Virtual online tour now available to pick campsites at Lakes McClure and McSwain

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Visitors to Lake McClure and McSwain have a new way to pick their campsites. A virtual-tour feature is now available on LakeMcClure.com. The virtual tool allows visitors to tour campgrounds and campsites as they choose their outdoor accommodations.

"This is going to be extremely helpful to our loyal visitors," said Brooke Gutierrez, Director of Parks and Recreation for Merced Irrigation District. "Even if you have spent a lot of time at our campgrounds at Lakes McClure and McSwain, this will help give you a simple way to look at other potential sites you haven't seen before. As such, not only does this make reservation-booking easier, it provides even more access."

MID Parks and Recreation operates five campgrounds around Lakes McClure and McSwain. Located in the Sierra Nevada foothills, and west of Yosemite National Park, the area is a premier destination for outdoor enthusiasts.

To use the virtual tour, visitors can visit www.LakeMcClure.com and select the camping drop-down menu. On that menu, the various campground locations can be picked: Mcclure Point, Barrett Cove, Bagby, Horseshoe Bend and Lake McSwain.

After choosing the campground, visitors can click on the virtual tour for that particular campground. Visitors will view the campground as if they are driving through it. Green "pin-point" markers can be clicked on for any possible campsite. Once clicked, a pop-up menu provides information about the site,

as well as the site number, and a link to book it. Visitors can also see a 360-degree view of the selected campsite.

"We are constantly doing all we can to enhance the experience our visitors have when they come up to the Parks," said Parks Director Gutierrez. "This is just one more way to do so."

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