



COUNTY OF LAKE
Department of Agriculture
Department of Weights & Measures
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KATHERINE VANDERWALL
Agricultural Commissioner
Sealer of Weights & Measures

Lake County Fish & Wildlife Advisory Committee

Minutes

April 20, 2023

Members present: Luis Santana, Sarah Ryan, Roland LeDuox, Angela De Palma-Dow, Michele Scully, Nellie Dorn, Greg Giusti, Justin Ratcliff

Members Absent: Rich Hinchclif, Steven Mayfield, Brandon Hallengren,

Guests present: Ron Mendez, Jenine Fiefer, Mike Meski, Karola Kennedy, Ben Ewing (phone), Katherine Vanderwall

Public Input: A brief discussion re: the Lake Pillsbury elk herd, and CDFW concerns that some individual animals suffering from hoof rot, a debilitating disease.

Tribal Reports:

Santana – multi hitch rescues from stranded pools, Big Valley, Upper Lake. Up to that point, approximately 940 fish rescued. Assisted by CDFW.

- Carp removal update, monitoring on-going, including Tule Lake. Hope to increase carp/goldfish removal this summer. Luis provided a short overview of carp/goldfish life cycle.

Ryan – Big Valley Tribal efforts on streams between Forbes to Cole Creeks. 30 survey locations, collecting site data on adults, eggs and larvae.

- On-going water chemistry sampling;
- Identified data gaps on water use, irrigation timing, and missing data from past years.

Agency Reports:

CDFW Biologist Report-

Ewing –

- Hitch electro-fishing surveys continuing. Generally, better numbers than some previous years. Numbers are increasing with the season. Hitch surveys will end My 15-16. Planning on continuing his annual general fish surveys to monitor relative abundance of all species from previous years.
- Report that Kevin Thomas, CDFW Regional Manager, plans to remove fish barriers on Manning Creek in the George Rd. area.

- Requested approximately \$2,000 from the committee to support aerial surveillance of carp tagging efforts as part of the larger carp/goldfish management plan. Committee members requested a written proposal to formally consider the request.

Hydrilla Program Report –

Meske-

Hydrilla eradication efforts showing good progress. This year 86 acres planned for treatment in Clear Lake, down from approximately 2,000 acres in 2009.

Lake County Water Resources –

DePalma-Dow –

- Quagge/Zebra mussel update. No detection of either at this time. However, funding from USFWS to develop an action plan should either species of mussels be found in the future.
- Announced a workshop June 20-21 on mussel implications, overview of response plan should mussels be detected. Dept of Education building in Lakeport.

Lake County Ag Department-

Vanderwall –

- Committee budget overview. Approximately \$40K in budget, \$18K proposed for budget this fiscal year.
- Lake County Weed Management Tour scheduled for May 11-12, McGloughlin Reserve.

Future Agenda Items (next meeting):

- Discussion and update re: the fish passage issues the old Kelsey Creek bridge.
- Letter of support for various CDFW creek projects
- Hitch spawning updates

Election of Officers for 2023-24

- Chair - Greg Giusti
- Vice Chair - Luis Santana
- Secretary - Rich Hinchcliff

Next meeting: June 22, location TBA