

Surry Mountain Lake hosts anglers for New Hampshire winter fishing day

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Surry Mountain Lake opened its gates to welcome all who wished to try ice fishing at the facility and take advantage of the first ever Winter Free Fishing Day, Jan. 21.

The New Hampshire Fish and Game wanted New Hampshire residents to be able to try ice fishing for the first time without having to go through the expense of purchasing a license, according to the agency's press release.

Although usually closed for the year, the Surry Mountain Lake team opened its gates, measured the thickness of the ice for safety and distributed informational safety material out on Social Media for residents wishing to visit the project and try their hand at ice fishing.

In keeping with the "free" theme, guests were not charged a fee to visit Surry Mountain Lake. Those who took advantage of the team's invitation seemed to enjoy themselves.

"The people who attended were grateful to have the opportunity to fish an area they usually have to walk quite a distance to get to," said Project Manager John Asseng.

New Hampshire Fish and Game and Game advised people all other rules and regulations had to be followed on free fishing day. The New Hampshire State Legislature authorized the winter free fishing day last year. The state has a free fishing day on the first Sunday in June that has been in place for many years.

Surry Mountain Lake offers hunting, trapping and snowmobiling with applicable licenses and permits in accordance with state and federal regulations. In the warmer weather, fishing and swimming are available as are picnic tables and a boat ramp. For more information on the project, go to their website: www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/SurryMountainLake.aspx.