

Press Release

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Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe Opens Public Access to Pyramid Lake on Highway 446

NDOT completes Highway 446 Repairs

Nixon, NV: NDOT announced today the completion of repairs to Highway 446 which sustained extensive damage in several areas due to the floods in January. Highway 446 is the highway that connects Sutcliffe and Nixon. Highway 446 is designated a national scenic by-way that traverses the south shore of beautiful Pyramid Lake, and gives recreational users access to many of their favorite beaches along the route. Effective Saturday, March 4th, the Tribe will open the beaches from Popcorn to Tamarack, and North Nets to Shot Dog. The area north of Tamaracks to South Nets, Warrior Point and all points north, and Dago Bay and Howard's Beach on the south end of the Lake remain closed to the public until further notice.

Tribal Chairman Vinton Hawley, states, "We're excited to open yet another significant portion of Pyramid Lake to recreational users of Pyramid Lake. We acknowledge the efforts by NDOT to do highway repairs, and the work of our Tribe's departments to repair beach access roads. Their work ultimately insures safe travels and access for all of our community members and visitors." Previously, on February 17, 2017 the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe opened the beach areas between North Nets and Shot Dog for public recreational use after over a month of total closure of the Lake due to significant and hazardous road damages.

Chairman Hawley reminds the public that caution should be taken when using beach access roads due to washouts and on-going runoff. The floods and fluctuating water levels and erosion have resulted in new drop-off areas, unstable sand walls, and debris in the beach areas.

Chairman Hawley urges the public to respect the areas still subject to road closure. Closed roads will be clearly marked. Some areas are sprayed green for revegetation and should not be disturbed. The depth at the end of the boat docks at Pelican Point is estimated at 3 feet, so boaters will launch at their own risk. All public users of Pyramid Lake are asked to respect the Tribes regulations for the safety of all. Limited beach access is effective until further notice.

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About the Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe: Pyramid Lake Paiute Tribe's members are direct descendants of the Northern Paiute people who have occupied the vast area of the Great Basin for thousands of years. The Tribe maintains a 477,000 acres reservation 35 miles northeast of Reno NV. The reservation fully contains Pyramid Lake, a 175 sq. mile desert terminal lake primarily receiving water from the Truckee River.