



PRESS RELEASE

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Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation to operate Turlock Lake State Recreation Area

LA GRANGE, Calif.— Stanislaus County, Turlock Irrigation District, and California State Parks announced today the approval of an agreement to operate Turlock Lake State Recreation Area (SRA). Turlock Lake SRA, owned by Turlock Irrigation District, is on the south side of the Tuolumne River nestled in the rolling foothills of eastern Stanislaus County about 25 miles east of Modesto. The lake has 26 miles of shoreline, is an ideal setting for outdoor recreation, and is an integral facility in TID's irrigation system.

On Tuesday, the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors and Turlock Irrigation Board approved a Joint Powers Agreement for Stanislaus County Parks and Recreation to operate Turlock Lake SRA day use area with plans to make improvements to reopen the park. The State of California is providing nearly \$8.2 million to Stanislaus County for the necessary facility improvements including fencing, lighting, restrooms, walkways and accessible parking. Additional information about the Board of Supervisors' consideration of this item is available here: [staff report](#) | [video](#).

Says TID General Manager, Brad Kohen: "This partnership represents a best possible scenario for Turlock Lake; vital funding from the state, local management from the county offering recreational opportunities for the community, while still providing TID the operational flexibility of the lake for the benefit of our customers."

Future recreation at Turlock Lake SRA will offer family-friendly recreation with a waterpark, picnicking, fishing, swimming, non-motorized boating such as kayaking and canoeing, small engine motorized boating, and seasonal waterfowl hunting. The park may reopen as soon as summer 2027.

"Reopening Turlock Lake is more than unlocking the gates; it's reopening a space that belongs to our community," said Vito Chiesa, Chair of the Stanislaus County Board of Supervisors. "I am excited for this wonderful opportunity for our Parks and Recreation Department to collaborate with State Parks and Turlock Irrigation District to provide family-friendly recreation for our residents and visitors to enjoy."

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Stanislaus County Parks & Recreation builds community by enriching lives through outdoor experiences that inspire lifetimes, promoting health and wellness. The Parks & Recreation Department is charged with implementing the policies established by the Board of Supervisors pertaining to Community and Regional Parks. For a complete listing of our community/neighborhood and regional parks please visit <https://www.stancountyparks.com/community-parks>.



Photo credit: California State Parks

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