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

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  srogers@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