

Mid-Pacific Region
Sacramento, California

MP-04-003
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: January 14, 2004

COMMENT PERIOD EXTENDED AND PUBLIC HEARINGS SCHEDULED
FOR THE LAKE BERRYESSA VISITOR SERVICES PLAN
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

The Bureau of Reclamation has scheduled two public hearings on Wednesday, January 21, 2004, to receive public comment on the Lake Berryessa Visitor Services Plan (VSP), Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS). The DEIS outlines the proposed VSP alternatives that address future recreation at Lake Berryessa, including the type and level of facilities and services that are appropriate on Federal land. Current concession contracts at the lake expire in 2008/2009, and the VSP will be used as a basis for future concession contracts.

The DEIS was released on October 31, 2003, and is accessible at www.usbr.gov/mp/berryessa. The comment period has been extended, and written comments are now due to Reclamation by close of business on Monday, March 22, 2004. Comments may be mailed to Ms. Janet Sierzputowski, Bureau of Reclamation, 2800 Cottage Way, Sacramento, CA 95825; faxed to 916-978-5114; or e-mailed to jsierzputowski@mp.usbr.gov.

The hearings will be held at the Solono County Fairgrounds, Exposition Hall, 900 Fairgrounds Drive, Vallejo. The public is invited to attend the first hearing from 1-4 p.m. or the second hearing from 7-10 p.m. Individuals wishing to comment at one of the hearings must register in advance at the Exposition Hall; registration will begin at 12:30 p.m. or 6:30 p.m., respectively. It is anticipated that the time for each commenter will be 2-3 minutes. Written comments will also be accepted at the hearings. Reclamation will respond to all comments in the Final EIS.

To request a CD or copy of the DEIS, or if special assistance is required at the hearings, please contact Ms. Sierzputowski at 916-978-5112, TDD 916-978-5608, or e-mail jsierzputowski@mp.usbr.gov. For further information, please contact Steve Rodgers, Lake Berryessa Park Manager/VSP Team Leader, at 707-966-2111, x106, or by e-mail at srodgers@mp.usbr.gov

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Reclamation is the largest wholesale water supplier and the second largest producer of hydroelectric power in the United States, with operations and facilities in the 17 Western States. Its facilities also provide substantial flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife benefits.