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DEPARTMENT OF WILDLIFE, WHITE PINE COUNTY TOURISM, & DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION AND NATURAL RESOURCES - DIVISION OF STATE PARKS

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Wednesday, May 7, 2025

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JOINT PRESS RELEASE: Rediscover Cave Lake: Grand Re-Opening Celebration Set for June 7, 2025

ELY, Nev. — After years of anticipation, Cave Lake is back—and the community is invited to celebrate at the Rediscover Cave Lake Grand Re-Opening Event on Saturday, June 7, 2025. Hosted by the Nevada Division of State Parks, Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW), and White Pine County Tourism, this milestone event marks the return of one of Nevada's most scenic recreation destinations.

Cave Lake State Park was closed to water-based recreation in 2019 to accommodate major dam repairs. With construction now complete and the lake spilling over ahead of schedule, park visitors can once again enjoy fishing, kayaking, and swimming in the pristine mountain setting located just 14 miles southeast of Ely.

To commemorate the re-opening, a full day of activities is planned from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., including:

- Ribbon-cutting ceremony at 1:00 p.m.
- NDOW is stocking Cave Lake with about 2,000 pounds of catchable-size rainbow trout. The fish truck will arrive between 8:30 a.m. and 9 a.m. to plant the fish, a fun sight for all ages!
- Float Tube Fly Fishing Clinic hosted by NDOW (8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.)
- Music, interpretive hikes, and bike rides
- Local food trucks, vendors, and outdoor gear showcases
- Canvas outdoor art, kayaking, paddleboarding, and wildlife adventures
- Commemorative Rubber Ducky Race (50/50 donation to Cave Lake and to the winner)
- The debut of "Dam Good Beer" from Las Vegas Brewing Company

Camping and Parking:

Both campgrounds—Lake View Campground and Elk Flat Campground—will be open for the weekend. However, Lake View Campground will operate on a first-come, first-served basis, and reservations will only be available for volunteers June 6th and 7th. With a large crowd expected, park staff recommend arriving early, as parking will fill up quickly. Overflow parking will be permitted along the access road, and a shuttle service will be available from overflow parking areas along success summit (SR 486) into the park. Due to safety concerns and parking restrictions motorized boats will not be permitted on Saturday, June 7.

“Restoring Cave Lake has been a collaborative effort, and it’s incredibly rewarding to see the lake full again,” said **NDOW Director Alan Jenne**. “This project has brought together multiple agencies and dedicated individuals, all working toward the shared goal of bringing back one of eastern Nevada’s most beloved recreation spots. We’re proud to have played a part in making this destination whole again. We also want to sincerely thank the local community for their cooperation, patience, and unwavering support throughout this restoration process.”

“This is a much anticipated event for Nevada’s state park system,” added **Bob Mergell, Administrator of the Nevada Division of State Parks**. “The Rediscover Cave Lake event invites all Nevadans and visitors to reconnect with the natural beauty, recreational opportunities, and history that makes this park so special.”

Event Details:

What: Rediscover Cave Lake Grand Re-Opening

When: Saturday, June 7, 2025 | 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m.

Where: Cave Lake State Park, Ely, Nevada

Admission: Free (vendors, giftshop items, annual passes, and food items available for purchase)

[Event Webpage](#)

For more information, vendor inquiries, sponsorships, or to volunteer, contact Cave Lake State Park at (775) 296-1505 or clsp@parks.nv.gov.

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The **Nevada Division of State Parks** plans, develops and maintains a system of parks and recreation areas for the use and enjoyment of more than 4 million visitors a year. The division was established in 1963 by the Nevada Legislature to form a new state park agency within the **Department of Conservation and Natural Resources**. The division manages and maintains 27 parks, historic sites and recreation areas in Nevada.

The **Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)** protects, restores and manages fish and wildlife, and promotes fishing, hunting, and boating safety. NDOW’s wildlife and habitat conservation efforts are primarily funded by sportsmen’s license and conservation fees and a federal surcharge on hunting and fishing gear. Support wildlife and habitat conservation in Nevada by purchasing a hunting, fishing, or combination license. Find us on Facebook, Instagram or visit us at www.ndow.org.

White Pine County is centered around the remote mountain town of Ely, positioned on the eastern edge of "Nevada's Loneliest Highway." With a population of 4,000, Ely seamlessly integrates history, art, and outdoor adventure. Explore the wonders of the nearby Great Basin National Park, featuring the Lehman Cave system and the majestic Wheeler Peak. Wander through Ely's downtown on the 11-block art walk, adorned with over 20 murals and sculptures depicting the town's rich history. Don't miss the Nevada Northern Railway, a National Historic Landmark showcasing the town's rail heritage. Plan your visit to White Pine County at elynevada.net and discover the hidden gems that await in this destination.