

Kari Kyler - Pinecrest Water Levels

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Subject: Pinecrest Water Levels

I am writing to strongly recommend keeping the Pinecrest Lake water level as high as possible for as long as possible, certainly until at least the beginning of October and hopefully through mid-October. Pinecrest is a wonderful recreation area for many families, fishermen, hikers, boaters and those who simply want to sit and enjoy the surrounding beauty. And Pinecrest does have very high use during September and October! During our lake hike on one weekend in mid-September we passed countless fishermen all around the lake and on multiple boats, a beach birthday party for a 6 year old with piñatas and balloons, a wedding reception for over 75 with bbqs and music, countless kids and adults swimming, kayaking, sunning and laughing. The parking lots had multiple school buses from schools as far away as Merced visiting the lake for outdoor hands-on Science classes. Hikers were everywhere, picnics were on the beach, the docks, the rocks. And just yesterday, October 22, we did a survey on our noon lake hike and counted the following: 136 cars and campers in the Day Use parking lots, 56 fisherpeople of all ages in boats and on beaches, a Girl Scout convention from Turlock with 100+ girls and leaders hiking the lake and many families on the beach.

There is no questions that Pinecrest is used and enjoyed way past Labor Day. There is no question that Pinecrest offers a recreation area for families that can't afford trips to Disneyland or Great America. There is no question that Pinecrest should remain beautiful, safe and available...with high water level... for as long a season as possible.

Thank you for your consideration and thoughtfulness when regulating water levels at Pinecrest.

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