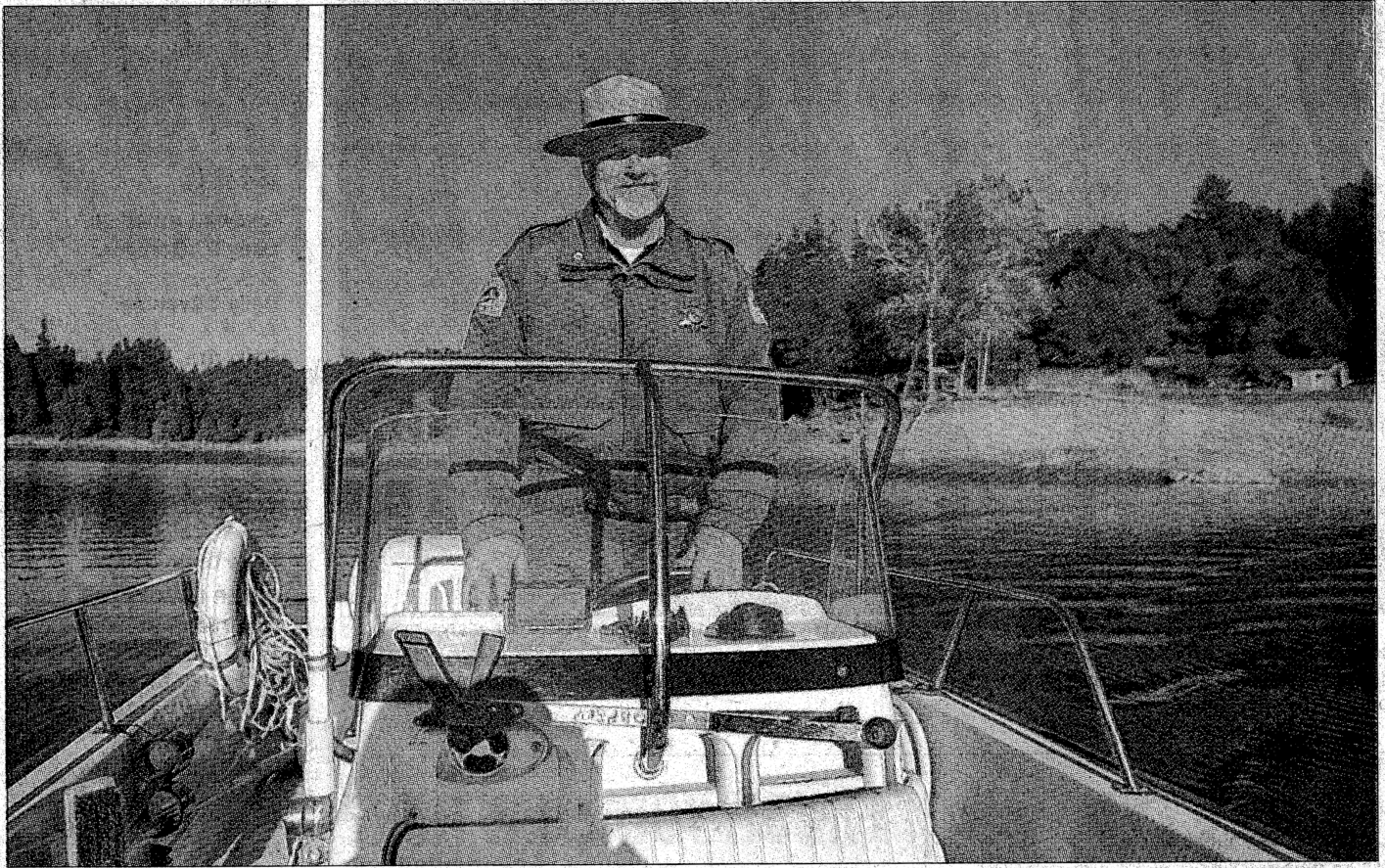


A SALUTE TO SCOT



DAN COYRO/SENTINEL

Santa Cruz Water Department's chief ranger for Loch Lomond, Scot Lang, will retire at the end of December after 11 years of service.

Loch Lomond's chief ranger to retire

Loch Lomond

By J.M. BROWN

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LOMPICO — Scot Lang will miss the winter sunsets that cut a vibrant pink streak down the center of Loch Lomond.

The Santa Cruz Water Department's chief ranger, charged with safeguarding the city's largest water storage facility and an accompanying recreation area, has announced his retirement after 11 years. The 55-year-old Morro Bay native has been working in natural resources protection for 33 years.

"It's been a beautiful place to work and I've been privileged to work for the community and protect their water," he said during a boat tour of the 175-acre lake. "But the responsibility of things going right goes to the staff. You will hardly notice my departure."

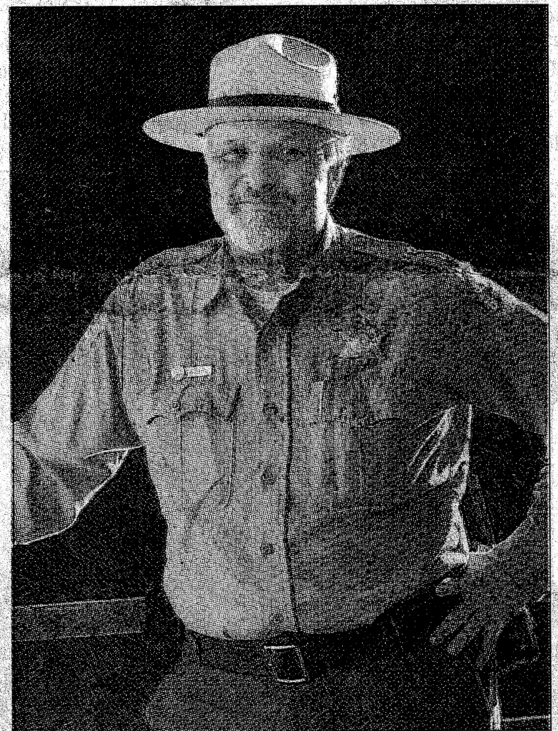
Such a remark is typical of Lang's "aw shucks" style. He credits four rangers, three ranger assistants and a host of seasonal recreation aides for keeping the lake humming.

The biggest rule at Loch Lomond for boaters and on-shore fishermen is no body contact. The city gets credit with the state for maintaining a reservoir that doesn't require the high level of water treatment needed if swimming were allowed.

"Without their tireless work ethic, this place wouldn't be what it is — offering an opportunity for recreation and still maintaining water quality," Lang said of his staff.

Lang — named Scot with one "t" by a father named Fredd

SEE LANG ON A3



DAN COYRO/SENTINEL

Scot Lang, chief ranger for Loch Lomond, will retire at the end of this year.

'It's been a beautiful place to work and I've been privileged to work for the community and protect their water.'

SCOT LANG, Santa Cruz Water Department's chief ranger