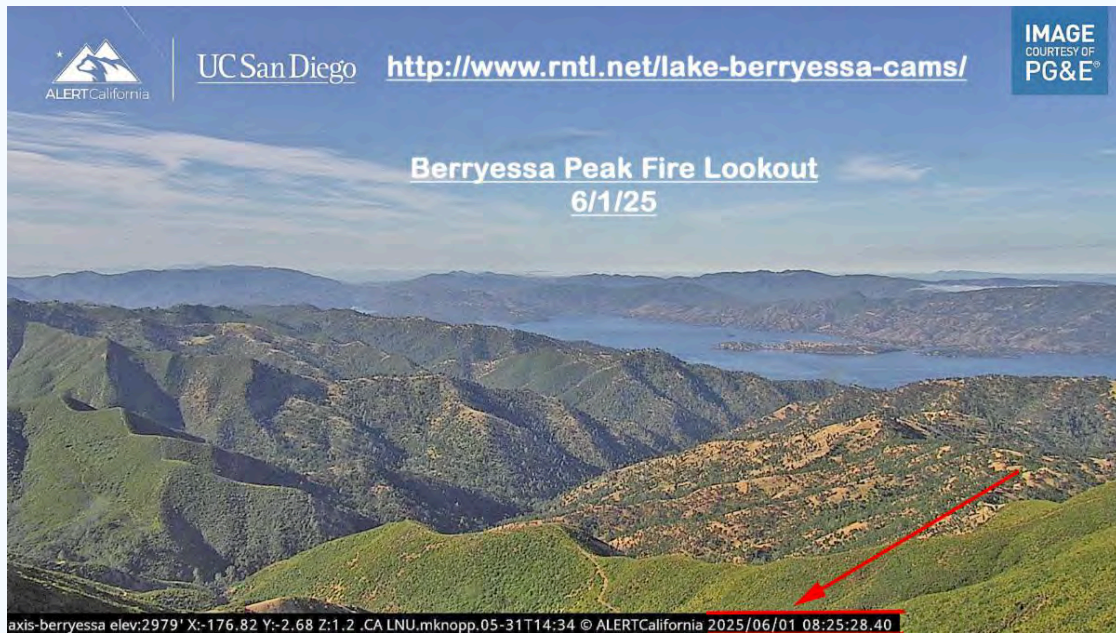
<https://www.188countryclubln.com/>



Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>





Steele Canyon Campground Inc.
1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558
Office: (707) 966-9410
Camp, Boat, Picnic, Hike or Bike...
Enjoy the great outdoors and beauty of Lake Berryessa.
<https://campsteelecanyon.com/>



Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals

Take advantage of our low off-season rates through May 17th

Wakeboard/Ski Boats, Pontoon Boats

Jet Skis, Fishing Boats, Kayaks & Paddleboards

We include the gas in all our rentals. Which will save you \$\$!

All boats are launched from Spanish Flat.



4420 Knoxville Rd. (.9 mile north of Spanish Flat Campground)
707-966-4204 or 707-966-4205 www.lakeberryessaboats.com
Call or go online to book now

 **BERRYESSA
BOAT REPAIR**

 **MERCURY**



707-966-9954
4420 KNOXVILLE RD. NAPA, CA 94558
WWW.BERRYESSABOATREPAIR.COM
LAKEBERRYESSABOATREPAIR@GMAIL.COM

SERVICE, PARTS, & SALES

 **MERCURY**
Authorized Dealer
Service, Parts & Accessories

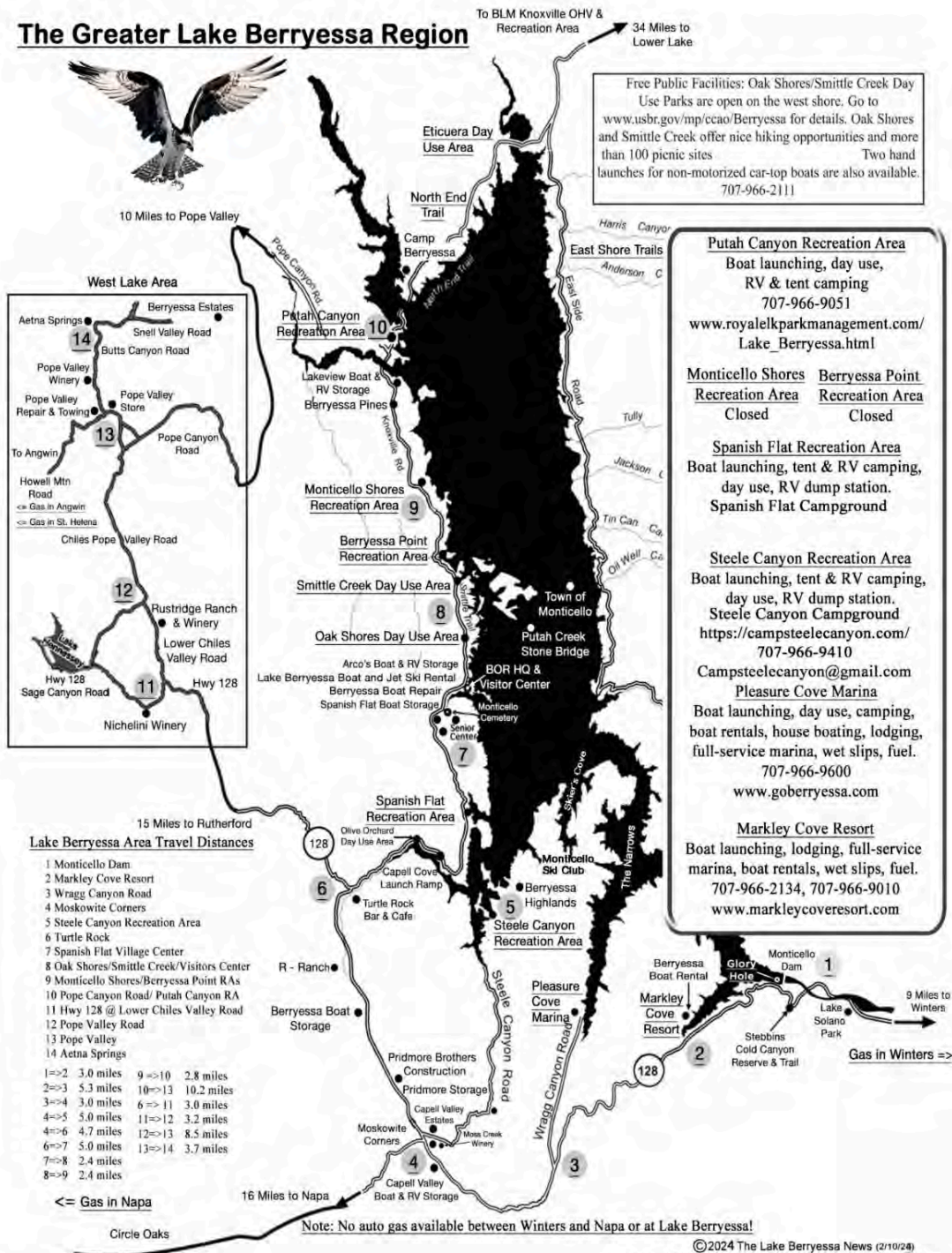
 **TOHATSU**  **MERCURY**
MerCruiser

**WE WORK ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF ENGINES, BOATS, AND JET SKIS.
WE SELL MERCURY, MERCRUISER, VOLVO-PENTA, AND TOHATSU ENGINES**

707-966-9954
FOR STORAGE, DETAIL, & CONSIGNMENT
707-480-3187

Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 |

pkilkus@gmail.com | <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>





Try email marketing for free today!



The Lake Berryessa News

May 10, 2026

Hot weather is here! Time to start planning our summer boat trips!

Lake Berryessa Statistics (5/10/26)

Lake Berryessa water level has remained relatively constant during the last 5 days - dropping only an inch. It now stands at 438.7 feet - 1.3 feet below Glory Hole.

Rainfall at Monticello Dam remains at 24.75 inches.

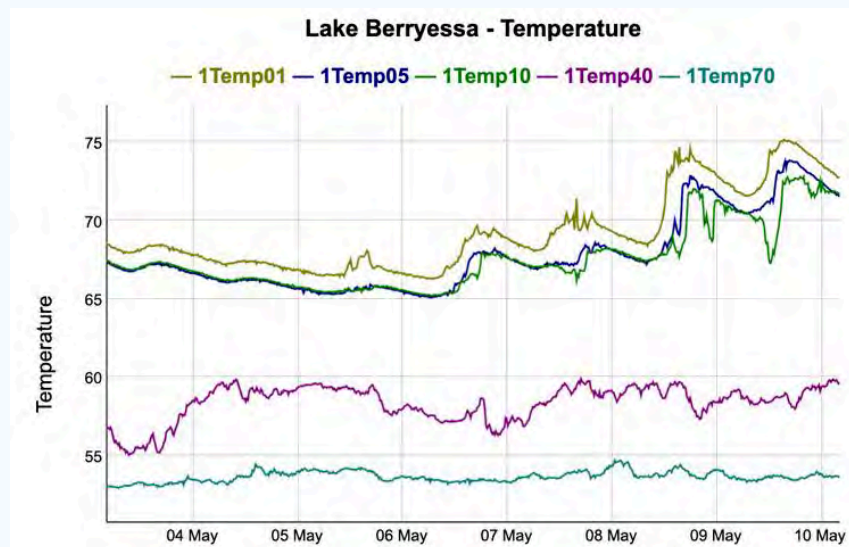
The lake output has risen to 375 cfs (743 A-F per day). The highest output during the summer averages about 700 cfs (1,387 A-F per day).

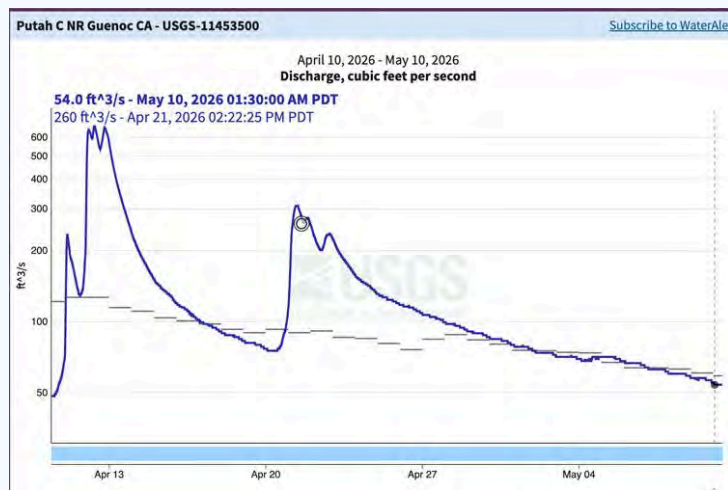
The runoff at the Geunoc measuring site is down to 54 cfs. Total runoff is at less than 25% of lake output so the lake level will continue to keep decreasing. This information will not really be relevant until the first rain in October.

When full (Glory Hole level) the lake contains 1,551,292 Acre-Feet of water.

Lake capacity is now at 1,529,083 Acre-Feet or 98.4%.

Water temperatures have risen to swimmable levels of almost 75 degrees.





Lake Berryessa Revialization Program Update

Readers may have seen a few articles about the situation at Lake Berryessa being reviewed by the Napa Board of Supervisors last week. Actually nothing of substance came out of that meeting since it was a simple discussion of the overall status of the resorts. The articles in the Register and Press Democrat contained several unusual reporting errors (misidentifying Camp Margaritaville Resorts as Margaritaville) or repetitions of what has regularly been reported in The Lake Berryessa News.

A neighbor sent me a note say that her daughter had gone to Walmart and there was a guy collecting signatures against development at the lake. If you see someone doing this, let me know, as well as informing them that you support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program.

I responded that there have been Lake Berryessa anti-advocates working behind the scenes trying to undermine the Lake Berryessa Revialization Program for a couple of years. They attacked the Camp Margaritaville proposal for the rebuilding of the Steel Canyon Recreation Area at a Supervisors' meeting more than a year ago. At the time I wrote several reports debunking their false claims and their humorous feelings of "cringeness".

Definition: Cringy" (or cringey) is an informal adjective describing something that causes acute embarrassment, awkwardness, or discomfort, often making a person feel embarrassed on behalf of someone else. It is synonymous with "cringeworthy" and is frequently used to describe uncomfortable social situations, bad performances, or unnatural behavior.

Brush up on the facts of this situation at:

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Lake-Berryessa-Support-Documentation/The-Lake-Berryessa-Revitalization-Program-Explained.pdf>

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Lake-Berryessa-Support-Documentation/Environmental-Management-at-Lake-Berryessa.pdf>

Caltrans Silly Safety Signs Sprout!

by Peter Kilkus

Sprout: (Verb): To appear suddenly or grow rapidly in number.

I'm a "keep your eyes on the road" kind of driver. I pay attention to the yellow lines in the middle of the road and the white lines on the right edge. I judge the state of the road far as I can see. But as I was driving to Napa a couple of weeks ago I noticed that my eyes were annoyingly pulled off the approaching road and drawn to hundreds of distracting bright yellow signs planted along the side of the road at a height above my normal field of view.

Even when I could clearly see a half-mile down the road, there was a sign deflecting my view. Too many signs were used to confuse people on simple curves. Most, if not all, the signs were clearly redundant (five arrow signs on a simple and visible curve) and unnecessary. A couple were hidden behind branches. Many other regular commute drivers have also complained. So I sent a formal complaint to Caltrans:

"Nature of Situation: Too many new warning signs on Hwy 121 (Monticello Road) detracting from driver safety. There were many unnecessary new signs recently installed, almost all of which draw the drivers' eyes away from the road. They are annoying and redundant. Other residents have also complained to me about them."

If you are as annoyed as many of the other local drivers, you can "Submit A Customer Service Request" at: <https://csr.dot.ca.gov/index.php/Msrssubmit>

I received the following reply: "Thank you for contacting Caltrans. We value your request for service. Because your concern is a recommendation for alteration to existing infrastructure, your request has been referred to our Traffic Ops Division for review and feasibility; **Please know that certain studies, assessments and determinations can take up to 6-months.**"

I also found this little paternalistic gem in the Caltrans manual: "Caltrans warning signs, detailed in the California Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (CA MUTCD), notify drivers of unexpected road conditions, hazards, or speed changes requiring caution...**Their placement is determined by engineering studies to address hazards that are not immediately obvious to motorists.**"

Here is a sample from Nextdoor of what other drivers think (names not shown for privacy):

"Quite a few signs were put in the wrong place to actually help navigate the road. And some actually tell you to turn where there is no turn. Others tell you the road is to go one way, when in reality, it goes the other way. Trust the sign at night and you might go off the road."

"It goes way beyond that! They used to put arrows when there was truly a sharp turn. That was fine. Now there's arrows for a tiny kink in the road. Just like new cars, the more info

given to them from a source other than their brain, the dumber the driver gets!!!"

"Jesus Christ! I drove to Napa today for the first time in a while. Thank God for the 958 signs telling me to turn left or right since I couldn't tell from the movement of the road. My personal favorite were the back to back 20 mph, no! 30 mph... No, wait, 20 mph signs. I'm seeing a circular saw in somebody's future."

"I have 3 million miles as a professional motor vehicle operator. These signs are a distraction. They may as well put up spotlights in both directions. I will say they went in really fast."

"As someone who drives up and down 121, sometimes twice daily starting at 5 am and coming home at 11pm - they made my commute into town and back an hour each way over an almost 2 week stretch - hard to believe no one saw them going up."

"Section 2 and 5. California updated to the 2026 MUTCD rules, to comply with 2023 federal transportation guidelines. That's where the excessive signage is originating. Government doing silly government things just like always."

<https://dot.ca.gov/-/media/dot-media/programs/safety-programs/documents/ca-mutcd/2026/camutcd-2026-all.pdf>

"I'm thankful for the signs because without them I would have never known which way to go when the road changed!" (satire)

"At night they're blinding! Who could possibly agree to such an absurd over use!? I understand it can be a dangerous road, but this overkill is beyond common sense! They have destroyed a beautiful country road drive! I'm so glad to hear others similar reaction. I think if we could snag the right people who have some power, put them in a car and drive them up and down in the daytime and again at night, they would see what we're all flipping out about. We need help! This is just too intolerable."



COMMUNITY MEETING

**Saturday, MAY 16, 2026
10:00AM to 12:00PM**

**at the Capell Valley Volunteer Fire Station 14
1193 Capell Valley Rd., Napa, CA 94558**

Napa County agencies supporting our community who will be attending:



Get the Latest Updates and Make Your Voice Heard!

**Join us in hearing from our Napa County agencies with updates
and important ways you can help protect your home!**

Supervisor Manfree – Wants to hear from you! Open discussion & updates

OES (Office of Emergency Services) – What to do in an emergency

BHFSC & CalFire – WUI Defensible Space; Tips for protecting your home

Community Wildfire Protection Plan – Learn about our CWPP & projects

NBRID Ballot Measure – Important status updates

Steele Canyon Resort – Hear the latest news

Lunch provided after the presentations

[Solano County Water Agency \(SCWA\) - Lake Berryessa Update](https://scwa2.com/)

<https://scwa2.com/>

<https://scwa2.com/lake-berryessa-mussel-prevention-program/>

The California Department of Water Resources (DWR) has discontinued its watercraft screening program at Lake Oroville as of April 29, 2026. The press release can be found here:

<https://water.ca.gov/News/Blog/2026/Apr-2026/Lake-Oroville-Update-April-29-2026>

Lake Berryessa is very different from Lake Oroville in many ways, including water quality, seasonal fluctuations, and the ecology of the lake, which make it far more favorable for the colonization of golden mussels. Below are some talking points that we have put together if people inquire and ask why Berryessa is continuing our mussel prevention program while Oroville has abandoned theirs:

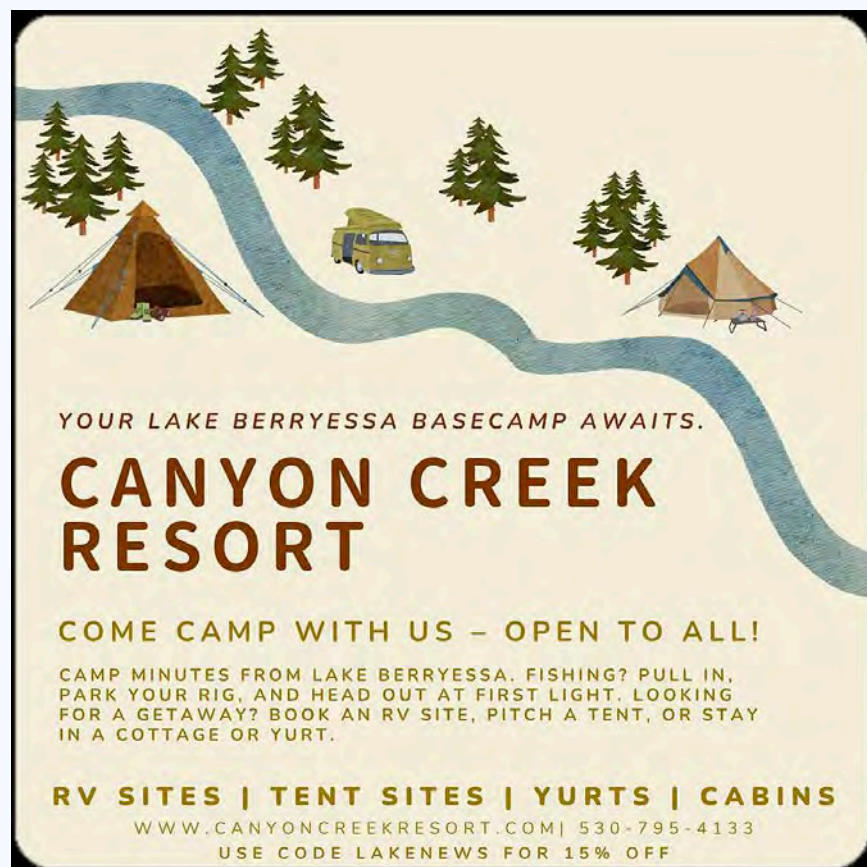
Lake Berryessa will not re-open in the same manner as Lake Oroville as our top priority is protecting the environment and the water systems that serve approximately 450,000 residents, businesses and industry in both Solano and Napa Counties, as well as 75,000 acres of irrigated farmland dependent on the Solano Project.

The water quality characteristics and temperature regime of Lake Berryessa are extremely favorable for the establishment and rapid spread of golden mussels, putting it at a much higher risk of infestation and establishment of golden mussels compared to other reservoirs located in the Sierra Nevada foothills.

The Solano County Water Agency's primary objective is to prevent the introduction and spread of golden mussel into the Solano Project, where it could cause severe and irreversible impacts to ecosystem health and water conveyance infrastructure. A golden mussel infestation would result immediate and far-reaching consequences for public health, economic stability, and regional water reliability.

The Lake Berryessa watercraft inspection, banding, and decontamination program will remain in place without modification, as it is a critical line of defense against invasive species introduction.

SCWA is not aware of any other reservoirs that are intending to follow in Oroville's footsteps on this issue.



See some beautiful photos of Canyon Creek Resort and the area near the dam:

<https://www.canyoncreekresort.com/gallery/>



Schedule Watercraft Decontamination Here

The Solano County Water Agency Decontamination Station, located at Lake Solano County Park, will reopen on April 3, 2026. Appointments are currently available to book for April through August.

Scheduling a decontamination at Lake Solano County Park will incur a fee on a sliding scale ranging from \$60 to \$200+, depending on the complexity of the watercraft. A credit card is required to reserve and pay for an appointment. Cash will not be accepted.

A \$100 fee will be charged for no-shows or cancellations made less than 12 hours prior to the scheduled appointment. To cancel or reschedule in advance, please use the cancellation or reschedule link included in your confirmation email.

Decontamination Stations Approved For Lake Berryessa Include:

[Lake Solano County Park](#)

[Markley Cove](#)

[Pleasure Cove Marina](#)

[Putah Canyon Campground](#)

[Gone Fishin' Marine](#)

[Lake Tahoe Decontamination Stations](#)

How to Launch at Lake Berryessa

1. You have a green seal from Lake Berryessa
2. You have a 30 day red quarantine seal from any agency, recorded as having completed a 30-day quarantine in the WID system;
3. Seals from other agencies, or states, that have been applied to a watercraft for a period of 30 days or longer and are recorded in the WID. These seals may be any color;
4. Seals from a waterbody or state that does not use the WID system will be accepted if the seal had been applied to the watercraft for a period of 30 days or longer, and is accompanied by a physical paper receipt.
5. Proof of a hot-water decontamination from Solano County Water Agency or affiliated partners (Lake Solano, Markley Cove, Putah Canyon, Pleasure Cove, Gone Fishin Marine), or from Lake Tahoe
6. Lake Tahoe Blue seals will be accepted due to the longevity and robustness of the Lake Tahoe AIS prevention and decontamination program.

Per Napa County Ordinance 1510, Watercraft Seals or Decontaminations are Required. Click [here](#) to read more about Ordinance 1510.

Boat Launching Protocols

Effective November 25, 2024, USBR has implemented new protocols for boat launching at Lake Berryessa. For more information regarding the new protocols, please click [here](#).

Any vessel wishing to launch must be inspected, logged into the WID system and a RED quarantine seal shall be applied for 30 days, and the vessel will not be permitted to launch at that time. The seal must remain intact, and the vessel will not have been launched in any other waterbody during the quarantine period.

Vessels that have finished the 30-day quarantine may return to the lake and have the seal removed by authorized staff (e.g. SCWA, USBR, or Concessionaire) and will be allowed to launch.

Any vessel wishing to launch sooner than the required 30-day quarantine period must have a hot-water decontamination performed by an approved entity. These vessels are allowed to launch immediately following decontamination.

Upon exit from the Lake, all vessels must have a GREEN seal attached by authorized staff to be allowed to freely launch at Lake Berryessa. Otherwise, the vessel will need to undergo another quarantine period or decontamination.

Hand launched watercraft with electric motors like fishing kayaks, require an inspection prior to launch. Non-motorized watercraft, such as kayaks and paddleboards, are not subject to inspection, are encouraged to be inspected for free at any watercraft inspection station, or if you are instructed to do so by trained staff at popular launch locations. All paddlers are encouraged to arrive Clean, Drained, and Dry.

The golden mussel was recently identified in the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta and is the first known occurrence of these invasive species in North America. This species poses a significant and immediate threat to the ecological health of Lake Berryessa, the Delta and all waters of the state, water conveyance systems, infrastructure, and water quality.

For questions about this new protocol and vessel decontamination, contact decon@SCWA2.com

Decontamination Fees

- **Simple Decontamination (1 system and open bilge) – \$60**
 - **Additional Jet-ski – \$30**
 - Example: Jet ski, small boat single motor w/ no floorboards or compartments
- **Intermediate Decontamination (2-3 systems including enclosed bilge) – \$120**
 - Example: Bass boat, larger aluminum fishing boat, pontoon boat, bow-rider, ski boat w/no ballast
- **Complex Decontamination (4 -5 Systems) – \$170**
 - Example: Wakeboard boat, cabin cruiser, ski boat with ballast, houseboat, multi-engine speed boat

Ballast Tank Decontamination Fees: These fees are in addition to any watercraft decontamination fees

- **Empty Ballast Tank Decontamination Fee (per boat) – \$30**
 - These fees are additional to any decontamination Fee
- **Undrained Ballast tank Decontamination Fee (per boat) – \$60**

Add-ons: \$30 per system beyond 5 systems (additional raw-water intakes and compartments)

• Wash-down pumps	• Air conditioners
• Kicker motors	• Generators
• Water slides	• Anchor lockers
• Additional Bilge Compartment	• Other intakes

Vessels over 30 feet – \$10 per foot over 30 feet.

Head over to Turtle Rock to pick up a bottle of Cowboy Cabernet,
and some "World Famous Egg Rolls".

Available at Turtle Rock Cafe



A LAKE BERRYESSA EXCLUSIVE: THE COWBOY CABERNET HAS ARRIVED!

We are thrilled to announce that Stephen and Leanne Troy's highly anticipated Cowboy Cabernet Sauvignon, crafted right here on the shores of Lake Berryessa, is now **officially available** for your enjoyment!

The passion and artistry described in their *'Maharajah Sleep Here?'* travelogue (seen below) have culminated in this superb vintage. This isn't just a wine; it's a taste of the Lake Berryessa lifestyle.

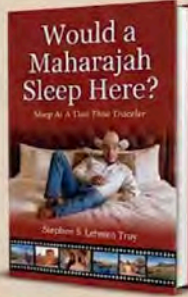
Visit us at Turtle Rock Cafe today to grab your bottle of this local treasure, perfect for a picnic by the water or a relaxing evening under the stars. Don't miss out on this limited release!





**PICK UP YOUR BOTTLE AT
TURTLE ROCK CAFE TODAY!**
For more info, visit:
www.troyfamilyvineyard.com,
www.turtlerockcafe.com

Available at Amazon in paperback and audiobook.



& GET THE STORY BEHIND THE WINE.
Visit www.troyfamilycafeandgrill.com
for more info. Scan for Amazon.



Your A-Frame Retreat Awaits!

www.1017headlandsdr.com/

\$469,000

Welcome to this charming A-frame style home in the Berryessa Highlands!

Filtered lake views and relaxed Napa Valley living come together!

Just minutes to the lake's best recreation, this home offers the perfect balance of character, functionality, and relaxed lake living.



Set on a flat gated corner lot with a covered carport, covered patio with hot tub hookups, and plenty of yard space (complete with a whimsical wishing well!), this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home blends comfort, charm, and potential. Inside, vaulted ceilings and natural light create an open, airy feel, complemented by a cozy wood stove for those cool evenings.



Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-4124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Single-Level Living Just Minutes From Lake Berryessa!

6004 Monticello #41

\$79,500

Enjoy the welcoming front porch and both front and back yards, ideal for relaxing, gardening, or entertaining.

Located in Capell Valley Mobile Home Estates, a family park with no age restrictions, this home blends space, setting, and lifestyle in a sought-after Lake Berryessa area.



This 1991 Baywood manufactured home offers 1,448 sq. ft. of comfortable space with 2 bedrooms + den and 2 full baths perfect for flexible living, a home office, or guests. A newer roof and water filtration system add peace of mind and everyday comfort.

www.homes.com/property/6004-monticello-rd-napa-ca-unit-41/d8m93n0f9r7h3/

Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-4124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Coming Soon

1610 Capell Valley - \$1,195,000 - One Acre/Pool/Outdoor Kitchen & Fireplace

3955 E HWY 128 - \$1,175,000 41+ Acres, House, Ag Building with Full Bath, Pool, Views

Circle Oaks:

<https://www.258circleoaksdr.com/>

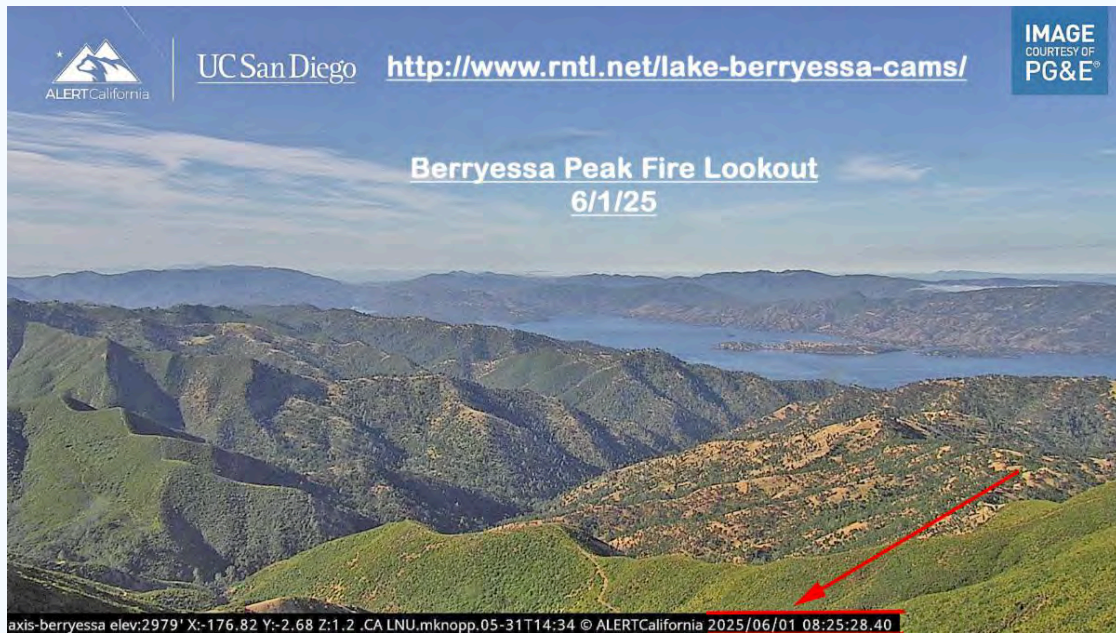
<https://www.188countryclubln.com/>



Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>





Steele Canyon Campground Inc.
1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558
Office: (707) 966-9410
Camp, Boat, Picnic, Hike or Bike...
Enjoy the great outdoors and beauty of Lake Berryessa.
<https://campsteelecanyon.com/>



Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals

Take advantage of our low off-season rates through May 17th

Wakeboard/Ski Boats, Pontoon Boats

Jet Skis, Fishing Boats, Kayaks & Paddleboards

We include the gas in all our rentals. Which will save you \$\$!

All boats are launched from Spanish Flat.



4420 Knoxville Rd. (.9 mile north of Spanish Flat Campground)
707-966-4204 or 707-966-4205 www.lakeberryessaboats.com
Call or go online to book now

**BERRYESSA
BOAT REPAIR**

MERCURY

707-966-9954
4420 KNOXVILLE RD. NAPA, CA 94558
WWW.BERRYESSABOATREPAIR.COM
LAKEBERRYESSABOATREPAIR@GMAIL.COM

SERVICE, PARTS, & SALES

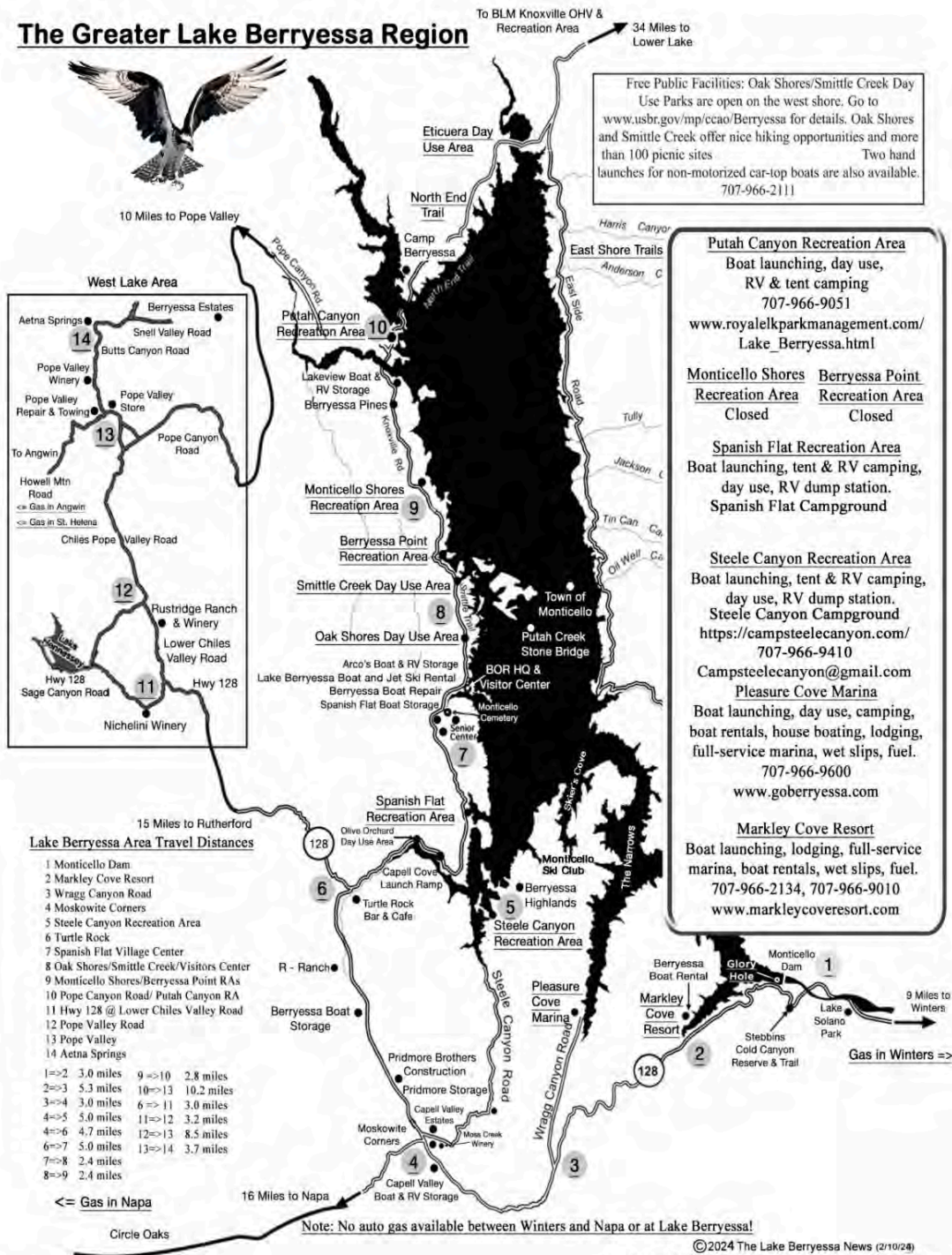
MERCURY
Authorized Dealer
Service, Parts & Accessories

TOHATSU **MERCURY**
MerCruiser

**WE WORK ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF ENGINES, BOATS, AND JET SKIS.
WE SELL MERCURY, MERCRUISER, VOLVO-PENTA, AND TOHATSU ENGINES**
707-966-9954
FOR STORAGE, DETAIL, & CONSIGNMENT
707-480-3157

Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 |

pkilkus@gmail.com | <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>





Try email marketing for free today!



The Lake Berryessa News

May 17, 2026

Breaking News!

Nothing special is happening - except for one of the worst windstorms I've ever seen in the Berryessa Highlands. Stuff flying around. Deck chairs being blown over. The lake is covered in big whitecaps. Not a day to be fishing out there. Even my hummingbirds have gone to hide. The winds around the lake are clocking in at 25-30 mph. It sure feels more like 40+ here up on the hill above the Highlands!

Lake Berryessa Statistics (5/17/26)

Lake Berryessa water level has remained relatively constant during the last 5 days - dropping only an inch. It now stands at 438.4 feet - 1.6 feet below Glory Hole.

Rainfall at Monticello Dam remains at 24.75 inches.

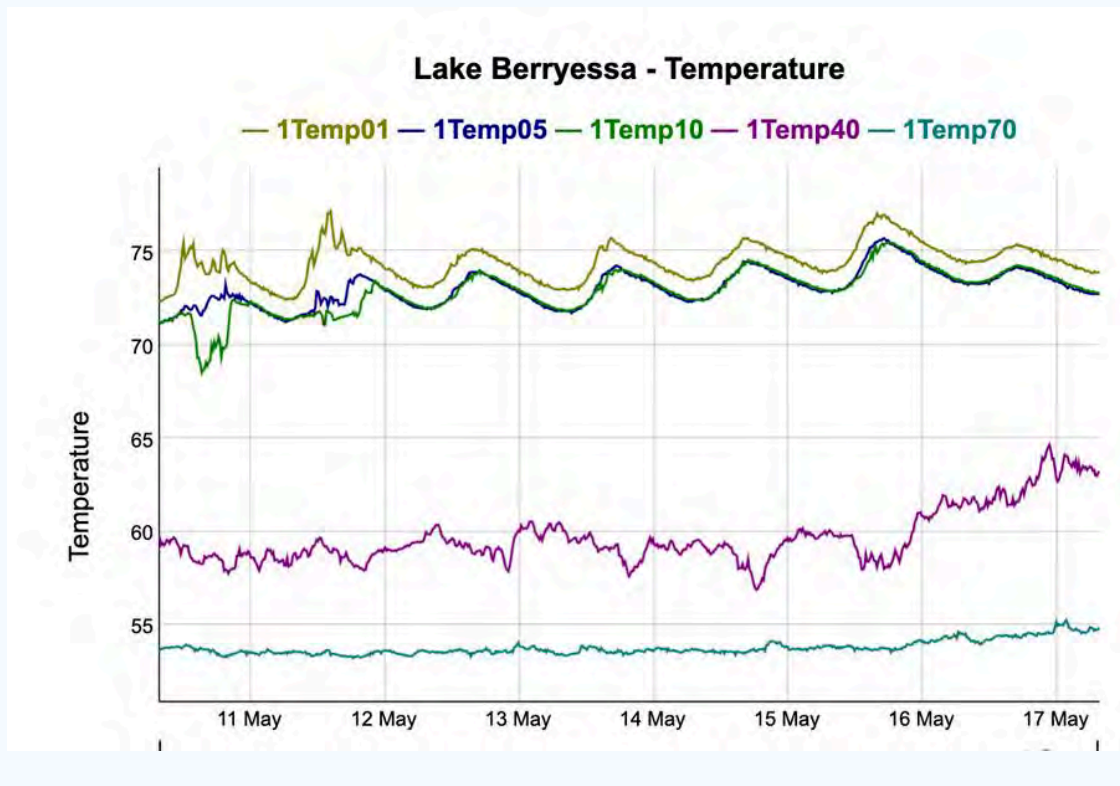
The lake output has risen to 460 cfs (912 A-F per day). The highest output during the summer averages about 700 cfs (1,387 A-F per day).

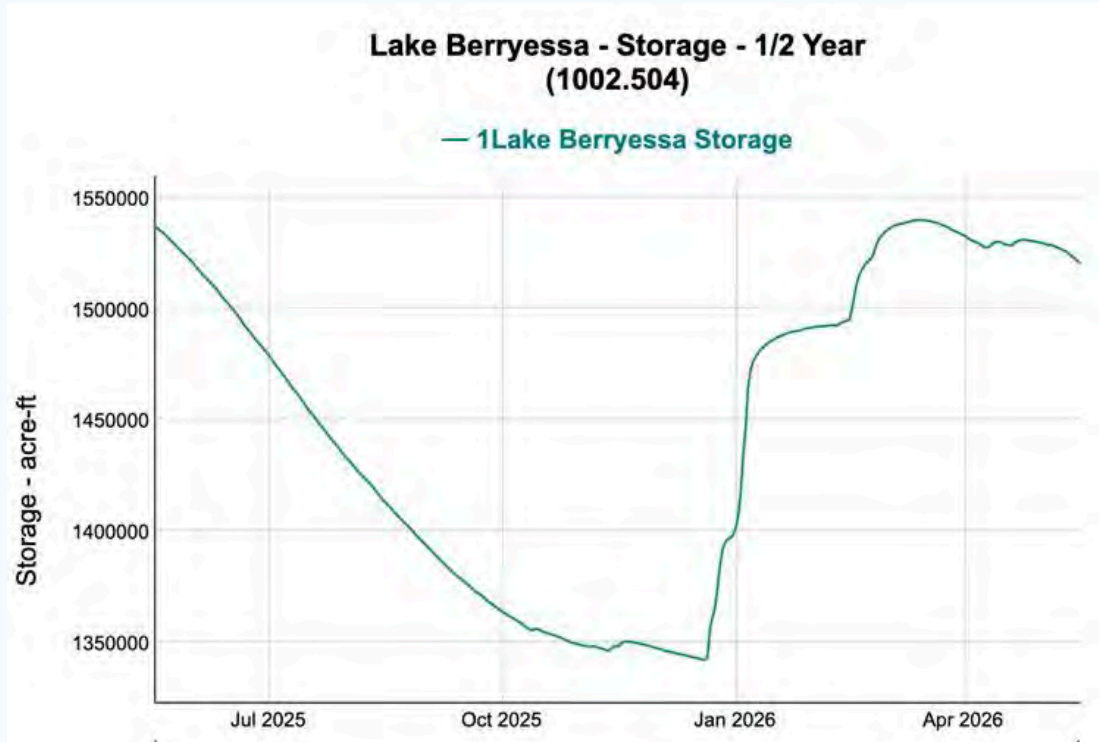
The runoff at the Geunoc measuring site is down to 38 cfs. Total runoff is at less than 20% of lake output so the lake level will continue to keep decreasing. This information will not really be relevant until the first rain in October so I'll stop posting it.

When full (Glory Hole level) the lake contains 1,551,292 Acre-Feet of water.

Lake capacity is now at 1,520,462 Acre-Feet or 98%.

Water temperatures have risen to swimmable level of 75 degrees.





Electric Boats, but Electric Surfboards and Electric Jet Skis?

An Electric Watercraft Show is coming to Lake Berryessa

The press release says: "The future of boating arrives in Northern California this summer as Pleasure Cove Marina at Lake Berryessa hosts the Lake Berryessa Electric Boat Festival. Positioned as the world's largest electric boat event, the festival brings together marine technology, waterfront lifestyle, and sustainability in a first-of-its-kind on-water and waterfront experience.

Set against the backdrop of beautiful Lake Berryessa, the two-day festival will convene leading electric boat manufacturers, propulsion companies, marina operators, commercial fleet owners, policymakers, and consumers for live, on-water demonstrations and interactive exhibits focused on electric marine innovation.

Attendees will have the rare opportunity to ride and drive the newest generation of electric boats and personal watercraft, experiencing firsthand the quiet performance, instant torque, and environmental advantages that are redefining the marine industry."

Electric Marine Leadership Summit, Date: June 5, 2026 | 11:00 AM – 2:00 PM

VIP Experience and Media Event, Date: June 5th, 2026 | 3:00 PM – 6:00 PM

Lake Berryessa Electric Boat Festival, Date: June 6, 2026 | 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Registration: <https://luma.com/electric-boat-festival>

Electric Boat Festival

\$25.00

Kids 12 and under are Free. Saturday, June 6th.

Festival-Summit-VIP Bundle

\$150.00

Festival + Summit Bundle | Friday, June 5 - Saturday, June 6

Exclusive access to both days of the Lake Berryessa Electric Boat Festival, including entry to the Electric Marine Industry Leadership Summit and a private VIP on-water demo experience.

Leadership Summit - June 5th

\$100.00

Electric Marine Industry Leadership Summit - Friday, June 5 | 11AM - 2PM

VIP Experience - June 5th

\$100.00

Step into the most exclusive experience of the Lake Berryessa Electric Boat Festival.

Friday, June 5 | 3PM - 6PM



As the oldest jet ski racer in California during the early years of this century, I lived through the period of attacks on jet skis by fatuous environmental-exclusionist groups like the original Bluewater Network. I testified in Sacramento against some really silly jet ski bans. At that time most jet ski designs had already met all the air and water quality standards - but some people just didn't like the sound. But many just really seemed to not like watching other folks have fun!

Solid design work was able to lower the sound and develop environmentally-friendly four stroke jet ski engines. Those of you familiar with engine design realize the challenge of fitting a four-stroke engine into a runabout jet ski, and finally into a standup jet ski.

Efficient electric boats had just started being developed. Rapid increase in efficient battery technologies led to a rapid increase in electric boat designs. Then I

witnessed an electric wakeboard demonstration! You can now buy many different brands of electric wakeboards on Amazon - no more wakeboard boat necessary.



The next step was to finally design an electric jet ski, only rumors of which were being circulated. And it finally happened. There are several brands available now.



Electric stand-up jet skis exist primarily in the form of electric motorized surfboards equipped with removable handlebars.



There is one traditional-looking stand-up advertised. Not much information available.





You Know Your Getting Old When...

Speaking of jet ski racing, I just returned from some exciting jet ski races up at Camp Far West produced by Wild West Watercross. Evan and I were the IJSBA Regional jet ski racing promoters early in this century.

The older you get the more anniversaries come up. Evan and I participated together in our first ever jet ski race back in 2001. This is our 25th anniversary of that race. Here's my first video of the first race.

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



It was great, but intimidating day, at Camp Far West. When everyone has a helmet on, no one knows your age! This video also shows how easy it is for a newbie to get lost on the track, but at least I got a free lap out of it.

This was my first editing job, so it has a lot of annoying transitions. I apologize. As Evan always tells me when I bring up an old story, "But Dad, that was 25 years ago"

To see many more "vintage" but exciting 20-year old jet ski videos see my playlist at:

<https://www.youtube.com/@JetSkisRock/playlists>

Head over to Turtle Rock to pick up a bottle of Cowboy Cabernet,
and some "World Famous Egg Rolls".

Available at Turtle Rock Cafe



A LAKE BERRYESSA EXCLUSIVE: THE COWBOY CABERNET HAS ARRIVED!

We are thrilled to announce that Stephen and Leanne Troy's highly anticipated Cowboy Cabernet Sauvignon, crafted right here on the shores of Lake Berryessa, is now **officially available** for your enjoyment!

The passion and artistry described in their *'Maharajah Sleep Here?'* travelogue (seen below) have culminated in this superb vintage. This isn't just a wine; it's a taste of the Lake Berryessa lifestyle.

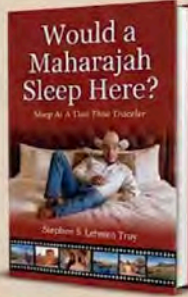
Visit us at Turtle Rock Cafe today to grab your bottle of this local treasure, perfect for a picnic by the water or a relaxing evening under the stars. Don't miss out on this limited release!





**PICK UP YOUR BOTTLE AT
TURTLE ROCK CAFE TODAY!**
For more info, visit:
www.troyfamilyvineyard.com,
www.turtlerockcafe.com

Available at Amazon in paperback and audiobook.



& GET THE STORY BEHIND THE WINE.
Visit www.troyfamilycafeandgrill.com
for more info. Scan for Amazon.



Your A-Frame Retreat Awaits!

www.1017headlandsdr.com/

\$459,000

Welcome to this charming A-frame style home in the Berryessa Highlands!
Filtered lake views and relaxed Napa Valley living come together!
Just minutes to the lake's best recreation, this home offers
the perfect balance of character, functionality, and relaxed lake living.



Set on a flat gated corner lot with a covered carport, covered patio with hot tub hookups, and plenty of yard space (complete with a whimsical wishing well!), this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home blends comfort, charm, and potential. Inside, vaulted ceilings and natural light create an open, airy feel, complemented by a cozy wood stove for those cool evenings.



Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Single-Level Living Just Minutes From Lake Berryessa!

6004 Monticello #41

\$79,500

Enjoy the welcoming front porch and both front and back yards,
ideal for relaxing, gardening, or entertaining.

Located in Capell Valley Mobile Home Estates, a family park with
no age restrictions, this home blends space, setting, and lifestyle
in a sought-after Lake Berryessa area.



This 1991 Baywood manufactured home offers 1,448 sq. ft. of comfortable
space with 2 bedrooms + den and 2 full baths perfect for flexible living,
a home office, or guests. A newer roof and water filtration system
add peace of mind and everyday comfort.

www.homes.com/property/6004-monticello-rd-napa-ca-unit-41/d8m93n0f9r7h3/

Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

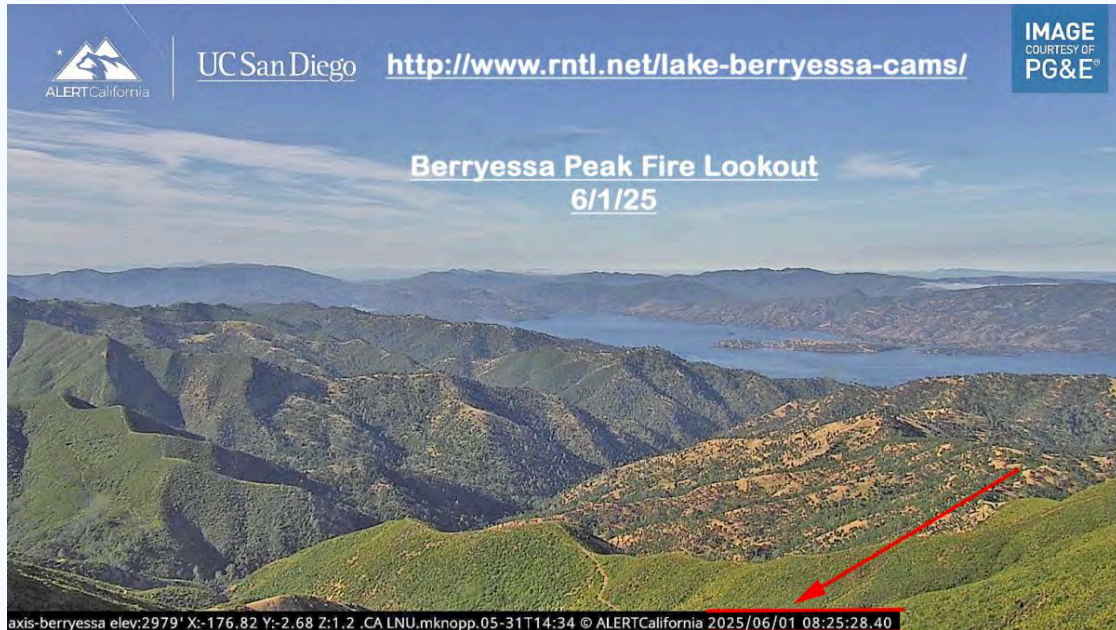


Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>



Steele Canyon Campground Inc.
1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558
Office: (707) 966-9410
Camp, Boat, Picnic, Hike or Bike...
Enjoy the great outdoors and beauty of Lake Berryessa.
<https://campsteelecanyon.com/>





Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals

Take advantage of our low off-season rates through May 17th

Wakeboard/Ski Boats, Pontoon Boats

Jet Skis, Fishing Boats, Kayaks & Paddleboards

We include the gas in all our rentals. Which will save you \$\$!

All boats are launched from Spanish Flat.



4420 Knoxville Rd. (.9 mile north of Spanish Flat Campground)
707-966-4204 or 707-966-4205 www.lakeberryessaboats.com
Call or go online to book now

**BERRYESSA
BOAT REPAIR**

MERCURY

707-966-9954
4420 KNOXVILLE RD. NAPA, CA 94558
WWW.BERRYESSABOATREPAIR.COM
LAKEBERRYESSABOATREPAIR@GMAIL.COM

SERVICE, PARTS, & SALES



MERCURY

Authorized Dealer
Service, Parts & Accessories



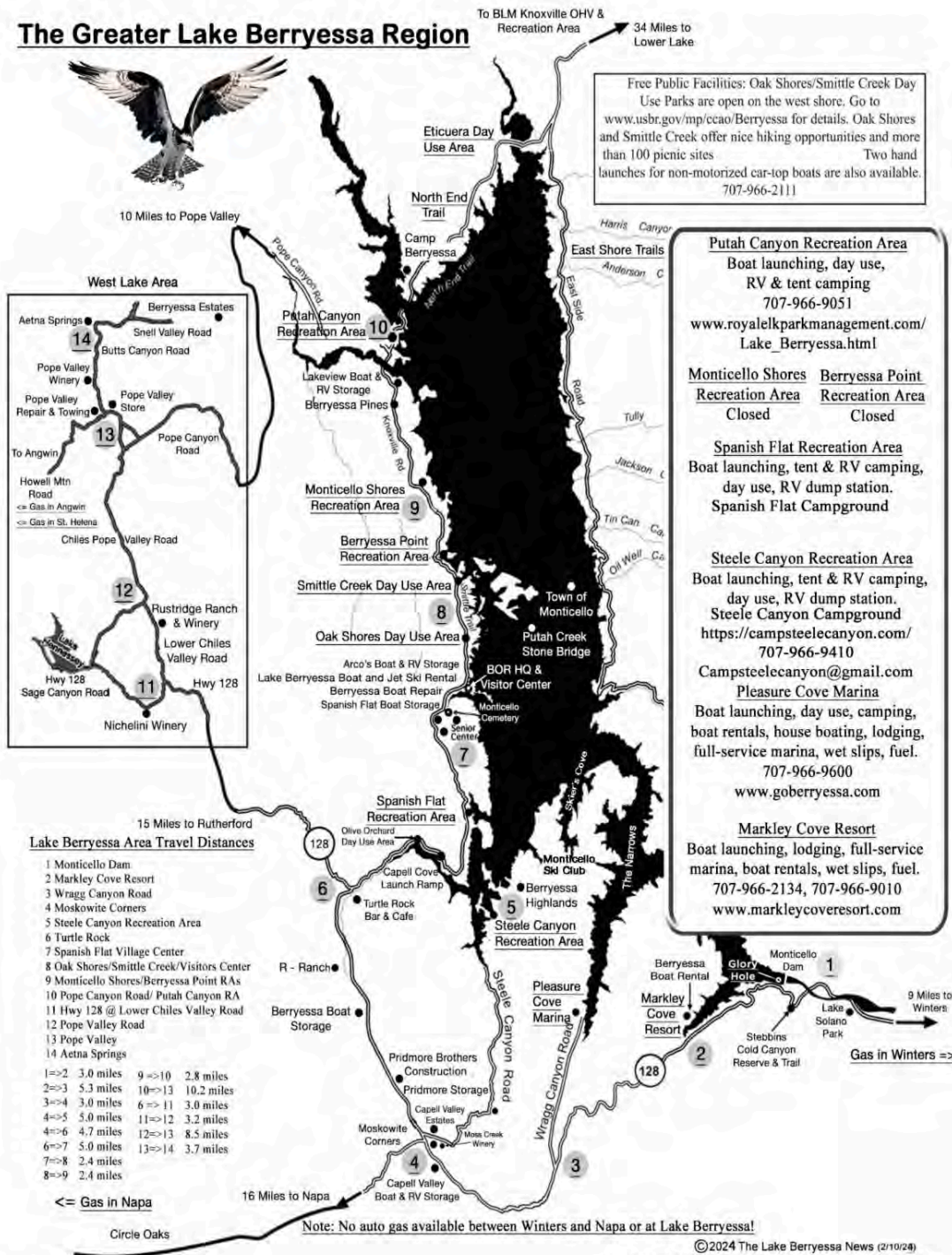
TOHATSU



MERCURY
MerCruiser

WE WORK ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF ENGINES, BOATS, AND JET SKIS.
WE SELL MERCURY, MERCURUISER, VOLVO-PENTA, AND TOHATSU ENGINES
707-966-9954
FOR STORAGE, DETAIL, & CONSIGNMENT
707-400-3157

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 |

pkilkus@gmail.com | <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>





Try email marketing for free today!



The Lake Berryessa News

May 31, 2026



Lake Berryessa Statistics (5/31/26)

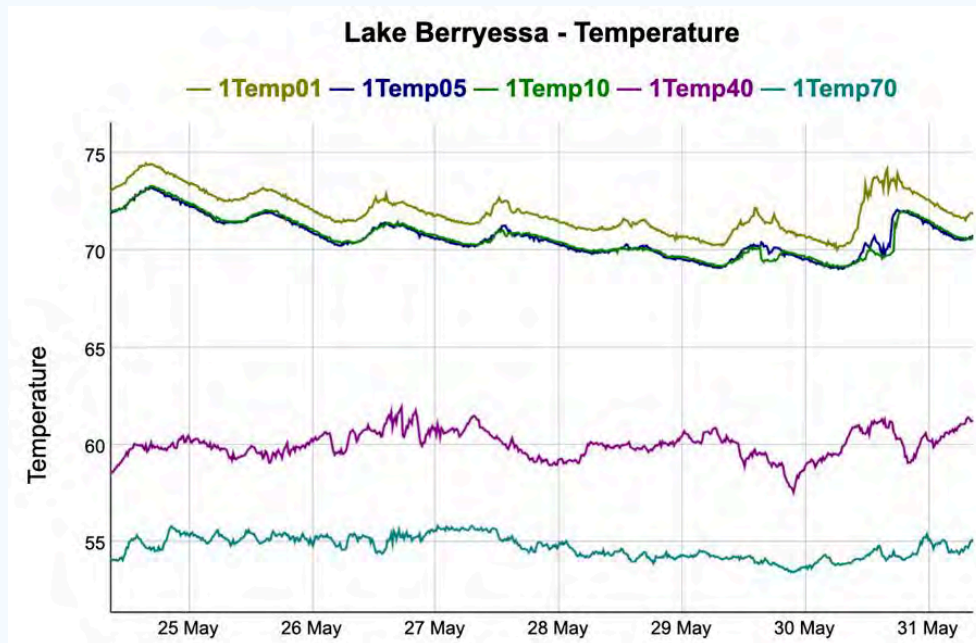
Lake Berryessa water level continues to drop slowly as the growing season advances into summer, down about 5.5 inches during the last seven days. It now stands at 437.48 feet - 2.52 feet below Glory Hole.

Light rainfall of .21 inches a few days ago raised the total rainfall at Monticello Dam to 24.96 inches.

The lake output has risen to an average of 550 cfs (1,090 A-F per day). The highest output during the summer averages about 700 cfs (1,387 A-F per day).

Lake capacity is now at 1,504,030 Acre-Feet or 97%.

Water temperatures are steady at a swimmable level of 72 degrees. Water temperatures should rise significantly due to the hot temperatures predicted for the next few days.



Some Good News for Berryessa Highlands Property Owners!

The Napa County Board of Supervisors is considering forgiving the \$5 million it has loaned to the Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District (NBRID) to fund water and sewer operations during the last four years. The request letter from the NBRID is shown below. Following that is the actual resolution presented to the Supervisors for their meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

Request for Loan forgiveness in the amount of \$5,000,000

Pursuant to Government Code 24214.4

Dear Members of the Board of Supervisors:

The Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District ("District") is a special district of the State of California organized under the Resort Improvement District Law (Public Resources Code Section 13000 et seq.) for the provision of water and sewer service in an unincorporated portion of the County of Napa ("County"), which includes Unit 1 and 2 of the Berryessa Highlands and the Oakridge Estates.

Beginning in 1995, the District's infrastructure suffered significant deterioration due to many components reaching the end of its useful life. In response, staff initiated small-scale rehabilitation projects whenever permissible within the confines of available funding. However, many necessary repairs were beyond the District's budgetary capacity and critical facility deficiencies resulted in enforcement action by the Regional Water Quality Control Board ("Regional Board"), including a sewer connection moratorium.

The decline of the facilities, mandates imposed by the Regional Board, and the 2020 LNU Lightning Complex Fire that destroyed over 100 homes in the community, prompted a series of requests for loans from Napa County for various repair and improvement projects between 2008 and 2025. The District currently has four active loans from the County totaling \$5,000,000 - Loan No. 6 for \$1,000,000 is an original loan from 2022, Loan No. 7 for \$1,625,000 is a consolidation of Loan No. 2 (\$625,000) from 2011 and 2012 and No. 4 (\$1,000,000) from 2021, Loan No. 8 for \$1,160,366 is an original loan from 2024, and Loan No 9 in 2025 for \$1,214,634, which was a consolidation of No. 1 (\$869,000) from 2008 and 2009 and Loan No. 5 (\$345,634) from 2022.

District property owners previously approved an assessment for capital improvements in 2012 which will be paid with annual property tax installments through 2052. Additionally, District residents agreed to a rate increase (~12%) effective December 1, 2021, and while the additional revenue received as part of this rate increase did help the District's financial situation, it was not sufficient to cover prior expected and future anticipated annual deficits that increased after the wildfire. Additionally, due to the consistent annual operations budget deficits, the District has not been able to build budgetary reserves to satisfy principal repayment of any of the loans or interest incurred by the outstanding debt, let alone for capital improvement projects.

The District was certified as an economically disadvantaged community (DAC) in April 2024 and at that time District residents paid up to 6% of their annual income on water and sewer related charges – well above the 3% benchmark for EPA's estimated affordable rates. As a DAC the District is eligible for grant and or principal forgiveness loans from Federal and State funding programs, however in order to meet funding requirements, the funding programs require a balanced operations budget and zero unsecured debt.

To balance the budget, registered voters in the District with water and sewer laterals stubbed to the property approved a special tax ballot measure – Measure A – in January 2026. The proceeds from the 10-year special tax of \$1,560 per parcel annually are projected to balance the operations budget as required by most funding programs and provide sufficient fund balance to undertake necessary small projects as they arise while District staff proceeds with planning for large-scale capital improvements. With the newly passed special tax, District residents will now pay up to 9% of their annual income towards

the water and sewer system – again much larger than the affordability criteria published by the EPA.

The District cannot qualify for the grant funds that would remedy the District's infrastructure problems as long as its budget reflects the unsecured County loans. As Measure A was intended as a limited term special tax to balance the District's budget and build a small reserve, the only way to repay the County loans would be to request an additional increase to water and sewer rates, which would exacerbate an already severe economic hardship to District residents.

Government Code section 25214.4 authorizes the Board of Supervisors to waive repayment of these loans if it finds that repayment would result in an economic or fiscal hardship to the property owners or residents in the District. The District respectfully requests the Board of Supervisors find that repayment of the loans would create an economic hardship to the District customers and waive repayment of the loans in the amount of \$5,000,000 plus accrued interest.

We appreciate the Board of Supervisor's willingness to help the District work through these difficult problems it is currently facing.

Very truly yours,
Amber Manfree, Chair of the Governing Board
Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District

The following resolution will be voted on at the next
Supervisors Meeting on Tuesday, June 2, 2026.

Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District Loan Forgiveness Resolution

WHEREAS, the Napa Berryessa Resort Improvement District ("NBRID") is a rural dependent special district formed under the Resort Improvement District Law (Public Resources Code section 13000 *et seq.*) in the 1960s for which the Board of Supervisors is the Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, NBRID was created to provide water and sewer utility service to Unit 1 and 2 of the Berryessa Highlands and the Oakridge Estates subdivisions and the Steele Park Resort; and

WHEREAS, the Steele Park Resort closed in 2008 reducing the District's operations budget revenue stream by one-third; and

WHEREAS, of the original 552 parcels created in the subdivisions, 350 were developed and actively utilizing service prior to August 2020 LNU Lightning Complex Fire; and

WHEREAS, the fire destroyed over 100 homes in the Berryessa Highlands, reducing the customer base to approximately 230 active customers; and

WHEREAS, as of May 1, 2026, NBRID provides water and sewer service to only about 260 active customers including fire rebuilds and new construction; and

WHEREAS, from 1995 through 2011, NBRID's infrastructure suffered significant, gradual deterioration due to many components reaching the end of their useful life and in response, staff performed small-scale rehabilitation projects whenever possible within constraints of available funding; and

WHEREAS, NBRID's financial struggles limited its ability to make many necessary repairs, resulting in various equipment and infrastructure failure throughout the water and sewer systems; and

WHEREAS, the Regional Water Quality Control Board ("Regional Board") took enforcement action against NBRID for several sewer system permit violations, and NBRID had to temporarily implement a sewer connection moratorium; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to California Government Code section 25214.4, the Board of Supervisors may loan any available funds of the County to a county service area to pay for any lawful expenses of the county service area; and

WHEREAS, California Public Resource Code section 13031 applies the provisions of the county service area law, including Government Code section 25214.4, to the conduct of the business of resort improvement districts; and

WHEREAS, NBRID received multiple loans from Napa County between 2008 and 2012 to repair and replace essential infrastructure, balance NBRID's operations budget, and fund compliance related expenses; and

WHEREAS, in 2012, property owners in NBRID's service area approved a per parcel water and sewer assessment to fund repayment of a capital improvement project loan of about \$11 million from the US Department of Agriculture ("USDA") Rural Development Program for three major projects: the Wastewater Storage Capacity Upgrades Project, the Wastewater Treatment Plant Replacement Project, and the Water Treatment Plant Replacement Project; and

WHEREAS, outside of the reserve fund created for the timely replacement of short-lived assets related to the USDA projects, the NBRID operations fund balance (consisting primarily of funds from NBRID customers) and loans from Napa County have been the only funding sources for non-USDA related assets and other infrastructure rehabilitation projects; and

WHEREAS, NBRID customers last approved a rate increase in December 2021; however, the approved increase was not sufficient to balance NBRID's budget nor to build a reserve for necessary capital improvements; and

WHEREAS, NBRID's fund balance fell to nearly zero, with solvency maintained through additional loans from Napa County between 2021 and 2025; and

WHEREAS, the total outstanding principal loan balance owed to Napa County by NBRID is \$5,000,000; and

WHEREAS, in April 2024, NBRID's service area was certified as a Disadvantaged Community (DAC) District in that customers paid up to 6% of their annual income on water and sewer related charges, well above the 3% benchmark for the Environmental Protection Agency's estimated affordable rates for water and sewer service; and

WHEREAS, a DAC is eligible for state and federal grant and principal loan forgiveness project funding opportunities, provided the water and sewer utilities maintain a balanced operating budget and have no outstanding debt payments; and

WHEREAS, this year, voters in NBRID's service area approved a ten-year special tax ("Measure A") of \$1,560 per parcel annually for the purposes of funding operation and maintenance, capital projects, and replenishing reserves, which increases the estimated amount NBRID customers pay for water and sewer service to 9% of their annual income; and

WHEREAS, even with the passage of Measure A, the only way NBRID would be able to repay the County loans would be to further increase water and sewer rates, which would cause a grave economic hardship to NBRID residents; and

WHEREAS, each of the NBRID water and sewer systems needs upwards of \$10 million of capital improvements to maintain compliance with Division of Drinking Water ("DDW") and Regional Board regulatory permits; and

WHEREAS, further delay in initiating large-scale capital improvement project planning, design, and construction could result in permit violations and enforcement action by the DDW or the Regional Board; and

WHEREAS, with a balanced budget projected due to the passage of Measure A, the remaining issue that could prevent award of funding from state and federal programs is the existence of the outstanding County loans; and

WHEREAS, NBRID has \$5 million in loans from Napa County, broken down as Loan No. 6 for \$1,000,000 which is an original loan from 2023, Loan No. 7 for \$1,625,000 which is a consolidation of two prior loans in 2024, Loan No 8 for \$1,160,366 which is an original loan from 2024, and Loan No 9 for \$1,214,634 which is a consolidation of two prior loans in 2025, and

WHEREAS, Napa County is authorized to waive repayment of the County loans pursuant to Government Code section 25214.4(c) with a four-fifths vote if it finds that repayment may result in an economic or fiscal hardship to the property owners or residents of NBRID;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Napa County Board of Supervisors as follows:

Repayment of the following loans would cause economic or fiscal hardship to the property owners or residents served by NBRID:

Waiving repayment of the loans in the total amount of \$5 million plus accumulated interest is in the best interest of NBRID because it will allow NBRID to qualify for state and federal grant and loan programs.

The Board hereby waives repayment of the loan balance of \$5 million and all accrued interest pursuant to Government Code section 25214.4(c).

Loan	Amount
Loan 6 (2023)	\$ 1,000,000
Loan 7 (2024)	\$ 1,625,000
Loan 8 (2024)	\$ 1,160,366
Loan 9 (2025)	\$ 1,214,634
Total:	\$ 5,000,000

The Real Hunter: Vegetarian is an old Bavarian word for “terrible aim”.

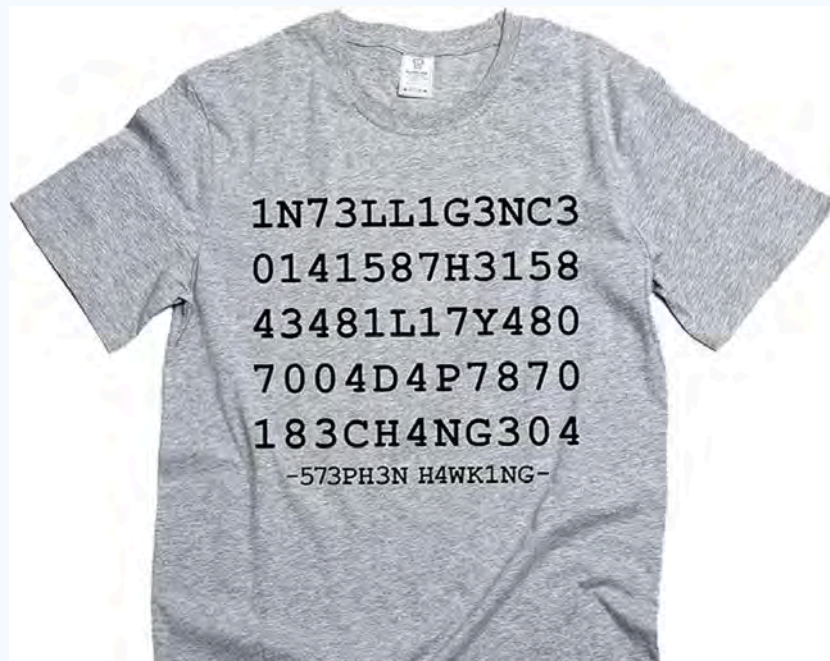
T-Shirt Humor

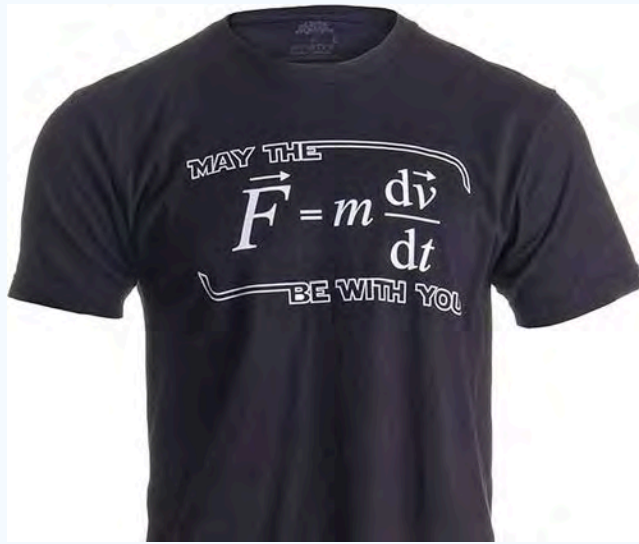
Getting older provides opportunities to celebrate new anniversaries reaching back decades from the original events. Since I'm turning 82 (and ever more philosophical) next month, I got hooked on funny t-shirts for some reason. You can find dozens online. My favorite so far is the "Cranky" one. The "Admit It" one comes in second.





There are several scientific t-shirts and brain teasers.
See if you can decipher a couple.





Political satire abounds. Here's one based on recent events.



I'll post more of the funniest in future newsletters and on my website.
I have about 30 more!



Dear Napa County Residents,

Wildfire Preparedness Month is wrapping up — but as we close out May, we want to be clear: this month is just an opportunity for extra attention to the efforts we all need to sustain, both individually and as a community, to become a truly resilient and fire-adapted county. Wildfire preparedness is a year-round effort, and one that deserves at least as much regular attention as your car's oil change. You wouldn't wait until the engine seizes to take action...

"Napa County is more prepared today than we were in 2017 and 2020." We hear this often from the fire agencies that we partner with every day. And it's true. We have

stewarded an impressive number of acres, helping our forests become more resilient and healthier and last year's Pickett Fire showed us what organized preparation changes.

Napa Firewise recognizes that we still have thousands of acres of proposed work still waiting for funding in addition to sustained stewardship of projects implemented. A \$37.5 million federal grant was cut in 2025. And while we continue to apply and re-apply for public funds, they are growing more competitive and less available. So when we ask, "how prepared are we, really?" — the honest answer is this: more than before, and not yet enough.

Where We Stand In 2026:

Working alongside Napa County Fire, CAL FIRE, and Napa's Fire Safe Councils, Napa Firewise has scoped 523 projects across the valley — a comprehensive, prioritized roadmap built into the countywide Community Wildfire Protection Plan (CWPP). The CWPP project pool also includes projects scoped by Napa Land Trust, Open Space District, and Napa Resource Conservation District.

While the county's CWPP strategically stewards lands across Napa County, the projects shown on our websites:

<https://napafirewise.org/>

<https://napafirewise.org/fire-safe-councils/>

are examples of that strategy in action organized by each city in Napa County — each one identified by critical need, each one protecting the people, infrastructure, and local economy. The 207 unfunded projects are not wish-list items, they are scoped, reviewed, and ready to move when funding is available.



Here's some less known t-shirt history. I researched every one.
They are all true with an interesting story behind each.



Welcome to your own 3 bedroom, 2 bath, private half-acre with a new home overlooking beautiful Lake Berryessa!

4101 Berryessa Knoxville Road

\$369,000

Here is your chance at an affordable home and land ownership in Napa County at its most amazing and overlooked treasure - Lake Berryessa. Zoning allows a secondary dwelling should all county requirements be met.

Stunning Lake and Mountain Views



Sparkling New Interior



WINE VALLEY HOMES

Robin Short, Realtor
707-738-3006
DRE # 01890377
<https://winevalleyhomes.com/>

Lake Berryessa
Property Management and Sales

Head over to Turtle Rock to pick up a bottle of Cowboy Cabernet,
and some "World Famous Egg Rolls".

Available at Turtle Rock Cafe



A LAKE BERRYESSA EXCLUSIVE: THE COWBOY CABERNET HAS ARRIVED!



We are thrilled to announce that Stephen and Leanne Troy's highly anticipated Cowboy Cabernet Sauvignon, crafted right here on the shores of Lake Berryessa, is now **officially** available for your enjoyment!

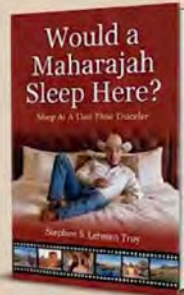
The passion and artistry described in their *'Maharajah Sleep Here?'* travelogue (seen below) have culminated in this superb vintage. This isn't just a wine; it's a taste of the Lake Berryessa lifestyle.

Visit us at Turtle Rock Cafe today to grab your your bottle of this local treasure, perfect for a picnic by the water or a relaxing evening under the stars. Don't miss out on this limited release!



PICK UP YOUR BOTTLE AT
TURTLE ROCK CAFE TODAY!
For more info, visit:
www.troyfamilyvineyard.com,
www.turtlerockcafe.com

Available at Amazon in
paperback and audiobook.



& GET THE STORY BEHIND THE WINE.
Visit www.troyfamilycafeandgrill.com
for more info. Scan for Amazon.



Local realtor and long-time Lake Berryessa News advertiser, Amber Payne, made the cover of Napa Valley Marketplace Magazine. Corcoran Icon looks like a fun group.



Amber Payne
 Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
 707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

A BROKERAGE BUILT ON PEOPLE AND PARTNERSHIP

Your A-Frame Retreat Awaits!
www.1017headlandsdr.com/
\$459,000

Welcome to this charming A-frame style home in the Berryessa Highlands!
 Filtered lake views and relaxed Napa Valley living come together!
 Just minutes to the lake's best recreation, this home offers
 the perfect balance of character, functionality, and relaxed lake living.



Set on a flat gated corner lot with a covered carport, covered patio
 with hot tub hookups, and plenty of yard space (complete with a
 whimsical wishing well!), this 3-bedroom, 2-bath home blends comfort,
 charm, and potential. Inside, vaulted ceilings and natural light create an open,
 airy feel, complemented by a cozy wood stove for those cool evenings.




 Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
 707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Single-Level Living Just Minutes From Lake Berryessa!

6004 Monticello #41

\$79,500

Enjoy the welcoming front porch and both front and back yards, ideal for relaxing, gardening, or entertaining.

Located in Capell Valley Mobile Home Estates, a family park with no age restrictions, this home blends space, setting, and lifestyle in a sought-after Lake Berryessa area.



This 1991 Baywood manufactured home offers 1,448 sq. ft. of comfortable space with 2 bedrooms + den and 2 full baths perfect for flexible living, a home office, or guests. A newer roof and water filtration system add peace of mind and everyday comfort.

www.homes.com/property/6004-monticello-rd-napa-ca-unit-41/d8m93n0f9r7h3/

Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

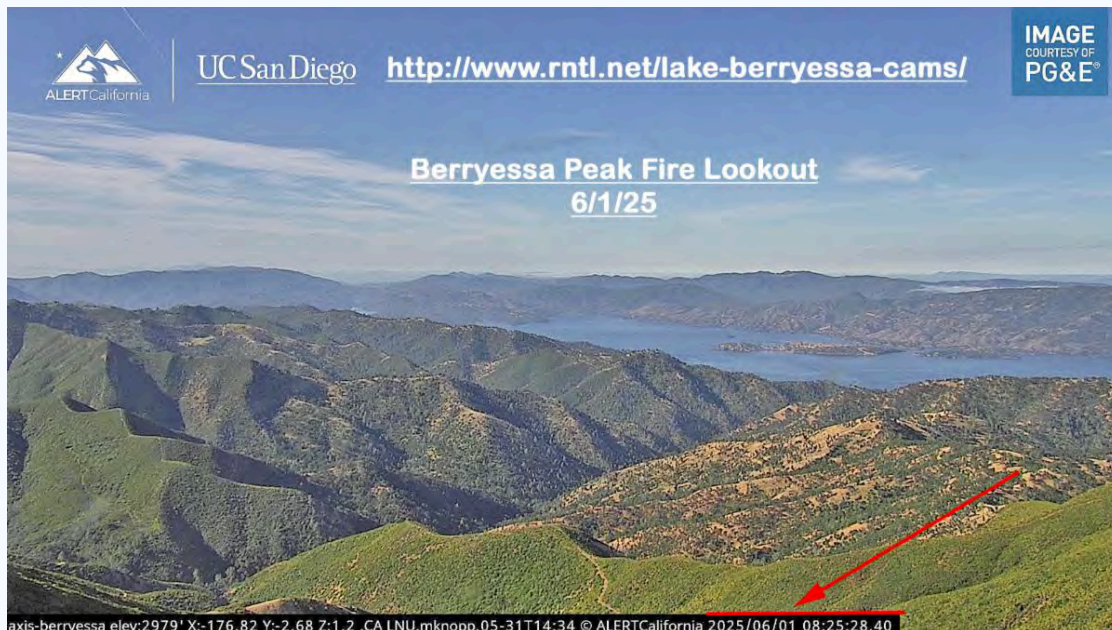


Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #01302244
707-235-1124
amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
www.amberpayne.net

Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

<http://www.rntl.net/lake-berryessa-cams/>





Steele Canyon Campground Inc.
1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558
Office: (707) 966-9410
Camp, Boat, Picnic, Hike or Bike...
Enjoy the great outdoors and beauty of Lake Berryessa.
<https://campsteelecanyon.com/>



Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals

Take advantage of our low off-season rates through May 17th

Wakeboard/Ski Boats, Pontoon Boats

Jet Skis, Fishing Boats, Kayaks & Paddleboards

We include the gas in all our rentals. Which will save you \$\$!

All boats are launched from Spanish Flat.



4420 Knoxville Rd. (.9 mile north of Spanish Flat Campground)
707-966-4204 or 707-966-4205 www.lakeberryessaboats.com
Call or go online to book now

**BERRYESSA
BOAT REPAIR**

MERCURY

707-966-9954
4420 KNOXVILLE RD. NAPA, CA 94558
WWW.BERRYESSABOATREPAIR.COM
LAKEBERRYESSABOATREPAIR@GMAIL.COM

SERVICE, PARTS, & SALES

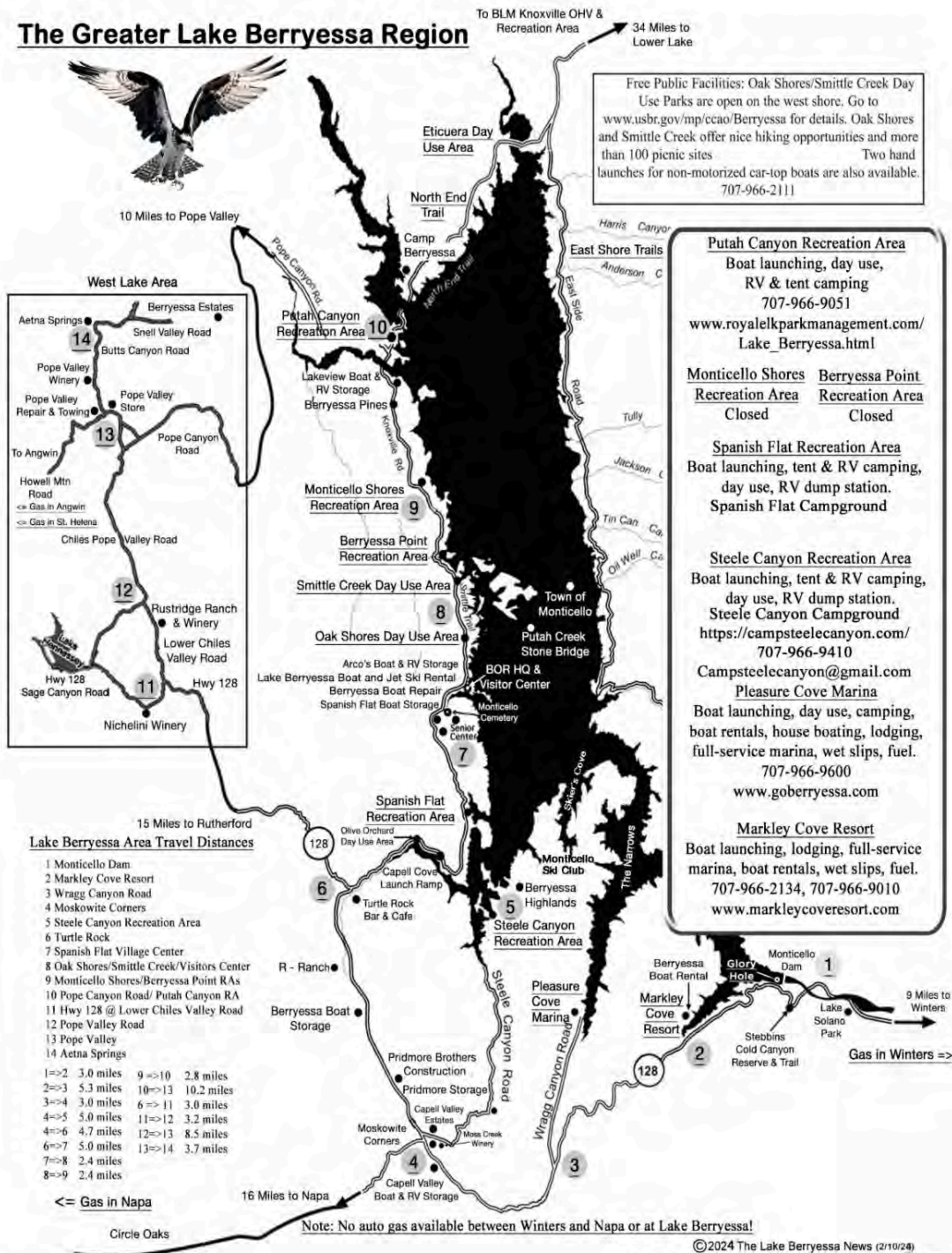
MERCURY
Authorized Dealer
Service, Parts & Accessories

TOHATSU **MERCURY**
MerCruiser

**WE WORK ON ALL MAKES AND MODELS OF ENGINES, BOATS, AND JET SKIS.
WE SELL MERCURY, MERCRUISER, VOLVO-PENTA, AND TOHATSU ENGINES**
707-966-9954
FOR STORAGE, DETAIL, & CONSIGNMENT
707-480-3157

Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



Peter Kilkus | 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558 | 415-307-6906 |

pkilkus@gmail.com | <https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>





Try email marketing for free today!