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For Immediate Release
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Woodward Reservoir is Open for Recreational Activities

Stanislaus County, CA – As of today, all recreational activities including boating, swimming, fishing, kayaking, canoeing, picnicking, water and jet skiing, are permitted at Woodward Reservoir Regional Park.

Woodward Reservoir Regional Park is located at 14582 26 Mile Road, a few miles north of the City of Oakdale, off Highway 120. This regional park offers over 3,500 acres of land, 2,500 acres of reservoir for daily recreation use and camping. The regional park can accommodate tents and recreational vehicle camping, including 40 full hook-up sites and 324 camping sites. South San Joaquin Irrigation District (SSJID) built and owns the reservoir and uses it as primary storage for its Water Treatment Plant on Dodds Road in Escalon, along with water for farmers in Manteca, Ripon and Escalon.

After one of the driest winters on record, March and early April storms brought some welcome precipitation. The result is that SSJID has been able to bring Woodward Reservoir up to an elevation that will accommodate water sports activity two weeks earlier than previously scheduled. The District previously agreed to bring the reservoir up on May 1st. While SSJID is now allowing Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation Department, which operates the recreational activities at Woodward, to move the opening date to April 17th, SSJID will monitor the water situation and its Board will need to consider at a future meeting if it is possible to maintain the lake level through the entire summer.

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Each year, thousands of families visit Woodward Reservoir to enjoy the beautiful setting and recreational use of the picnic shelters, day use areas, camping areas, and amenities including restrooms with showers, barbeque / fire ring pits, and picnic tables. The regional park is also host to a variety of special events including the return of the Parks and Recreation 19th Annual Fireworks Celebration that will be held on July 4th of this year. The Parks and Recreation Department looks forward to another safe and fun season at Woodward Reservoir.

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