

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
November 13, 2002

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Plan includes Lake Natoma, Folsom Powerhouse

Public Workshop Set for Folsom Lake State Recreation Area General Plan

FOLSOM – California State Parks is seeking public input as it begins revising and updating the General Plan for Folsom Lake State Recreation Area (SRA).

The first in a series of public workshops will be held on Wednesday November 20, 2002 from 7:00 to 9:30pm at the Folsom Middle School Auditorium/multi-purpose room at 500 Blue Ravine Road in Folsom.

This first workshop is an opportunity for the public to identify key issues and concerns to be addressed in the General Plan update. The meeting will include a brief presentation of a resource inventory of existing conditions that has been completed as part of the planning process.

Most of the land in the recreation area is owned by the Bureau of Reclamation and managed by State Parks through an agreement. The plan currently being developed will also fulfill the Bureau requirement to develop a Resource Management Plan for the area.

Revision of the General Plan for Folsom Lake SRA is a 2-year process. The General Plan will guide the long-term management of the SRA including the protection of natural and cultural resources, providing for and management of public use and recreation opportunities and outlining the development of future facilities. There will be many additional opportunities for the public to provide input during the planning process.

“Not only is Folsom Lake SRA one of the most heavily visited park units in the State, it is also situated in one of the most rapidly developing portions of California”, said Gold Fields District Superintendent Jacqueline Ball.

“Being located in the midst of suburban development creates additional challenges for management of the unit”, noted Superintendent Ball. “We are a vital recreation resource for the greater Sacramento region and also a neighbor to hundreds of residents and businesses.”

Ball indicated she expects the demand for additional recreation access (trails and boating), management of wildfire risk and the impact of adjacent development on park resources all to be key concerns raised and addressed in the new plan.

With approximately 2.5 million visitors annually, Folsom Lake SRA is one of the most popular and heavily visited units within the California State Park System. Lake Natoma and portions of the popular 32-mile American River Bike Trail are a part of the unit. The current General Plan for Folsom Lake SRA was completed in 1979. The plan update will include direction for the Folsom Powerhouse State Historic Park, a separate park unit that is administered in conjunction with Folsom Lake SRA.

Persons wishing to be placed on the mailing list for the Folsom Lake SRA General Plan should send their names and complete addresses to:

Folsom Lake Plan Update
c/o Wallace Roberts & Todd LLC
1328 Mission Street, 4th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103

Interested parties may also e-mail their contact information to folsomlakeplanupdate@sf.wrtdesign.com

For further information, contact Goldfields District Planner Jim Micheaels at (916) 988-0513. Information on the Folsom Lake SRA General Plan will also be posted on the California State Parks website at www.parks.ca.gov