

# NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY 2023 RESULTS

CECW-O-N



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**Who showed up:**

Projects hosting registered NPLD events: 51

Project Site Areas hosting work projects: 218

Number of volunteers: 5,231

Volunteer hours: 20,093

Value of service: \$640,000

Number of partner organizations involved: 218

Corps staff leading work efforts: 333

**What they accomplished:**

- 114,444 pounds of trash removed (equivalent to 7 adult elephants)
- 416 tires removed (enough for 23 eighteen wheelers, and one spare for a 1977 Trans Am)
- 60 miles of roadway cleaned
- 579 shoreline miles cleaned (distance from Atlanta - Baltimore, as the Falcon or Raven flies.)
- 50 trail miles maintained or built
- 150 acres of habitat improved (equal to 113 football fields)
- 10,124 trees or shrubs planted
- 32 bird and bat boxes installed



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# PROJECT STORYBOARDS AND PHOTOS



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# NPLD - PAINT CREEK LAKE, 23 SEP 2023 (LRH)



## Events:

- On September 23, 2023, Huntington District- Paint Creek Lake hosted Paint Creek Pick up. ODNR Parks and Watercraft Paint Creek Camp Hosts, and Boy Scout Troop #120 from Lynchburg, OH, came and donated their time to help pick up litter and debris along the trails and shoreline of Paint Creek. In total, 18 bags and 3 tires were collected, weighing in around 500 pounds.

## Communication Objectives:

- Paint Creek Lake has a strong community involvement. This event was hosted to help keep Paint Creek lake and trails around clean to help our environment.

## Activities:

- Everyone received a USACE Paint Creek Lake reusable water bottle and towel.
- Reviewed safety procedures for the day.
- Walked along the trails and shoreline to find debris and litter.
- Collected the debris and properly disposed of bags and tires.

## Key Take-Aways:

- Paint Creek Lake USACE is committed to serving the communities it belongs to and has a goal to create events and/or spaces that demonstrates that commitment.





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# NPLD - BUCKHORN LAKE (LRL)





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# PATOKA LAKE NPLD (LRL)



## 2023 NATIONAL PUBLIC LANDS DAY PATOKA LAKE INDIANA

On 23 September 2023, Patoka Lake (CELRL-OPW-P) in partnership with the Patoka Lake Watershed Steering Committee hosted a National Public Lands Day Event from 0800-1200. Participants included 175 volunteers and USACE staff members. Volunteers collected 1,860 pounds of trash, 500 pounds of recyclables, and 22 tires from project lands. Multiple agencies participated including USACE, U.S. Forest Service, Indiana Department of Natural Resources, Dubois County Indiana Solid Waste, Dubois County Indiana Soil & Water District, Crawford County Indiana Solid Waste, Crawford County Indiana Soil & Water, and Orange County Indiana Solid Waste.



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# NPLD AT CORDELL HULL LAKE (LRN)





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# NPLD AT STONEWALL JACKSON (LRP)



## Events:

- Litter pickup event at Stonewall Jackson Lake for National Public Lands Day on 23-Sep-2023 from 0900 to 1130

## Communication Objectives:

- Celebrate National Public Lands Day by cleaning up some high traffic areas at Stonewall Jackson Lake
- PARTNERSHIP with Glenville State University's Forestry Club and distribution by National Environmental Education Foundation
- Promote keeping project lands clean and safe for the visitors

## Activities:

- Rangers and VOLUNTEERS from Glenville State University's Forestry Club were successful in removing about 400 pounds of litter along roadways and bridges

## Key Take-Aways:

- Support by VOLUNTEERS and West Virginia Division of Natural Resources Wildlife for safe disposal
- PARTNERSHIPS with other clubs, organizations, and agencies
- Stress importance of preserving public lands through social media and websites







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# NPLD AT LAKE GREESON (MVK)





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# NPLD - WILLAMETTE VALLEY PROJECT (NWP)



## 2023 National Public Lands Day PORTLAND DISTRICT, NORTHWESTERN DIVISION

**NWD Priority:** People, Partners, and Programs

**WHO:** Willamette Valley Project

**WHAT:** National Public Lands Day

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 23, 2023

**WHERE:** Pine Meadows Campground, Cottage Grove Reservoir, Oregon

**WHY:** National Public Lands Day is a nation-wide event in which thousands of volunteers assist in projects to improve federal lands. 54 volunteers planted 57 trees and shrubs to improve the aesthetics and habitat in the campground.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** Corps volunteers will water and care for the new plants until they are well-established. WVP Park Rangers will continue to host NPLD events in future years and care for the plants throughout the winter.



Above: Group photo of the volunteers and Rangers who planted native trees and shrubs in Pine Meadows Campground.



Above: Members of BSA Troop 140 from Cottage Grove have been attending NPLD annually for over 10 years.



Above: Sifting dirt with the District Commander, an Archeologist and a Park Ranger is fun!



Above: The American Heritage Girls group attended NPLD for the second year.



Above: Rangers taught young volunteers how to plant trees and shrubs.



### Summary:

On Saturday, September 23, a National Public Lands Day volunteer event was held at Pine Meadows Campground on Cottage Grove Reservoir. Twelve Corps Park Rangers, four archeologists, one botany intern, the District Commander and 54 community volunteers participated in the event. Volunteers planted 16 native trees and 41 native shrubs. The goals of the project was to add shade and visual barriers in the campground, improve aesthetics, and increase habitat for pollinators and wildlife. Corps archeologists attended the event this year to protect and study any potential artifacts that may have been dug up during the planting project. The value of service provided by the volunteers was about \$6,869. In return for their service, volunteers were offered the opportunity to stay that night in the campground for free, and they also received a "Fee Free" coupon that could be used at participating federally managed lands in the coming year.





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# NPLD - MILL CREEK LAKE (NWW)



## MILL CREEK PROJECT PEDESTRIAN BRIDGE REPAIR WALLA WALLA DISTRICT, NORTHWESTERN DIVISION

**WHO:** Mill Creek Project Staff, Blue Mountain Land Trust “Blues Crew”, and local equestrian group.

**WHAT:** Pedestrian bridge updated to a new durable design.

**WHEN:** September 23rd, 2023, National Public Lands Day

**WHERE:** Meadowlark trail at Bennington Lake.

**WHY:** Replace worn-out wooden boards with a new layout to ensure public safety and bridge durability that can accommodate equestrian traffic.



**Above:** Volunteers have removed the old wooden bridge surface and clean out around the exposing steel structure in preparation for the new boards.



**Right:** The finished product was a beautiful and durable surface with the center boards taking the brunt of equestrian traffic and being easy to replace without damaging the underlying planks.



### Summary:

Partnerships are an essential tool for the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to effectively manage recreational and environmental resources and contributing significantly to these missions. In 2022, NWW partnerships were valued at \$23 million dollars, demonstrating their immense importance. Partnerships valued totaled \$52,000 at the Mill Creek Project through projects like this bridge maintenance. USACE has embraced the power of partnerships by leveraging opportunities like the National Public Lands day and local nonprofits to complete small maintenance efforts that may not otherwise reach the top of the Project’s funding priority list. Walla Walla based Blue Mountain Land Trust has a conservation mission to preserve fish, wildlife, forest and grasslands, and is a huge supporter of Mill Creek’s 700-acre wildlife lands.



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# POH CELEBRATES NPLD 2023!



**What:** NPLD

**When:**

10/23/23

**Where:**

Ho'omaluhia

Botanical

Garden

**IMPACT:** 68

volunteers

cleared 2 acres

of invasive

vegetation from

rare and

endangered

plants.



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# NPLD - WEST POINT LAKE (SAM)



# J. STROM THURMOND'S NPLD (SAS)

An exceptional day of service!! 21 staff members along with 196 volunteers accomplished 13 different service projects in various locations on the project. Volunteers were thanked with a t-shirt, lunch, and a Free NPLD Day Use Pass!

## We built:

- 4 Life Jacket Loaner Boards
- 30 Fish Attractors
- 30 Fishing Line Receptacles
- 8 Bat Boxes

## We Cleaned:

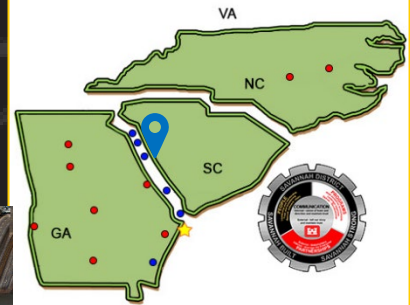
- 7.5 miles of trails
  - 6.5 miles of shoreline
  - 2 miles of roadway
- ## We Removed:
- 1,415 pounds of trash
  - 9 tires

## We Painted:

- 6 bulletin boards
- ## We landscaped:
- 9 flower beds

23 September 2023

Savannah District Boundaries



789.5 volunteer hours with a service equivalent rate of \$25,106



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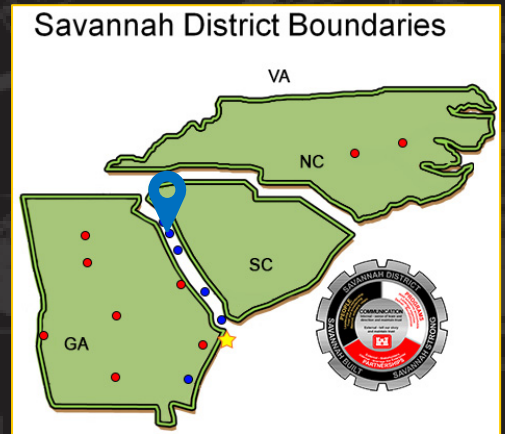
**GOAL 3**  
Partnerships

# RICHARD B. RUSSELL LAKE NPLD LAKE CLEAN UP (SAS)

The project participated in National Public Lands Day (NPLD) by hosting 66 volunteers for a lake wide cleanup. They fanned out by boat, car and kayak to pick up trash and debris. 99 bags of trash, 13 tires, and one picnic table were collected in just three hours all weighing in just over 3500lbs! After a great lunch, volunteers received t-shirts, free one day federal park passes and water safety tips from Park Ranger Annette Dotson.



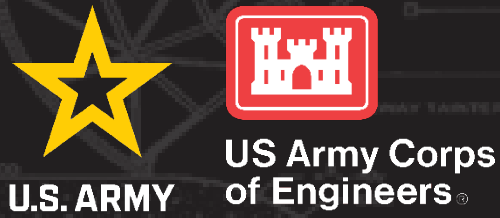
September 23, 2023



Above: Volunteers bringing trash collected to shore for disposal

Left: Volunteers enjoying lunch as a thank you for cleaning up over 3,500 pounds from the lake and shoreline.

**GOAL 3**  
Partnerships





# NPLD - ABIQUIU LAKE (SPA)

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**WHO:** Abiquiu Lake staff and volunteers  
**WHAT:** Performed lake and shoreline cleanup for national public lands day

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>

**WHERE:** Abiquiu Lake, NM

**WHY:** To clean up the lake and shoreline recreation areas after on of the busiest recreation seasons in many years, and to clean up after exceptionally high-water levels inundated recreation infrastructure.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** Staff will continue clean up efforts and continue to host NPLD events annually.

**SUMMARY:** Abiquiu Lake National Public Lands Day was a success and will continue into the future!



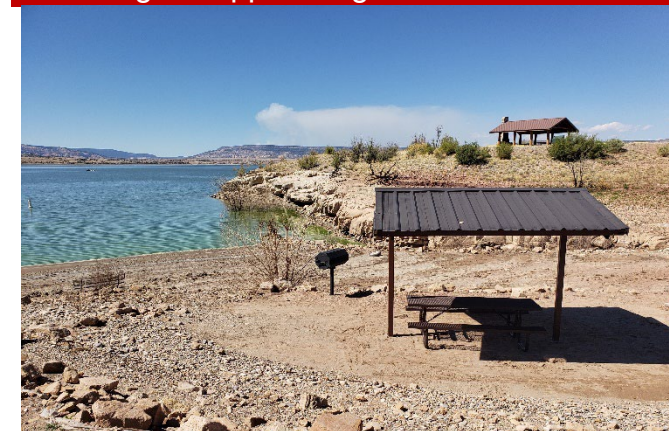
Ranger Dunne cutting driftwood from the beach



Ranger Rapp cutting out invasive Salt Cedar



Staff and Abiquiu Friends group set up for NPLD



Swim beach with freshly painted infrastructure and cleaned of debris.







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# NPLD – COCHITI LAKE: FISH HABITAT BUILDING WORKSHOP (SPA)



**WHO:** Earl Conway from New Mexico Bass Nation and local volunteers.

**WHAT:** Fish Habitat Building Workshop: A workshop designed to support the Cochiti Lake Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Project (AHEP). The project is being implemented with the support and partnership of New Mexico Bass Nation.

**WHEN:** Held on National Public Lands Day, September 23<sup>rd</sup> 2023. Future workshops will take place at Cochiti Lake to support the forward momentum of the AHEP.

**WHERE:** Cochiti Lake Project, NM

**WHY:** To improve the aquatic ecology of Cochiti Lake. Artificial habitat and spawning structures will increase fish populations and support lower trophic level organisms as well.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** USACE staff, New Mexico Bass Nation, and volunteers will build floating island structures which provide habitat for variety of aquatic organisms and reduce the intensity of Harmful Algae Blooms.

**SUMMARY:** The Aquatic Habitat Enhancement Project continues to expand with the support of the SPA district office, the Pueblo de Cochiti, New Mexico Bass Nation, and volunteers. We hope to provide recreators, visitors, and community members access to a healthy reservoir ecosystem and a sustainable fishery.



Earl Conway and volunteers complete their first habitat structure.



Catfish boxes.



Volunteers from neighboring communities help construct habitat structures.



Corrugated tubing used for building habitat structures.





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# NPLD – BLACK BUTTE DAM AND LAKE (SPK)

## Event:

On 23 September 2023 Black Butte Dam and Lake hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- Campground beautification: 15 campsites were raked and cleaned of litter.
- Fire ring clean out: 20 fire rings and campground BBQs were emptied of ash and litter.
- Trail maintenance: Approximately ¼ mile of trail was inspected and cleaned of litter.
- Shoreline debris and litter removal: Approximately ¼ mile of shoreline was cleaned and woody debris was stacked into burn piles.

## Summary:

11 volunteers, 33 volunteer hours, volunteer value \$1,050, 1 tire removed, 120 pounds of trash removed, 2 miles of roadway cleaned, ¼ mile of shoreline cleaned, and ¼ mile of trail cleaned.





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# NPLD – ENGELBRIGHT LAKE (SPK)



## Event:

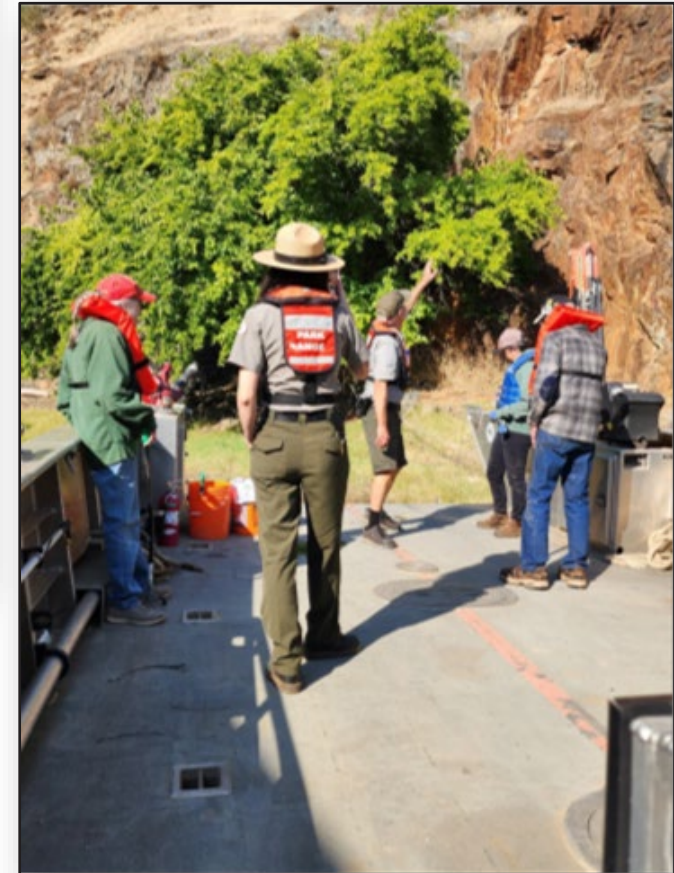
On 23 September 2023 Englebright Lake hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- Shoreline litter removal

## Summary:

14 volunteers, 42 volunteer hours, \$1,336 volunteer value. Partnerships were California Coastal Commission and South Yuba River Citizens League. 1 tire removed, 150 pounds trash cleaned up, 1 mile of roadways cleaned, 24 miles of shoreline cleaned.





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# NPLD – HIDDEN DAM, HENSLEY LAKE AND BUCHANAN DAM, H.V. EASTMAN LAKE (SPK)

20



## Event:

On 23 September 2023 Hidden Dam, Hensley Lake and Buchanan Dam, H.V. Eastman Lake hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- 2 bike racks installed
- 3 horse hitching posts installed
- Day-use ground maintenance
- Litter removal
- Additional playground surfacing material installed
- 2 Life jacket loaner stations repainted

## Summary:

104 volunteers, 520 volunteer hours, \$16,536 volunteer value, 6 partnerships, 756 pounds of litter, cleaned 1.9 miles of roadway, cleaned .15 miles of shoreline, and built/maintained 7 pieces of infrastructure.





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# NPLD – NEW HOGAN DAM AND LAKE (SPK)

## Event:

On 23 September 2023 New Hogan Dam and Lake hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- Horseshoe pit renovation
- Observation Point beautification
- Litter removal at multiple locations
- Fire ring cleaning
- Picnic table painting



## Summary:

New Hogan Dam and Lake welcomed 62 volunteers to participate in six projects for National Public Lands Day (NPLD). Volunteer hours totaled to 186 which is valued at \$5,915. NPLD partners include NEEF, Boy Scouts of America and Starbucks Coffee. Volunteers were able to remove 200 pounds of litter, 9 picnic tables painted, 2 benches painted, half mile of shoreline cleaned, and horseshoe pit renovations.





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# NPLD – TERMINUS DAM/LAKE KAWEAH (SPK)



## Event:

On 23 September 2023 Terminus Dam/Lake Kaweah hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- Storm debris removed
- Campsite maintenance and cleaning

## Summary:

14 volunteers, 60 volunteer hours, \$1908 volunteer value, 3 partnerships with Kaweah Delta Water Conservation District, Sequoia Riverlands Trust, and Starbucks.





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# NPLD – PINE FLAT DAM AND LAKE (SPK)

23



## Event:

On 23 September 2023 Pine Flat Dam and Lake hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- Litter removal
- Graffiti removal
- Wildlife habitat planting

## Summary:

In partnership with Kings River Conservancy and Kings River Conservation District, 16 volunteers performed 56 hours of volunteer service resulting in a volunteer value of \$1,781. 210 pounds of trash was removed across 2 miles of shoreline, 2 miles of trails, and along 1 mile of roadway. Wildlife habitat planting was also a success with 435 pounds of native grasses and pollinator seeds planted across 2.61 acres.





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# NPLD – STANISLAUS RIVER PARKS (SPK)

24



## Event:

On 23 September 2023 Stanislaus River Parks hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- Painting of BBQ grills and signposts
- Litter removal
- Wildflower seed dispersal
- Graffiti removal
- Trail maintenance

## Summary:

In accordance with preserving public lands around the Stanislaus River, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Stanislaus River Parks hosted National Public Lands Day (NPLD). NPLD, which took place in the Knights Ferry Recreation Area, had 42 volunteers participate totaling 168 volunteer hours for a total value of \$5342. Projects completed included painting of 30 BBQs and 5 signposts, 2 acres of habitat improvements from wildflower seed dispersal, 97-pounds litter removed, 25 graffiti tags removed, and 1.5 miles of shoreline and 3 miles of trail maintained.







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# NPLD - SUCCESS LAKE (SPK)



## Event:

On 23 September 2023, Richard L. Schafer Dam, Success Lake hosted National Public Lands Day.

## Activities:

- 20 trees planted
- 14 shade shelters painted
- Restrooms painted
- Curbs painted around recreation area and boat ramps
- 104 campsites had gravel spread

## Summary:

Total of 225 volunteers were present to assist with work, accumulating 900 hours totaling \$28,620 in volunteer value. A total of 11 partnerships were utilized for donations including beverages from Starbucks and door prizes from many local business. 14 local, state, and federal agencies/business were also present and set up information booths for the event to give information on what they do within our community of Porterville.





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# NPLD - SANTA ANNA MARSH 2023 (SPL)



## LOS ANGELES DISTRICT, SOUTH PACIFIC DIVISION

**WHAT:** National Public Lands Day (NPLD) is the largest single-day volunteer event within the nation and occurs every 4<sup>th</sup> Saturday in September each year. District Park Rangers hosted their 3<sup>rd</sup> NPLD event. District Commander, Col. Andrew Baker personally welcomed and thanked our 54 volunteers and worked the whole day cleaning up the marsh. During the event volunteers from the general public, the City of Newport Beach and the Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) collected approximately 2 ½ tons of debris (by hand) from 92-acres of the federally protected Santa Ana River (SAR) Saltwater Marsh on Corps property in Newport Beach. Volunteers worked for 2 hours and accumulated more than 100+ hours of service. The value of this service in people hours is worth at least \$3,400 in labor with measurable benefit to both sensitive wildlife species and to local aesthetics. Partnership participation included the Orange County Sheriff's Department, the City of Newport Beach, and the Boy Scouts of America. The Sheriff's Department Homeless Outreach Service Team (H.O.S.T) patrolled during the event and came out a week before to encourage homeless individuals, who were trespassing, to vacate the area. The City of Newport Beach partnered with USACE to plan and implement the event. This NPLD event created new partnerships and strengthen existing partnerships with local agencies and civic organizations.

**WHEN:** Saturday, September 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023

**WHERE:** Santa Ana River Marsh, Newport Beach, CA. (SARM)

**WHY:** Harmful debris accumulated within protected Marsh and shoreline. Debris originated from nearby residences, a local public trail, and homeless encampments.

**WHAT'S NEXT:** USACE Park Rangers will host the next National Public Lands Day Event and other similar events at other locations within SPL.

**A Nationwide Effort:** Nationwide NPLD events strengthen partnerships, and often result in safer recreation areas, improved habitat, reductions in floatable debris, and many other measurable benefits on public land. NPLD events on Corps lands are a great tool to showcase the Corps mission, show-off our efforts, and promote environmental stewardship and land ethic within local communities.





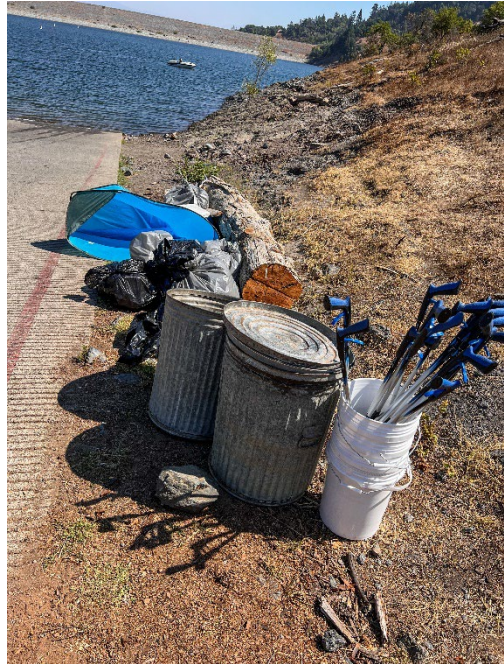
# NPLD AT LAKE MENDOCINO (SPN)





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# NPLD - LAKE SONOMA (SPN)





# NPLD AT WRIGHT PATMAN LAKE (SWF)





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# NPLD - OOLOGAH LAKE (SWT)

