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Indian casino taking shape in El Dorado County

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The Shingle Springs Band of Miwok Indians celebrated a milestone as the final steel beam was placed for the Foothill Oaks Casino earlier this week, a tribal spokesman said Wednesday.

"This is a dream long in the making for the tribe," Nick Fonseca, tribal chairman, said in a news release. "Now with the final steel beam in place, the dream is becoming reality for us."

Approximately 200 tribal members attended a ceremony Tuesday, signing the beam before it was placed by the casino's general contractor, Rudolph and Sletten.

Tim Cope, president and chief financial officer of Lakes Entertainment Inc., also presented a plaque to Fonseca and the Tribal Council to commemorate the event. Lakes Entertainment has an agreement with the tribe to develop and manage the casino.


Scheduled to open during the last quarter of this year, the casino will feature more than 2,000 slot machines, table games, six restaurants, four bars, and lighted and covered parking, according to the news release.

The casino is under construction north of Highway 50, between Shingle Springs Drive and Greenstone Road, near the El Dorado County community of Shingle Springs. A freeway interchange and overpass also are being built to serve the casino and rancheria.

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