



COLORADO RIVER DISTRICT

PROTECTING WESTERN COLORADO WATER SINCE 1937

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
May 8, 2020

CONTACT: [Jim Pokrandt](mailto:Jim.Pokrandt@coloradoriverdistrict.com) – 970.319.1807

Boat Access at Woford Mountain Reservoir to Open Friday, May 15

Campground to Open Friday, May 22

Kremmling, CO — Here is some good news in these days of the coronavirus pandemic: The boat ramp and marina at Woford Mountain Reservoir will open Friday, May 15. The aquatic invasive species inspection and decontamination station will be operational and the marina will offer boat rentals and fuel sales. All state, local and reservoir specific rules and guidelines on social distancing must be followed.

The adjacent day-use area and picnic pavilion area is already open and fishing access to the reservoir shoreline is accessed through that area, with social distancing guidelines in effect.

A week later, on Friday, May 22, the Woford Campground will open for new campers. This is the start of the Memorial Day Weekend. Groups and gatherings of any type will be limited to 10 or fewer. Maintain social distancing by staying at least 6 feet away from people outside your household, and observance of all state, local and reservoir specific rules and guidelines will be required. Avoid creating crowds at the reservoir and adjust your plans to recreate if you see crowded areas.

These announcements come from the Colorado River District, owner and operator of the reservoir, and Kristen and Doug Prewitt, the concessionaires who operate the Woford Campground and Marina. Campground reservations can be made at any time through <https://wofordcampground.com>.

May 15 was the schedule opening date for boating, prior to complications caused by the pandemic social distancing rules. The Colorado River District and the Prewetts have worked out a plan to keep the date while promoting public safety. The public is encouraged to read signs and abide by the rules set up for the facilities.

Ordinarily, the main reasons to open boating in mid-May concern ice conditions and the logistics of setting up boat inspections for quagga mussels. Mussels foul reservoir facilities and degrade the fishery.

“Clean, drain and dry” remain the rules for boats taken out of any body of water for easy introduction to another, Kristin Prewitt said. She noted that any boats brought from Lake Powell or Chatfield Reservoir can expect decontamination. Powell has mussels and Chatfield has the New Zealand mud snail and Eurasian watermilfoil vegetation, both invasive. There is a \$25 decontamination fee for all boats this year.

Those using the facility should follow guidelines for outdoor recreation from the Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment and Colorado Parks and Wildlife:

- Recreate locally. Keep recreational activities within 10 miles of your home to prevent disease spread.
- Wear a mask when participating in outdoor activities.

- It is best to socialize only with your household members. If you are doing outdoor activities with people outside your household, limit the group size and make sure there is always at least 6 feet of physical distance between all people.
- People should not gather in any outdoor space where they cannot maintain 6 feet of physical distance from one another. Avoid creating crowds around the boat launch, campground or in parking lots. Adjust your outdoor recreation plans if you see crowded areas.
- Please practice good handwashing and distancing if using restrooms at the reservoir.
- First responders and search and rescue teams are all facing these challenges along with us. Please avoid high-risk or remote activities, as accidents stemming from these types of activities may require extensive resources.

Please refer to the Department of Public Health and Environment's website at [covid19.colorado.gov](https://www.covid19.colorado.gov) for the latest recommendations.

###