

## SUNSHINE GUIDE TO THE BLACK BUTTE RESERVOIR AREA, CALIFORNIA

LOCATION: Black Butte Reservoir is located on the Glenn/Tehama county line in north-central California. The reservoir is situated on Stony Creek, a tributary of the Sacramento River. Black Butte Dam, which impounds the reservoir, was built in 1963. The resulting lake covers some seven square miles and presents a forty-mile shoreline. The reservoir and its surrounding recreation facilities are administered by the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, with offices in Orland, some eight miles to the east. Farther upstream on Stony Creek, are *Stony Gorge Reservoir* and *East Park Reservoir*. The lake is popular with boaters, campers, and fishermen. It features crappie, several species of bass, and channel catfish. Fishing is best in the spring. Elevations are around 300 feet above sea level.

	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	JUN	JUL	AUG	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC
HOURS OF DAYLIGHT	9:43	10:41	11:56	13:14	14:21	14:57	14:42	13:45	12:30	11:12	10:03	9:25
HOURS OF SUNSHINE	4:51	6:29	8:06	10:19	11:56	13:15	14:04	12:59	11:18	9:00	6:12	4:39
AREA OF BLUE SKY	37%	42%	46%	54%	62%	75%	89%	86%	81%	67%	49%	38%
LOW FOR MONTH	28°	29°	31°	33°	38°	44°	45°	42°	40°	35°	30°	28°
SUNRISE TEMPERATURE	36°	39°	42°	46°	53°	59°	62°	60°	56°	50°	42°	37°
AFTERNOON TEMPERATURE	54°	60°	65°	73°	82°	90°	97°	95°	89°	79°	64°	55°
HIGH FOR MONTH	62°	70°	77°	86°	96°	106°	114°	113°	106°	93°	76°	64°
FROSTY MORNINGS	34%	14%	5%	1%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	7%	29%
AFTERNOONS OVER 90°	0%	0%	0%	3%	22%	49%	80%	73%	53%	14%	0%	0%
AFTERNOON HUMIDITY	65%	56%	49%	40%	33%	28%	24%	25%	27%	36%	53%	66%
DRY DAYS	66%	69%	75%	82%	88%	95%	99%	98%	93%	87%	75%	70%
REASONABLY DRY DAYS	78%	79%	83%	90%	94%	97%	99%	99%	97%	93%	84%	81%
5-DAY PRECIPITATION	0.63	0.57	0.42	0.21	0.12	0.06	0.01	0.01	0.06	0.17	0.39	0.55
DAYS WITH SOME SNOW	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME THUNDER	1%	3%	4%	4%	3%	4%	2%	2%	3%	2%	1%	0%
DAYS WITH SOME FOG	20%	9%	3%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	1%	8%	19%

COMMENTS: Bright sunshine is likely on 76% of the daylight hours of the year. This might range from a low of 49% in December, to a high of 96% in sunny July. The lowest temperature of the year should be close to 26° at some calm and clear winter sunrise, and the highest should be near 116° on some equally clear and windless summer afternoon. Clear skies and calm airs tend to make the high temperatures higher and the low ones lower. Sensible afternoon temperatures (the ones you feel) will be up to 6° cooler than actual ones, due to the relatively low afternoon humidity. Direct sunlight on the human body in the hottest months, however, can make sensible temperatures feel up to 15° hotter than actual temperatures. Unfortunately, the reservoir does not have a lot of shade. Water temperatures vary with the season, and with the wind and weather. They average in the middle 60's, but can get 10° or more cooler with winter rains, and up to 10° warmer in late summer. The waters can reach the high 70's in shallow bays with onshore winds.