

Community Comes Out to Support the Shasta Lake Public Lands Day Event

This year's Shasta Lake National Public Lands Day event held on Saturday, September 29, was another huge success. This is the fourth year Reclamation's Northern California Area Office has partnered with the Shasta-Trinity National Forest to cosponsor the cleanup of Fisherman's Point Day Use Area, the Centimudi Trail and the shoreline on both sides of Shasta Dam. The Shasta Lake event was one of 2,100 sites that participated in the largest volunteer hands-on effort in the country to give back and to take pride in our public lands.



Ian Vega age 8, has volunteered with his dad for the past three years.

The day started with registration where 43 participants signed in and received their "I Got Down and Dirty at Shasta Lake" National Public Lands Day t-shirts. Area Manager Brian Person welcomed the group along with Shasta-Trinity National Forest representatives. After the safety talk the volunteers were split into groups and assigned jobs for the morning cleanup.

This year, a new component was added to the event. The Forest Service had an educational booth that gave the participants a chance to guess how many years it takes certain items to decompose. They also demonstrated how to recycle empty water bottles and make them into seedling planters. Both the kids and adults had a great time learning about recycling and how we can better take care of our environment.

In June 2010, First Lady Michelle Obama launched the *Let's Move Outside* initiative which is dedicated to getting young people active and outdoors in their public lands. To promote the *Let's Move Outside!* and *Youth in the Great Outdoors* initiatives, each participant in the National Public Lands Day received a fee-free pass to visit another public lands area at a later date. The hope is to foster a lifelong appreciation for our public lands while encouraging them to spend more time outside and be more active.



Reclamation employee Don Bader and his daughter Andrea collect trash.

The groups worked hard on their specific projects. Each person took pride in the area they worked on while enjoying the outdoors and getting exercise. Two pickup loads of trash and 1,140 lbs (*a little over half a ton*) of invasive vegetation was removed from the event area.

After the morning of hard work, the volunteers enjoyed a healthy barbecue lunch. As a thank you, everyone received a certificate of appreciation for a job well done!!

More information can be found at www.publiclandsday.org. Link to volunteer comment [here](#).

