



**Lake Almanor Watershed Group Meeting**  
**Wednesday, June 14th, 2023, 1:00 - 2:30 pm**

**Attendees**

Bella Bledsoe  
Peggy Fulder  
Gina Johnston  
Susan Padilla

Bridie Johnston  
Lorena Gorbet  
Jacquie Cordova  
Kevin Price

**Call to Order, Approval of Agenda, and May Minutes**

There is a motion to approve the agenda and the May minutes. The agenda is approved, and Bridie requested to add an item about the Friends of Plumas Wilderness, National Monument to the agenda. Susan would like to see FERC relicensing added to future agendas as well; she wants to hear any updates that are happening about the relicensing. The agenda with the added item and minutes are approved.

**Financials**

There are no changes in the income. Expenses are up \$1337.61 for Salaries/Benefits (\$269.00) and SI Travel Miles (\$68.78), and cost of Testing Supplies (\$999.83). The stated balance is \$16,364.62. There are still allocated monies for the Maidu Plant Project (\$1,000.00), 2023 Water Quality Testing (\$4,125.00), and SI testing support (\$2,145.71). The working balance is \$9,093.91.

**Member Updates and Announcements**

**Water Quality Monitoring**

- July sampling will happen in mid-July. Gina is going to contact Rob about a boat but also has a neighbor that could help if Rob is busy.

**Kevin Price's Online Map Project**

- Kevin explained to the group that he is working through a GIS program and practicing web app development. He used LAWG's water quality monitoring data to make an online map. He hopes it is useful and informative. There could always be additions, as well.
- The map allows you to select specific stations around the Lake and sort the data by depth, month of the year, and water quality year. So, you could select 0.15 meters in May 2019, and all the points that were sampled would then pop up. It is a fun way to look at the data and engage with the data.
- The group proposed we put the map on the SI website. Kevin commented that if the group has suggestions, please send them his way. It helps me expand my skills.
- Jacquie: I think it is very well done and clarifying. I am a visual person and really appreciate this effort by Kevin.
- Bridie also really appreciates the map and thinks it is great. She hopes Kevin can send the map to Phil; she thinks Phil will enjoy it.

- Susan commented that this is an outstanding resource. She wants to forward it to the Almanor Foundation and also to Terry Collins. She thinks the resource could be helpful in generating funding.
- Peggy wants to put fundraising on the next agenda in July.

### **DWR Public Meeting Updates**

- Lorena said the meeting was mainly attended by members of the fishing association. DWR gave the same presentation they did for LAWG and virtually the night before.
- DWR said that it may be ten years before actually implementing a program. There will need to be lots of studies before they actually implement a program.
- Lorena also said that DWR is not going to genetically modify the fish, so they would not harm any fish that ate them. DWR also thought the salmon would not have much of an impact on the other fish. A lot of folks seemed positive about the study. But, people really encouraged DWR to get local buy-in for the program.
- The meeting had only about 15 people.
- Jacquie asked, why are they doing this? For recreation and angling? Or to preserve the species?
- Lorena answered to preserve the species. Salmon has majorly declined. So many of the rivers are not free-flowing anymore, so they are decreasing a lot.
- Now people are taking dams out on the Klamath River. Salmon are part of that reason.

### **Road Kill Reporting/Wildlife Connectivity**

- A representative from Wildlands Network wants to present to the group in July about reporting road kills along several highways in the Chester area – namely Highway 36 from Mineral to Fredonyer Pass and Hwy. 89 from Chester to Canyon Dam. They really want to encourage folks to start reporting anywhere they encounter roadkill.

### **Lake Almanor West Association**

- Brochures are ready for printing, and both Jonathan and Gina are going to the board meeting at WACC at the end of June. Susan thinks the visuals are really key. If there are other visuals we can share, we should bring them.

### **Maidu Summit Consortium**

- The Logging Jamboree was well attended, with over 400 people. There were 31 contestants in the logging show. The winner logger came all the way from West Virginia.
- Humbug Road is open again, and they are starting to haul logs again. MSC still needs to do hazard tree removal in the campground. They are hoping to get it open by mid-August at the latest. We need to redo the water system and get new tables and new bear boxes. Once we get humbug logged, we are going to work on the two parcels above the causeway.
- Bridie asked how long after a fire the trees can be logged.
- Lorena said they cannot go to the mill after two or three years. Maybe some chipping and firewood can happen after that benchmark. SPI is taking a lot of the logs right now.

### **Friends of Plumas Wilderness - National Monument**

- Folks saw in Plumas News that FoPW is not moving forward with this project anymore.

- <https://www.plumasnews.com/where-we-stand-regarding-a-proposed-national-monument/>

### **Others?**

- Charlie reported that SNC decided to fund the trails grant that will benefit the Almanor Basin. There are two trails as part of this plan.
- Bridie asked about a court case trying to regulate fire retardants being dropped near water sources. Bridie asked if there was a decision. This is largely to limit PFAS getting in the water. No one knew if there had been a decision.
- Peggy reported that Mountain Meadows Conservancy did a cleanup. The group cleaned up trouble trees that were leaning over the trails. They got a lot done and had about 21 people. It was a really fun activity.
- MMC is also looking for a project manager for some SNC funding they just received to work on trails. They need a staff person to get those projects organized and managed. There are three different nonprofits being funded to do this recreation-oriented work in the Almanor Basin--MMC, ARPD, and Lassen Lands and Trails Trust. Each group wrote separate proposals for different pieces of this recreation work.

### **Adjourn**

**Next Meeting:** July 12th