

## Lake Berryessa News - Happy New Year 2025

January 1, 2025

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### Glory Hole Watch 2025

(January 1, 2025)

It is statistically likely that Glory Hole will overflow in 2025, but when?

Although rainfall has been good to date, and we are only 3.6 feet below Glory Hole, we need another 5+ inches of rain to overflow, depending on how many dry spells we may get. At the present lake level, every inch of rain on saturated ground raises the lake about 7 inches. The charts below give some historical context

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#### Lake Berryessa Statistics (1/1/25)

The rain total has grown to 12.07 inches at Monticello Dam as of 1/1/24.

We actually had that last .07 inches on Christmas Day.

Cobb Mountain just hit 39.9 inches!

Lake level is now at 436.4 feet, now only 3.6 feet below Glory Hole.

Water temperature continues to drop and has stabilized at 54 degrees.

Lake output has dropped slightly to 75 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 149 A-F (acre feet per day).

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake capacity is at 95.7%.

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	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"	

as of 1/1/25

The wettest year was 1983 with 56.94 inches.

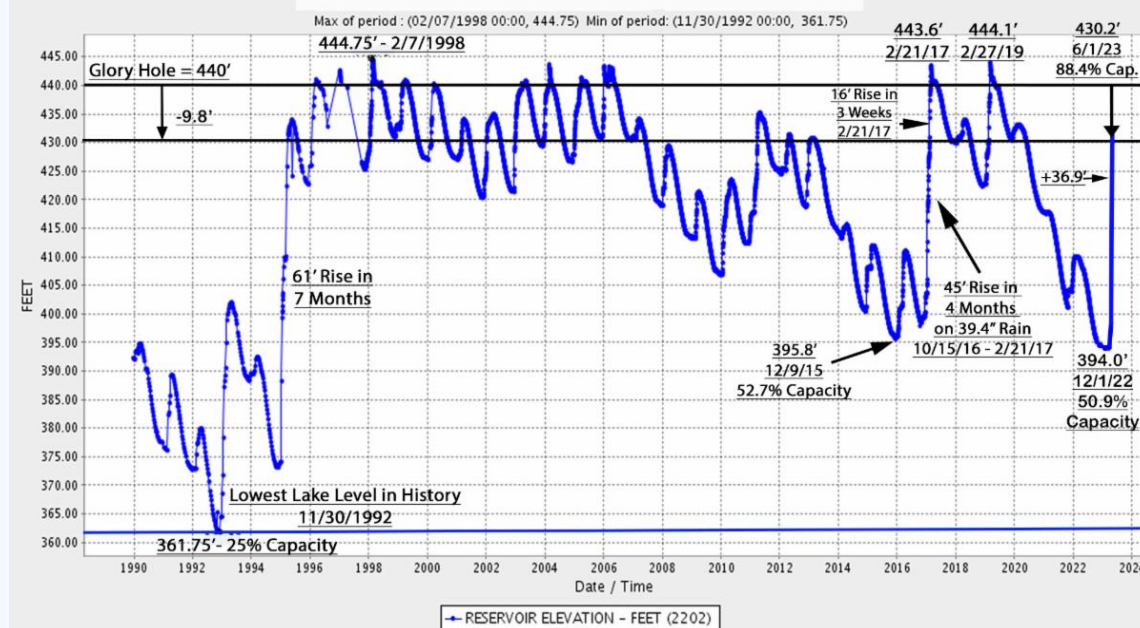
The lake was 6.7 feet over Glory Hole, the highest in history.

The driest year was 1976 with only 7.78 inches total rainfall.

The most precipitation in one month was 21.33 inches in January 1995.

The most precipitation in 24 hours was 5.29 inches on December 31, 2005. If you were around then, this is when the hill collapsed on Monticello Road just past the Wooden Valley Road turnoff, cutting the road to Napa for 2 weeks! We all had to do a lot more driving to reach "civilization".

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### Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program Update

Things are very quiet with no updates from Napa County except, "Not much to report until the beginning of February. Camp Margaritaville Resorts at Steele Canyon Campground is still on track"

### Unwelcome Excitement at Lake Berryessa

With the golden mussel emergency affecting many boaters and the progress of Glory Hole Watch 2025 taking up a lot of attention, there has not been much other news to talk about until last Sunday. A couple of young men decided to take a toy boat (a kayak with outriggers and a small sail) out on the blustery north end near Putah Canyon Campground. It made the news all over northern California. Not much was made of the victims' poor judgment which could have resulted in their deaths. Most of the coverage focused on the fact that they wore life jackets (when wet suits would have been more appropriate). The incident does show the excellent rapid emergency response, as usual, of the various agencies (see the list in the story below.) operating professionally around the lake. Can you estimate the cost of that response?

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### North Bay deputies rescue 2 after kayak overturns on Lake Berryessa

The Napa County Sheriff's Office is stressing the importance of life jackets after deputies rescued two men from Lake Berryessa on Sunday. The sheriff's office Marine Patrol unit responded in the morning to a report of an overturned kayak at the lake east of Putah Campground. Arriving deputies located two men in the water yelling for help.

"Fortunately, both men were wearing life jackets," the sheriff's office said.

After deputies reached the kayakers and pulled them from the water, they were treated on scene for mild hypothermia, authorities said. Cal Fire, American Medical Response, California Highway Patrol Air Operations and the Bureau of Reclamation assisted in the rescue response.

"The life jackets and swift response by all agencies allowed both kayakers to make it home safely," the Napa County Sheriff's Office said.







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### **YIPpies, YUPpies, MOPIes, and PUPpies**

The guys in the boat could be referred to as Pathetically Unprepared People (PUPpies). Once there were hippies, yuppies, and yuppies, and maybe we've all been some of one or the other or all. But now I think we're cultivating too many MOPIes - Moderately Old and Philosophically Incapacitated. There are some people who aren't happy unless they mope around finding things to complain about and standing in the way of imaginative, integrative solutions to problems. Although the right to be heard does not include the right to be taken seriously, these folks certainly exercise their right to be heard, especially around Lake Berryessa and Napa County over the years.

But the other people we've encountered at Lake Berryessa are more like PUPpies. Most of these folks seem to learn about "nature" from TV shows. So, you get people, despite so many warnings, who go to Yellowstone Park and try to pet the buffalo!

We had a spate of lost hikers on Stebbins Cold Canyon trails a few years ago. See the chapter in my book: Lake Berryessa Technical Manual: The Science, Engineering, History, and Humor of a Major Unnatural Resource.

#### **[Why Does A Hiker Cross The Road? To Get To Stebbins Cold Canyon](https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Tech-Manual-Chapters/-Stebbins-Cold-Canyon.pdf)**

(<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Tech-Manual-Chapters/-Stebbins-Cold-Canyon.pdf>)


Most of the lost hikers were unprepared for the length and difficulty of the trails. They did not bring warm clothes nor sufficient water or food. A family of five had to be rescued by helicopter. The helicopter crew was able to locate them by the light from their cellphones. Video from the helicopter showed the cell phone lead the helicopter to a lost family of five.

There has been an ongoing debate as to whether the people being rescued should be charged for the cost to of their rescue - especially if it seemed that their own negligence caused the need for their rescue.



While costs vary, most search-and-rescue efforts utilizing a helicopter for a few hours will be in the \$5,000 to \$10,000 range. It can be more if a rescue takes longer than a few hours. Search-and-rescue volunteers donate their time and risk their lives to help others.

Some agencies around the country attempted to do so but relented. Several people interviewed said that if they knew they would be charged the thousands of dollars required to rescue them, they would not have sought help and strike out on their own. This is the major reason that in almost all circumstances in the U.S. and Canada, search and rescue is free.

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Decontamination Start-To-Finish: Golden Mussel Cleaning at Berryessa

<https://youtu.be/umaOYCQJLBA?si=ANKMbTafk3jC1CXr>

Lake Berryessa Quarantine Update - Interview with Solano Water District and  
Decontamination Process

<https://youtu.be/6Er9qnizuAc?si=llgSdz9DgmoDt7ZT>

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What do you say when bidding farewell on Dec. 31? "See you next year!"

What do you say to someone you didn't see on New Year's Eve?  
I haven't seen you since last year!

My New Year's resolution is to see my cup half-full, preferably with rum, gin, or vodka.

What is the digital camera's New Year's resolution? 1080p.

What's the worst part of jogging on New Year's Eve? The ice falling out of your drink!

My New Year's resolution was to drop my bad habits, but no one likes a quitter.

What was Dr. Frankenstein's New Year's resolution? To make new friends.

What's the easiest way to keep your New Year's resolution to read more?  
Watch TV with subtitles.

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**Lake Berryessa Boater Outreach Program Highlights 2024**

<https://youtu.be/N8tjCsqrG8?si=vnSJ48YMdliJFCeG>

Check out the 2024 Lake Berryessa Boater Outreach Program video. This video highlights the legacy and impact of the program as well as the importance of education and outreach. Hear from key partners and our team of interns who are working hard to protect our drinking water quality through education and the use of oil absorbents to keep boat engines clean.

The video includes Jeniffer Onufer, BOR Lake Berryessa Park Manager. Also, Amber Garcia who used to be the Steele Canyon Campground manager several years ago when Pleasure Cove Marina (Suntex) managed it.

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### **2025 is Here! And Our Last Appeal For Your Contribution To The 25 For 25 Program**

My sincere thanks to those of you who have already contributed to the future of the Lake Berryessa News. But I must continue my one last appeal for your support for The Lake Berryessa News 25 for 25 program.

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

If you love Lake Berryessa and the Lake Berryessa News in all its forms and want to support the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program please send a donation check of \$25 (or more if you feel so inclined) made out to Peter Kilkus (not the Lake Berryessa News) and mail it to Peter Kilkus, 1515 Headlands Drive, Napa, CA 94558. You can stick crinkly old cash in an envelope with your information and send it to the same address. You can also use Venmo or Paypal if you wish. My Venmo account is under @Peter-Kilkus, Paypal is Member #2051. You can email me at [pkilkus@gmail.com](mailto:pkilkus@gmail.com).

Hopefully, I'll have some good news soon about the future of the Lake Berryessa community.

Thanks, Peter



Once again, here's a New Year's present from The Lake Berryessa News to my readers - Free downloadable chapters from my book:

[Lake Berryessa Technical Manual: The Science, Engineering, History, and Humor of a Major Unnatural Resource:](#)

[The Death of a Valley](#)

[Why Does Lake Berryessa Exist?](#)

[The Lake Berryessa Watershed](#)

[Rainfall and Lake Level History](#)

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

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[Fun on the Pacific flyway - Waterfowl Communication About the Glory Hole Water Slide](#)

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### **January 2025 Horoscopes**

**Aries (3/21-4/19):** All of your hard work will soon pay off after your boss acknowledges that you were a very, very close runner-up for the promotion he just gave a colleague.

**Taurus (4/20 – 5/20):** Today is going to be like most days, certainly in terms of its length and the frequency of sun-rises to sun-sets.

**Gemini (5/21 – 6/21):** The best of excuses are those that are plausible (so, not ones that involve you, super-powers and hordes of sexy friends).

**Cancer (6/22-7/22):** It all used to be so much easier, but with age you're finding certain things much more difficult.

**Leo (7/23-8/22):** Be playful at heart and you'll reap the reward of having more friends under the age of 10.

**Virgo (8/23-9/22):** What you hear and what was said may differ today, so be aware of either your failing hearing or your increasing hatred of those talking to you.

**Libra (9/23-10/22):** Life throws us all crazy things now and then. Like swords made of ham. And dogs on skateboards. Your lucky goat name for today is: Penelope.

**Scorpio (10/23-11/21):** When trying to take the tight top of a bottle of anything, you may find yourself contemplating destroying the universe.

**Sagittarius (11/22-12/21):** Are you loveable? Take time out today to contemplate that thought and try to make sure that you are very loveable.

**Capricorn (12/22-1/19):** Many of your feelings can be expressed in the form of haikus. However, you'll be lucky if you can find anyone who gives a flying hoot, or who actually finds them impressive in any way.

**Aquarius (1/20-2/18):** Much of your body weight tends to be distributed in a specific place - but that may start shifting today.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): In biscuits one can find sweet, sweet redemption. Especially when soaked in Rum.

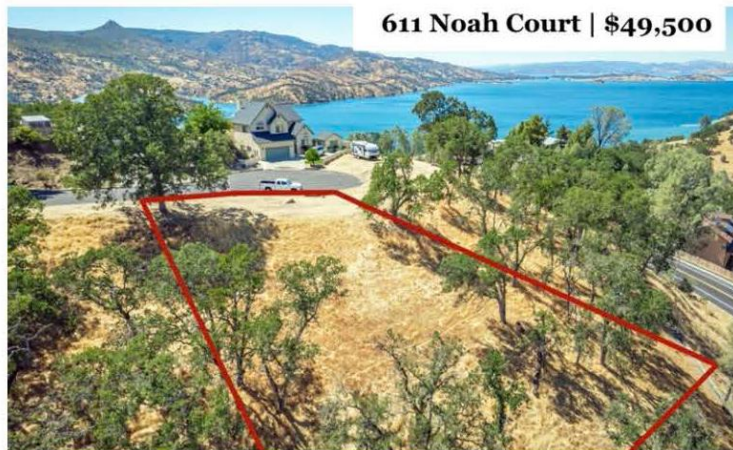
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A woman took an afternoon nap on New Year's Eve. When she woke up, she told her husband, "I just dreamed that you gave me a diamond ring for a New Year's present. What do you think it all means?" He replied, "Aha, you'll know tonight!" At midnight, her husband handed her a small, gift-wrapped present. Excited, she opened it quickly, but was even more surprised: In it was a book titled The Meaning of Dreams.

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### **814 Bahia Vista Court**

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An advertisement for ValleyInternet. The top left features the ValleyInternet logo and a list of services: Fiber speeds, Trusted service, Friendly &amp; responsive support team, and meter.me water monitoring and automation. A 'NEW' badge is next to the last item. The top right text says 'Connecting the countryside with fast &amp; reliable internet since 2004.' Below this, a speech bubble says 'NOW OFFERING METER.ME REMOTE WATER TANK MONITORING FOR RURAL COMMUNITIES !!'. The bottom left has contact information: 'Contact us today!', '(707) 422-1200', 'service@valleyinternet.net', and 'www.valleyinternet.com'. The bottom right features a QR code and a photo of a cow standing on a grassy hill under a blue sky.

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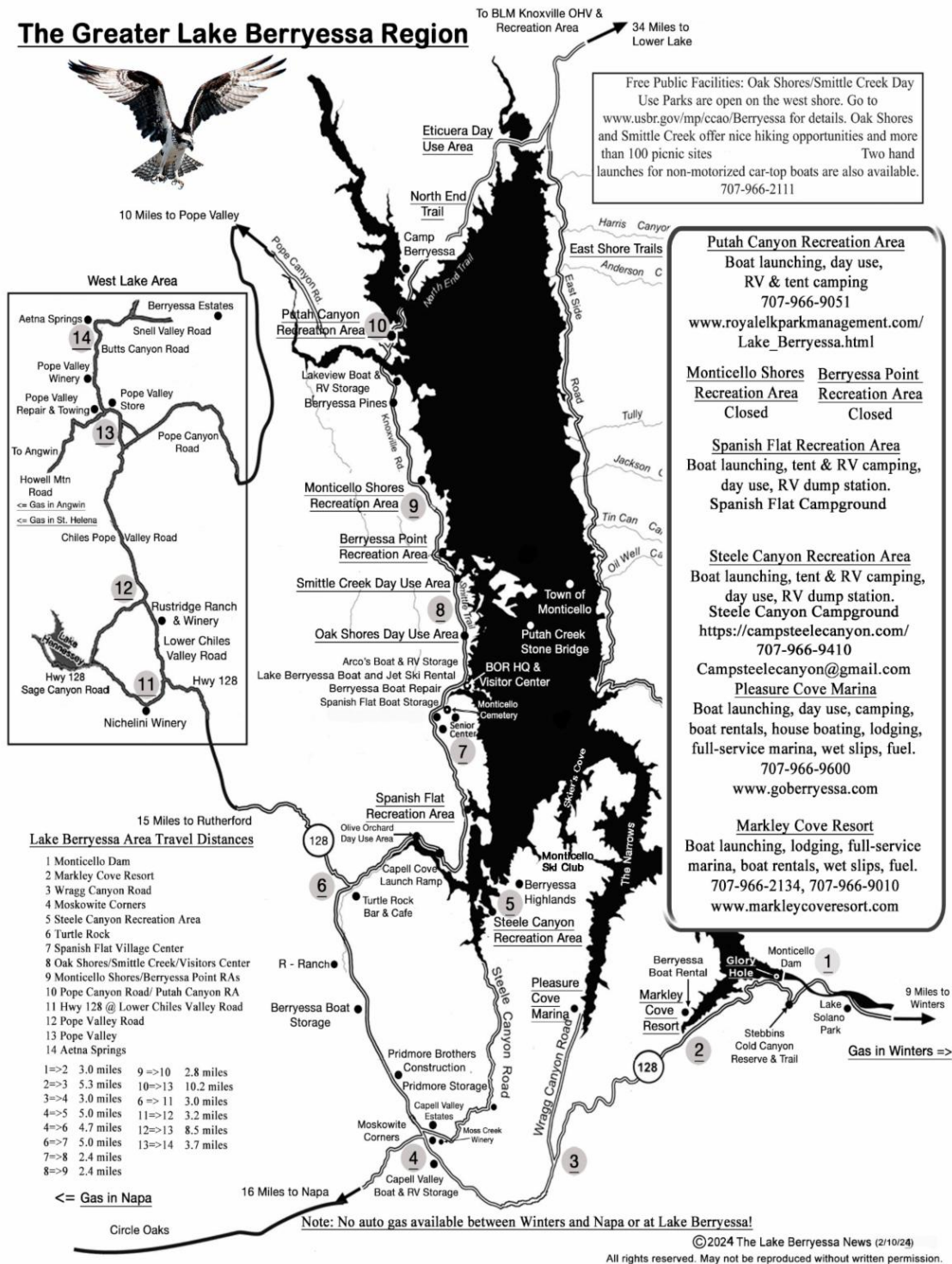


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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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## **Lake Berryessa News Special Edition**

### **Lake Berryessa is Under Attack - Again! - A Call To Action!**

**January 12, 2025**

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#### **Glory Hole Watch 2025**

The rain total is at 12.34 inches at Monticello Dam. No rain likely for at least a week.

Lake level is now at 437.05 feet, now only 2.95 feet below Glory Hole.

Water temperature continues to drop and has stabilized at 53.2 degrees.

Lake output has been at 100 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 198 A-F (acre feet per day) for several days.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake capacity is at 96.6%.

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*(Editor's Note: The Lake Berryessa News does not write about politics except when the politics affects the Lake Berryessa community. The following opinion column is aimed at correcting misinformation being spread publicly regarding the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program and the Steele Canyon Recreation Area planning process.)*

#### **Lake Berryessa is Under Attack - Again! - A Call To Action!**

An Editorial Opinion by Peter Kilkus, Editor-Publisher

As I watched a video clip of Carol Kunze speaking at the last Napa County Supervisors meeting on Tuesday, January 7, 2025, I thought someone had accidentally posted a clip of Kunze from 25 years ago. I debated her on Napa Public Television way back then, and her style of aggressive misrepresentation has not changed much. The video of her comments is available to review for yourselves at:

<https://youtu.be/FJX25b0VHdc>

Her buzzwords describing 20-year old issues and requesting a "broader conversation" for which we "need more information" to make the choice between a "family-friendly vs party lake" have not been valid for more than 20 years. During that time, despite all the hard work to protect the lake, our community has been subject to the ravages of evil, entropy, and the economy. But we've had five functioning resorts still operating with no "party lake" problems. Her comments come a year after the first sneak attack on Camp Margaritaville RV Resorts at the Supervisors meeting on November 7, 2023.

Those of you who follow the news about Lake Berryessa may have noticed a few articles that week popping up in local media after that meeting. The subject was the Napa County

supervisors' approval of a negotiating agreement with Camp Margaritaville Resorts in its bid for the revitalization of the Steele Canyon Recreation area. The item was originally on the "consent agenda" which means it was deemed generally unobjectionable and not in need of a public hearing. This was the same process that was used two weeks earlier to approve the interim contracts for Steele Canyon and Spanish Flat, and was one reason neither I, nor any other supporters of the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Process, attended the meeting.

But at the last minute the item was unexpectedly removed from the consent agenda by an unknown person and opened for discussion and public comment. This was followed by a concerted attack on the proposal from a small clique of psuedo-environmental exclusionists.

Their comments were little more than empty ad hominem arguments against the word "Margaritaville". They appeared to be crafting a new "The Little Lie" to replace "The Big Lie" I documented in my book: Policy and Politics Betray the People: The Lake Berryessa Saga: 1958 - 2020, "The Lake Berryessa resorts, especially the mobile homes in the resorts, discouraged the general public from accessing the lake, prevented the public from using the best parts of the shoreline, and also polluted the lake."

Their "Little Lie" is that "Margaritaville" means an exceptionally large resort with wild and crazy Cabo Wabo type activities that will be inappropriate for our community. None of their comments were valid. They simply wanted to frighten people with the image, despite the substance of the actual proposal. The real name of the bidder is Camp Margaritaville Resorts which focuses on family camping and lodging, especially RV camping. I stayed at a Margaritaville Resort in the Cayman Islands several years ago. It was one of the less expensive resorts on the beach, with simple but elegant facilities, great beach, nice restaurants, bars, shops, and pools.

What concerned me most about that November 2023 meeting was that it appeared to have been a coordinated, pre-planned stealth attack on the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Project which blindsided the County itself and the majority of the Lake Berryessa region residents, especially those in the Berryessa Highlands, who were not able to make comments of support at the meeting.

Having watched the meeting video more than once, I can affirm that Mr. Lederer, Ms. Sears, and the Camp Margaritaville representative Mr. Wilkens, did excellent jobs in answering all questions in detail, refuting every negative comment before they were made by the speakers later.

The totality of the meeting was positive in its presentation of the facts. It would have been even better with some Lake Berryessa community supporters there to add their positives comments. As I told the supervisors, "If you actually wish to hear what the real people think about the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Project, please provide a date and time at which I can have dozens of Lake Berryessa supporters lined up to speak in support of the Camp Margaritaville Resorts proposal or any other reasonable plan for our lake community."

I've made the Supervisors' meeting video available on You Tube at:

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

The video is an hour long but answers every relevant question in detail.

I also excerpted a statement by Supervisor Pedroza completely contradicting the negative misinformation being spread by the naysayers at the meeting. Supervisor Pedroza has consistently supported the Lake Berryessa community since he was first elected. I am hopeful that new Board of Supervisors will also be similarly supportive.

Pedroza statement: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TbbDDbWzMdE>

This meeting resulted, probably as planned, in a spate of articles in local news outlets focusing only on the opponents' misrepresentation of the facts - and the word "cringey". Interestingly, Tuesday's little coordinated group of naysayers had never raised its head before in opposition to any of the other proposals over the last few years. Perhaps Sun Outdoors or Suntex Marinas just sounds better to them than "Margaritaville". Why didn't they complain two years earlier when the bid was awarded to Sun Companies (Sun Outdoors) which had proposed a more expansive plan?

Hopefully the Board of Supervisors will live up to its agenda statement that:

"The County hopes that the private investment associated with a long-term concession agreement will improve recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, provide new employment opportunities, and possibly become an anchor for revitalization of the Lake Berryessa community."

After that attack, which included false statements that the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program might violate the Napa County General Plan or that it didn't include "nature-based recreation", I wrote several reports refuting those allegations. These reports are available on my website (<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>) at:

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

[Environmental Management at Lake Berryessa](#)

[Nature Based Recreation at Lake Berryessa](#)

The primary refutation of every comment made last week and the comments made by the small, unrepresentative group on November 7, 2023, is the **Ragatz Report** funded by Napa County. It includes comprehensive analysis of Lake Berryessa's potential as an asset to Napa County and a detailed survey of several thousand lake users, including Napa County residents. The Lake Berryessa News and the Lake Berryessa Chamber of commerce worked diligently to get as many people as possible to respond to the survey.

[2017 Ragatz Report Full](#)

[Ragatz Report Introduction & Summary of Recommendations](#)

On a personal note, although I publish, write, and edit The Lake Berryessa News and am the president of the Lake Berryessa Chamber of Commerce, I am essentially a community

advocate dedicated for the last 25 years to the success of the Lake Berryessa community. I have been an environmental advocate since I read Rachel Carson's book "Silent Spring" in the late 1960's. I've been amusingly accused of several personal flaws during my advocacy for the future of Lake Berryessa, but no one can question my environmental credentials. In the interests of transparency, I've posted my full resume at:

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Lake-Berryessa-Support-Documentation/Peter-Kilkus-Resume-2025.pdf>

The Introduction states that I "have twenty-five years of corporate management experience in all aspects of telecommunication equipment design and manufacturing. Wrote ISO 14001 Environmental Management Systems program for three local Lake Berryessa resorts. Successfully managed ISO 9001 Quality Management System certification for two companies. Public service as a member of the San Anselmo Town Council and Solid Waste and Recycling Advisory Committee. In-depth knowledge of business and environmental issues."

For those who are actually interested in environmental quality at Lake Berryessa, here are links to the Environmental Management System I wrote for Rancho Monticello Resort. I also wrote EMS programs for Steele Park Resort and Markley Cove Resort.

[Rancho Monticello Environmental Management System](#)

[Rancho Monticello Achieves ISO 14000 Certification](#)

[International Standard: ISO 14000, Environmental Management Systems](#)

I care about my neighbors and the fact that we've lost more than a decade of family recreation at the lake. My focus now is on the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Process, for which I ask the Lake Berryessa community's continued support.

To counteract the false information being spread about Steele Canyon Campground and the Camp Margaritaville process, I encourage everyone who supports the revitalization of our beloved lake to take action and contact our supervisors. Please tell them you appreciate the County's continued support of the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program and why.

District 1: Joelle Gallagher.

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District 3: Anne Cottrell

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District 5: Belia Ramos  
707-259-8278  
Belia.Ramos@countyofnapa.org

\*\*\*\*\*

I'll end this long report with a letter from RoseAnn DeMoro to the Napa Register on Saturday, January 11, 2025. RoseAnn was a Steele Park mobile home owner, as was I. I think this letter expresses the present view of most people in our lake community, of Lake Berryessa News readers, of people I've spoken with across our region, of folks in Napa, and of visitors from around the Bay Area. RoseAnn has done significant research on the Camp Margaritaville RV Resort locations, with positive results.

\*\*\*\*\*

To the Napa County Board of Supervisors,

I want to welcome the 2025 Board of Supervisors and wish them all the best. I also want to encourage them to please approach the Camp Margaritaville project with enthusiasm. Lake Berryessa is a Napa County treasure.

After discovering the lake when I lived in the Bay Area, we leased a small cabin on the lake. Prior to the federal government not renewing the leases, along with our kids, relatives and friends we spent many wonderful times throughout the years together there. The reflections on that time are priceless. The memories golden.

In the aftermath of losing that, I came to realize that families recreating together are some of the greatest ties that bind. They build community, the most wonderful shared memories, supportive family units, and are great opportunities for exercise. That is what happened at those resorts back then. People bonding with people.

Now we have a chance for incredible recreational activities again with the potential of Camp Margaritaville rebuilding the Steele Canyon Recreation Area. As a staunch environmentalist I have studied their resorts across the county. They are socially conscious and, as I understand it, the plans call for a soft footprint.

Families throughout Napa will have the opportunity to love and enjoy the lake as we did and find a safe, local place to gather free of distraction. There are thousands who will agree with me.

RoseAnn DeMoro, Napa

\*\*\*\*\*

For the facts about what happened at Lake Berryessa, here are links to free downloadable chapters in my book:

**Policy and Politics Betray the People: The Lake Berryessa Saga: 1958 - 2020**

[I. The Five Tragedies Of The Berryessa Valley: A History Of Heartbreak](#)

[II. Lake Berryessa Political History Timeline](#)

[III. The "Big Lie": How It All Began](#)

[IV. The "Big Fail": Napa Abandons Lake Berryessa \(1975\)](#)

[V. The "Big Picture": Lake Berryessa Issues: 1957 - 2012](#)

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

[VII. The "Big Fight": Facts Do Matter](#)

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

[IX. The "Big Mistake": Pensus - The Beginning Was The End!](#)

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

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

[Addendum 1. Dueling Napa Register Letters To The Editor](#)

[Addendum 2. The Napa Register View](#)

[Index Of Primary Documents](#)

\*\*\*\*\*

For context see my videos of a 1998 tour of Steele Park Resort and the final 2009 destruction of Steele Park Resort at:

Steele Park Resort Tour 1998:

<https://youtu.be/PkPV8dZS6pM?si=pul5grqzJj7Pgeop>

Destruction of Steele Park Resort 2009:

<https://youtu.be/i4pxcbA9pUY?si=AZIsS-DcuziUgwTu>

For information - do your own research.

<https://www.margaritavilleresorts.com/locations/ways-to-stay/rv-resorts>

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**Steele Canyon Campground Inc.**

**1605 Steele Canyon Rd, Napa, CA 94558**

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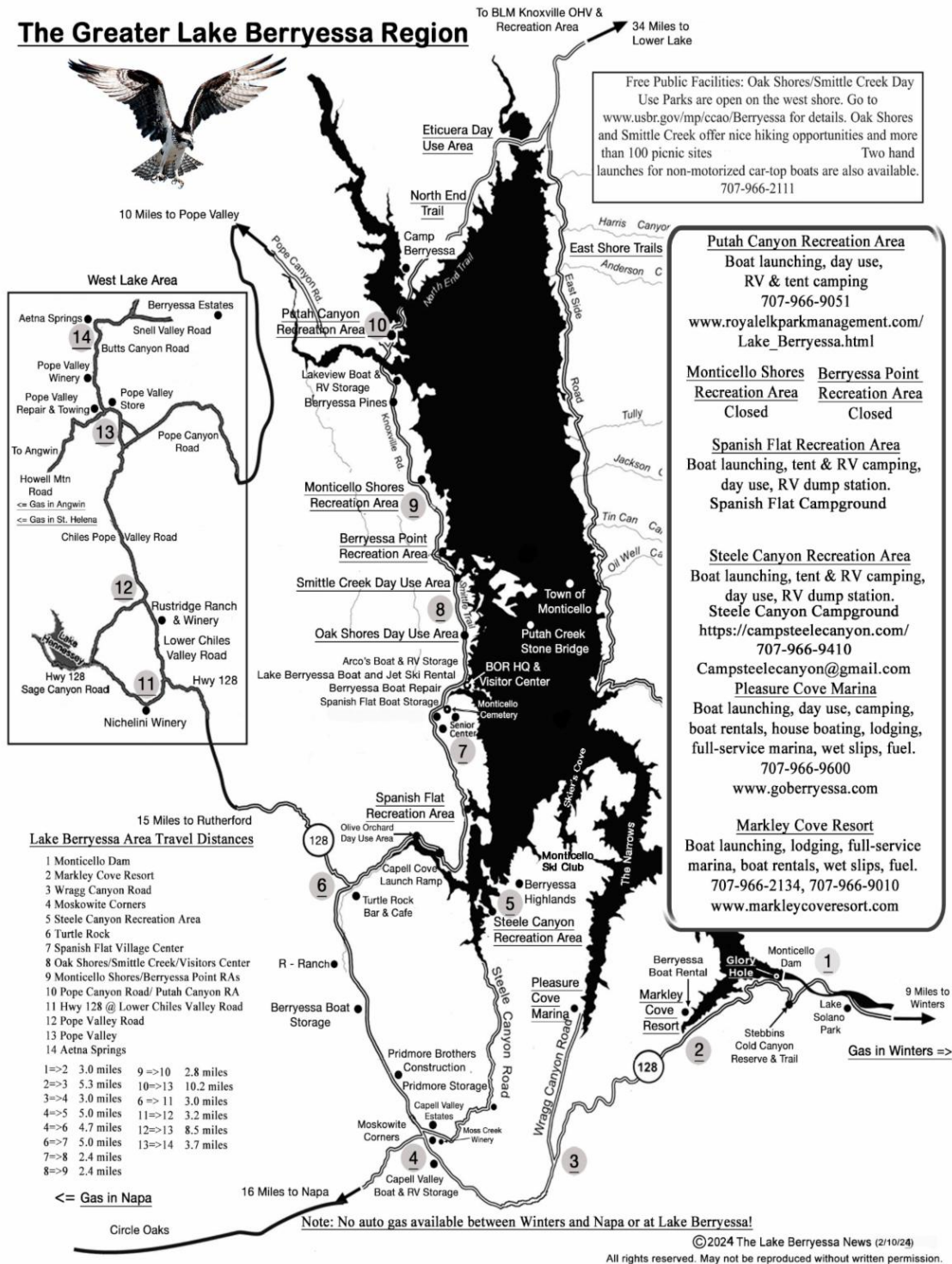
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Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)



# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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## **Lake Berryessa News -January 26, 2025**

### **The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program Explained!**

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#### **Glory Hole Watch 2025**

The .02" of rain today brought the total up to 12.36 inches at Monticello Dam. No rain likely for at least a week.

Lake level has remained at an average of 437.15 feet for more than a week, now only 2.85 feet below Glory Hole.

Water temperature continues to drop slowly and has stabilized at 52 degrees.

Lake output has been at 100 cfs (cubic feet per second) or 198 A-F (acre feet per day) for 3 weeks.

The Gamble Gauge shows the lake capacity is at 96.5%.

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#### **Rhonda's Roadhouse Report 1/25/25**

Rhonda's Roadhouse has a new Facebook page at:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61571831984325>.

You can post comments, make suggestions, and share the page with your friends. I'm sure they would appreciate your comments and suggestions. Check it out.

Rhonda and her team are local to the area and have deep roots in the region. They decided to open Rhonda's Roadhouse to create a community-focused space at Lake Berryessa. While winter is slower, they see it as an opportunity to test their operations and build a foundation for when traffic picks up in the warmer months. Their goal is to create a place where locals and visitors alike feel welcome, and they're committed to continuing to improve. They are working on plans to make the great outdoor space set up for live music and potentially Bocce ball.

The Roadhouse family were victims of the 2020 fires, but have since made the decision to rebuild their home here in Spanish Flat. With deep roots in the restaurant industry - both owners operated their own restaurants for many years - they saw an opportunity to help revitalize their community by purchasing a local restaurant. Their goal is not only to serve their neighbors but also to become a central hub for the Lake Berryessa area.

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# *Rhonda's* **ROAD HOUSE**

In the Spanish Flat Village Center at Beautiful Lake Berryessa

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### **The Lake Berryssa Revitalization Program Explained**

by Peter Killus

I have referred to the Lake Berryssa Revitalization Program for several years. I have been criticized that, "The "Lake Berryssa Revitalization Program" is not any recognized County process. It is your own invention, and does not exist beyond yourself."

This statement is simply wrong, irrelevant, aimed at delaying the "Lake Berryssa Revitalization Program", and a bit mean-spirited.

The official name for the county's "The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program" process is:

[Managing Agreement Number 20-LC-20-2623 : Managing Agreement Between the United States of America and Napa County for the Administration, Operation, Maintenance and Development of Recreation Uses and Facilities at Lake Berryessa Area Project Lands.](#)

For simplicity of understanding I refer to it as "The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program". Read it and see.

The second element of "The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program" is the county-funded 2017 Ragatz Report, the most detailed report about the value of Lake Berryessa to Napa County ever produced, including an extensive public survey. Read it and see.

[Ragatz Report Full](#)

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

[Ragatz Report Introduction & Summary of Recommendations](#)

[https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Lake-Berryessa-Support-Documentation/Ragatz-Report-Introduction\\_Summary\\_Recomendations.pdf](https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Lake-Berryessa-Support-Documentation/Ragatz-Report-Introduction_Summary_Recomendations.pdf)

The third element of "The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program" is actually the Napa County General Plan.

[Napa County General Plan](#)

<https://www.countyofnapa.org/DocumentCenter/View/3334/Napa-County-General-Plan---Complete-Document-PDF>

Hopefully the Board of Supervisors will live up to its public statement that:

"The County hopes that the private investment associated with a long-term concession agreement will improve recreational opportunities for residents and visitors, provide new employment opportunities, and possibly become an anchor for **revitalization** of the Lake Berryessa community."

The primary refutation of every negative attack on the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program is the Ragatz Report referenced above funded by Napa County. It includes comprehensive analysis of Lake Berryessa's potential as an asset to Napa County and a detailed survey of several thousand lake users, including Napa County residents.

After false statements that the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program might violate the Napa County General Plan or that it didn't include "nature-based recreation", I wrote several reports refuting those allegations. I analyzed the General Plan and wrote a detailed report on the many ways the General Plan supports The Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program. These reports are available on my website (<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/>) at:

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

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Past-Stories-&-Reports/Lake-Berryessa-and-the-Napa-General-Plan.pdf>

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

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Past-Stories-&-Reports/Environmental-Management-at-Lake-Berryessa.pdf>

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

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Past-Stories-&-Reports/Nature-Based-Recreation-at-Lake-Berryessa.pdf>

## [Rancho Monticello Environmental Management System](#)

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Lake-Berryessa-Support-Documentation/RM-001-Rancho-EMS-Manual.2.pdf>



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As a follow - up to my last newsletter, here is the link to the full report I posted then:

<https://www.lakeberryessanews.com/resources/Political-History/1-Lake-Berryessa-Under-Attack-Final-Story-011325.pdf>

To counteract the false information being spread about Steele Canyon Campground and the Camp Margaritaville process, I encourage everyone who supports the revitalization of our beloved lake to take action and contact our supervisors. Please tell them you



appreciate the County's continued support of the Lake Berryessa Revitalization Program and why.

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Anything you wish to share with the Board of Supervisors or comment on a Supervisors' meeting you are unable to attend in person, can be sent directly to [publiccomment@countyofnapa.org](mailto:publiccomment@countyofnapa.org) or [clerkoftheboard@countyofnapa.org](mailto:clerkoftheboard@countyofnapa.org). Once received, we forward your correspondence to the Board and the appropriate staff so you don't have to figure out who that is.

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Most people in developed countries are on a continuous battle to lose weight the hard way, diet control and exercise. Some just want to do it the easy way, stick a needle in their stomach on a regular basis, <https://youtu.be/WLFvTg11kdQ?si=0cgSHJJ3-XIFPJMv>

But if you're counting calories, what does that actually mean?

### **How Are Calories in Foods Measured?**

Food labels contain the number of calories per serving. But how is this number determined? The answer is surprisingly simple: The food is burned. A sample of the food is placed in an insulated, oxygen-filled chamber that is surrounded by water. This chamber is called a bomb calorimeter. The sample is burned completely. The heat from the burning increases the temperature of the water, which is measured, and which indicates the number of calories in the food. For example, if water temperature increases by 20 degrees, the food contains 20 calories. This method of measuring calories is called direct calorimetry. This method is not frequently used today.

The Calorie you see on a food package is actually a kilocalorie, or 1,000 calories. A Calorie (kcal) is the amount of energy needed to raise the temperature of 1 kilogram of water 1 degree Celsius. So, the Calorie on a food package is 1,000 times larger than the calorie used in chemistry and physics.

The Nutrition Labeling and Education Act of 1990 (NLEA) currently dictates what information is presented on food labels. The NLEA requires that the Calorie level placed on a packaged food be calculated from food components. According to the National Data Lab (NDL), most of the calorie values in the USDA and industry food tables are based on an indirect calorie estimation made using the so-called Atwater system. In this system, calories are not determined directly by burning the foods. Instead, the total caloric value is calculated by adding up the calories provided by the energy-containing nutrients: protein, carbohydrate, fat and alcohol. Because carbohydrates contain some fiber that is not digested and utilized by the body, the fiber component is usually subtracted from the total carbohydrate before calculating the calories.

The Atwater system uses the average values of 4 Kcal/g for protein, 4 Kcal/g for carbohydrate, and 9 Kcal/g for fat. Alcohol is calculated at 7 Kcal/g. (These numbers were originally determined by burning and then averaging.) Thus, the label on an energy bar that contains 10 g of protein, 20 g of carbohydrate and 9 g of fat would read 201 kcals or Calories. A complete discussion of this subject and the calories contained in more than 6,000 foods may be found on the National Data Lab web site at <http://www.nal.usda.gov/fnic/foodcomp/>. At this site you can also download the food database to a handheld computer. Another online tool that allows the user to total the calorie content of several foods is the Nutrition Analysis Tool at <http://www.nat.uiuc.edu>.

When too few calories are consumed for the body's needs, the body begins to use carbohydrates stored in the liver and muscle. Because the body mobilizes stored carbohydrates quickly and because water is usually excreted as carbohydrates are mobilized, weight loss tends to be fast initially. However, the small amount of stored carbohydrates provides energy for only a short time. Next, the body uses stored fat. Because fat contains more energy per pound, weight loss is slower as the body uses fat

for energy. However, the amount of fat stored is much larger and can, in most people, provide energy for a long time.

---

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#### **817 Bahia Vista Court**

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Offered at \$30,000  
Flat with downslope and canyon views

#### **1013 Arroyo Lindo Court**

APN# 019-441-004 - .224+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$75,600  
Mostly flat then upslope.

#### **611 Noah Court**

APN# 019-422-012 - .33+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$49,500  
Flat then downslope

#### **1268 Steele Canyon Road**

APN# 019- 432-001 - .21+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$50,000  
Flat Space with a hill at the back of the lot

#### **#17 Rimrock Drive**

APN# 019-590-017 - 60.69 +/- Acres  
Offered at \$350,000

#### **Live Oak Lane #21**

APN# 019-331-008- .47+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$48,600  
Extra Large Lot

#### **201 Mulford Drive**

APN# 019-322-008-000 .52+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$50,000  
Corner Lot

#### **814 Bahia Vista Court**

APN# 019-452-004 .32+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$39,500  
Mostly Flat Then Downslope

#### **1187 Steele Canyon Road**

APN# 019-451-024-000 .34+- Acre Lot  
Offered at \$19,000  
Flat Then Downslope Lot

#### **1183 Steele Canyon Road**

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Flat Then Downslope Lot



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## **Lake Berryessa Boat & Jet Ski Rentals**

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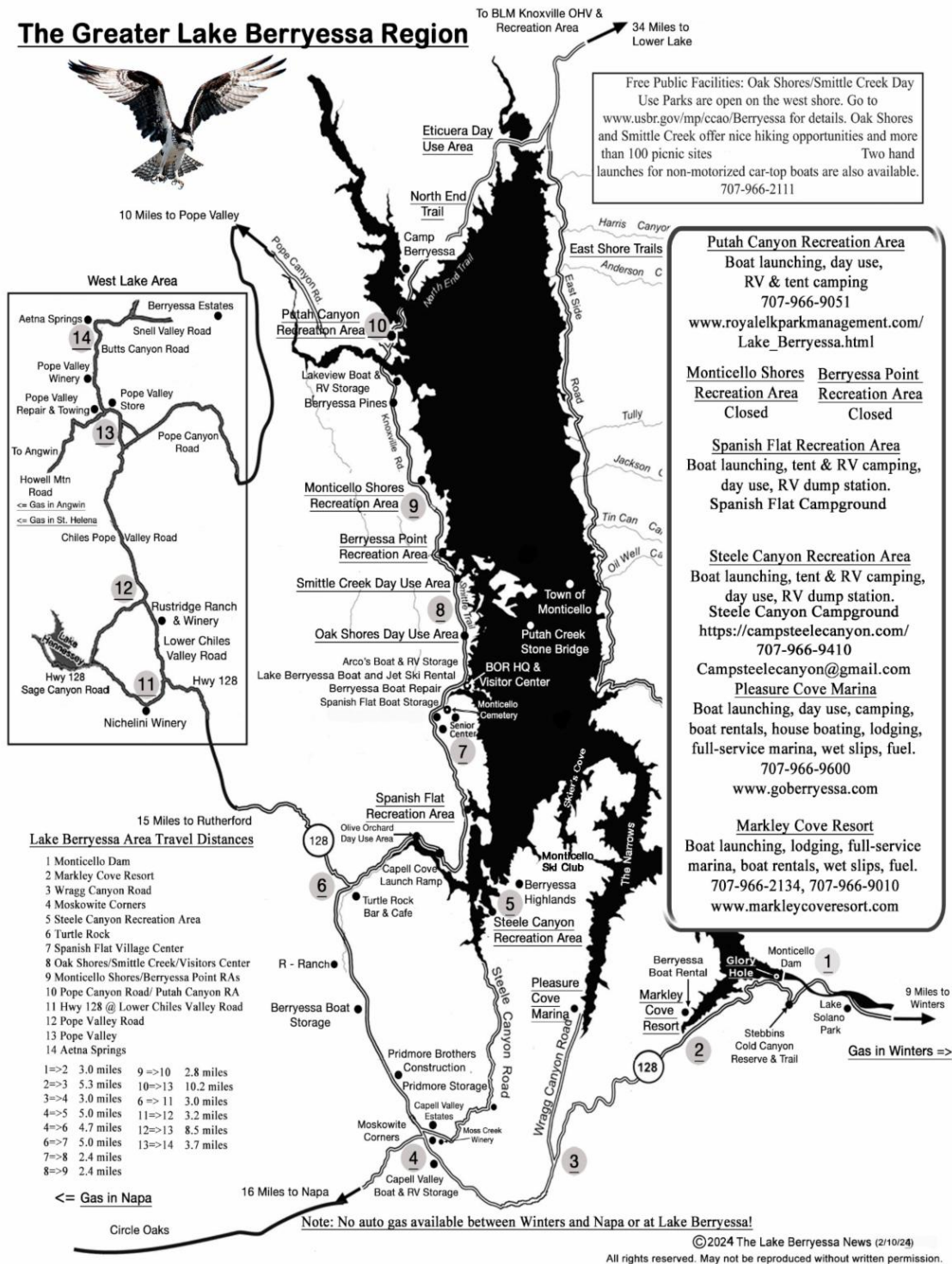
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**Updated Lake Berryessa Map (1/28/24)**

# The Greater Lake Berryessa Region



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