

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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News Release

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Lakeshore Drive Damaged By Recent Flooding

Elephant Butte, NM -- State Parks Division officials advise motorists on Lakeshore Drive, Elephant Butte Lake State Park, to drive slowly and use caution between the areas of Long Point in the south, and the Lakeshore Highlands Subdivision in the north. This approximate one mile stretch of Lakeshore Drive was damaged by recent flooding. Park staff have implemented safety measures that include temporary lanes and lane restrictions. Road signs are up to inform motorists and urge caution, and traffic markers are in place to delineate minor redirections away from damaged areas.

The Elephant Butte area has received more than five inches of rain since September 12, 2013, and the lake has risen approximately five feet in elevation, and is still rising. The Elephant Butte Lake State Park facilities were significantly impacted, but park staff quickly responded and the park is operating normally.

“While the rains and rising lake elevation is welcome, the resulting flooding has presented many challenges to park operations,” said Park Superintendent Kay Dunlap. “Fortunately, our park staff have the skill and equipment to recover from an event like this so our visitors can continue to partake of the activities and services they expect and enjoy.”

The damage in these areas is significant and repairs have already begun to Lakeshore Drive. Motorists on Lakeshore Drive are cautioned to be mindful of construction workers and equipment present during the work.

For further information, contact Elephant Butte Lake State Park at 575-744-5421.

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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.