

Enders Lake a popular destination on Labor Day weekend

Written by Wauneta Breeze

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Campers enjoyed the shade at Enders Reservoir over the Labor Day weekend. Most of the camping areas were in use over the long weekend. (Imperial Republican Photo)

By Carolyn Lee

The Imperial Republican

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Boats on the lake, fishermen on the dam, swimmers near shore and lots of camping units. Labor Day weekend at Enders Reservoir.

Beau Licking, Nebraska Game and Parks Commission (NGPC) superintendent for Enders, said he estimated about 1,000 persons per day were camping or day users.

“There were days we had quite a few boats out on the lake,” he observed.

Licking said about 38 of the 41 electrical camping sites were in use.

More trash receptacles were set out this year, but Licking said people were still throwing bottles and cans out vehicle windows. It wasn't as bad as last year's Labor Day weekend, he added.

The restrooms added last year seem to be popular, Licking noted. They're easy to clean and double as tornado shelters, able to withstand 125 mph winds.

Dirk Greene, wildlife officer for NGPC at Enders, said “Overall the weekend went pretty well. I didn't have any real violation issues.”

Boating accident

However, Greene investigated a boating accident Monday morning, in which a Colorado

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resident was injured while wakeboarding.

Greene said 28-year old Adam Wirges of Thornton, Colo., was being pulled on a wakeboard behind a boat driven by his wife, Kim. Also being pulled on a wakeboard was Brett Prothman, also of Thornton.

Greene said Wirges tried to do a flip, the ropes got crossed, and Wirges' leg became entangled in the ropes. He was pulled "a ways," Greene said, and suffered a leg injury.

Wirges was taken to the Chase County Community Hospital and then transferred to a hospital in Denver, Greene stated.

No tickets were issued in the incident, but Greene said "I prefer not to see that kind of stuff going on," regarding the attempted flip.