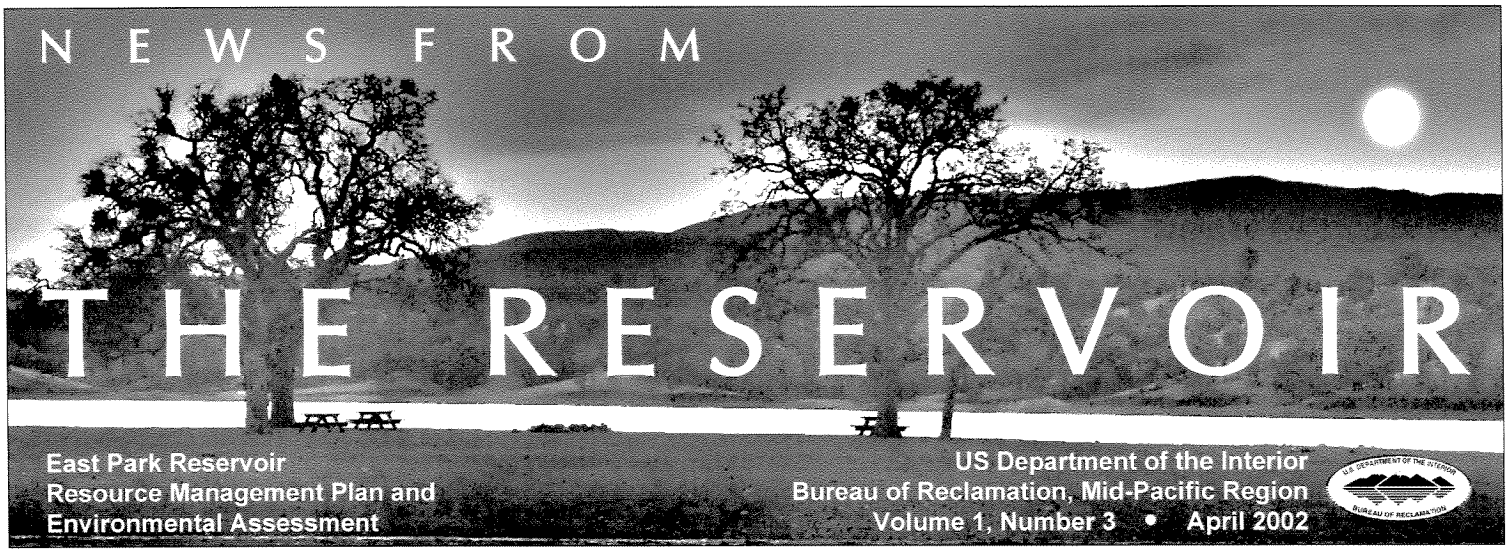


RECLAMATION GIVES PRESENTATION ON NORTH OF DELTA OFFSTREAM STORAGE INVESTIGATIONS

The RMP work group heard Donna Garcia of Reclamation and representatives from the Department of Water Resources (DWR) speak about the North of the Delta Offstream Storage Investigation. The project and the planning criteria that are being developed are summarized below.

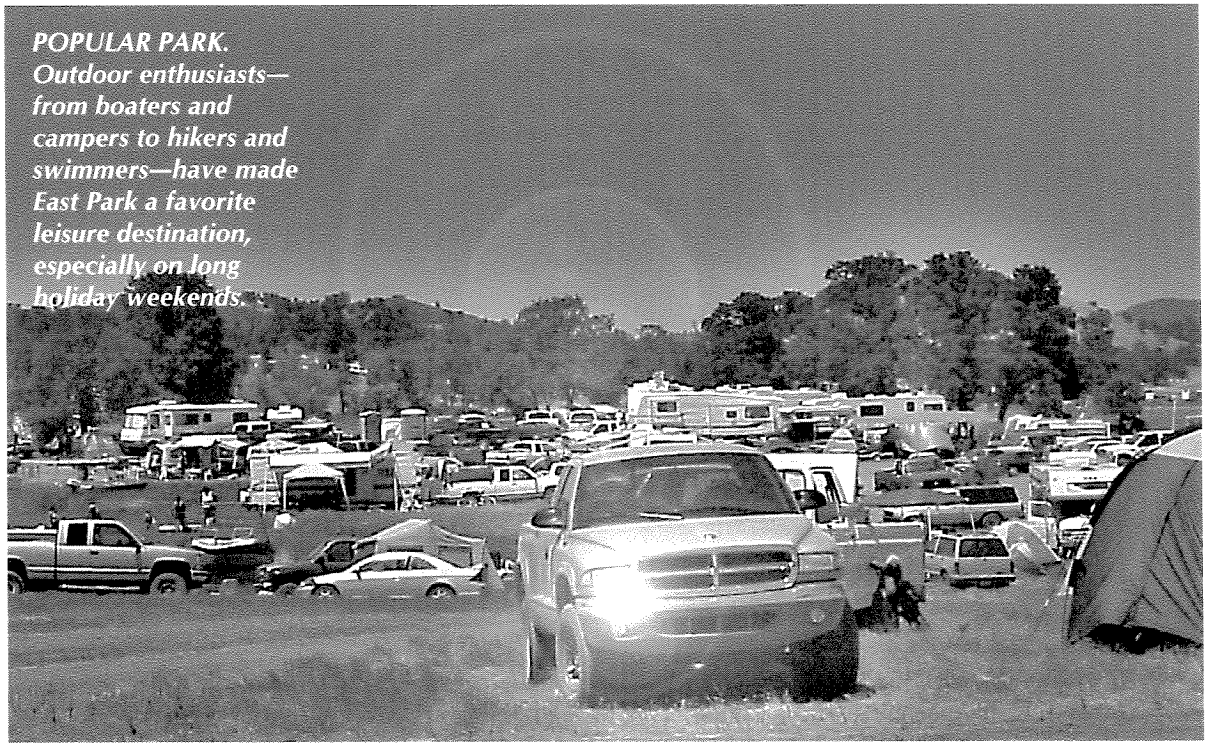
DWR will be the lead agency under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). The investigation will evaluate a potential surface storage project north of the Delta in the Sacramento Valley watershed. This investigation and project were identified in the CALFED Programmatic Environmental Impact Report/Statement (PEIR/EIS) and record of decision, or ROD.

Roughly three-quarters of California's runoff occurs north of Sacramento; ironically, that is about the same amount of water that is needed south of Sacramento.

This imbalance in water supply and demand has continually placed pressure on the Sacramento Valley watersheds. In recent years, demand for water has grown not only because the population has increased but also because of efforts to protect California's water quality and its ecological resources. To be better managed, the Sacramento Valley water supply system requires new infrastructure, regulatory stability, and increased system flexibility.

The CALFED Bay-Delta Program is a cooperative, interagency effort of 18 state and federal agencies. It was established to develop and implement a long-term comprehensive plan to restore ecological health and improve water management for beneficial uses of the Bay-Delta system and its watersheds. These watersheds include the Sacramento Valley and watersheds south of the Delta that use water from the Sacramento Valley, in addition to local water supplies.

(Continued on page 2)



POPULAR PARK. Outdoor enthusiasts—from boaters and campers to hikers and swimmers—have made East Park a favorite leisure destination, especially on long holiday weekends.

Reclamation Gives Presentation on North of Delta Offstream Storage Investigations *(continued from page 1)*

CALFED completed its PEIS/R process in July 2000 and filed a ROD in August of that year. The PEIS/R concluded a process of broad environmental analysis that evaluated a range of concepts. The ROD set forth the preferred program alternative and the strategy for implementing that alternative. The descriptions of the alternatives define broad approaches to meet program needs. The preferred program alternative includes eight program elements: levee system integrity, water quality, ecosystem restoration, water use efficiency, water transfer, watershed, conveyance, and storage.

The CALFED ROD states that "expanding water storage capacity is critical to the successful implementation of all aspects of the CALFED program. Not only is additional storage needed to meet the needs of a growing population but, if strategically located, it will provide much needed flexibility in the system to improve water quality and support fish and wildlife restoration efforts. Water supply reliability depends upon capturing water during peak flows and during wet years, as well as more efficient water use through conservation and recycling" (CALFED ROD, page 42).

Project Summary

The ROD specifically directed two objectives to be met in water storage alternatives north of the Delta—to create a partnership with local water interests and to continue to study the Sites area as one of the potential reservoirs for a north of the Delta storage facility.

DWR and Reclamation have completed the first and working on the second.

The investigation will analyze alternatives in terms of how well they meet the objectives described below and their beneficial and adverse impacts.

Project Objectives: The ROD gives direction on objectives for a North of the Delta Storage Facility:

- Enhance water management flexibility in the Sacramento Valley.
- Reduce water diversion on the Sacramento River during critical fish migration periods.
- Increase reliability of supplies for a portion of the Sacramento Valley.
- Provide storage and operational benefits for other CALFED programs including Delta water quality and the EWA

PIE PLATE TOTEM POLE: Weekend visitors at East Park signal their whereabouts to friends and family with this low-tech but effective means of communication.

Possible Project Alternatives:

- No project (present condition);
- No action (future condition);
- Sites Reservoir alternative would construct an offstream reservoir of up to 1.9 million acre-feet, approximately 10 miles west of Maxwell. The reservoir would inundate the community of Sites and most of Antelope Valley. The main dams would be constructed on Funks and Stone Corral creeks. Up to nine feeder dams would also be needed. Water source and distribution (conveyance) options for this proposed reservoir include
  - The use of the Glenn-Colusa Irrigation District Diversion and Canal, either in its current capacity or in an enlarged capacity,
  - The use of the Tehama-Colusa Canal Authority Diversion and Canal either in its current capacity or in an enlarged capacity,
  - A new diversion and conveyance facility from the Sacramento River near Moulton Weir,
  - A new conveyance facility from the Colusa Basin Drain,
  - Diversions tunnels from East Park Reservoir or Stony Gorge Reservoir or from both, and
  - A combination of these options;
- Newville Reservoir Alternative;
- Colusa Alternative; and
- Red Bank Alternative.

For further information, contact:

Scott D. Woodland
Department of Water Resources
Division of Planning and Local Assistance
P O Box 942836
Sacramento, California 94236
(916) 651-9278 (voice)
(916) 651-9289 (fax)
woodland@water.ca.gov (e-mail).

The Minutes Corner

What follows is a synopsis of the East Park Reservoir work group meeting on March 28. Goals and objectives planning continues in the category of East Park planning.

1. **Management Measure or Opportunity: Law Enforcement and Security**
   Goal 1-1: Provide adequate law enforcement services to enforce laws and to control incidents for a safe environment at East Park Reservoir. Objectives that have been suggested for reaching this goal include the following:
   - Provide phones at the reservoir for public emergency use, to summon law enforcement and emergency services, and to assist law enforcement with locating the problem or need;
   - Provide better cell phone coverage so people can contact law enforcement;
   - Provide signage to help people identify their location when contacting law enforcement;
   - Continue patrol agreement with the county or other law enforcement entity;
   - Maintain or revise current ordinances; and
   - Provide adequate lighting with low-draw solar power at key locations and restrooms.

2. **Management Measure or Opportunity: Use Fees**
   Goal 2-1: Charge use fees to control crowds and activities and to improve opportunities for all recreationists.
   - Objective: Establish carrying capacity so public use of East Park can be better regulated.
   - Objective: Build kiosks at park entrances and staff them during the season of use to provide information and control the capacity and closure of the park. If a managing partner can be obtained, day-use fees could be collected to improve on-site resources.

3. **Management Measure or Opportunity: Sanitation**
   Goal 3-1: Provide Adequate Sanitation for All Areas of the Reservoir.
   - Objective: Provide adequate sanitation by increasing the cleaning and waste disposal of the restroom facilities and trash and garbage pick-up, as needed to ensure cleanliness. Collect garbage at least twice a week during the busy weekends and holidays, clean restrooms and pick up trash daily, and increase restroom waste disposal.

Discussion: The holiday weekends overwhelm the capabilities of the garbage collectors. The Ladoga side alone can generate 10 loads of garbage by Monday after a holiday weekend, and there is no service after dark. Kenny Cook hauls garbage, as efficiently as possible and under an exclusive franchise, to the county landfill. He might be willing to subcontract to increase the service.

Need more trash receptacles and staff.

The fire department provided 55-gallon drums for recycling, but people put garbage in them and set them on fire. There needs to be more regular garbage cans for people to dispose of their trash and signs to warn people against littering. Glass has recently been banned, and new ordinance signs are up.

- Objective: Increase trash receptacle supply and contract for services, with the exclusive right to haul the trash, while providing more staff, more receptacles, and more frequent service.

- Objective: Install recycling containers to minimize the volume of trash (but throw trash in recycling containers during weekend). Obtain a managing partner to help with recycling; cite people who litter; provide more trash cans and signs to warn people; provide better signage, including warning signs (no glass); supply garbage trucks with greater capacity.

News Flash!

The Bureau of Reclamation's main Web site is back on line.

You can view the newly created East Park Reservoir Web page at http://www.mp.usbr.gov/ncao/eastpark/index.html.

The Web site provides history and background information on East Park and provides a tentative schedule for future work group meetings and public meetings.

The Campground Update Hotline number is (530) 968-5274

HOW TO CONTACT US

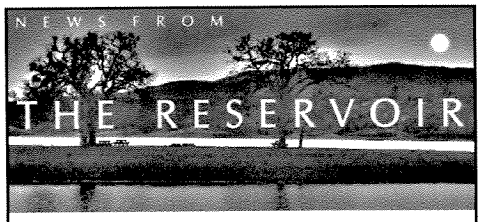
If you have questions about the RMP, please contact:

Mr. Dennis Kearney
Tetra Tech, Inc.
180 Howard Street, Suite 250
San Francisco, California 94105-1617
(415) 974-1221
E-mail: dennis.kearney@tetratech.com

For facility questions, please contact:

Ms. Basia Trout
US Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Mid-Pacific Region
22500 Altube Avenue (P O Box 159)
Red Bluff, California 96080
(530) 529-3890
E-mail: btrout@mp.usbr.gov

East Park RMP/EA
C/o Tetra Tech, Inc.*
180 Howard Street, Suite 250
San Francisco, CA 94105-1617



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April 2002

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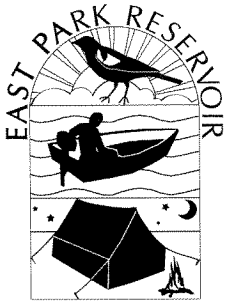
**Acting as contracted agent for the Bureau of Reclamation, Mid-Pacific Region*



25 *Mark Your Calendar*

Next work group meeting:
Thursday April 25th
The Maxwell Inn, 6 to 8 p.m.

Printed on recycled paper.