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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:** February 26, 2001

**RECLAMATION AND THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA**  
**ADDRESS POLLUTION PROBLEMS AT LAKE BERRYESSA**  
**MEDIA TOUR SCHEDULED**

The Bureau of Reclamation announced today that the agency is developing a series of actions to clean up serious sanitation problems at Lake Berryessa. Violations of State and County wastewater discharge laws have been discovered at six of the lake's seven concession resorts.

Illegal drain systems have been found at many of the resorts=long-term dry trailer sites. Dry sites are similar to campgrounds: the trailers do not have sewer hookups, and the owners must use port-a-potties or bathrooms provided by the resort. Some of the sites may have water hookups, but they required to use portable septic tanks for any bath or dish wastewater (gray water). However, many of the sites were found to have illegal systems draining both gray water and black water (toilet sewage) directly onto the ground and into the lake.

As a result of these illegal wastewater discharges, the State of California Regional Water Quality Control Board issued Notices of Violation (NOV) to Pleasure Cove, Spanish Flat, Lake Berryessa Marina, and Rancho Monticello Resorts. The Regional Board also issued a NOV to Markley Cove Resort for violations at their sewer ponds, and serious wastewater violations were recently discovered at Putah Creek Resort. A decision on actions to be taken at these two resorts will be made soon.

**Members of the media are invited to participate on a tour of Lake Berryessa on March 6, 2001, from 10 a.m. to 12 p.m. Both water and ground tours will be available. If you would like to join us, please RSVP by Friday, March 2, 2001. Contact Janet Harp, Public Affairs Office, at 916/978-5112, TDD 916/978-5608 (jharp@mp.usbr.gov).**

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