United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION
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MEMORANDUM

To: All Interested Parties

From: Thomas J. Aiken
Area Manager

Subject: Update on the Lake Berryessa Visitor Services Plan (VSP)

This memorandum is being sent to provide you with current status on the Lake Berryessa VSP. The VSP schedule has been delayed from our earlier projections; however, we are still well ahead of concession contract expirations in 2008 and 2009. The current schedule is on the back of this memorandum.

A brief description of the range of alternatives that will be analyzed in the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) follows. A formal, 60-day public comment period will follow the release of the completed DEIS and the associated studies this Fall.

Alternatives range from essentially no change from the current situation, to increased shoreline access and short-term recreational opportunities with some exclusive-use trailers in certain locations, to increased shoreline access and recreational opportunities with no exclusive-use trailers. The level of commercial development also varies by alternative, from levels similar to the current condition to expanded government operations.

All future concession development will remain within the existing concession footprint. New development could include trails; marinas; traditional campgrounds; boat-in campsites; houseboat operations; a water skiing center; RV parks; and lodging, food and beverage, retail, and rental facilities. Lake zoning will differ by alternative, including new 5 mph and non-motorized areas.

The Lake Berryessa website (www.usbr.gov/mp/berryessa) has been updated with this memorandum, the current planning schedule, and some of the DEIS supporting documents, including the "Environmental Compliance and Facility Condition Assessment Report," "Fire Safety Analysis," and a summary of the "Accessibility Evaluation." Some of these files are large, so please check the capability of your computer before you download them. As other supporting documents are completed, they will also be posted. We recently had problems with our Internet links to the Policy and Directives & Standards web pages. The problem has now been remedied, and we apologize for any inconvenience you may have experienced.

We appreciate your patience and understanding during this important and complex process of developing the VSP. We believe it is worth the extra time it is taking to produce a quality document. We look forward to publishing the DEIS this Fall and hearing your comments at that time.

Lake Berryessa Visitor Services Planning Schedule

(Current as of July 2003 – Please note that this schedule is subject to change)

May-Sep 2000	Field work, information collection, and newsletter mailing
Oct 2000-Mar 2001	Develop Purpose & Need Statement and questions in preparation for Scoping
Mar-Jun 2001	Formal public comment (Scoping)
Jun 2001-Sep 2002	Condition Assessment of concessionaire facilities Release of public comments (see Mar-Jun 2001 preceding)
Jun 2002-Sep 2003	Conduct Recreation Demand and Feasibility Studies Inventory water recreation opportunity spectrum Develop GIS maps Conduct Environmental Analysis Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS)
Fall 2003	Release DEIS to the public for comment
Winter 2003/2004	Analysis of public comments to DEIS Develop Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) and VSP
Spring 2004	Release FEIS/VSP to the public
Summer 2004	Release Record of Decision
2004-2009	Begin implementing sections of the plan not tied to current concession contracts. Should an immediate issue of public safety or environmental degradation arise or a concessionaire make a proposal which Reclamation approves, some changes in concession operations could be made.
2008-2009	Remaining conditions of VSP will be put into effect through new concession contracts.

Reclamation has developed a brief presentation on the VSP effort. To schedule this presentation for your organization or association, please contact Lynne Matthias at the phone number or e-mail address listed below. We're sorry, but due to time constraints, we will only be able to visit organized groups, not families or individuals. Thank you.

You may contact these individuals regarding the VSP or concessions management:

VSP effort	Stephen Rodgers	707-966-2111 x101	srodgers@mp.usbr.gov
Process for onsite trailer sales	Patty Goodwin	707-966-2111 x142	pgoodwin@mp.usbr.gov
Concessions management	Cleve Dufer	707-966-2111 x141	cdufer@mp.usbr.gov
Group presentation scheduling	Lynne Matthias	707-966-2111 x100	lmatthias@mp.usbr.gov
Updates to the mailing list	Janet Sierzputowski	916-978-5112	jsierzputowski@mp.usbr.gov

The Lake Berryessa VSP Website is: http://www.usbr.gov/mp/berryessa