

The

BASS LAKE BULLETIN

Vol. 1 Issue 1

The Voice of the Bass Lake Community

October 2003

www.basslakeaction.org

ASBESTOS FOUND IN SAMPLE TAKEN AT AT BASS LAKE REGIONAL PARK SITE

Bass Lake Action Committee has obtained a copy of the soils report for proposed Bass Lake Park that shows unacceptable levels of naturally occurring asbestos (NOA) at the site.

After weeks of effort, BLAC obtained from the county a copy of the soils report completed by Youngdahl Consulting Group in October of 2002.

The report says that at least one test hole on the site had results of less than 1% Tremolite. This amount exceeds the less than 0.25% limit set by state and federal guidelines.

In a letter to the county, BLAC urged that more sophisticated testing methods similar to those used at Oak Ridge High School and Promontory School be used to fully determine the NOA level so that remediation can be done which will assure the safety of park users and park neighbors.

BLAC is especially concerned that dangerous airborne asbestos dust could blanket the downwind neighborhoods of Bridlewood Canyon, Woodridge, and Hills of El Dorado during park construction.

See more information at the Bass Lake Action Committee website. ☞

BASS LAKE ROAD TO BE IMPROVED

Representatives of Bass Lake Action Committee who attended the September Trails Commission meeting in Placerville heard Randy Pesses from El Dorado County DOT explain the county's arrangement with Hollow Oak developers that will lead to the improvement of Bass Lake Road over the next two years.

The project is budgeted to cost approximately \$7 million and includes the cost of purchasing some rights-of-way. The cost is to be borne by the developer of Hollow Oak, a new subdivision east of Bass Lake Road. The design phase is expected to be completed this winter, with project completion anticipated sometime in 2005.

From Highway 50 North to Stone Hill Road—

The road is to be widened where necessary to provide for shoulders, including a bike trail and a walking trail.

From Stone Hill Road to Serrano Parkway—

The road is to be realigned and widened to a two-lane divided road. The realigned road will bear to the west of the existing road and reconnect with the old right of way near its intersection with Serrano Parkway. The center divider will be graded but unpaved.

From Serrano Parkway To Bass Lake—

The existing Bass Lake Road between the intersection of Serrano Parkway and the lake will remain substantially the same. DOT points out that where the road circles the lake there is no room to widen the road without encroaching on the wetlands.

Presently there are no DOT plans to put any bicycle or pedestrian access along Bass Lake Road as it goes around the east side of the lake and passes the entrance to the planned park.

The Action Committee has urged the DOT to take into account the need for safe bicycle and pedestrian access to the new park when preparing the draft EIR for the park.

Serrano Parkway West of Bass Lake Road—

A paved all-weather fire road will temporarily connect Bass Lake Road with the end of Serrano Parkway, west of Bass Lake Road, at the request of the fire department. A pipe gate located about a quarter-mile west of existing Bass Lake Road will bar public access.

From Bass Lake to Green Valley Road—

North of the proposed park there is a 100-foot wide road easement that goes up to Green Valley Road. Financing for building this section of the road is not yet in place, and this re-

alignment and extension of the road to Green Valley Road has been put on hold because of delays in the Silver Springs development.

See the report on the meeting and a map of proposed road routes at our website www.basslakeaction.org.

RARE WHITE PELICANS VISIT BASS LAKE



A number of rare white pelicans (*Pelecanus erythrorhynchos*) were spotted recently on Bass Lake. This huge bird reaches heights of 55-70 inches. It is white with a long, flat, bright orange bill and black tipped wings.

Breeding pelicans are found from British Columbia south to northern California. Wintering grounds are from central California, the Gulf Coast, and Florida south to Panama. They prefer shallow lakes to coastal lagoons. The white pelican is gregarious, usually travelling in flocks and nesting in colonies. They do not dive for food like the brown pelican, but cooperate to surround fish in shallow water where they scoop them into their pouches.

In recent decades the number of pelicans has dropped drastically to as few as 34,000 birds because of the use of pesticides, human disturbance and the draining of wetlands. See pic-

tures of the pelicans at Bass Lake on Bass Lake Action Committee's website, www.basslakeaction.org.

EDH CSD BACKS LIGHT AND NOISE CONTROL AT PARK

Responding to concerns voiced by representatives from Bass Lake Action Committee and Bridlewood Canyon HOA, the El Dorado Hills Community Services District recently adopted a resolution to be sent to the El Dorado county supervisors urging that new Bass Lake Regional Park be designed to minimize the effects of light and noise pollution from the park on nearby residents.

The CSD directors also went on record as recommending that the renovations to Bass Lake Road be completed before the park is opened, and expressed their opposition to allowing any consumption of alcohol in the park.

OUR COMMITTEE WORKS FOR THE COMMUNITY

Bass Lake Action Committee sent a comment letter to the county Parks Department on August 25 setting forth the committee's concerns about proposed Bass Lake Regional Park.

The letter noted that residents are concerned about certain aspects of the proposed park. It emphasized that the residents do not oppose the construction of a park per se, but feel that certain aspects of the park as proposed will be detrimental to the environmental quality of the community and the surrounding natural habitat.

The first issue is that the athletic fields are to be constructed with field lighting that is in contravention of

county lighting policy and which will disturb the residents' quiet enjoyment of their homes and which will disturb the local wildlife in their natural habitat.

Second, the park will be oriented towards night adult sports, which will generate loud and boisterous noise pollution, which will disturb the local wildlife in their natural habitat.

Third, the traffic generated by the park will constitute a traffic hazard to both motorists and pedestrians (especially children) unless Bass Lake Road is fixed before the park is opened.

Fourth, park construction is to start before full funding is available to finish the park.

Last, the park site is in a zone which has been identified as containing high levels of hazardous naturally occurring asbestos.

"Never believe that a few caring people can't change the world. For, indeed, that's all who ever have."

— Margaret Mead

The Bass Lake Bulletin is published monthly by the Bass Lake Action Committee, El Dorado Hills, CA

Editor: John E. Thomson, Ph.D.

The Bass Lake Action Committee is a group of concerned homeowners from the communities immediately adjoining the proposed Bass Lake Regional Park. Our purpose is to provide a voice for Bass Lake community homeowners in dealing with the county and other community agencies.

For information, see our website www.basslakeaction.org

or call
Kathy Prevost - 530-672-6836
or
David Glazier - 530-677-5371