



## NEWS RELEASE

County Administrative Office

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### Lake Gregory beach prepares for Memorial Day weekend

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Lake Gregory's swim beach is on track to be dredged of sediment and adorned with fresh sand, new barbecue facilities and other amenities in time for Memorial Day weekend.

The County this week secured the final of several permits needed from state and federal agencies to begin work starting Monday. Dredging in the swim beach area should conclude by May 18, at which point the fresh sand and other features will be added in time for the holiday weekend.

Removing the sediment that flows into the lake from the local watershed makes the lake deeper and cooler.

The improvements at swim beach are the first phase of a summer-long project that will see the dredging of other portions of the lake, drainage improvements that will greatly curtail future sediment accumulations, and produce the materials needed to augment Lake Gregory Dam.

"I really appreciate the patience and support the community has provided during this process," said Second District Supervisor Janice Rutherford. "This work will result in significant long-term improvements to lake amenities and water quality, which is good for the environment, good for recreation, and good for business." Supervisor Rutherford said the County is exploring opportunities for additional recreational features in the Crestline community.

Once work is completed at the swim beach, dredging operations will move to an area off the south swim beach parking lot, and eventually to the San Moritz area. Neither of these operations, which are expected to extend into August, will disrupt recreational activities. Dredging will not take place Friday through Sunday, allowing for serene wedding rehearsals and ceremonies.

Material removed from the lake will be stored next to the San Moritz Lodge for eventual use in the buttressing of the dam, bringing it up to modern seismic standards and allowing higher water levels in the lake and even greater recreational opportunities and beauty.

Also on tap for the summer are drainage improvements at both the channel near San Moritz and the basin at the library and skate park adjacent to Lake Gregory Drive. These improvements are designed to greatly limit the amount of sediment that flows into the lake, reducing the need for future dredging. This work is expected to extend into the fall.