



THE CITY OF SAN DIEGO
PRESS RELEASE
Water Department

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CELEBRATE NATIONAL HUNTING AND FISHING DAY, September 25, 2004
All fishing permit fees waived on Saturday, September 25 at all San Diego City Lakes

SAN DIEGO – The City of San Diego Water Department and the San Diego County Wildlife Federation (SDCWF) will be sponsoring a special event to celebrate National Hunting and Fishing Day (NHF) on September 25, 2004. The free event will run from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. at Lake Murray in La Mesa (from I-8 take Lake Murray Blvd. exit and head north, turn left on Kiowa Drive).

This year's event will feature a Children's Fishing Contest from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. with great raffle prizes, and demonstrations from a number of the participating clubs and organizations. Among the local organizations participating are: Quail Unlimited, Pheasants Forever, National Wild Turkey Federation, San Diego County Fish & Wildlife Advisory Commission, Ramona Bass Anglers, The Outdoor Channel, San Diego Council of Bass Clubs, National Predator Callers Association, San Diego Fly Fishers, Safari Club, and San Diego Fish & Game Association.

Additionally, the State of California will waive all fishing permit fees for this day at the following lakes: Barrett, El Capitan, Hodges, Miramar, Murray, Upper and Lower Otay, and Sutherland. Boating fees, however, will still apply.

Anglers from around the world come to San Diego for no other purpose than to fish our municipal reservoirs. The San Diego City Lakes are home to state record for blue catfish (101 pounds) as well as county record for bluegill (3.50 pounds). On a global scale, the progeny of Florida-strain largemouth black bass imported by the City in 1960 now account for 21 of the 25 largest bass in history.

Congress and President Richard M. Nixon established NHF Day to recognize generations of hunters and anglers for the time and money they have donated to wildlife conservation programs--to date totaling over \$23 billion and uncounted hours of work on habitat improvement and other projects.

For additional information regarding the San Diego City Lakes, visit our website at www.sandiego.gov/water or call the Lakes Line at (619) 465-3474. For information on the San Diego County Wildlife Federation, visit www.sdcwf.org.

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