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Press Release

News Release

For Immediate Release May 15, 2020

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Stanislaus County to Partially Reopen Reservoirs

To increase safe and healthy outdoor reservoir experience for our community, the Stanislaus County Parks Department, in alignment with the Sheriff's Office, will proceed with a partial reopening of County reservoirs starting with Modesto Reservoir this weekend.

"The Parks and Recreation Department is looking forward to opening our gates to the residents of Stanislaus County," said Department Director Jackie Dwyer. "We understand these have been trying times for everyone, and if we can be a small part of some reprieve, we're honored to do our part. But we will definitely proceed with caution."

On May 16, Modesto Reservoir will be open to Stanislaus County Residents only. Proof of address will be required. Day use between the hours 6AM – 8PM will be enforced. Boating and on-lake activities are permitted. However only no camping or shoreline congregation will be allowed at this time. Boating Restrictions will also apply. The County is limiting access to 50 boats on the water. Boating access will be permitted on a first come, first served basis.

Beginning June 6, camping will be also be allowed for County residents only. Residents must make reservations online via Reserve America. Limited camping spots will be available at Modesto Reservoir (171). Shoreline utilization will be permitted for campers only. However, day use shoreline congregation will not be allowed.

Woodward Reservoir will remain closed until Saturday, June 6. Upon opening, County residents only will be permitted to use the reservoir. Boating restrictions will also apply

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at Woodward, with a 75 boat maximum. Camping will be allowed for residents of Stanislaus County, who will be required to make reservations online as well. Reservations will be limited to 79 campers and 20 first-come, first-served. Shoreline activities will be permitted for campers only. No day use shoreline congregation will be allowed.

The Sheriff's Office will patrol the camping areas of both reservoirs regularly. Campers may be asked for receipts or identification. Anyone without proof of **residency will be asked to leave the reservoir and will not receive a refund.** No group picnic area rentals will be accepted at either campsite to remain compliant with mass gathering restrictions.

*This partial reopening will be in effect through the month of June and until further notification.

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