

Mountain Democrat

Friday, November 22, 2013
PLACERVILLE, CALIFORNIA
99 CENTS

Bass Lake sale still in play

By [Michael Raffety](#)

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Despite an item in the Bass Lake Bulletin monthly newsletter asserting that the sale of Bass Lake by the El Dorado Irrigation District is stalled, officials told the Mountain Democrat the sale is still in the works. The 140 acres around the lake has been for sale since March.

The Bulletin said negotiations had stalled because there were no closed sessions listings about property negotiations between EID and the Rescue Union School District on either board's agendas.

"We are still in negotiations with the Rescue Union School District and for now, the ball is in their court (they are doing their own review and analysis)," EID Communications Director Mary Lynn Carlton told the Democrat. "Several months ago, county staff agreed to step back to allow EID to negotiate solely with Rescue, so we are having no discussions with the county at this time. As you know, Rescue is interested in a future school site that would use portions of both EID's Bass Lake property and the adjacent county property to the north."

Rescue Superintendent Dave Swart said his district is not "moving very quickly." The district is currently experiencing declining enrollment, but expects enrollment to begin increasing again in three to four years. Swart said he is working with the county in regard to a park and ball fields, though he admitted "they are not too interested in being in the park business."

The superintendent has had preliminary discussions with community services district staff, though nothing has risen to the board level at this point, either in Cameron Park or El Dorado Hills.

The school district has some funds and is looking at acquiring a school site that would be put to use a decade from now.

"The school has no interest in buying a lake," Swart said, however.