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WALKER LAKE WORKING GROUP — OUR MISSION

In America's past, water seemed abundant and nature forgiving. But the dominant trend of single-interest water policies did not balance the diversity of human and natural needs in water. Intensive economic uses became the dominant forces in managing water. All too often other concerns — and ecosystems — were ignored.

Caught in this blueprint is Walker Lake. It has much in common with its fellow ancient Lahontan survivor, Pyramid Lake: the high evaporation rate, meager rainfall regime, the somewhat saline waters and water diversions from its river source.

The task of the Walker Lake Working Group is to change the blueprint — to build public support for developing a long-term solution to protect the lake without jeopardizing the upstream community. We need to build support for three things:

- The reestablishment of spawning runs of the Lahontan cutthroat trout.
- Sufficient water so that TDS (salt) levels are low enough to support the Walker Lake ecosystem.
- Acquiring and transferring water rights for environmental/recreational purposes.

To join us in this mission and become a member of the Walker Lake Working Group, please write to:

Walker Lake Working Group
P.O. Box 867
Hawthorne, NV 89415

This brochure was brought to you by the Walker Lake Working Group and these other friends of Walker Lake.



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WATER & LIFE

Nearly the last of its kind, the first stop for a great adventure.

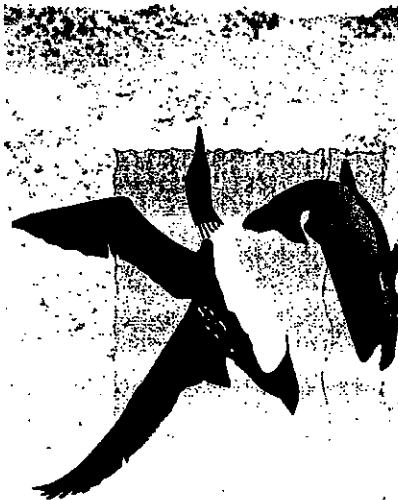
Born in the Sierra Nevada, Walker Lake is the terminus of the Walker River watershed. It supports threatened fish and hundreds of thousands of breeding and migrating water birds, including spring and fall visits from 1,400 common loons — the largest known inland congregation west of the Mississippi. Other visiting fowl include the western grebe, eared grebe, redheads, ruddy duck and American white pelican.

It is also a gathering place for the weary traveler, the ardent angler, and the family on a great adventure. The lake is just 5 miles north of Hawthorne, Nevada which features a full complement of amenities and services including resort casinos, shopping, eclectic dining, golf and tennis. Walker Lake is a rare and endangered kind of lake; only a handful exist in the world. It is subject to the complex water issues of the West as well as the breathtaking and relentless environment of the Great Basin Desert.

NATURE'S FOUR STAR RESORT

Walker Lake is a haven for boating, fishing, camping, hiking and birdwatching. Winter fishing for Lahontan cutthroat trout can be enjoyed in solitude or experienced with the camaraderie of fishing derbies scheduled throughout the winter and spring. Water skiing and personal watercraft are welcome as well as quiet vessels such as canoes and kayaks — perfect for exploring the Walker River delta or observing loons, grebes, and other waterbirds. Major beaches and campgrounds include Sportsman's Beach, Twenty Mile Beach, Tamarack and Walker Lake State Park. A public boat ramp is located at Sportsman's Beach.

Hikers can explore the lake shore or venture into the surrounding basin and range. Mt. Grant is the highest point of land, crowning the Wassuk Range at 11,245 feet above sea level.



WALKER LAKE
WORTH VISITING...WORTH SAVING



Walker Lake • Hawthorne, Nevada

A watery gem amid the arid land,
Walker Lake is a treasure worth discovering.
One of North America's great desert lakes, it is
home to Lahontan cutthroat trout, migrating loons
and the solitude of Nevada's Great Basin.

THE NOT SO COMMON LOONS

No one knows where they come from or precisely when. But each spring and fall they gorge on fish from Walker Lake to sustain them on uncharted migratory journeys. Sleek and graceful on the water, common loons have always been seen at Walker Lake, but several years ago biologists realized that the desert lake may be a crucial resting and re-fueling stop for these birds. Walker Lake and Hawthorne celebrate the return of the loons each spring in the Annual Loon Festival which features guided boat tours and educational seminars.

GREAT SERPENT SEEN IN WALKER LAKE

"Goldfield, Nevada... a man named Peters is said to have discovered the serpent some time ago in shallow water near the shore, and on being aroused it disappeared in deep water. There is also said to be legend among the Paiute Indians near Shurz concerning the existence of a great serpent in Walker Lake."

—The San Francisco Cable, July 1907

Only the loons and the trout know if the serpent stories are true!

CALENDAR OF ACTIVITIES

February	September
Presidents' Weekend	Pine Nut Festival
Fishing Derby	Shurz, Nevada
Walker Lake, Nevada	
April	October-April
Loon Festival	Ei Capitan Fishing Derby
Walker Lake, Nevada	Walker Lake, Nevada
May	November
Armed Forces Day	Thanksgiving Fishing Derby
Hawthorne, Nevada	Walker Lake, Nevada

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