

State of New Mexico
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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2017 International Dark Sky
Annual Report
Clayton Lake State Park

March 14, 2018

General

Contacts:

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Parks/Reserves:

The Star Point at Clayton Lake was built by the New State Parks and is one of two in the state. The primary goal is public outreach. Star parties were scheduled throughout the year and upon request, and drew on the average of 10-15 visitors each time. During the week of the annual trout derby it drew in excess of 7,300 visitors over the 3-day event. The lake had approximately over 64,000 visitors last year.

Lighting:

The mercury light that is located near the campsites and boat ramp for security, had an aluminum metal cover put over it to shield down the lighting. Ordinances have been established governing the outdoor lighting to preserve and promote the dark sky resource of the Town of Clayton and Union County.

Sky Quality:

No sky quality was collected.

Conservation and Research: [Parks/Reserves]

No research involving night skies was conducted during the past year.

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Funding:

Currently there is no grants being administered related to the dark sky programming at Clayton Lake. However, in this coming year 2018, we will be looking at applying for some funding from grants or other means.

Planned Programs: Star parties to be conducted during the week of the new moon every month, as well as upon request from visitors, for boys and girls scout troops, school groups and when special events are planned for the year 2018.

Media Relations: New Mexico True through the New Mexico Tourism Department and as well as local newspaper and social media.