HUNTING, FIREARMS, AND PROJECTILE DEVICES AT LAKE BERRYESSA

Hunting is not permitted on lands and waters managed by the Bureau of Reclamation at Lake Berryessa. However, in the area surrounding and adjacent to Reclamation lands at Lake Berryessa, there are public lands managed by other agencies that do allow hunting.

Firearms are permitted on Bureau of Reclamation managed lands and waters only under the following circumstances:

- The individual with the firearm possesses a valid Concealed Weapons Permit.
- The individual with the firearm has in possession a valid California Hunting License and a Permit To Transport Firearms*, and
- The firearm is taken apart or encased and unloaded so as to prevent accidental or intentional discharge, and
- The firearm is not in the individual’s possession while at or in a Reclamation facility, including day use areas, concession areas, and federal buildings.

The Permit To Transport Firearms is obtained from a representative of the Bureau of Reclamation. The permit allows for the transportation of firearms across Reclamation lands in order to reach adjacent lands that are open for hunting. It does not allow for possession of firearms while recreating in a day use area or concession area.

Discharging other projectile devices, such as crossbows, pellet guns, and paintball guns, is also prohibited. Activities like this leave litter and can harm the environment; provisions in the Code of Federal Regulations and Napa County Ordinances prohibit these.

Hunting on Adjacent Public Lands

The Bureau of Land Management and California Department of Fish and Wildlife manage lands in the vicinity of Lake Berryessa that allow hunting. The following is provided for informational purposes only and is subject to change; you are responsible for knowing all applicable Federal, State, and local laws pertaining to the use of these lands.

Knoxville Wildlife Area – This area is accessed north of Lake Berryessa, starting at approximately mile marker 23 on Berryessa-Knoxville Road. Access to this area is by foot only. More information, including maps, can be found on the California Department of Fish and Wildlife’s website.

Knoxville Recreation Area – This area is accessed north of Lake Berryessa. The Devilhead Road entrance is at approximately mile marker 32 on Berryessa-Knoxville Road and the North Entrance is at approximately mile marker 35. Off-highway vehicles are allowed; target shooting is not. The Bureau of Land Management’s website offers more information on permitted activities.

Cedar Roughs Wildlife Area and Cedar Roughs Wilderness Area – This area can be entered by water on the Pope Creek arm of Lake Berryessa, or by foot at approximately mile marker 2.2 on Pope Canyon Road. It is designated for non-mechanized access only and can only be entered on foot during low water. Information can be found on both the California Fish and Wildlife and Bureau of Land Management’s websites.

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