

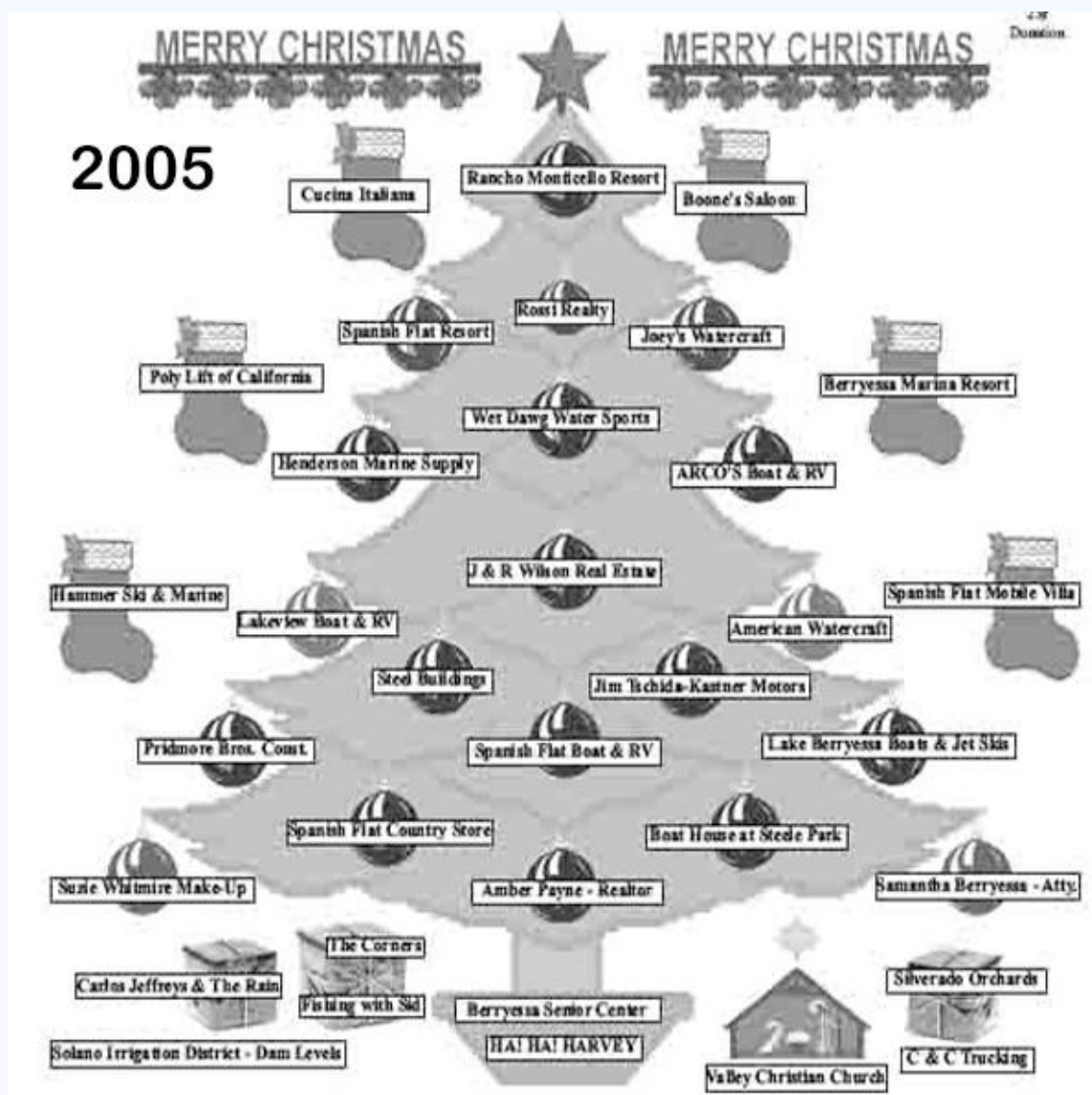


The Lake Berryessa News
November 30, 2025

The Christmas Season is in Full Swing!

Now that the Thanksgiving holidays are over, it's time to decorate that Christmas tree and put up those Christmas lights again. Best wishes to those who will be celebrating other December holidays such as Hannukah, Kwanzaa, Boxing Day, Bodhi Day, Las Posadas, St. Lucia Day, Yule, St. Nicholas Day, Immaculate Conception Day, Zarathosht Diso, New Year's Eve, Feast Day of Our Lady Guadalupe, and other December religious and cultural holidays around the world.

The Christmas holidays are also a time for reflection and enjoying past memories. Below is an illustration I made for Christmas 2005 - twenty years ago! Where are they all now?



Lake Berryessa Statistics (11/30/25)

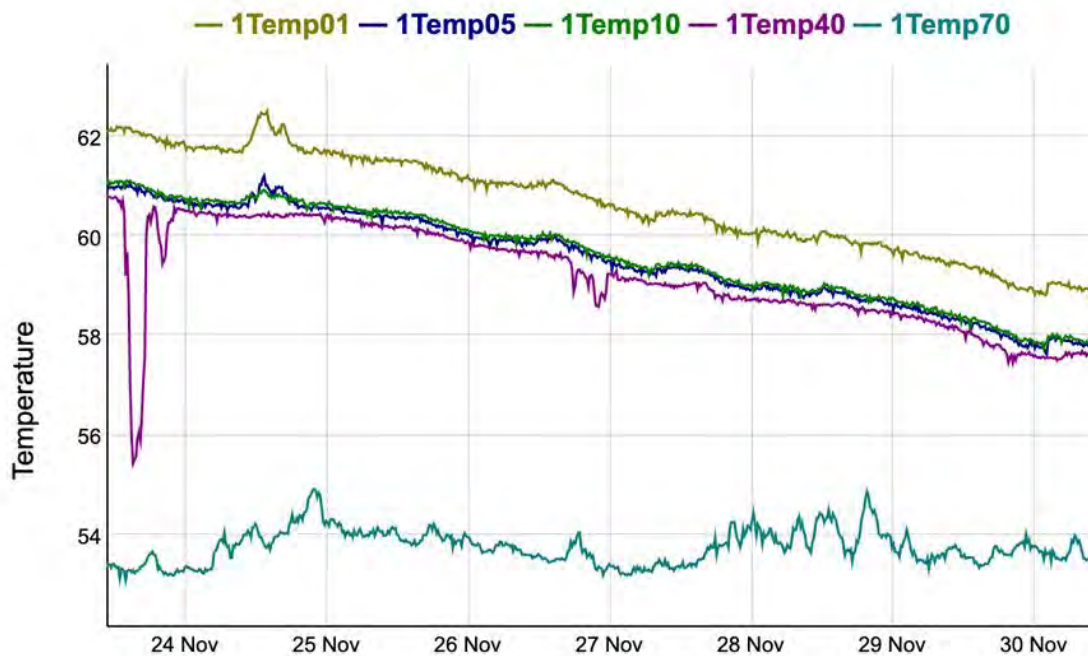
Modest rainfall so far to date has brought the season total at Monticello Dam to 6.14 inches. The table below shows that Lake Berryessa total annual rainfall has only been above 40 inches 5 times in the last 29 years.

The Lake Berryessa water level has been hovering at 429 feet, 11 feet below Glory Hole for the last 30 days. The lake output running at an average of 100 cfs (cubic feet per second) during that same 30 day period.

Surface temperature has dropped to 58 degrees from the surface to 40 feet down an 54 degrees from 70 feet to the bottom.

| | Rain Year (7/1 - 6/31) | First Rain | Total By 1/1 (At Dam) | Season Total (At Dam) |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 97-98 | | 10.77" | 46.26" |
| 2 | 98-99 | 11/10/98 | 7.18" | 23.46" |
| 3 | 99-00 | 10/30/99 | 6.5" | 26" |
| 4 | 00-01 | 10/20/00 | 4.54" | 24.7" |
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| 29 | 25-26 | 9/11/25 - ".07" | 6.14" (12/1/25)) | |

Lake Berryessa - Temperature



2025's Words of the Year

As 2025 draws to a close, the lexicographers and linguists at the world's most used and well-known dictionaries have begun their sometimes polarizing annual ritual of trying to capture the year's zeitgeist through a single word. Different dictionary publishers have had different rationales and methodologies for picking their so-called "word of the year." Some perform textual analyses of billions of words; others assess what people have searched for. Here are some of the words of 2025 so far:

Cambridge Dictionary: parasocial

The Cambridge Dictionary looked at a sustained trend of increased searches before making its latest choice—"parasocial," which it defines as "involving or relating to a connection that someone feels between themselves and a famous person they do not know, a character in a book, film, TV series, etc., or an artificial intelligence."

Collins Dictionary: vibe coding

Collins English Dictionary embraced the tech industry in its choice of the word of 2025. It picked "vibe coding," a slang term which it defines as "the use of artificial intelligence prompted by natural language to assist with the writing of computer code." As a blog post further describes it: "Basically, telling a machine what you want rather than painstakingly coding it yourself."

Dictionary.com: 6,7

Dictionary.com made an unusual choice for 2025, picking a number rather than a word. The online dictionary said it selected 6,7 (pronounced "six-seven," not "sixty-seven"). It said in its October announcement that the search for 6,7 "experienced a dramatic rise beginning in the summer," increasing more than six times since June. But the "word" of the year's exact meaning is elusive. Some youngsters, sensing an opportunity to reliably frustrate their elders, will use it to stand in for a reply to just about any question. "Perhaps the most defining feature of 6,7 is that it's impossible to define," Dictionary.com added. "It's

meaningless, ubiquitous, and nonsensical. In other words, it has all the hallmarks of brain rot.”



Amusingly Ironic (amusironic?) vs Ironically Amusing (ironamusing?)

Irony is when the opposite of what is expected to happen occurs. It creates a contrast between how things appear and how they actually are, often with humorous or striking results.

Amusingly ironic describes a situation or remark that is inherently funny because of its ironic nature. The irony is the primary source of the amusement. In contrast, ironically amusing describes a situation that is amusing for another reason, but is also notable for its ironic, unexpected, or coincidental twist. The irony is a secondary layer to the overall amusement.

Amusingly Ironic

Example: The chef at a restaurant known for its exquisite desserts is allergic to sugar. This is amusingly ironic because the contradiction between his profession and his allergy is the very thing that is funny.

Example: "The film was amusingly ironic, showcasing the absurdity of the situation with clever humor". The audience laughs at the absurdity of the ironic circumstances themselves, not just the coincidence.

Ironically amusing

Example: After you spent weeks complaining about a boring new co-worker, he turns out to be a brilliant and hilarious stand-up comedian on the weekends. His hidden talent is genuinely amusing, and it's ironically amusing because it completely subverts your earlier complaints.

Example: "It was ironically amusing that the fire station burned down while the firefighters were out on a call." The humor comes from the ironic, contradictory situation.

Everyday scenarios

These are often small, relatable moments where the reality of the situation is unexpectedly contrary to what was expected.

The traffic safety expert who never learned to drive. William Eno, the "Father of Traffic Safety," invented the stop sign, crosswalk, and traffic circle, yet he never got his driver's license.

The author of a book on how to survive bull runs who is killed by a bull. Bill Hillman wrote a detailed guide on how to avoid being gored in the Running of the Bulls. Three weeks after the book was released, a bull killed him.

The inventor of white-out is fired for failing to white-out a mistake. Bette Nesmith Graham was a secretary who invented Liquid Paper, but her boss later fired her for not using it to correct an error.

The fire station catches on fire. The expectation that a fire station is immune to fire is what makes the actual event so amusingly ironic.

The "closed" sign next to a neon sign that reads "Always Open." This juxtaposition highlights the paradox of a business that claims to be continuously available but clearly isn't.

Events with a historical or cosmic twist

These situations often have a dramatic, larger-than-life quality, sometimes referred to as "cosmic irony" or the "irony of fate".

Julius Caesar's murder site becomes a cat sanctuary. The location where the famous Roman leader was assassinated is now a no-kill shelter for homeless cats, a vastly different purpose than its violent history would suggest.

The tree planted for George Harrison is killed by beetles. A tree was planted in a park to commemorate the Beatles guitarist George Harrison, but it later died after being infested with beetles—a playful and tragic nod to his band's name.

The man who survived going over Niagara Falls dies from slipping on a fruit peel. Bobby Leach survived the daredevil feat of going over the falls in a barrel. Years later, he slipped on an orange peel, and the resulting injury led to his death.

Business and media

The humor in these examples comes from the contradictions within an organization or message.

The anti-cult network is bought by a prominent "cult." The Cult Awareness Network, a group known for its stance against the Church of Scientology, went bankrupt and was purchased by its public rival.

A "pro-technology" company holds a conference with major technical glitches. This is amusingly ironic because it's precisely the opposite of what is expected from a tech company and its supposedly smooth-running products.

A health website run by a fast-food chain warns against eating fast food. Before it was taken down, the McDonald's employee health page ironically advised against consuming McDonald's burgers and fries.

Berryessa Highlands Rentals

**1104 Steele Canyon Road, 4 bd/2 bath
\$2,600 per month**

**1280 Steele Canyon Road, 3 bd/3 bath
\$3,000 per month**

Water/sewer included - HUGE LAKE VIEWS!

Lake Berryessa Property Management and Sales



Robin Short, Realtor

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DRE # 01890377

<https://winevalleyhomes.com/>

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\$449,000

**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



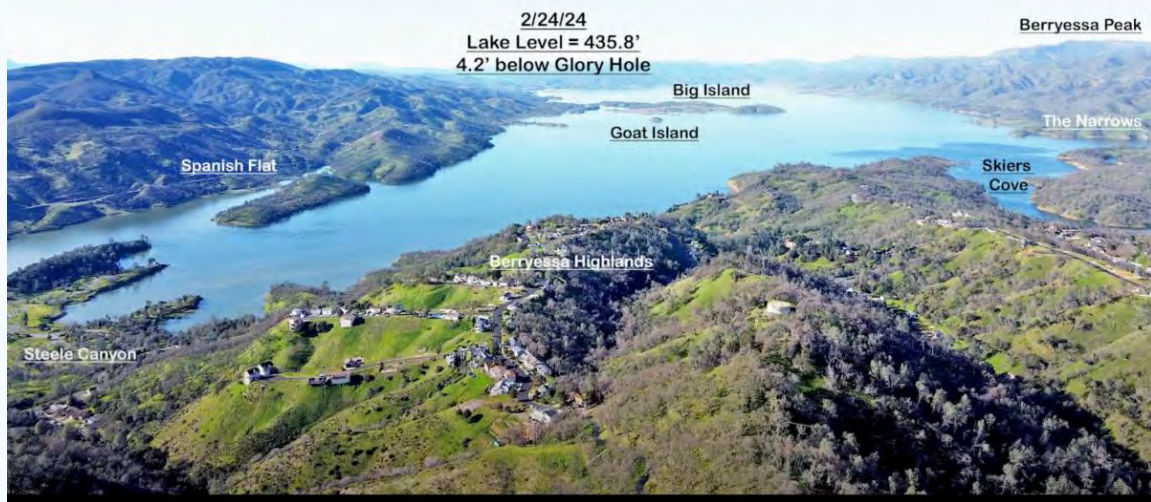
Robin Short, Realtor

707-738-3006

DRE # 01890377

<https://winevalleyhomes.com/>

**Lake Berryessa
Property Management and Sales**



Price Reduced

<https://www.corcoran.com/listing/for-sale/1061-rimrock-drive-napa-ca-94558/100947206/regionId/100>

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

1061 Rimrock Drive, Napa
\$199,000

Under Construction - Buyer to Finish Opportunity knocks with this corner-lot property featuring lake views and approved plans for a 4BR/3BA home plus loft. Framing and foundation are in place; buyer to complete construction. The property includes a pool (condition unknown) and offers stunning views of Lake Berryessa. Property is NO LONGER red-tagged buyer will need to renew/coordinate with Napa County to proceed. Prior home burnt in the 2020 LNU fires. Perfect project for an investor, builder, or buyer ready to bring this home to completion.

Your A-Frame Retreat Awaits!

<https://www.1017headlandsdr.com/>

\$505,000

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

<https://1300steelecanyonrd.com/>



1300 Steele Canyon Road, Napa

\$634,000

CORCORAN

4 3 2,443

ICON PROPERTIES

Sunsets, Space & Style This Lakeview Property Has It All! Perched on a corner lot with stunning lake and sunset views, this one-of-a-kind custom home blends charm, flexibility, and function. The main house offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, soaring ceilings, Brazilian cherrywood floors, and a beautifully updated kitchen with quartz counters, soft-close cabinetry, and a large island open to the family room with fireplace. The luxurious primary suite features a jetted tub, heated floors, and French doors leading to a covered porch with lake views. Need more space? Use the home as a 4BR/3BA or enjoy a detached ADU above the garage with its own bedroom, full bath, and kitchenette perfect for guests, rental, or multi-gen living. Outside, the professionally landscaped lot features custom brick patios, terraced gardens, RV/boat parking with electrical hookup, and even a generator & SOLAR. Whether you're entertaining under the stars or unwinding in total privacy, this home has everything you need and then some!

Redevelopment Opportunity | Spanish Flat – Lake Berryessa

<https://spanishflatctr.com/>

Unlock the visionary potential of Spanish Flat—an exciting and strategic redevelopment opportunity in Napa County's scenic Lake Berryessa corridor. This rare offering spans approximately 18.38 acres across two adjacent parcels with a County zoning overlay to allow for commercial and housing uses, including an affordable aspect. Whether you're a developer, investor, or planner with a creative vision, this property is primed for transformation.

\$895,000



A Lake Berryessa Phoenix Rising!

9419 Steele Canyon Road

<https://9419steelecanyonrd.com/>

\$475,000

A phoenix is a mythological bird that has become a symbol of rebirth and immortality, rising again from the ashes as a new being.

Every property tells a story. This story of a Phoenix begins with sweeping views of Napa's hillsides, a private gated entry, and nearly 42 acres that back up to the serenity of a land trust.

A single-story home and large detached garage once stood proudly here before the 2020 LNU Fire. What remains is the dream for a new chapter: a paved driveway, septic, well, and propane tank already on site (buyer to verify condition). The former homesite and barn/garage site are perfectly perched to maximize the incredible views, making it easy to imagine your dream home rising here once again.

Whether you envision a contemporary retreat, a rustic estate, or a peaceful getaway, the setting is already in place. With its natural elevation, mature surroundings, and unmatched privacy, this property offers a rare blend of seclusion and possibility.





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

Build Your Dream Lake House

Summary of Lots Available

259 Sugarloaf Drive

APN# 019-322-004 - .37+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$65,000
Spanish Flat Woodlands

1121 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 019-442-004 - .31+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$15,000
Flat then downslope

1026 Arroyo Lindo Court

APN# 019-441-014-000 .27+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$43,000
Flat Then Upslope Lot

1268 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 019- 432-001 - .21+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$47,000
Flat Space with a hill at the back of the lot

201 Mulford Drive

APN# 019-322-008-000 .52+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$29,000
Corner Lot

817 Bahia Vista Court

APN# 019-451-012 .28+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$29,500
Flat Then Downslope

814 Bahia Vista Court

APN# 019-452-004 .32+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$29,500
Mostly Flat Then Downslope

1100 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-504-006-000 .24+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$125,000
Flat Improved Lot

422 Woodhaven Court

APN# 019-504-013-000 .33 +- Acre Lot
Offered at \$85,000
Flat then Downslope Lake View Lot

1053 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-482-011 .27+- Acre Lot
Offered at \$55,000
Mostly Flat Then Upslope

1103 & 1099 Westridge Drive

APN# 019-491-011 & 010 -
0 .29+- Acre Each
Offered at \$45,000 & \$39,000
Two Lots to be Sold Together

1045 Arroyo Grande Drive

APN# 019-462-027-000 .51 +- Acre Lot
Offered at \$65,000
Flat then Upslope Lot

1078 Headlands Drive

APN# 019-432-010-000 .23 +- Acre Lot
Offered at \$50,000
Flat Then Upslope Lot

9419 Steele Canyon Road

APN# 032-110-045-000 41.73 +- Acres
Offered at \$475,000
Improved Acreage

<https://lakeberryessaland.com/>

Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

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

Berryessa Peak Fire Lookout 6/1/25



Steele Canyon Campground Inc.

1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558

Office: (707) 966-9410

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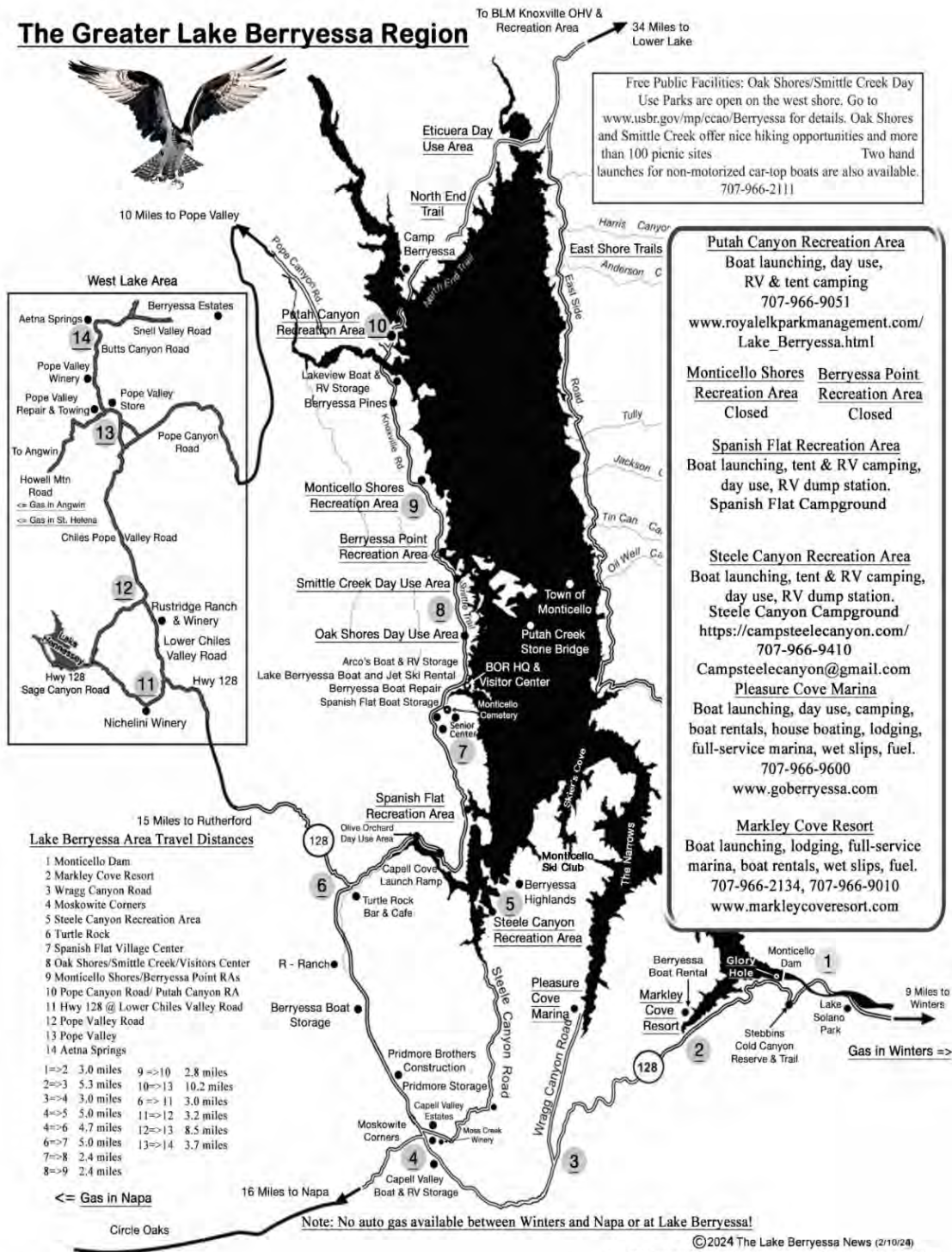


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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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

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



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The Lake Berryessa News
December 7, 2025

The Christmas Season is in Full Swing!

Now that the Thanksgiving holidays are over, it's time to decorate that Christmas tree and put up those Christmas lights again.

The Christmas holidays are also a time for reflection and enjoying past memories. Last week I posted Lake Berryessa front page Christmas tree illustrations from 2005 and 2006. This issue highlights historical 20th year and 25th year personal anniversaries related to Evan and my jet ski racing histories here at Lake Berryessa.





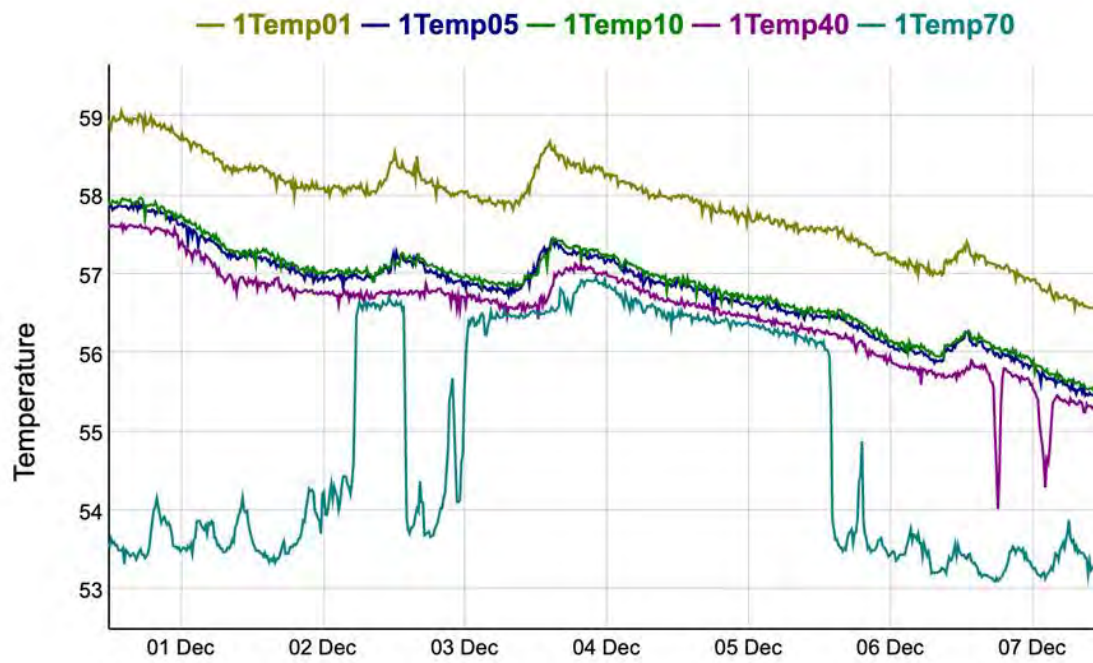
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The Lake Berryessa water level has been hovering at 428.9 feet, 11.1 feet below Glory Hole for the last week. The lake output running at an average of 100 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 198 A-F (acre feet per day).

Surface temperature has dropped to 58 degrees at the surface and 57 degrees to 70 feet down to the bottom. This indicates that due to cold, windy weather the lake has "turned over" and the water temperature is the same from the surface to the bottom.

Lake Berryessa - Temperature



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Breaking Rust is Breaking Bad

I like country music, especially country rock like Red Solo Cup by Toby Keith (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0CLacRKKhG8>) or Redneck Yacht Club by Craig Morgan (<https://youtu.be/ul7Ghu1FpnQ>) featuring some nice jet ski shots. (See my story, Jet Skis Rock: A Video History of Jet Ski Racing, below.)

Brad Paisley's song Water could be a Lake Berryessa theme song (<https://youtu.be/1AHnQtY1bg4>). One of the oddest and funniest, but accurate, country songs from the "good ole days" is Fifteen Beers Ago by Sheb Wooley (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PRibcUVGKJ8>).

Many country songs are relatively simple and repetitive like Fifteen Beers Ago, but the latest, supposedly "hit country song", Walk My Walk, (<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UwKmdH83qo0>) was written by a computer. Some news outlets reported that the song became a #1 hit. But that is not accurate, as reported by Time Magazine in the story below.

No, That AI-Generated Country Song Isn't a No. 1 Hit

Andrew R. Chow, Time Magazine

"Walk My Walk," a laughably generic country song about independence and defiance, had middling organic momentum on streaming and search before it topped Billboard's Country Digital Song Sales chart last week. The song is currently nowhere to be found on updated daily streaming country charts on Spotify or Apple Music.

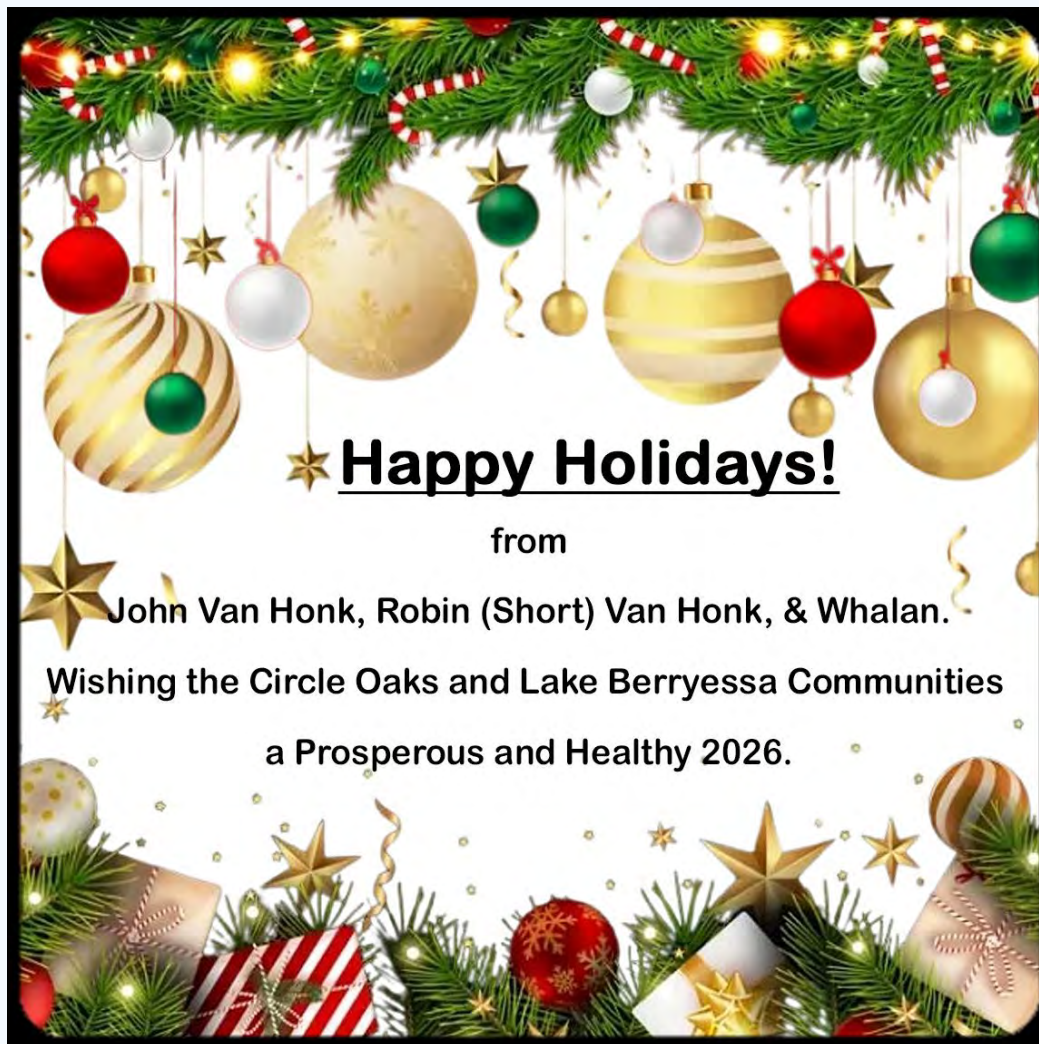
But because very few people actually buy digital songs anymore, it only takes a few thousand purchases to top the Country Digital Song Sales chart. This dynamic raises the possibility that someone took this specific tack to generate momentum. This would not be a new phenomenon—Billboards' digital sales have been a target for manipulation for several years now, forcing the company to make several tweaks to tamp down on gamesmanship.

Feeding frenzy. So "Walk My Walk" is No. 1 in one metric, but not a meaningful one. Regardless, the headlines around its chart-topping have created a flywheel effect, creating

more interest and outrage around the song. Some people now like it and some hate it—but people are clicking either way, driving it No. 2 Spotify's Viral 50 USA chart.

“The permissiveness of Billboard with their charts has been a systemic problem for many years, especially in country music—and that’s what’s facilitating this whole news cycle,” says Kyle Coroneos, the founder of the website Saving Country Music. “Whoever is behind the single, this is exactly what they wanted: to make headlines by going No. 1 on a country chart, and then you get the feeding frenzy, and it bursts through the zeitgeist.”

Slow creep. Still, the “Walk My Walk” discourse shows how AI continues to permeate the music industry in increasing ways. There has been at least one AI artist on a Billboard chart for the past four weeks. And studios like Universal Music Group have been striking deals with AI companies. “The whole industry needs to stand up and say, ‘How are we going to deal with these AI tracks?’” Coroneos says. “This isn’t a year from now, this is happening right now, and it’s affecting real-life human creators who are also trying to get to the top of these charts and are failing.”



Jet Skis Rock: A Video History of Jet Ski Racing

by Peter Kilkus (12/4/25)

When does history actually become HISTORY? Back at the turn of the century Evan, his brother Chris, and I used to do a lot of scuba diving. I started diving with the latest

underwater video cameras in large water-proof housings. One time we decided to rent jet skis to ride in the ocean waves. We were hooked immediately and bought our first jet ski when we got back home. We rode at different local lakes until we discovered Lake Berryessa. It turned out that my underwater video hobby translated well into making videos of our racing adventures.

I bought a mobile home at Steele Park Resort in 1997. We soon learned that a family could not subsist on only one jet ski (a Kawasaki 900ZXi), so we bought another (a Kawasaki 1100 STX). Coincidentally, Steele Park Resort was also the home to Joey Pearce's watercraft repair shop. Evan and I soon "fell in with a bad crowd" of jet ski racers including Joey Pearce, Jim Pearce, John Bonkowski, and Jerry Skaggs. Before we knew it, Evan and I were hijacked to our first IJSBA Region 2 race at Camp Far West in 2001. We soon became members of the Joey's Watercraft Racing Team.



That's history. But the Jet Skis Rock story is really HISTORY. Next year, 2026, will be the 25th anniversary of our first jet ski race! See Jet Skis Rock, The Beginning, Peter & Evan's First Race (2001), on my new YouTube page "Jet Skis Rock" (@jetskisrock).

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

A couple of years later Evan and I inherited IJSBA Region 2 as promoters. Evan founded Pacific Coast Entertainment, and the races were on. Evan ran the show as President. I became Vice-President In Charge of Going Places and Picking Stuff Up (it was actually on my business card). The Team SKI logo on our Joey's Watercraft Racing shirts was due to John Bonkowski. The SKI stands for Safety, Kindness, Integrity.



Joey's Watercraft Racing's team leader was Joey Pearce. While Evan had national success, I think I was just the oldest jet ski racer in California. I actually got a first place award in the Master's Runabout class while racing in the early years. Of course I think I was the only racer over 50 years old at that time - first in a class of one! (No one can tell your age when you are wearing a helmet!)

Coincidentally, digital video camera technology was advancing rapidly. Cameras were

becoming smaller and video editing software was becoming less expensive and feature rich. I became our racing videographer and had a great time shooting and editing our racing videos at our local races and at the Lake Havasu IJSBA Jet Ski World Finals. It was an exciting experience getting to know the racers, staff, announcers, and fans. I shot and edited many videos from 2001 to 2006 when we retired as Region 2 promoters.

One disclaimer: I apologize. I was an amateur videographer then and was enamored of all the interesting transitions the software allowed me to use in the videos - often too many! Also you'll notice I sometimes repeated the same music in different videos.



My jet ski racing interest was rekindled last summer when Wild West Watercross sponsored a race at Putah Creek Campground at Lake Berryessa. Twenty years is a long time to some, but to others like me it seems like yesterday (ask Evan). In my case it was a fact. On June 14th, 2025, Putah Canyon Campground hosted the first jet ski race at Lake Berryessa since 2005 which was the 20th anniversary of the last jet ski race Evan and I put on at Steel Park Resort in April 2005.



Evan started working with the Wild West Watercross folks as a course marshal.



I attended their excellent Sparks Marina event and was further drawn into the excitement. Coincidentally, I was photobombed into a picture of Ian Roberts and his family. Ian was one of our young racers back in the "olden days". Ian's daughter is a jet ski racer now. Ian follows a long-honored tradition of racers mentoring their children to become racers. Jake Pearce, Joey Pearce's son, is another example.



Wild West Watercross is putting on a race at Camp Far West on May 16 & 17, 2026 which will be the 25th anniversary(!) of Evan's and my first jet ski race. We'll be sure to attend!

Due to my renewed interest in jet ski racing, and the excitement that Wild West Watercross is bringing to the sport, I decided to re-edit and post many of my historic jet ski videos on You Tube on a new page titled Jet Skis Rock (@jetskisrock). I loved making them and still enjoy watching them. I didn't want them to get lost in history because they really are a part of jet ski racing HISTORY. As a jet ski racer myself, I can assure you that racing through those huge wake sprays takes skill and courage.

If anyone has any special videos or photos they would like to see added to the Jet Skis Rock history, please send them to me at pkilkus@gmail.com. The Wild West Watercross 2026 racing schedule is copied below.

Their website is: <https://www.wildwestwatercross.com/>.

Their Facebook page is: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/fullthrottlewaterx>.



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Jet Skis Rock 22, Nedra Atwood, #1 Fan Interview

<https://youtu.be/tVrRGTH2Bi8>

Jet Skis Rock 22-1, World Finals 2017 - Nedra Atwood Interview

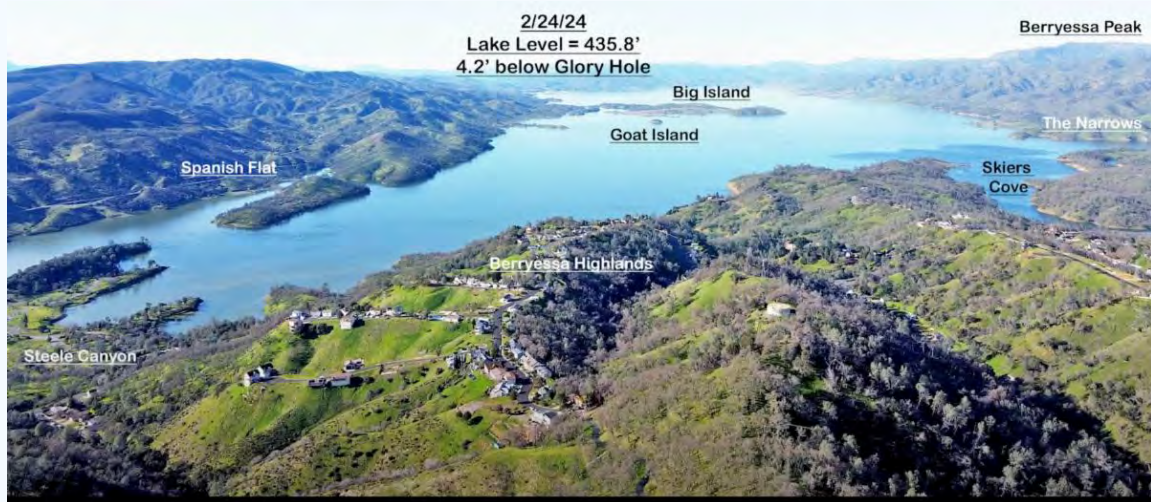
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNIAdqhsJPk&t=8s>

Jet Skis Rock 22-2, Nedra's Song - A tribute to PWC's #1 fan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjFoG-hqksc>

Jet Skis Rock 23, Hot Water- the Movie (2021)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EV9EuOE6c>



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Build Your Dream Lake House

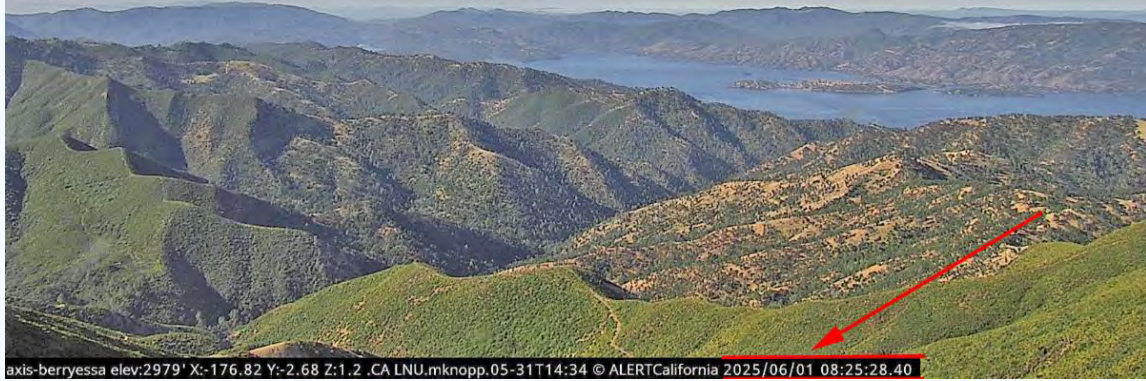
Summary of Lots Available

Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

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

Berryessa Peak Fire Lookout 6/1/25



Steele Canyon Campground Inc.

1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558

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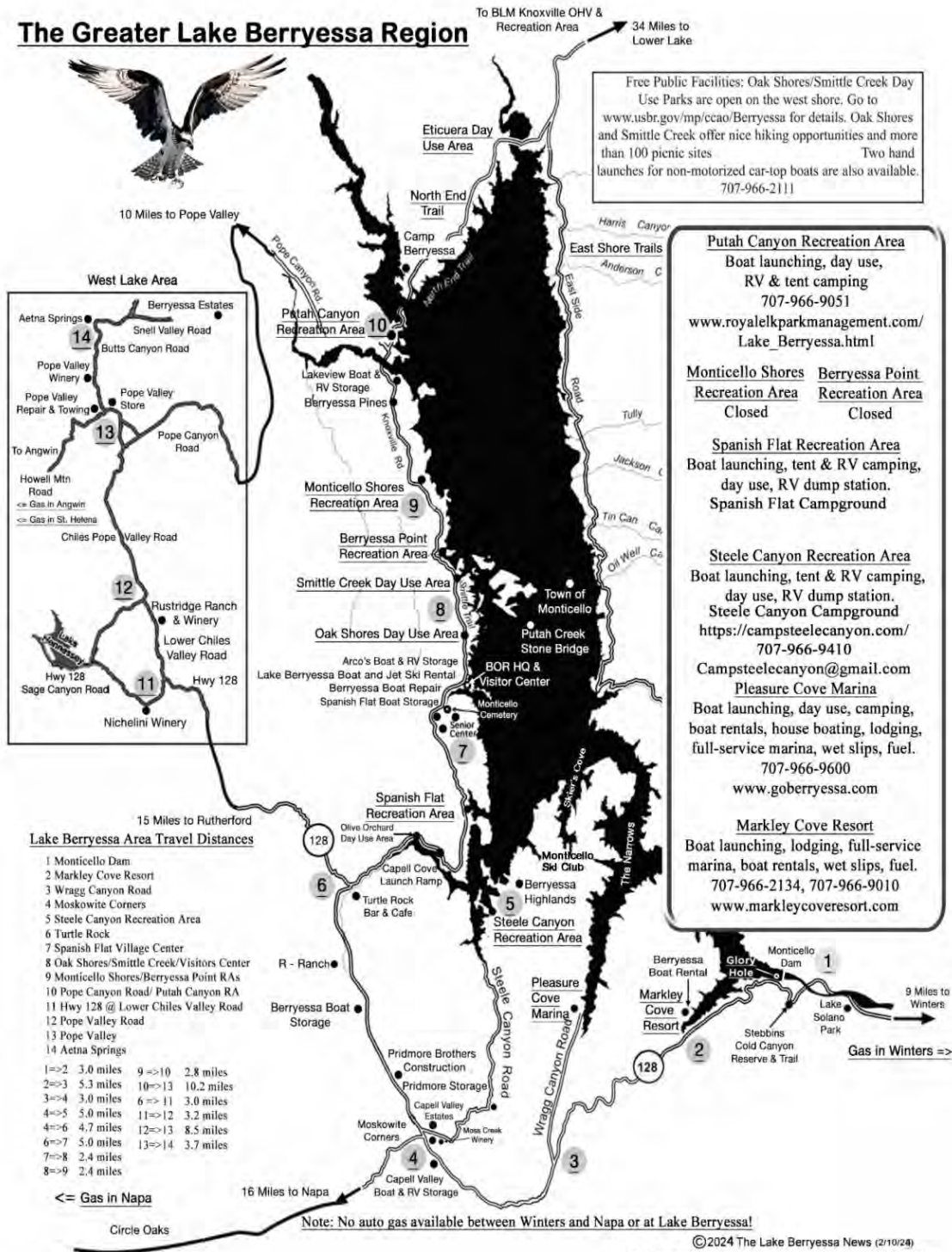


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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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



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The Lake Berryessa News
December 14, 2025

Only eleven days until Christmas! I am definitely not adept at buying presents. I learned the hard lesson illustrated below when, as a young boy, I bought my mother a device for Christmas that would cut a potato into french fries with a simple push of a handle. She took me aside and gently told me that I should never, ever, buy a woman a present that reminds her of housework!



the last known photo of Jim

This gift is perfect for anyone, even if it reminds them that they have to clean the refrigerator.

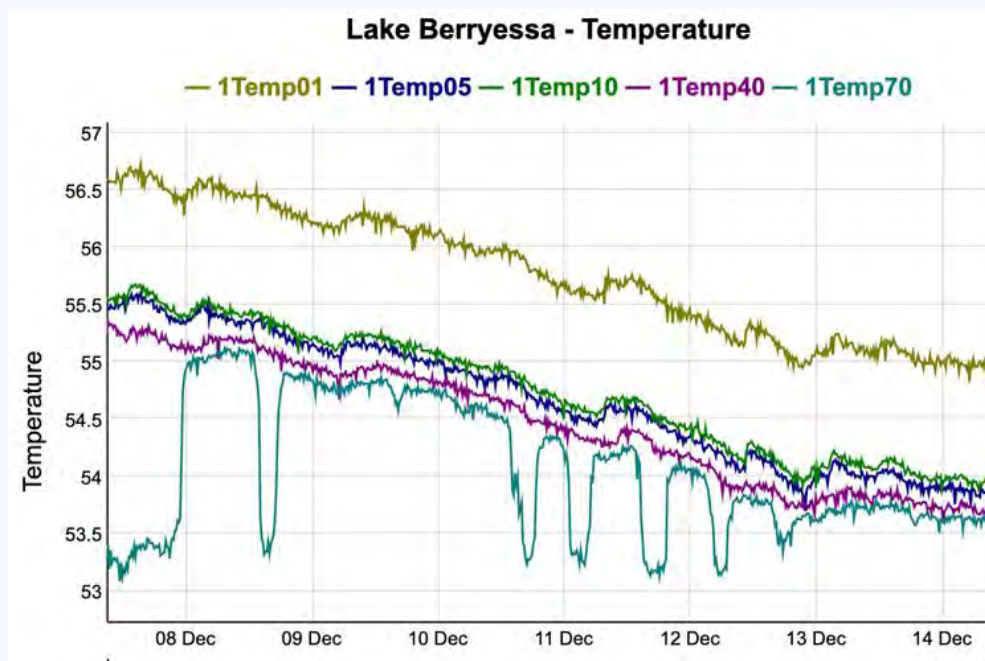


Lake Berryessa Statistics (12/14/25)

The season total at Monticello Dam is still only 6.14 inches with little rain on the horizon.

The Lake Berryessa water level has been hovering at 428.7 feet, 11.3 feet below Glory Hole for the last week. The lake output running at an average of 100 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 198 A-F (acre feet per day).

Surface temperature has dropped to 55 degrees at the surface and 54 degrees from 5 feet to 70 feet and down to the bottom. This indicates that due to cold, windy weather the lake has "turned over" and the water temperature is the same from the surface to the bottom.





2010: The Year in Review

(Some History from Fifteen Years Ago in The Lake Berryessa News)

There were several big stories at Lake Berryessa in 2010, one of the biggest being the ongoing water/sewer system problems faced by residents of the Berryessa Estates and Berryessa Highlands. The two other big stories were the Supervisor election and Pensus.

In January Jeff Parady announced his intention to run for Napa County District 3 Supervisor which began a very interesting political battle.

In February, Pensus won the bid for six Lake Berryessa resorts and began contract negotiations with the Bureau of Reclamation. The Capell Valley School was officially slated for closure in June with a proposal to make it a Community Center. The 2010 Census created local jobs. And Economic Stimulus funds were targeted at cleaning up the closed resorts, also creating about 20 jobs.

March brought a Meet the Candidates Night with Jeff Parady, Michael Haley, and Diane Dillon expounding on their views for the future of Lake Berryessa.

April started off with a bang when the Lake Berryessa News April Fool's Edition actually convinced many people that a floating Native American Casino consisting of 50 houseboats linked together was coming soon. The big true story in April was that Pensus actually signed a contract with Reclamation and announced the opening of Lupin Shores (Steele Park), Chaparral Cove (Putah Creek), and Foothill Pines (Spanish Flat).

In May, Lupin Shores and Chaparral Cove opened for launching, tent and RV camping, but the opening of Foothill Pines was delayed a year. The Amgen Tour of California brought Lance Armstrong to Lake Berryessa. The Monticello History Exhibit hosted a big reunion event. Pensus published its 10-year plan for resort redevelopment.

The Supervisor's election heated up in June when Parady beat Haley in the primary forcing a November run-off with Dillon. Capell Valley School and Wooden Valley School closed for good. June also saw the return of Bilgee the Bilge Pad and the Lake Berryessa Watershed Partnership to the lake.

In July CBS' Eye on the Bay came to Lake Berryessa and produced a two-part show for broadcast on San Francisco's KPIX. Tragedy also came to the lake in July when local soldier, Chase Stanley, died in Afghanistan. He was honored by hundreds of people with a parade from Napa to a memorial service in Monticello Cemetery.

The good news in August, especially for the Berryessa Highlands, was that the Winchell family opened the Crossroads at Lake Berryessa at the Corners which includes a store, restaurant and bar.

September was relatively quiet. Cucina Italiana threw a 7th Anniversary Party and there was the annual Earth Day underwater cleanup at the Pope Creek Bridge.

In early October, CBS' Eye on the Bay finally aired the Lake Berryessa two-part show which was well received and nicely done. On October 17, the first rain of the winter came to the lake.

The November election saw Parady lose to Dillon, in a close race, by only 247 votes out of 9,800. Pensus presented a new 10-year plan to Reclamation.

By the end of December the lake had received 12.4 inches of rain, the highest early rainfall total since 2005.



**Lake Berryessa Explorer, John Daniels, Discovered
the Location of the Old Putah Creek Stone Bridge**

It's always sad to learn of the passing of a person who was important to the history of Lake Berryessa. John Daniels was such a person. To me he was an adventurer, an explorer, and a classic Lake Berryessa outdoorsman. I'm glad I shared this historic epic adventure with him.

John Edward Daniels (October 31, 1953 - November 26, 2025), 72, passed away at his home in Napa on November 26, 2025, surrounded by his loving family, following complications from Alzheimer's disease. Drawn to the water, he owned several boats throughout his life and spent countless joyful days on Lake Berryessa, Lake Tahoe, Lake Shasta, and many other favorite destinations. He was also a licensed private pilot. In 1997, John climbed Mount Kilimanjaro in Africa and toured the Serengeti and Ngorongoro Crater in Tanzania with his son, Johnny. His sense of adventure, his kindness, and his remarkable sense of humor will be deeply missed by all who knew him.

John lived life with energy, humor, and a love for the outdoors. He was an avid snow skier, water skier, and hiker. He fished for sturgeon in the San Francisco Bay, trolled for fish in Lake Tahoe and Lake Berryessa. Fishing was his greatest lifelong hobby besides water skiing.

John found the old Putah Creek Ridge. Then he took the Lake Berryessa News and experienced scuba divers to the bridge and the divers videotaped it for the first time since it and the Town of Monticello were drowned by the lake waters.

Read the full story at: Scuba Diving The Putah Creek Stone Bridge (2012)

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Past-Stories-&-Reports/SCUBA-DIVING-THE-PUTAH-CREEK-STONE-BRIDGE.pdf>

See the full video of this epic dive adventure with John's narration on YouTube at:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J0oGbYjao9U>

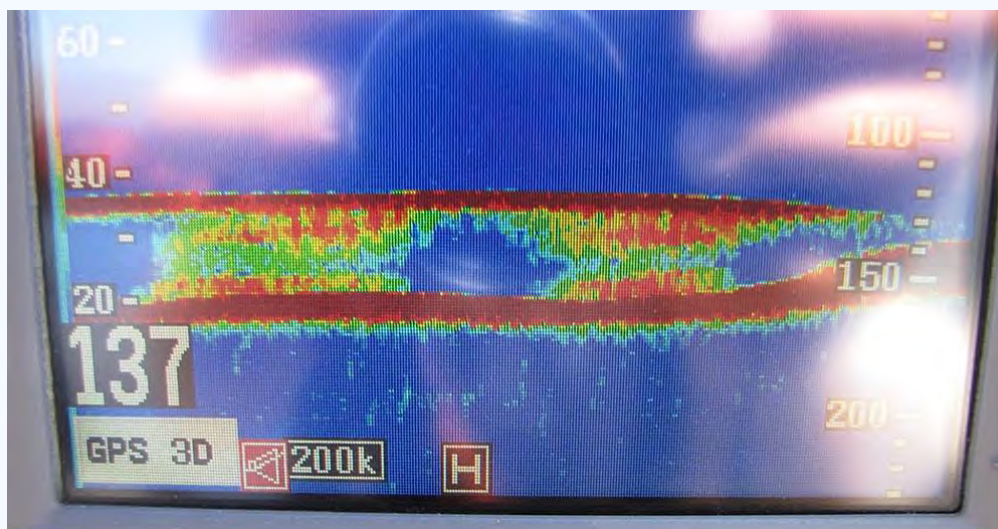
In John's own words: "I've spent thousands of hours with my family on Lake Berryessa, mostly waterskiing, but more recently, fishing. I've also wanted to see below the surface of the lake, to see large fish that I frequently mark on my sonar. Back in early June of this year I purchased a small underwater camera. I first tried to find any signs of Monticello, but without any success.

I then started to search for the Putah Creek Bridge. After several weekends of attempts I finally found it on June 25th, about 1,200 feet south of where I first thought it was, in 160ft. of water. I marked and saved it on the sonar. I spent numerous times crossing back and forth over it to verify it's center until I felt that I might be able to secure my boat over that spot.

I lowered a bow anchor line down with the boat perpendicular to the bridge and secured it to the North face of the bridge wall. I then cast a stern anchor and secured it to the opposite wall. I lowered the camera down on a 160ft cable with small LED lights attached. To finally send the camera down I needed a perfectly calm day on the water. There was very little control of the camera, with it being so small and trying to send it straight down on a line that was half the length of a football field."



"I was thrilled to see this beautiful front face of the bridge wall with mortar joints still looking as if they were just placed yesterday. The top outer edge had a perfectly shaped stone cap and reveal, typical of stone bridges for that time in Napa County. The key stones that formed the arches were massive and appeared gigantic in relation to others I've seen."



Coincidentally, during that same period another group of explorers was looking for the same bridge, as well as several other bridges, that are below the surface of Lake Berryessa. The group of technical scuba divers, led by Dave Van Valkenburg and Sharon Eckroth, had formed the Berryessa Bridges Project to find and document the historical bridges with still photography and video recordings.

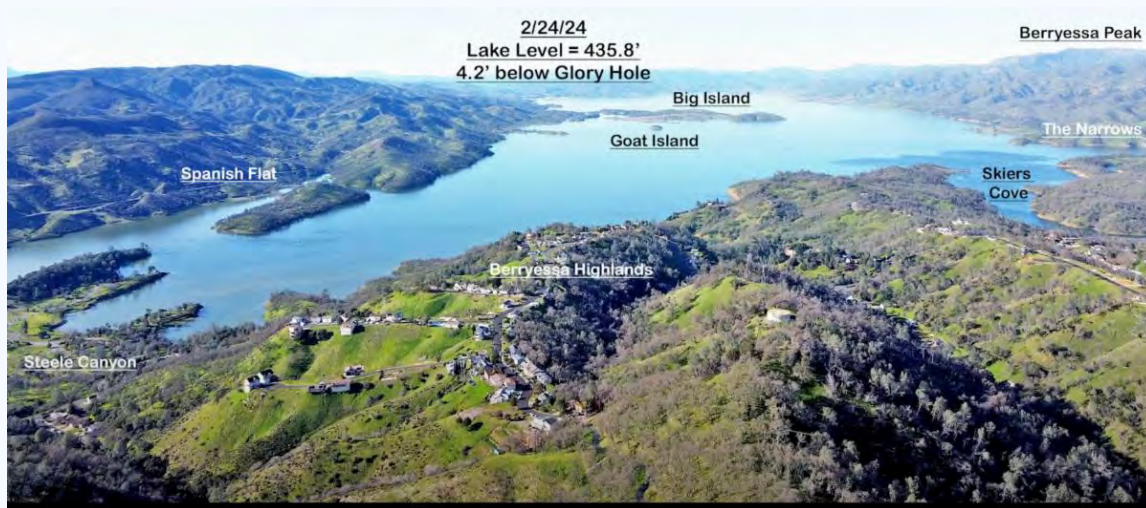
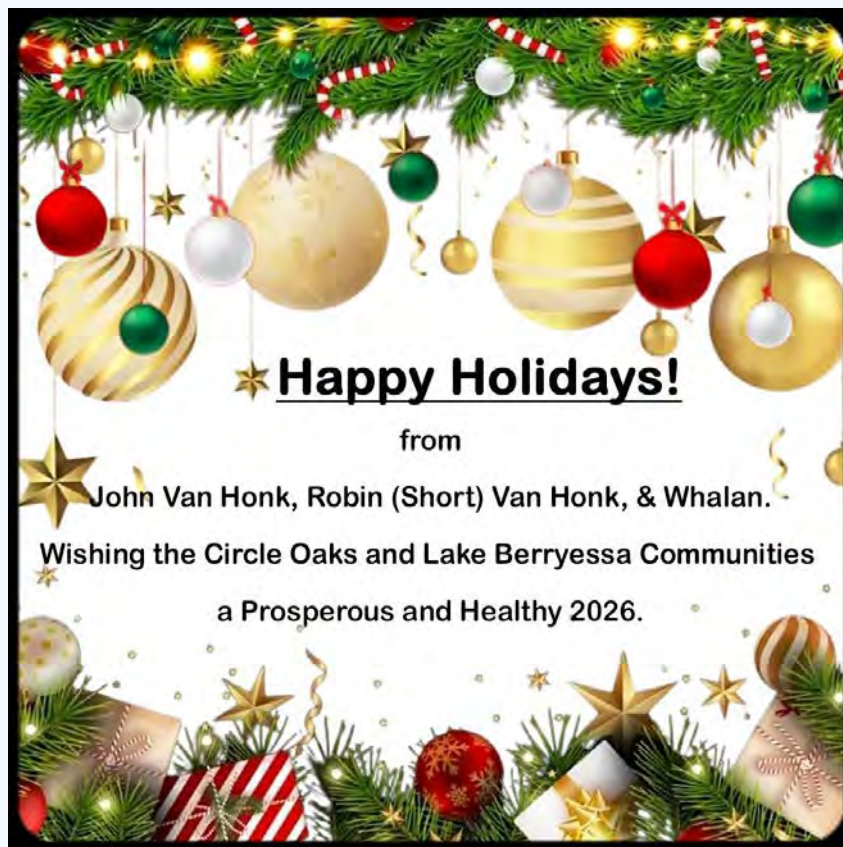
The Lake Berryessa News did its small part in this adventure by bringing John, Dave, Sharon, and Les together to share notes over pizza in October. I was amazed at the research that had been done by the Berryessa Bridges Project group, especially the computer graphics magic of Dave Van Valkenburg. Dave had superimposed a view from Google Earth, an old aerial photograph, and the plot map from Carol Fitzpatrick's Monticello History Exhibit to pinpoint the location of the bridge.



John Daniels Obituary

<https://www.legacy.com/us/obituaries/napavalleyregister/name/john-daniels-obituary?id=60193177>





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Jet Skis Rock: A Video History of Jet Ski Racing

by Peter Kilkus

When does history actually become HISTORY? The Jet Skis Rock story is really HISTORY. See Jet Skis Rock on my new YouTube page "Jet Skis Rock" (@jetskisrock).

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/0--The-Jet-Skis-Rock-Story-Final-121125.pdf>

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<https://youtu.be/tVrRGTH2Bi8>

Jet Skis Rock 22-1, World Finals 2017 - Nedra Atwood Interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNlAdqhsJPK&t=8s>

Jet Skis Rock 22-2, Nedra's Song - A tribute to PWC's #1 fan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjFoG-hqksc>

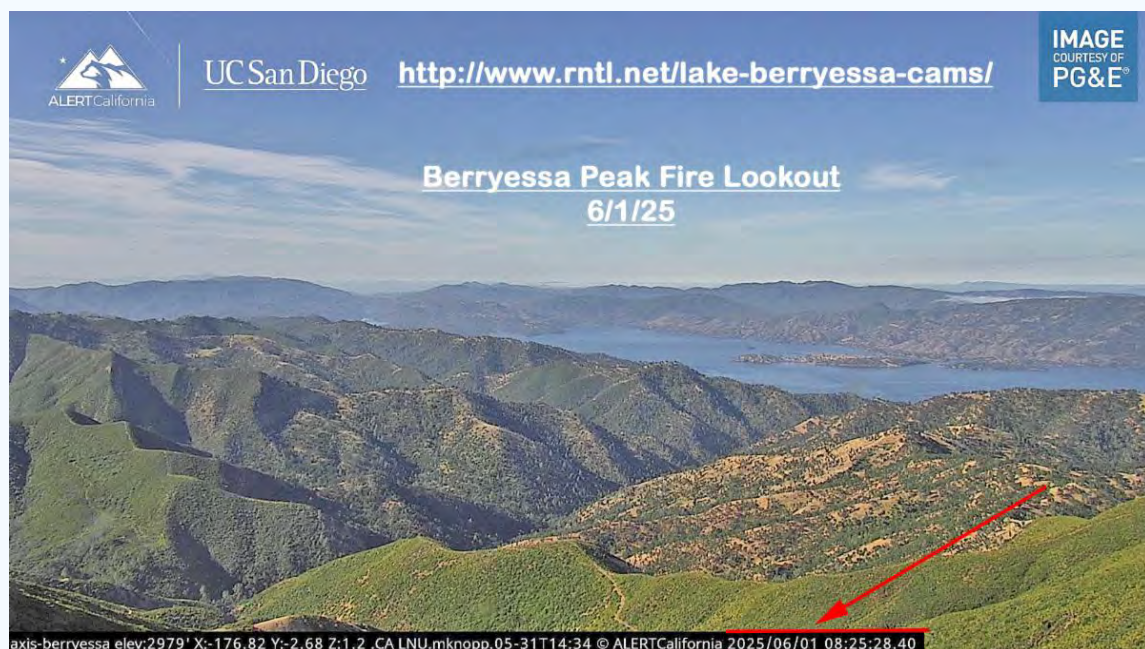
Jet Skis Rock 23, Hot Water- the Movie (2021)

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Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

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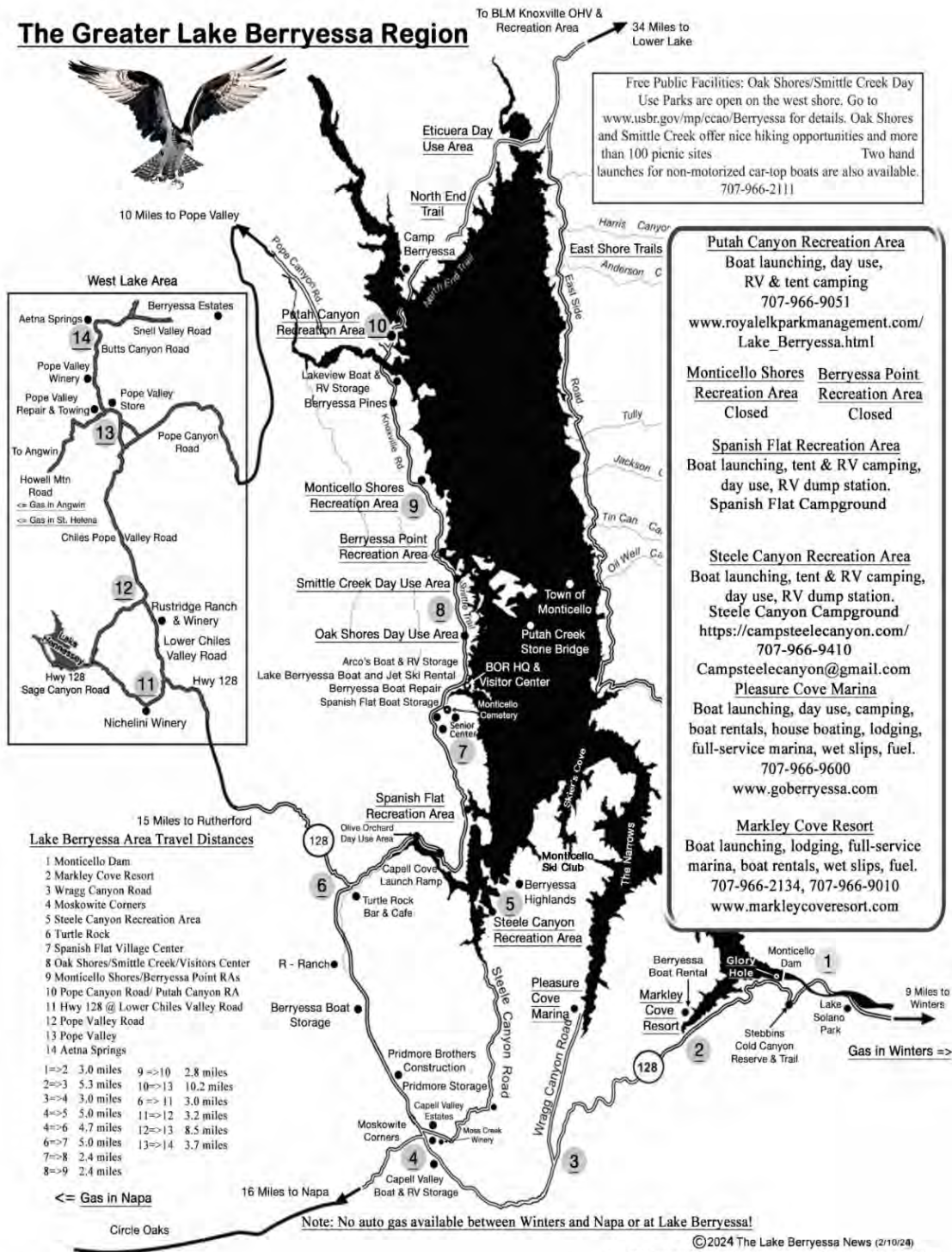
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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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The Lake Berryessa News
December 21, 2025

Happy rainy (finally) Sunday from Lake Berryessa.

Only 4 days until Christmas and Santa Claus is everywhere!

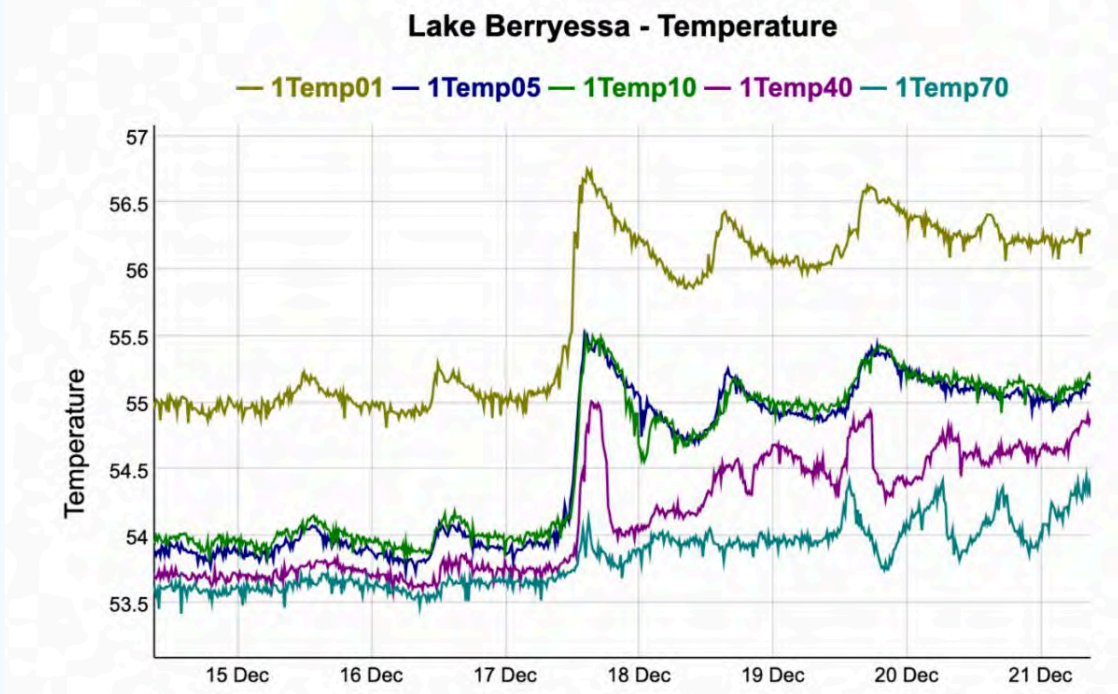


Lake Berryessa Statistics (12/21/25)

An additional .43 inches at Monticello Dam has brought the season total at Monticello Dam is 6.57 inches with more rain predicted for the next few days.

Lake Berryessa water level is still at 428.6 feet, 11.4 feet below Glory Hole. The lake has not yet started to rise but should go up during the next few days. The lake output is running at an average of 105 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 208 A-F (acre feet per day).

The recent warm weather has increased water temperatures to 56.5 degrees at the surface and an average 54.5 degrees from 5 feet to 70 feet and down to the bottom.



Record run of 2,150 King salmon returns to Putah Creek



Sammuel Huang, a junior specialist in Nann Fangue's lab at UC Davis, returns a Chinook salmon to Putah Creek after being counted and measured in the fall of 2025

Since time immemorial, many thousands of Chinook salmon once spawned in the headwaters of Putah Creek. The salmon were no longer able to make the migration up the creek to their historic habitat after the Monticello Dam created Lake Berryessa and the diversion dam formed Lake Solano in 1957. However, a smaller number of Chinooks still made it most years into the waters below the diversion dam to spawn.

Fortunately, the decades of efforts of creek restoration by salmon advocates have borne fruit in recent years. A record 2,150 fall-run Chinook salmon returned to spawn in Putah Creek this fall, according to a report from the Solano County Water Agency. Water is now released to maintain continuous flow downstream. Approximately 32,000 acre-feet per year is required to be passed below the dam for environmental purposes. Another 200,000 acre-feet of Putah Creek water per year is diverted to Solano County farmers (about 75%) and urban users (about 25%).

"The number of adult salmon returning in 2025 is a testament to the collaborative efforts among citizens, water managers, landowners and scientists who are all working together to create a creek that can support people, fish and wildlife," Solano County Water Agency General Manager Chris Lee said in the report. "This successful run validates the work done to date and gives us great confidence Putah Creek will continue to support salmon runs for generations to come."

With more than 2,150 adults spawning, SCWA reported that the creek is expected to produce potentially 500,000 baby salmon next spring, "a level of natural production comparable to a small fish hatchery."

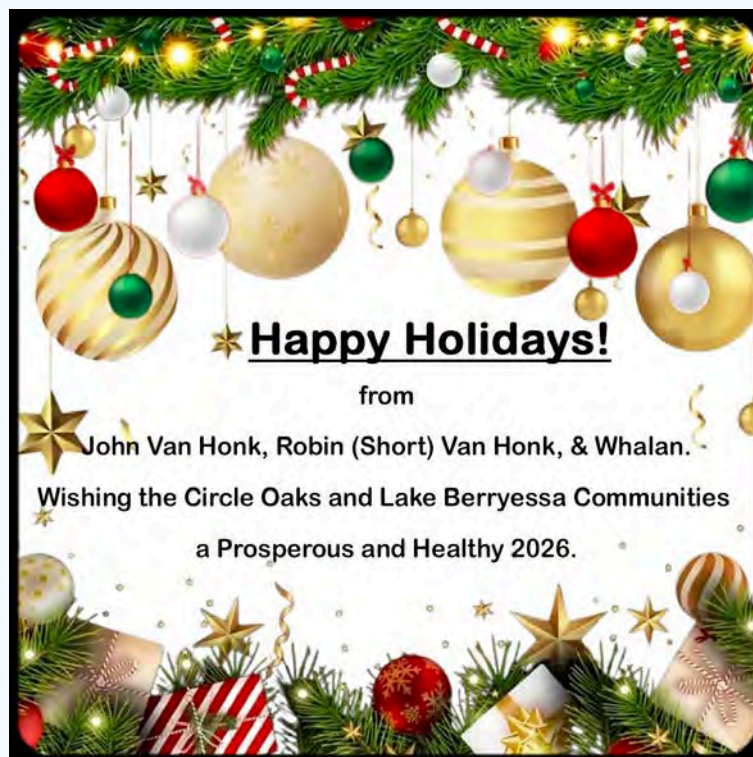
Lake Berryessa is a popular fishery for rainbow trout, landlocked king salmon, kokanee salmon, black bass, crappie, bluegill and channel catfish. While a number of factors have contributed to the demise of the smelt, salmon and other Bay-Delta fish populations in

recent years, no factor is more central than the export of mass quantities of water from the Delta to corporate agribusiness and Southern California water agencies.

Key factors on Putah Creek salmon numbers:

- The success is the culmination of a 25-year, \$20 million grant-funded restoration effort.
- Current work on salmon passage in the lower creek, including the Yolo Bypass Wildlife Area, which is funded by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife and Wildlife Conservation Board.
- In 2025, the SCWA placed 500 tons of gravel in the creek as targeted habitat enhancement. Salmon rely on clean gravel beds to build their nests for spawning.

SCWA also implemented a test release of extra water this year, timed to mimic natural flows, a technique known as functional flows. This pulse of water appears to have successfully attracted and guided more salmon into the creek.



December Headlines

Research Reveals Ancient Egyptians Received Significant Help From Parents While Building Pyramids

Report Finds More Americans Using GoFundMe For Basic Necessities

White House Touts Affordability Of Hay-Based Christmas Dinners

MAGA Boycotting Costco Has Increased Customer Shopping Satisfaction By 350%

Ragú Unveils Sensory Deprivation Marinara Tank, Claiming the new offering would revolutionize the use of pasta sauce in stress reduction and pain relief

Merriam-Webster Accused Of Bias After 'Dictionary' Named Word Of The Year

Trump Reports 145% Of Americans Approve Of His Direction On The Economy

Japanese Monk Racks
Brain For Haiku That Will Knock
Them On Their Asses

BREAKING: Trump Expected To Rename San Andreas Fault To Joe Biden's Fault

Researchers Find Moon Serves No Purpose But Alerting Raccoons It Safe To Come Out

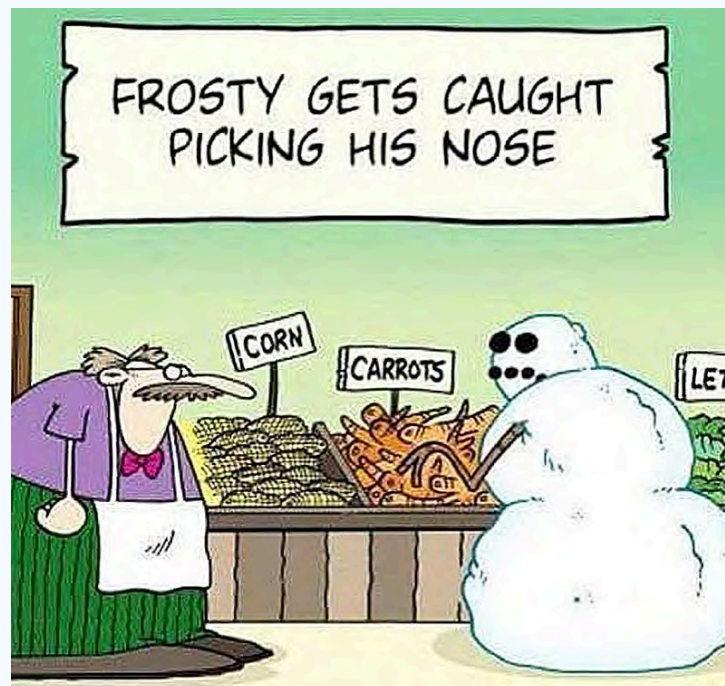
Fraternity Under Investigation After Forcing Pledges To Volunteer At Soup Kitchen

White House Reclassifies Nursing As Hobby

OpenAI Reveals ChatGPT Primarily Used To Ask If Hot Dog Too Old To Eat

New AI Chatbots Let Users Text With Jesus

Trump Imposes 25% Tariff On Chinese-Made Trump Products



How to spot suspicious health supplements and avoid getting scammed

The internet is littered with unproven health supplements that use deceptive marketing and sales practices to trick victims into handing over their money. Not all health supplements are scams, but many of those that are scams engage in consistent practices that internet users can learn to spot at a glance.

While the exact goal may differ from scam to scam, most health supplement scams have the same objective: to take buyers' money and run. The scammers usually try to pressure the victim into overpaying for multiple bottles of the product and sometimes even try to trick their victims into unwittingly signing up for subscriptions. Even though scammers often claim to offer money-back guarantees, in actuality they try to make it difficult or even impossible for customers to get their promised refunds.

These unproven health supplements can pose risks to victims, too. Many don't work at all, and some are filled with random substances or even doses of prescription medications that can cause permanent injuries.

Scammers selling unproven health supplements often try to lure victims by establishing the illusion of credibility, such as with fake celebrity endorsements and customer reviews. They also create false urgency, using meaningless countdowns and language that suggests the "deal" being offered won't last.

Many of these supplements put meaningless labels on their bottles, including labels suggesting they are in some way Food and Drug Administration (FDA)-approved. The FDA doesn't actually regulate supplements, meaning such labels are meaningless or outright false. Credible health supplement products usually carry labels certifying they've been reviewed by third-party testers.

In July 2025, the physician and media personality [Sanjay Gupta spoke out](#) about ads that used artificial-intelligence (AI) deepfakes to create ads that falsely made it appear as if Gupta had endorsed a memory-enhancing supplement that claimed, without any evidence, to treat Alzheimer's disease.

The Better Business Bureau (BBB), has an online scam tracker to help identify scams:

(<https://www.bbb.org/article/news-releases/16895-bbb-tip-misleading-ads-and-subscription-traps-for-weight-loss-products>).

- They may make extravagant claims about their supplements being miracle cures or from a scientific breakthrough to prey on victims' hope.

- They may use false celebrity endorsements or fake customer and doctor reviews to get their victims' trust.

- They often create false urgency with countdowns and language to rush victims into making a decision before they have a chance to think it through.

- They often try to force or trick their victims into bulk orders and subscriptions to get as much money out of them as they can.

December Horoscopes

Aries (3/21-4/19): Express yourself, do a backflip, try to do the splits. Dance and the world will be yours.

Taurus (4/20-5/20): Smiles help the world go round, especially when the smiles are accompanied by dirty big wads of cash. Cold hard cash. In fact, forget the smiles, just give everyone money.

Gemini (5/21 – 6/21): Just because people laugh at you doesn't make you a comedian.

Cancer (6/22-7/22): Today will be full of computer related mishaps. Hope in your heart is all well and good but you know deep down inside that when your computer crashes, it will not have automatically saved the document you'd been working on for the past four hours.

Leo (7/23-8/22): Skeletons in your closet are a sign that you have an eventful life and are nothing to be embarrassed about.

Virgo (8/23-9/22): The sounds of fairies in your head are brought on by the alcohol. It may be time to stop drinking this week.

Libra (9/23-10/22): Luckily, today is the best day you're going to have over the coming months - so let loose. Incidentally, it may be in your "letting loose" that you cause the accident that sees you spend the coming months in traction.

Scorpio (10/23-11/21): When "taking out the trash" remember that blood stains don't easily wash out of white shirts.

Sagittarius (11/22-12/21): As the fella once said, ain't that a kick in the head. Not that you'll be kicked in the head, it's a metaphor. I mean, hell, for all I know you *are* going to get kicked in the head, so maybe just wear a helmet for the rest of the day.

Capricorn (12/22-1/19): Any spikes that you see in your power usage may be due to unforeseen and deadly circumstances.

Aquarius (1/20-2/18): The good and the great come together today and miss you entirely during all their endeavors. Which is a bit sad, really.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): All of that which you experience today will be catalogued under "things not to do in public again".

THE SECRET IS OUT!

We are delighted to announce that the operator of Steele Canyon Campground has expanded its operations to include Spanish Flat Campground!

We are eager to welcome you and strive to make your experience at Spanish Flat truly enjoyable.

We are currently working on our new logo and website. Reservations will officially open on January 1st, 2026, and our new home online will be campspanishflat.com.

Important: Please note that Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat remain separate entities. Therefore, no passes, credits or reservations are transferable between the two campgrounds. However, keep an eye out for familiar, friendly staff at both locations!

Signed,

The Steele Canyon Team



Rustic French Farmhouse Vibe & Lake Views!

914 Cape Cod Court

\$549,000



Discover a peaceful retreat above Lake Berryessa with this beautifully updated 2-bedroom, 1-bath home featuring a flexible floor plan and tons of character. Enjoy modern upgrades and handcrafted charm throughout, from custom wine barrel shelving made in Napa to river rock tile floors and full-height windows opening to expansive decks with filtered lake views.

Two decks invite indoor-outdoor living, perfect for relaxing or entertaining. This home's artistic layout and custom details make it truly one-of-a-kind, unforgettable for the right buyer who appreciates authentic style and Napa craftsmanship.



<https://www.914capecodct.com/>



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\$505,000

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
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<https://1300steelecanyonrd.com/>



1300 Steele Canyon Road, Napa

\$615,000

CORCORAN

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ICON PROPERTIES

Sunsets, Space & Style This Lakeview Property Has It All! Perched on a corner lot with stunning lake and sunset views, this one-of-a-kind custom home blends charm, flexibility, and function. The main house offers 3 bedrooms, 2 baths, soaring ceilings, Brazilian cherrywood floors, and a beautifully updated kitchen with quartz counters, soft-close cabinetry, and a large island open to the family room with fireplace. The luxurious primary suite features a jetted tub, heated floors, and French doors leading to a covered porch with lake views. Need more space? Use the home as a 4BR/3BA or enjoy a detached ADU above the garage with its own bedroom, full bath, and kitchenette perfect for guests, rental, or multi-gen living. Outside, the professionally landscaped lot features custom brick patios, terraced gardens, RV/boat parking with electrical hookup, and even a generator & SOLAR. Whether you're entertaining under the stars or unwinding in total privacy, this home has everything you need and then some!

Redevelopment Opportunity | Spanish Flat – Lake Berryessa
<https://spanishflatctr.com/>

Unlock the visionary potential of Spanish Flat—an exciting and strategic redevelopment opportunity in Napa County's scenic Lake Berryessa corridor. This rare offering spans approximately 18.38 acres across two adjacent parcels with a County zoning overlay to allow for commercial and housing uses, including an affordable aspect. Whether you're a developer, investor, or planner with a creative vision, this property is primed for transformation.

\$895,000

Amber Payne, Realtor, Lic. #0130224
 707-235-1124
 amber.payne@corcoranicon.com
 www.amberpayne.net

Jet Skis Rock: A Video History of Jet Ski Racing

by Peter Killus

When does history actually become HISTORY? The Jet Skis Rock story is really HISTORY. See Jet Skis Rock on my new YouTube page "Jet Skis Rock" (@jetskisrock).

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/0--The-Jet-Skis-Rock-Story-Final-121125.pdf>

Jet Skis Rock You Tube List Final (12/4/25)

Full Jet Skis Rock Playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0Bt3jedg7wO7FVqZnOyzZE2x3Tb1cgLP>

Jet Skis Rock 1, Introduction

https://youtu.be/j_nLtRI_fzc

Jet Skis Rock 2, The Beginning, Peter & Evan's First Race (2001)

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

Jet Skis Rock 3, Jet Ski & Snowmobile Ramp Jumps

<https://youtu.be/DMbDUj77-CI>

Jet Skis Rock 4, Ocean Wave Jumps (2002)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cf_koAH_E48

Jet Skis Rock 5, Racing Action

<https://youtu.be/8uLa6hhHPBk>

Jet Skis Rock 6, Crash & Rescue

<https://youtu.be/VurSqs5B0CU>

Jet Skis Rock 7, Jet Ski Crashes & Jumps

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiL_5gpd8yg

Jet Skis Rock 8, Jet Ski Extreme Racing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwPiYa84fiY>

Jet Skis Rock 9, Nashville Watercross Nationals (2002)

<https://youtu.be/RHT1Gjb7LWk>

Jet Skis Rock 10, Indoor Racing Paris Bercy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fC--vCcm7K0>

Jet Skis Rock 10-1: First Indoor Paris Bercy Jet Ski Races, (July 4, 1990)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzciJV5hKH0&t=242s>

Jet Skis Rock 11, Pahump Las Vegas (2003)

<https://youtu.be/bAncbEZPEZk>

Jet Skis Rock 12, Argyll Park, CA (2004)

<https://youtu.be/cTcAo5ZK7H8>

Jet Skis Rock 13, Escape from Alcatraz Event (2004)

<https://youtu.be/lyrE58c7WdE>

Jet Skis Rock 14, Western States Cup Promo (2005)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5-yCyqiN5U>

Jet Skis Rock 15, Western States Cup (2005)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BCNEZcbU02s>

Jet Skis Rock 16, Lake Havasu World Finals (2001)

<https://youtu.be/xQBcDaRM-rk>

Jet Skis Rock 17, Evan Wins, Awards & Family (2003)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XG4Ynyx2G2Q>

Jet Skis Rock 18, Lake Havasu World Finals (2003)

<https://youtu.be/TCYhatEoOfM>

Jet Skis Rock 19, Lake Havasu World Finals (2004)

https://youtu.be/Onom_vN6tXk

Jet Skis Rock 20, Lake Havasu 2006, Race, Freestyle, People

<https://youtu.be/XdVnTcaZ6dM>

Jet Skis Rock 21, Freestyle Example - Lee Stone

<https://youtu.be/u9zd2o7bpEE>

Jet Skis Rock 21-1, Jet Ski Freestyle, Havasu World Finals 2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YEQQuWo7-Y>

Jet Skis Rock 21-2, Jet Ski Freestyle, Havasu World Finals 2022, Lee Stone

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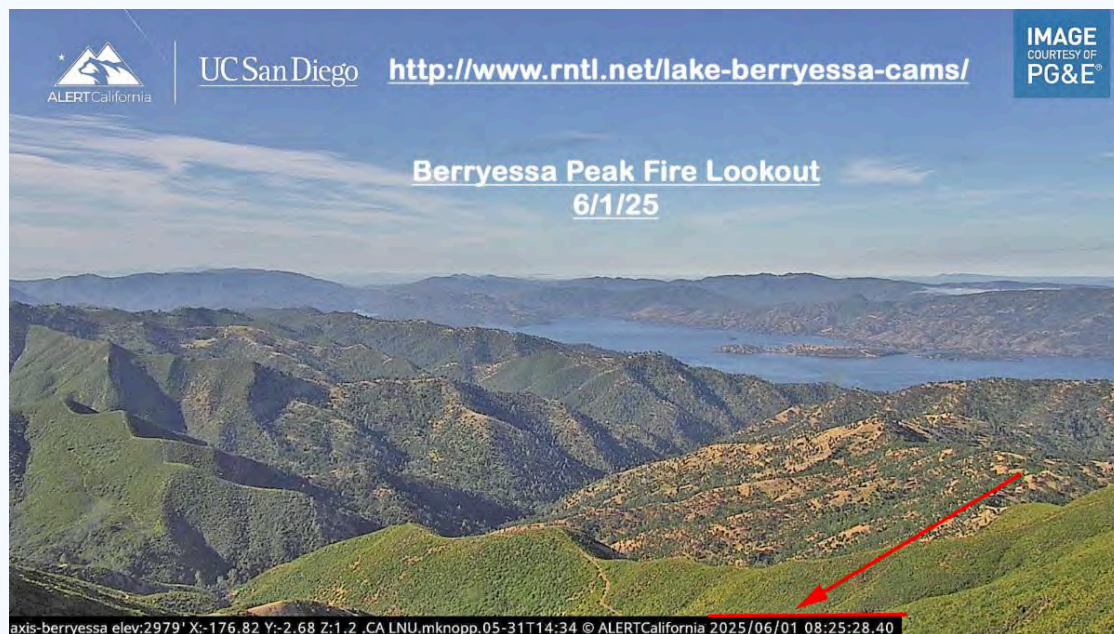
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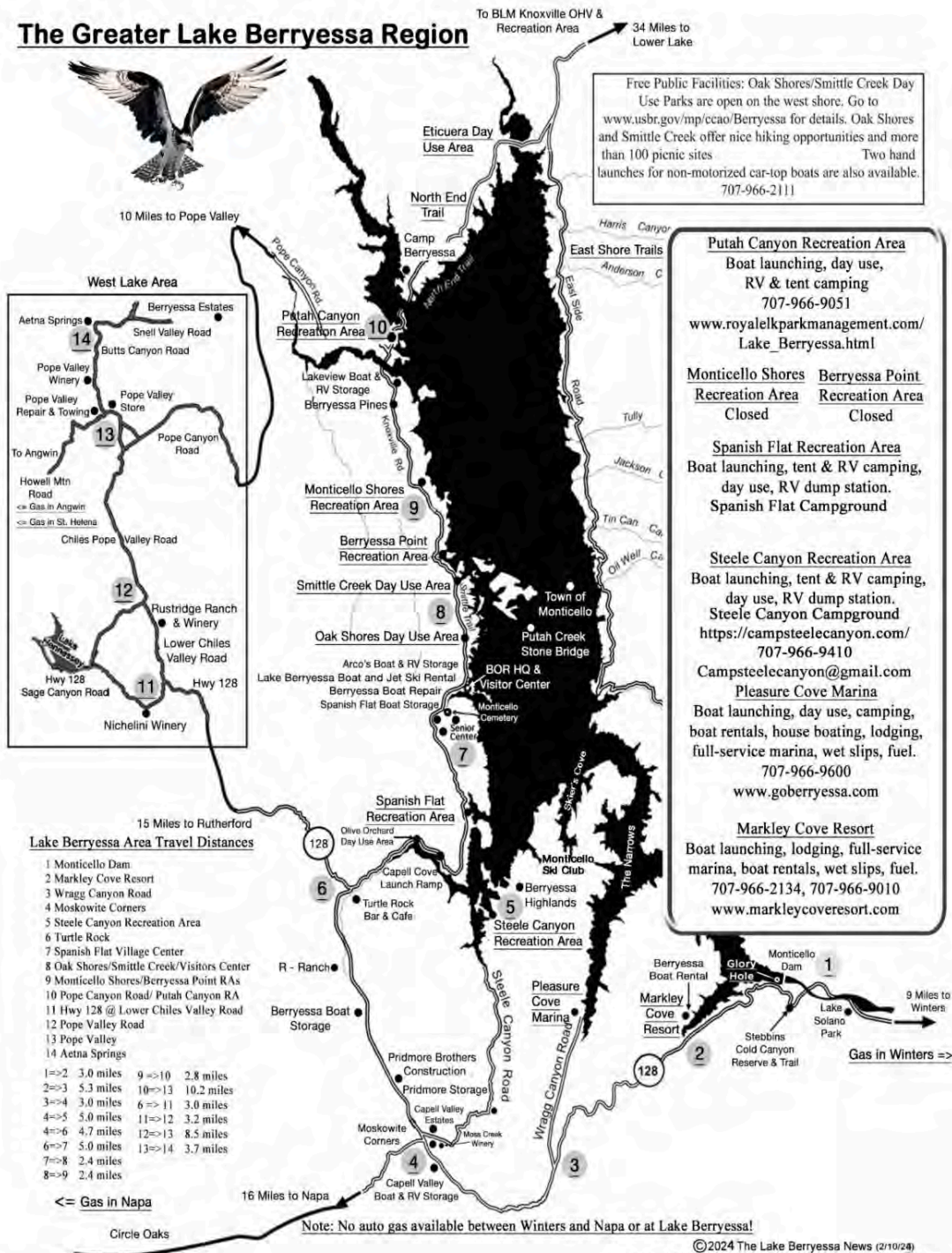
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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

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The Lake Berryessa News December 28, 2025

Christmas is over and a New Year is coming on fast. Time to write 2026 on all our checks and emails. Here's a final attempt at: Christian Christmas humor? Christian New Year's resolution humor? Paraphrasing the Bible humor? What would you like to title it???



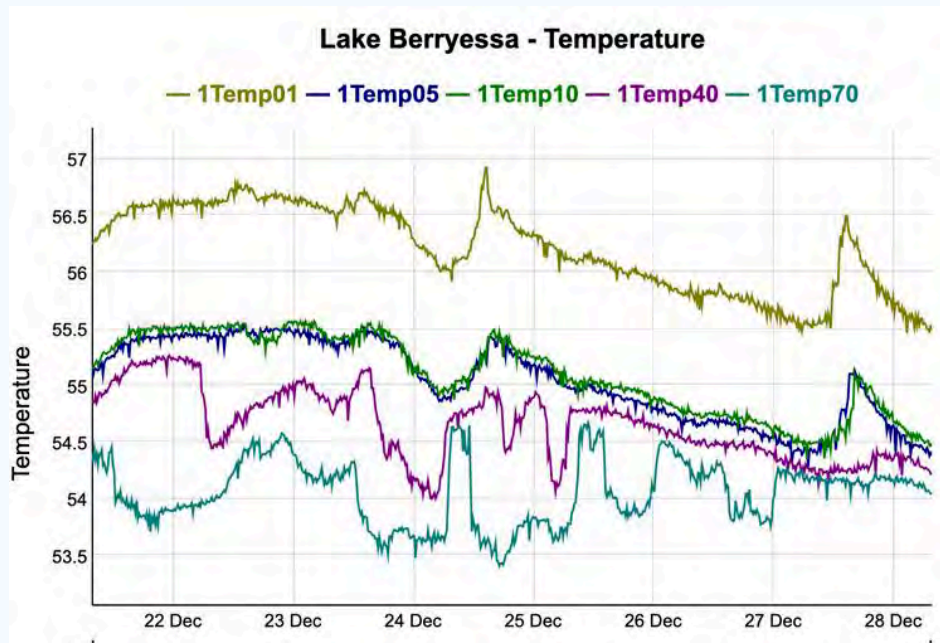
Lake Berryessa Statistics (12/28/25)

An additional rainfall at Monticello Dam has brought the season total at Monticello Dam is 11.98 inches.

Lake Berryessa water level has risen to 431.5 feet, 8.5 feet below Glory Hole. The lake output is running at an average of 45 cfs (cubic feet per second) the lowest output allowed by law and contract.

Lake capacity is at 90%

Water temperatures are 55.5 degrees at the surface and an average 54.5 degrees from 5 feet to 70 feet and down to the bottom.



Some readers have commented about the different rainfall levels around the lake. The rain totals at Monticello Dam have always been higher than the rest of the lake due to its location in the Devil's Gate, a narrow, windy canyon.

The highest rainfall totals in the Lake Berryessa watershed are at the far north end, Cobb Mountain, where the totals are typically three times those at the dam.

Rainfall at Lake Berryessa as of 12/28/25

Monticello Dam

September 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025 - .07"
October 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025 - 2.29"
November 1, 2025 - November 30, 2025 - 3.78"
December 1, 2025 - December 28, 2025 - 5.84"
Total - 11.98"

Skiers Cove (Below the Berryessa Highlands)

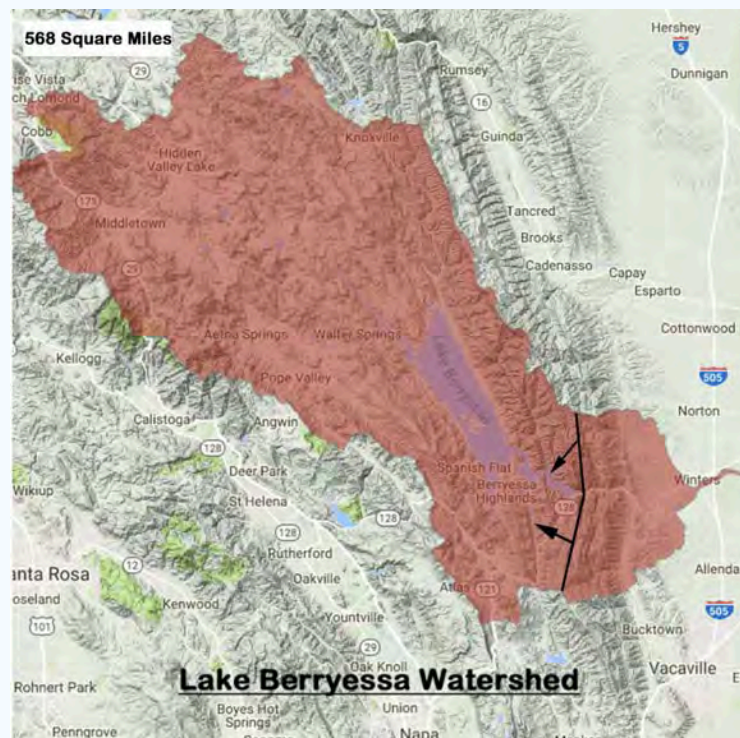
September 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025 - .02"
October 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025 - .89"
November 1, 2025 - November 30, 2025 - 0"
December 1, 2025 - December 28, 2025 - 7.38 "
Total - 8.29"

East Side Road (Across from Big Island)

September 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025 - .21"
October 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025 - 1.37"
November 1, 2025 - November 30, 2025 - 2.91"
December 1, 2025 - December 28, 2025 - 3.64"
Total - 8.13"

Spanish Flat (Near the Spanish Flat Recreation Area)

September 1, 2025 - September 30, 2025 - .1"
October 1, 2025 - October 31, 2025 - .56"
November 1, 2025 - November 30, 2025 - 1.44"
December 1, 2025 - December 28, 2025 - 6.75"
Total - 8.85"



| | Rain Year (7/1 - 6/31) | First Rain | Total By 1/1 (At Dam) | Season Total (At Dam) |
|----|---------------------------|-----------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | 97-98 | | 10.77" | 46.26" |
| 2 | 98-99 | 11/10/98 | 7.18" | 23.46" |
| 3 | 99-00 | 10/30/99 | 6.5" | 26" |
| 4 | 00-01 | 10/20/00 | 4.54" | 24.7" |
| 5 | 01-02 | 10/29/01 | 15.73" | 23.38" |
| 6 | 02-03 | 11/7/02 | 19.34" | 31.6" |
| 7 | 03-04 | 10/31/03 | 12.01" | 25.64" |
| 8 | 04-05 | 10/19/04 | 15.55" | 36.36" |
| 9 | 05-06 | 9/26/05 | 17.4" | 40.56" |
| 10 | 06-07 | 10/3/06 .22" | 5.36" | 12.7" |
| 11 | 07-08 | 9/19/07 - .1" | 4.48" | 25.32" |
| 12 | 08-09 | 10/3/08 - .2" | 6.6" | 23.96" |
| 13 | 09-10 | 9/14/09 - .24" | 6.5" | 26.41" |
| 14 | 10-11 | 10/18/10 - .21" | 12.62" | 37.92" |
| 15 | 11-12 | 10/4/11 - .2" | 3.04" | 19.56" |
| 16 | 12-13 | 10/22/12 - .73" | 17.97" | 20.65" |
| 17 | 13-14 | 9/22/13 - .43" | 1.88" | 13.69" |
| 18 | 14-15 | 9/19/14 - .11" | 13.34" | 19.56" |
| 19 | 15-16 | 10/2/15 - .68" | 6.23" | 24.57" |
| 20 | 16-17 | 10/4/16 - .04" | 17.11" | 47.55" |
| 21 | 17-18 | 10/20/17 - .21" | 3.41" | 14.89" |
| 22 | 18-19 | 10/2/18 - .51" | 7.28" | 40.53" |
| 23 | 19-20 | 11/27/19 - .73" | 7.14" | 10.93" |
| 24 | 20-21 | 11/15/20 - .09" | 1.92" | 9.21" |
| 25 | 21-22 | 9/10/21 - .05" | 15.84" | 18.73" |
| 26 | 22-23 | 9/19/22 - .42" | 19.13" | 41.86" |
| 27 | 23-24 | 9/22/23 - .21" | 7.66" | 28.14" |
| 28 | 24-25 | 10/29/24 - .25" | 12.07" | 22.97" |
| 29 | 25-26 | 9/11/25 - .07" | 11.98" | 12/28/25 |

Another long-term resident and Lake Berryessa supporter has left us.

From local Berryessa Highlands resident Jim Casten: "It is with a very heavy heart that I have to tell everybody here in the Highlands that our friend and 50 + year resident of the Highlands, Frank Accettola passed away suddenly last night after long term covid issues. I have no funeral information at this time."

Editor's comment: Another sad Lake Berryessa loss. Seeing him flying his ultra-light at Steele Park was always a treat. Frank was a member of SIRS (Sons In Retirement) and I saw him at our luncheon meeting every month - and at the Corners on a regular basis. Frank's brother John passed away in 2021. John started Polylift of California, installing boat lifts and docks all over the western states. I had one of his lifts for my boat slip at Steele Park Resort.

Now that the holidays are almost over, we may regret some of our holiday food and drink decisions. Reminds me of that very old Alka-Seltzer commercial - "I ate too much; I ate too fast!". Here's a story about the food pyramid we all learned about as children but has gone through many changes during "recent" decades.

The Rise, Fall, and Potential Return of the Food Pyramid

Time Magazine by Chad de Guzman



Bloomberg reported that the Trump Administration is considering reinstating the food pyramid when Health and Human Services (HHS) and the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) jointly update the U.S. Dietary Guidelines. HHS and USDA update the guidelines every five years.

An HHS spokesperson told Bloomberg that “Robert F. Kennedy Jr. is committed to new dietary recommendations that are rooted in rigorous science” and that “the 2025–2030 Dietary Guidelines for Americans will be a big part of the Trump Administration’s commitment to Make America Healthy Again.” A USDA spokesperson said the updated guidelines “will address the chronic disease epidemic plaguing our nation, by prioritizing whole, healthy, and nutritious foods.”

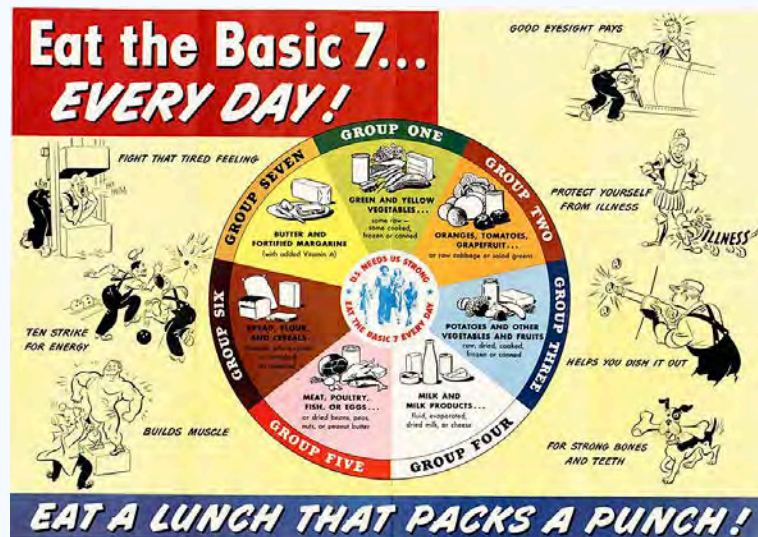
TIME has reached out to both departments about the potential return of the food pyramid. Unnamed sources told Bloomberg that the visual is expected to focus on protein and whole foods, which Kennedy has long endorsed as he aims to steer the public away from ultra-processed food products.

The rise of the food pyramid

Early public nutrition advice from the USDA came as a warning. Wilbur O. Atwater, a chemist and renowned nutritionist, published in a 1902 Farmers' Bulletin: “Unless care is exercised in selecting food, a diet may result which is one-sided or badly balanced—that is, one in which either protein or fuel ingredients (carbohydrate and fat) are provided in excess. ... The evils of overeating may not be felt at once, but sooner or later they are sure to appear.”

Over the years, U.S. authorities have tried to make recommendations on what Americans should eat—and to create visuals so that the public can easily understand the dietary recommendations.

In 1943, during World War II, the USDA issued dietary advice in the form of the “Basic Seven,” which took into consideration potential shortages in food rations, according to a chapter by Carole Davis and Etta Saltos in the 1999 book *America’s Eating Habits: Changes and Consequences*. Three of the seven categories were dedicated to fruits and vegetables, and one slot each was dedicated to the following: milk and milk products; meat, poultry, fish, and eggs; bread, flour, and cereals; and butter or fortified margarine. But it didn’t recommend a portion size of each food group.

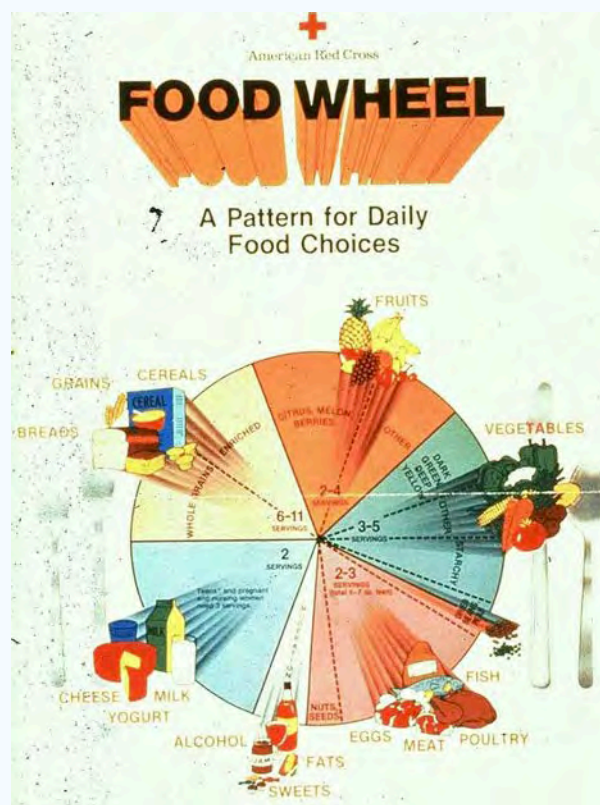


In 1956, the Basic Seven was simplified to the Basic Four, organized into the groups: milk, meat, vegetable-fruit, and bread-cereal. It also provided rough daily serving suggestions for each group: four servings each for vegetable-fruit and bread-cereal, two for meat, and “some” for milk and milk products.

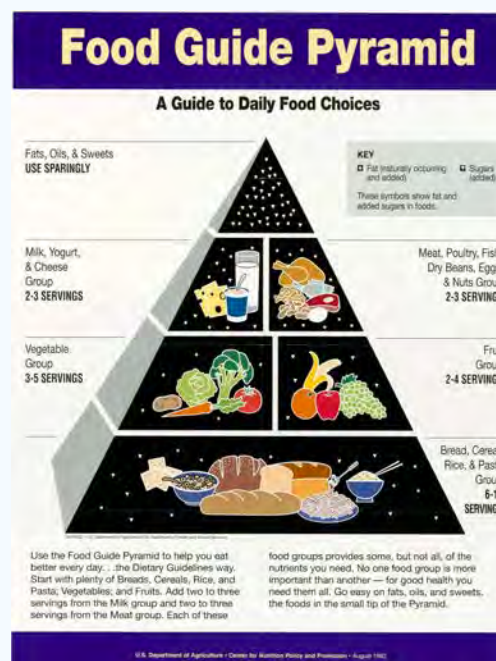


In the 1970s, the U.S. Dietary Guidelines as Americans know it today began to take shape, as disease became increasingly linked to unhealthy diets. Dietary fat was increasingly under scrutiny, and in 1977, a Senate committee led by Sen. George McGovern (D, S.D.) released Dietary Goals for the United States that recommended consuming less sugar, sodium, and fat—and more complex carbohydrates and “naturally occurring” sugars.

Then, in 1980, the USDA and the HHS released the seven-point Dietary Guidelines for Americans, as the overconsumption of sugar, fat, saturated fat, cholesterol, and sodium steadily gained recognition as risk factors for developing chronic diseases. To illustrate what a healthier diet would look like at the time, the USDA, in cooperation with the American National Red Cross, presented consumers with “The Food Wheel: A Pattern for Daily Food Choices” in 1984.



Four years later, the food guide was released in a pyramid format. The width of the pyramid level roughly indicated the proportion of food servings: at its base were bread, rice, cereal, and grains, which should have the largest servings; and at its apex were fats and sweets, which should be consumed sparingly.

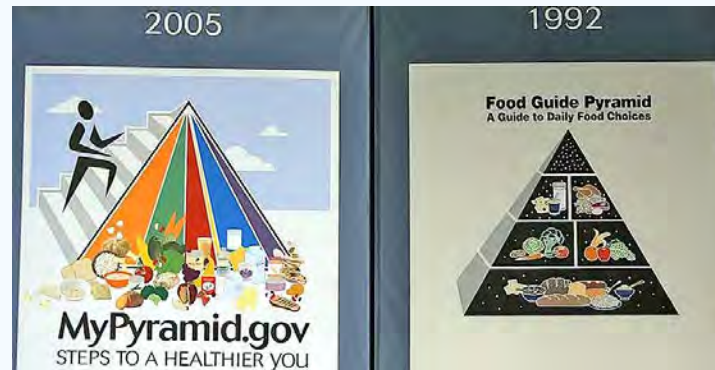


The fall of the food pyramid

But even the pyramid drew flak for still being broad and vague. For instance, it recommended that Americans eat 6 to 11 servings of grains, but details such as serving sizes and which specific food items within each category were healthier options (like brown rice compared to white rice) remained unclear. Critics also highlighted how it failed

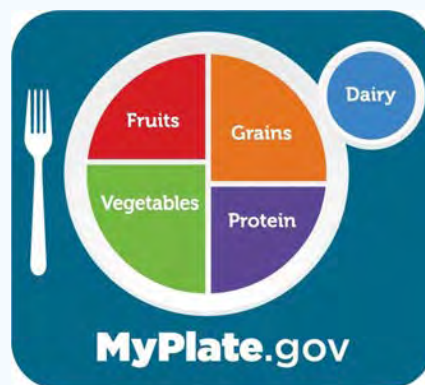
to account for individual differences in dietary requirements, such as across different age and health demographics.

To address those concerns, work began in 2003 to update the pyramid, and two years later, a new version was released, called MyPyramid. It was outfitted with stairs, meant to remind Americans of the need for exercise, and its food divisions were flipped to the side, in bands of varying colors to represent different food groups: orange for grains, green for vegetables, red for fruits, yellow for oils, blue for milk, and purple for beans and meats.



In 2011, the U.S. abandoned the food pyramid in favor of what it called MyPlate, which used a plate to represent what the average person should eat per the latest Dietary Guidelines for Americans. Tom Vilsack, then the Agriculture Secretary, described MyPlate as a “simple, visual, research-based icon that is a clear, unmistakable message about portion size.”

MyPlate’s recommendations are easy to follow: half of a plate should contain fruits and vegetables, and roughly a quarter each for grains and protein. A smaller plate to the side was for dairy. The goal, as then-First Lady Michelle Obama presented it, was to make the American plate look like the one shown in the MyPlate graphic.



The potential return of the food pyramid

Details on what a new dietary guideline visual will look like are still under discussion. Kennedy, who as HHS Secretary oversees nutrition standards, has vocally advocated against ultra processed foods, which he claims are “poisoning” Americans, blaming such products for causing chronic diseases and high national obesity rates.

But Kennedy has also peddled misinformation about food. He’s spoken out against seed oils like canola and soybean, even though experts have touted their health benefits, and

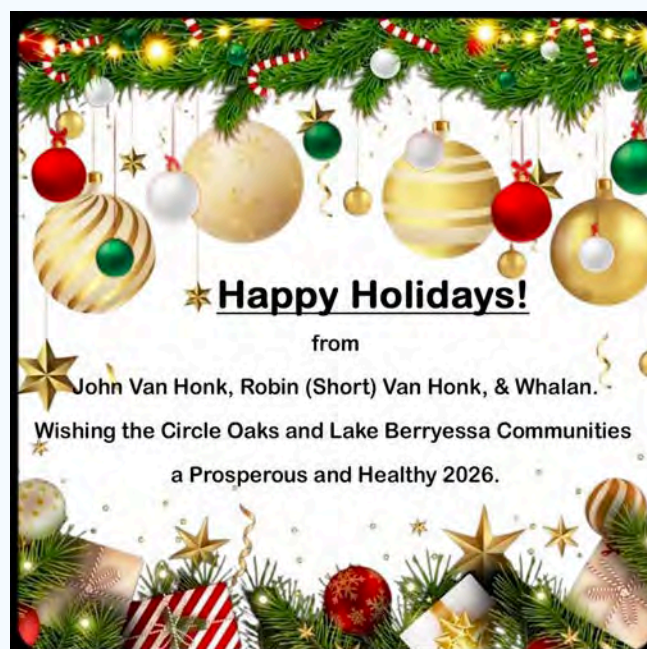
has endorsed beef tallow as a replacement. He has also embraced raw milk, even though food safety experts have warned of the high risk of contracting food-borne illnesses from consuming it.

The forthcoming guidelines have caused anxiety among nutritionists, given Kennedy's beliefs. At a July event in Colorado, Kennedy said the guidelines will "stress the need to eat saturated fats," which are associated with health risks. That same month, Kennedy also promoted full-fat dairy products, criticizing what he described as an "attack on whole milk, cheese, and yogurt" as he announced his overhaul of the nation's dietary guidelines. "The dietary guidelines that we inherited from the Biden Administration were 453 pages long," Kennedy said in August, though the current guidelines are only 164 pages. "They were driven by the same commercial impulses that put Froot Loops at the top of the food pyramid."

While the food pyramid may be brought back, albeit likely with different details, Kennedy has indicated that the new guidelines in total will be just a few pages long. Kevin Klatt, a research scientist and instructor in the Department of Nutritional Sciences and Toxicology at University of California, Berkeley, says that such a reform reflects "a bit of a misunderstanding of the role of the Dietary Guidelines."

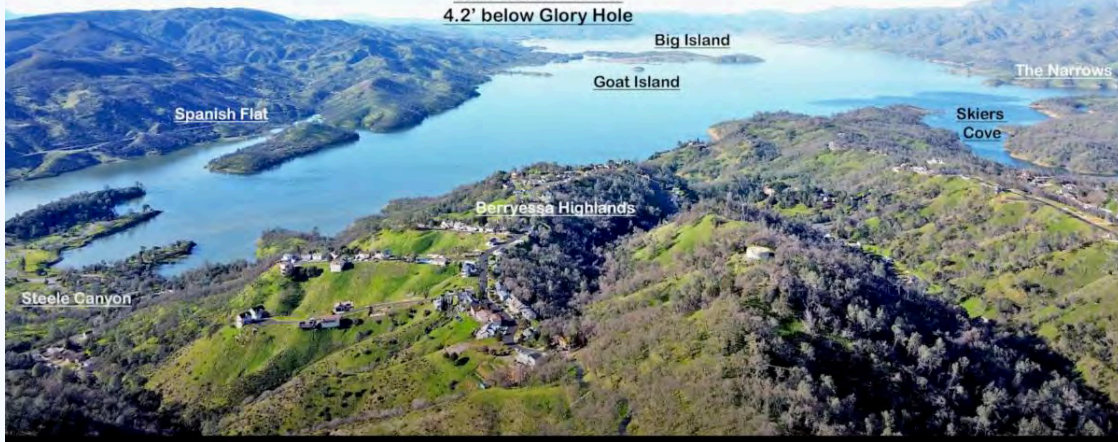
"The title indicates they are 'for Americans' but the user is not actually intended to be the American public," Klatt said in August. "Since 2005, the dietary guidelines have really been intended to be used by healthcare professionals and as a policy document. The current administration seems to want to roll that back, and doesn't seem to acknowledge that it's a policy document."

<https://time.com/7333903/food-pyramid-diet-guide-rfk-maha-american-nutrition-visual-history/>



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Lake Berryessa Technical Manual

The Science, Engineering, History, and Humor of a Major Unnatural Resource

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[The Lake Berryessa Watershed](#)

[Rainfall and Lake Level History](#)

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[How Deep is Lake Berryessa?](#)

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

[Mean Sea Level: Is There Such A Thing As Accurate Height?](#)

[Water In, Water Out, But From Where?](#)

[Does the WALROS Like Lake Berryessa?](#)

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[Are There Quail on Quail Ridge?](#)

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[VI. The "Big Illusion": Notice Of Intent](#)

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[VIII. The "Big Betrayal": Perversion Of Public Law 96-375](#)

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[X. The "Big Hole In History": Post-Pensus Blues](#)

[XI. The "Big Boondoggle": Creation Of A Phony National Monument](#)

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Jet Skis Rock: A Video History of Jet Ski Racing

by Peter Kilkus

When does history actually become HISTORY? The Jet Skis Rock story is really HISTORY. See Jet Skis Rock on my new YouTube page "Jet Skis Rock" (@jetskisrock).

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/0--The-Jet-Skis-Rock-Story-Final-121125.pdf>

Jet Skis Rock You Tube List Final (12/4/25)

Full Jet Skis Rock Playlist

<https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PL0Bt3jedg7wO7FVqZnOyzZE2x3Tb1cgLP>

Jet Skis Rock 1, Introduction

https://youtu.be/j_nLtRI_fzc

Jet Skis Rock 2, The Beginning, Peter & Evan's First Race (2001)

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

Jet Skis Rock 3, Jet Ski & Snowmobile Ramp Jumps

<https://youtu.be/DMbDUj77-CI>

Jet Skis Rock 4, Ocean Wave Jumps (2002)

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Cf_koAH_E48

Jet Skis Rock 5, Racing Action

<https://youtu.be/8uLa6hhHPBk>

Jet Skis Rock 6, Crash & Rescue

<https://youtu.be/VurSqs5B0CU>

Jet Skis Rock 7, Jet Ski Crashes & Jumps

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NiL_5gpd8yg

Jet Skis Rock 8, Jet Ski Extreme Racing

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lwPiYa84fiY>

Jet Skis Rock 9, Nashville Watercross Nationals (2002)

<https://youtu.be/RHT1Gjb7LWk>

Jet Skis Rock 10, Indoor Racing Paris Bercy

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fC--vCcm7K0>

Jet Skis Rock 10-1: First Indoor Paris Bercy Jet Ski Races, (July 4, 1990)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nzciJV5hKH0&t=242s>

Jet Skis Rock 11, Pahrump Las Vegas (2003)

<https://youtu.be/bAncbEZPEZk>

Jet Skis Rock 12, Argyll Park, CA (2004)

<https://youtu.be/cTcAo5ZK7H8>

Jet Skis Rock 13, Escape from Alcatraz Event (2004)

<https://youtu.be/lyrE58c7WdE>

Jet Skis Rock 14, Western States Cup Promo (2005)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=m5-yCyqiN5U>

Jet Skis Rock 15, Western States Cup (2005)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BCNEZcbU02s>

Jet Skis Rock 16, Lake Havasu World Finals (2001)

<https://youtu.be/xQBcDaRM-rk>

Jet Skis Rock 17, Evan Wins, Awards & Family (2003)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XG4Ynyx2G2Q>

Jet Skis Rock 18, Lake Havasu World Finals (2003)

<https://youtu.be/TCYhatEoOfM>

Jet Skis Rock 19, Lake Havasu World Finals (2004)

https://youtu.be/Onom_vN6tXk

Jet Skis Rock 20, Lake Havasu 2006, Race, Freestyle, People

<https://youtu.be/XdVnTcaZ6dM>

Jet Skis Rock 21, Freestyle Example - Lee Stone

<https://youtu.be/u9zd2o7bpEE>

Jet Skis Rock 21-1, Jet Ski Freestyle, Havasu World Finals 2012

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=6YEQW7-Y>

Jet Skis Rock 21-2, Jet Ski Freestyle, Havasu World Finals 2022, Lee Stone

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8s_q9SEE65U

Jet Skis Rock 22, Nedra Atwood, #1 Fan Interview

<https://youtu.be/tVrRGTH2Bi8>

Jet Skis Rock 22-1, World Finals 2017 - Nedra Atwood Interview

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FNIAdqhsJPK&t=8s>

Jet Skis Rock 22-2, Nedra's Song - A tribute to PWC's #1 fan

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=NjFoG-hqksc>

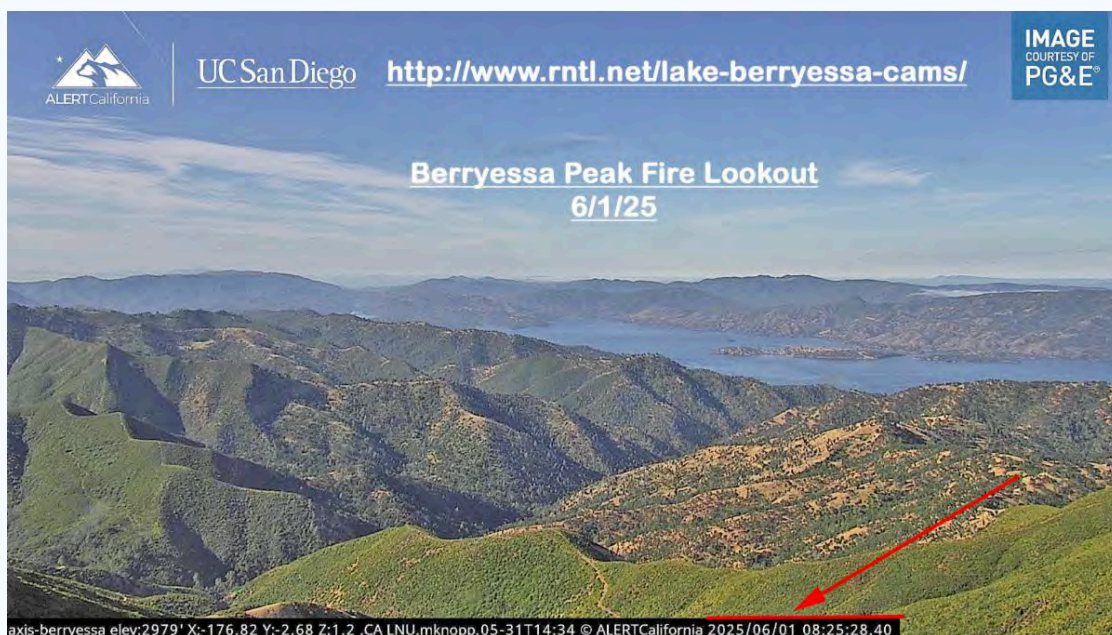
Jet Skis Rock 23, Hot Water- the Movie (2021)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9EV9EuOEr6c>

Lake Berryessa Fire Watch Cameras

This site covers the whole Lake Berryessa Region.

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





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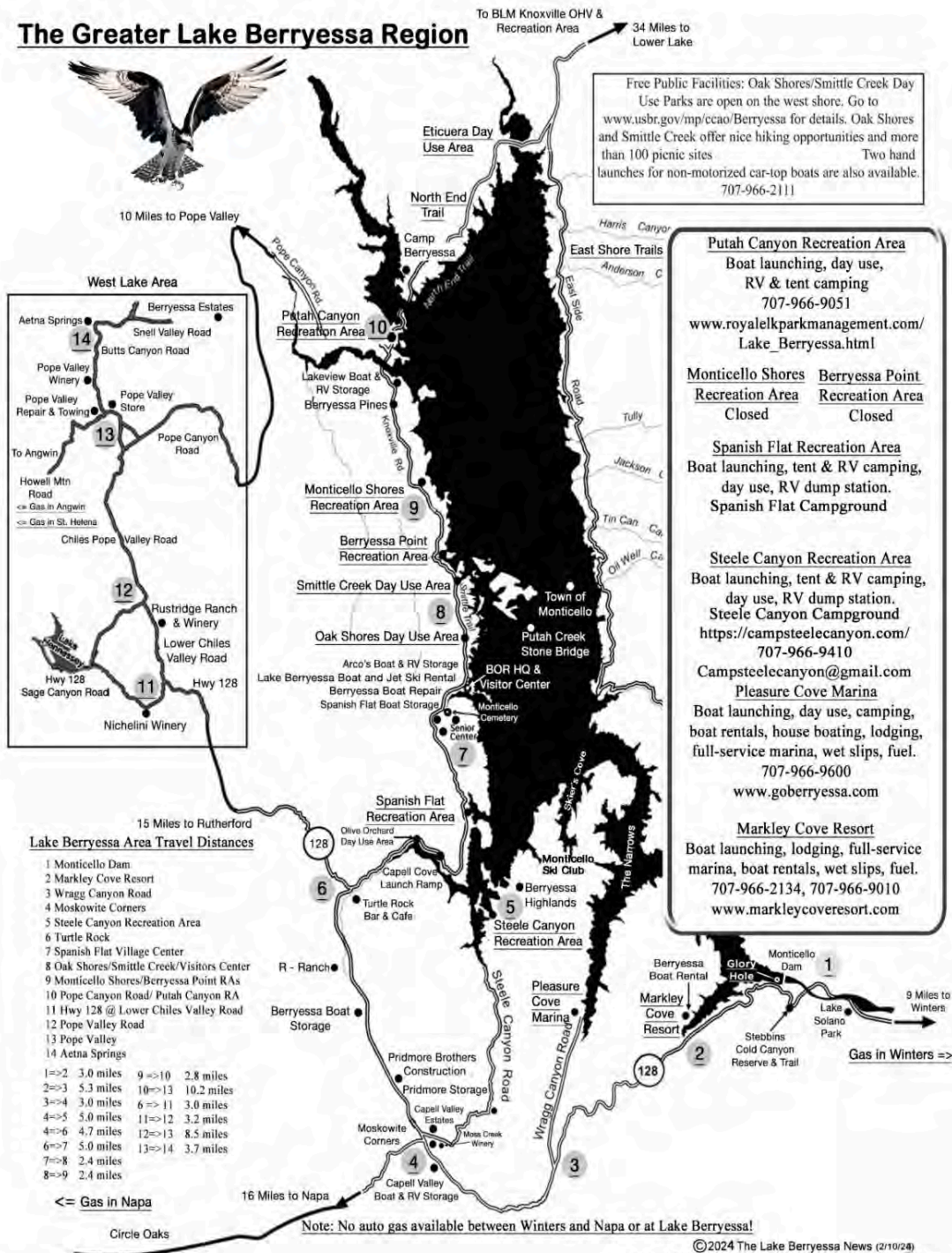
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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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