

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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Heron Lake State Park

Boat Ramps Temporarily Closed

Park Officials Evaluating Other Access Options

Los Ojos, NM – Heron Lake State Park has temporarily closed the only remaining boat ramp access point to the lake. As a result, park officials are discouraging launching and loading larger motorized boats from the shoreline due to the potential for personal property damage.

The lake is still provides good opportunities for small motorized vessels and non-motorized vessels such as canoes and kayaks that can be launched by hand.

“We want our park visitors to enjoy safe lake conditions and avoid damaging their boats,” said Park Superintendent Anthony Marquez. “Fortunately, the Main Ramp at El Vado Lake is open and available for folks with larger boats.”

The lake level has dropped approximately five vertical feet within the last two weeks. Park officials are working with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation to determine options for re-establishing boat ramp access.

State Park officials remind boaters to always wear a lifejacket when out on the water and to be aware of weather conditions. State law requires that you wear a lifejacket when on a canoe, kayak, or raft and that all children 12 years old and younger wear a lifejacket while on the deck of a moving vessel.

The State Parks Division offers free boating safety classes around the state and on-line throughout the year. For more information, call 888-NMPARKS or visit www.nmparks.com.

Conditions are Right for Adventure at New Mexico State Parks!

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The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.