

# The **BASS LAKE BULLETIN**

Vol. XXI No.1 The Voice of the Bass Lake Community February 2023

<http://basslakeaction.org>

## SUMMER DRIVE TO SEE NEW SAFETY SIGNAGE



*New Advance Curve Warning Signs suggested for Summer Drive between Honey Circle and Basil Court*

*By John Davey*

Following another recent vehicle accident along the same section of Summer Drive in Woodridge Village, the El Dorado County Transportation Department has indicated that new safety signs are expected to be installed.

Bass Lake Action Committee members who own homes along the problematic section of Summer Drive, have complained for years about vehicle speeds, and the unusual accident rate on Summer Drive. In early 2021 a half dozen traffic accidents in five months prompted the

community and the Bass Lake Action Committee to organize a public workshop held in the Bass Lake Villages. Because this meeting was held during the pandemic, neighbors along Summer Drive on Prairie Falcon Ct allowed us to host the meeting in the road in front of their homes. With over sixty neighbors attending in person, an informative discussion was held with representatives of the El Dorado County Transportation Department, El Dorado Hills Fire Department, and the California Highway Patrol. (Meeting video recording is here <https://youtu.be/WruXXHMrDtE>).

After working in concert with the County Transportation Department staff and the California Highway Patrol, County staff were able to add signage to existing Speed Limit Signs (25 MPH inside the Bass Lake Villages!) for Radar enforcement from the CHP.

Following the most recent accident which involved a vehicle leaving Summer Drive and ending in up the front yard of a resident's property, County DOT determined that based on accident history that some safety signage could be placed along this

*(Continued on page 2)*

## Bass Lake Bulletin

February 2023

### SUMMER DRIVE SAFETY SIGNAGE

(con't)

section of Summer Drive. Bass Lake Action Committee Members and other residents were consulted about the placement of the signs in front of their properties. And while no one particularly wants road signs placed in front of their yards, these residents recognized that the signs were needed and appropriate.

The W1-1 and W1-6 A Advance Curve Warning Signs will be placed on Summer Drive between Honey Circle and Basil Court. The work orders have been submitted, and DOT expects that the installation may occur in the next six weeks.

The process that residents have been active in is an escalating response system. In El Dorado County, and in El Dorado Hills specifically, most common traffic calming measures are prohibited – this allows the El Dorado Hills Fire Department, and other County Fire Prevention Agencies and first responders to minimize response times, which helps these agencies to provide the quickest response service available, and to stretch their agency budgets to meet resident needs.

The "Enforced By Radar" signage on the speed limit signs was the first step in the escalating response system. The soon to be installed W1-1 and W1-6 A advance curve warning signs are the next step. These responses would not be possible without the determined cooperation of area residents and County Staff.

Several residents have suggested additional street lights along Summer Drive. This is problematic for several

reasons. One being, who wants an additional street light placed in their front yard? The second is that the street lights inside the Woodridge Village are assets of the Bass Lake Village LLAD B, and would cost upwards of \$100,000 per street light, and would also require pulling additional electric service underground to the new street light. This would raise the annual assessment for all property owners in Woodridge Village for the installation, as well as the additional electricity costs to operate the light annually.

With the additional safety signage in place, the hope remains that it can make a difference in the accident rate along Summer Drive.



Latest Summer Drive Accident:  
January 2023  
- image credits Sherry Baker



May 2021 Bass Lake Villages Community Traffic Safety Meeting

### US50 BASS LAKE ROAD ON RAMP METERING BEGINS

By John Davey

Area motorists may have noticed that the on-ramp metering traffic signals for the US50 Bass Lake Road interchange have been activated.

On February 13<sup>th</sup>, CalTrans activated the US 50 metering signals at the Bass Lake Road and Ponderosa Rd/South Shingle Road On Ramps

The metering hours will be based on traffic demand and will be active every day including weekends and holidays.

### Caltrans Ramp Metering in EDC



CONTACT EL DORADO COUNTY DEPT OF TRANSPORTATION  
530-642-4909 @ROAD.MAINTENANCE@DOT.EDC.GOV



## From The BLAC Board President's Letter February 2023

March is creeping up on us bringing with it another time change, (didn't we just do that?), with Day Light Savings time returning on March 12, and the first day of spring, the Vernal Equinox, on Monday, March 20th.

This winter I have been seriously researching possible replacement trees for my now aging out twenty plus year old Mayten trees. It's a very difficult decision to make but removal of my three dying trees is nothing compared to what the US Forest Service estimates are for tree mortality in 2022 for 2.6 million acres of federal, state and private land which had about 36.3 million trees die in 2022.

The El Dorado National Forest had approximately 1.3 million dead trees on 91,000 acres while the county counted 1.4 million dead trees on an estimated 78,000 acres county wide. True

## Bass Lake Bulletin

firs were the most impacted according to the report and the Central Sierra Nevada range and to the north showed the highest mortality rates.

Caused by several issues ranging from the extended drought, overstocked forest conditions, insect outbreaks, and disease according to the Forest Service officials, this was an increase compared to 2021. They do not count the trees that were killed by fire, herbicides or bears in the mortality estimates according to the US Forest Service Aerial Survey Program Manager Jeffrey Moore.

They do not anticipate that the increased tree mortality in the forests will normalize until we have normal precipitation or above normal for a few years. California has had the driest and warmest months on record since 2020 according to available information. The trees are more susceptible to bark beetle attacks and disease with the lack of rain and this increases when they are crowded in unusually high temperatures.

"Forest health is a top priority for the Forest Service", said Jennifer Eberlien, Regional Forester for the Pacific Southwest Region. "The agency's 10 year strategy to address the wildfire crisis includes removal

February 2023

of dead and dying trees in the places where it poses the most immediate threats to communities. Working together we can mitigate the risks of tree mortality and high intensity wildfire by reducing the overabundance of living trees on the landscape."

In January, the Forest Service added five new national priority landscapes to receive funding to the two they selected last year. They believe that California will benefit from their 10 year wildfire crisis strategy with the addition of these landscapes.

- Tahoe National Forest (313,000 acres)
- Stanislaus National Forest (245,000 acres)
- Plumas National Forest (285,000 acres)
- Trinity County (910,000 acres)
- Klamath River Basin (10 million acres)
- Sierra and Elko fronts in California /Nevada (3.4 million acres)
- Southern California national forests (4 million acres)

Through collaboration the state, tribal and other partners are working to reduce the wildfire exposure to communities and infrastructure that exist within

*(Continued on page 4)*

## From The BLAC Board (con't)

these zones as most were in the areas of severe to very severe tree mortality found this year.

The California Wildfire and Forest Resilience Task Force, led by Eberlien and the California National Resources Agency Secretary, Wade Crowfoot, and other Task Force partners including Cal Fire, are distributing state and federal funds for increased forest health treatments.

A \$2.7 billion multi-year package which includes \$1.2 billion for wildfire resilience and forest health has been proposed by California legislators. For California, the Forest Service estimates total needs of more than a total of \$500 million through 2026, which would include strategically thinning dense forests, spraying insecticide on the bark of high value trees, removing hazardous trees, and ongoing landscape condition monitoring.

Reference: Mt. Democrat - February 13, 2023

<https://www.mtdemocrat.com/news/forest-service-survey-detects-36-million-dead-trees-in-state/>

## Bass Lake Bulletin

My tulips and daffodils that are emerging from their winter sleep are very much enjoying the rain we are currently receiving. I am looking forward to the fruit trees joining them!

Respectfully,

Kathy Prevost  
President

## RESCUE UNION SCHOOL DISTRICT APPOINTS NEW TRUSTEE

*RUSD Press Release*

Michael Flaherty has been appointed by the Rescue Union School District Board of Trustees to fill a vacancy left by Michelle Bebout's resignation to assume her elected four-year term.

Flaherty was selected at the board's Jan. 31 meeting and will serve the duration of Bebout's two-year term. The seat will be up for election in November 2024.

"We are glad to welcome Michael Flaherty to this position," said Board of Education President Michael Gordon. "It was abundantly clear during the interview that Michael has a servant's heart and is dedicated to our students and community. We look forward to working with Michael for the benefit of our Rescue USD community."

Flaherty and his family live in El Dorado Hills. He will take his oath of office and be sworn in as trustee at the Feb. 21 meeting of the RUSD Board of Trustees.

February 2023

"It is the greatest honor and privilege to serve on the Rescue USD school board," stated Flaherty following his appointment.



*Newly appointed RUSD Trustee  
Michael Flaherty*

## SENIOR NUTRITION NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS

*El Dorado County Health & Human Services Press Release*

The El Dorado County Senior Nutrition Program is looking for community volunteers to help at its congregate dining sites. There are multiple open volunteer slots. Volunteers generally help one day per week, 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

"We need help with things such as greeting seniors, signing them in at our front desk, setting tables, serving meals and more" said Jillien Smith, program supervisor with El Dorado County Senior Services. "Anyone who enjoys volunteering and socializing with seniors is encouraged to apply for one of our volunteer positions. Currently, volunteers are especially needed for the El Dorado

*(Continued on page 5)*

## SENIOR NUTRITION NEEDS MORE VOLUNTEERS (con't)

Hills and Cameron Park congregate dining sites.”

The program is also seeking dedicated, caring volunteers for the Home Delivered Meals Program. Each volunteer generally works one day per week on an assigned route, delivering meals between 10 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. An orientation session for potential new volunteer drivers is scheduled 1-2 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 16, at the Placerville Senior Center, 937 Spring St.

“We are very proud to have this program available for local residents. The program fills an important nutritional and social need for local participants and home delivered meal volunteer drivers provide one more link in our community’s older adult support network,” Smith explained. “I hope those who are interested in volunteering will consider attending the volunteer orientation.”

The Senior Nutrition Program provides nutritious lunchtime meals for people aged 60 and older for a suggested donation of \$3 per meal at one of several congregate meal sites located throughout El Dorado County. In addition to a healthy meal, the program gives an opportunity for older adults to socialize and connect with others and learn about community resources, local senior activities and more.

## Bass Lake Bulletin

For a volunteer application and to learn more about the Senior Nutrition Program call (530) 621-6160. The Senior Nutrition Program is one of many senior service programs of the El Dorado County Health and Human Services Agency. For more information visit [edcgov.us/SeniorService.aspx](http://edcgov.us/SeniorService.aspx).

## FEBRUARY LOCAL MEETING RECORDINGS

By John Davey

Recordings of local meetings in El Dorado Hills and El Dorado County in February.

**El Dorado Hills Community Council Meetings:** First Monday of each month.

**February Meeting**  
<https://youtu.be/ca2GU4kOOIY>

**El Dorado Hills Area Planning Advisory Committee Meetings:** Typically the second Wednesday of each Month

**February Meeting**  
<https://youtu.be/OXCQuaqvfwI>

**El Dorado Hills Community Services District Board of Directors Meetings:** Second Thursday of each month

**February Meeting**  
[https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/4804S6uf2AX4dbse\\_dFyML\\_a8cDL0zapT3uYeNdwqLbPNttInYj8CSBt4WAlP7WS.SXio\\_NLM\\_u05GwV7](https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/4804S6uf2AX4dbse_dFyML_a8cDL0zapT3uYeNdwqLbPNttInYj8CSBt4WAlP7WS.SXio_NLM_u05GwV7)

**El Dorado Irrigation District Board**  
February Meeting Scheduled for Feb 27, 2023 9AM-2PM

February 2023

EID Meetings, Agendas, Minutes - <https://www.eid.org/about-us/board-of-directors/meetings-agendas-and-minutes>

**EID Recorded Meetings on EID YouTube Channel -**  
<https://www.youtube.com/@eldoradoirrigationdistrict3994>



OR VISIT:  
<http://basslakeaction.net/SUBSCRIBE>

## BLAC BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

The Bass Lake Action Committee Board of Directors held their first quarterly meeting on Monday February 13, 2023.

Board of Directors meetings are held quarterly, and all members are invited to attend. The next meeting is scheduled for May 8th at 7PM. Members will receive the Agenda & Meeting link/location via email

For more information about meetings and membership, please contact Vice-President John Davey at 530-676-2657, or email [basslakemembers@gmail.com](mailto:basslakemembers@gmail.com).

Residents can also visit our online membership form at <http://basslakeaction.net/members>

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