

## **Lake Almanor Watershed Group Meeting**

**Wednesday, May 13, 2020 1:00-3:00pm**  
Zoom Meeting

### Attendees

Peggy Lunder  
Lorena Gorbet  
Gina Johnston  
Charlie Plopper  
Susan Padilla Riney  
Bridie Johnston

Phil Datner  
Carl Felts  
Aaron Seandal  
Lindsay Wood  
Moorea Stout  
Dov Weinman

### Approval of Agenda and April Minutes

Peggy called the meeting to order at 1:00pm. Susan asked to add a conversation about Covid-19 precautions as well as what LAWG might do to mitigate socioeconomic issues within the basin. Carl moved to approve the meeting minutes from April, Peggy seconded and the group approved the minutes. Gina moved to accept the agenda with the modification and Aaron seconded – the group approved the agenda.

### Financials

Dov will check in with Amy Hafsrud at Sierra Institute about to check in with Amy H at Sierra Institute about \$1500,

### Member Updates and Announcements

Phil shared that Scott will make his last trip up to Lake Almanor just after July 4<sup>th</sup>. Scott expects significant cuts for his water quality monitoring but he'd still like to come up and conduct measurements on his own provided he has access to a boat. There will need to be a set of measurements in both September and November, so it may come down to cobbling together some volunteers and equipment to finish the season. Aaron asked if the committee would need to look at changing the process for water quality testing to provide more consistency. Dov explained that Sierra Institute will hire a BearCorps member (AmeriCorps) to focus on citizen science programming, water quality monitoring protocols, and natural resources-based education within the South Lassen Watersheds Group boundary area.

The group approved Gina's Proposal to Provide Lake Almanor Analysis of Plankton and Water Quality Report (2020).

### Plumas Audubon Society

Lindsay has been working on Plumas Audubon Society's ten-year Grebe report. The pretty low water year indicates a good chance that the grebes won't be nesting at Chester meadows. They're hoping not to see the same impact if the grebes nest in more open water. PG&E biologist suggested putting out decoys to lure the colony to set up nests somewhere else, which might potentially be an option for future years. The State Water Board released new guidance for waters of the state – Lindsay will send it out so LAWG members can have access to it.

They've been fundraising for grebes to pair with a little bit of funding from the National Audubon Society, if individuals donate then they'll get a copy of the grebe report.

### State of the Lake

Moorea and Dov shared about a joint effort to hold a virtual State of the Lake by the Feather River Land Trust and the Sierra Institute. The plan is to conduct a series of themed panels – organizers hope to include LAWG members as part of the Water Quality and Monitoring Panel. This panel will showcase local efforts underway to conduct water quality monitoring in the Lake Almanor Basin. It will tell the story of how LAWG was developed and how the group has worked to create an annual water quality monitoring program. Data will be shared with participants and the panel will look ahead at the future of water quality monitoring in the Almanor Basin.

### Other Business

Moorea mentioned the possibility of bringing in new volunteers or members into the LAWG group. She asked LAWG members to brainstorm ideas for new representation.

Moorea then shared her ideas for the upcoming newsletter. This first issue will feature Lorena, and future newsletters will continue to spotlight different LAWG members. Charlie suggested that the newsletter might cover State of the Lake topics and provide a graph with relevant Lake Almanor data.

Dov mentioned that Sierra Institute will be completing initial drafts for both the South Lassen Watersheds Group Strategic Plan as well as the Lake Almanor Management Plan by the end of May. He will provide the Plan for members to review before the next group meeting.