

In The Loop

Welcome to the spring publication of the "June Lake Advocates Newsletter" We hope that our newsletter helps keep you informed and active in our organization.

The June Lake Advocates Newsletter

Volume 3, No.1

Spring, 2006

RODEO GROUNDS DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

Mono Planning Department, February 1

The first-phase water study for the project is still under way, awaiting additional data. The study is evaluating the "July 2005" proposal by Intrawest to develop nearly 500 residential units (499) and up to 30,000 square feet of commercial space on the 90-acre parcel in June Lake. The water study will look at water demand by the project, water rights of the June Lake PUD, water availability in the system and potential effect, if any. The water study is being conducted by the County under contract with ECO:LOGIC Engineering consultants. Draft technical memorandums have been completed by ECO:LOGIC and are currently under review by the County. Additional data regarding historic stream flows is being developed by the consultants. The information provided by this water study is intended to help meet the requirements of SB610/221 and for inclusion in the environmental documents; these documents have yet to be initiated.

Intrawest also has proposed to drill two exploratory water test wells on its property. If and when the drilling program begins,

JUNE LAKE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN

We presented our appeal to the Mono County Regional Transportation Commission on January 23, 2006 taking exception to the following policies that were approved by the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee:

Objective A, Action 1.1

... where feasible, implement the use of mitigation fees, sales tax initiatives, and other financing alternatives for new roadways construction such as in the Peterson Tract road pavement projects. (We don't believe it is appropriate for tax payers to pay for road improvements in one private tract).

Objective C, Action 1.1

Acquire land for constructing a connector
(Continued on page 4...)

the County's consultant, ECO:LOGIC, will oversee the project. This will include acquisition and evaluation of data relating to the subsurface geologic formations and groundwater resources beneath the Rodeo Grounds property. The responsibility for managing the exploration program, contracting the drilling and testing, and permitting will rest with Intrawest. Intrawest's stated purpose of the proposed drilling program is to provide a preliminary assessment of the groundwater resources potentially available to the project. Permits for well drilling and grading must be obtained from the County.

Intrawest's "July 2005" application has not yet been officially accepted by the County; some additional information has been requested from Intrawest prior to the County considering the application complete. Additionally, the primary environmental consultant has not been hired and fees for this segment of the work have not been submitted.

JLA OPEN MEETING - AUGUST 5, 2006

The June Lake Advocates extend an invitation to an information meeting open to the public on August 5, 2006, at the June Lake Community Center at 6:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome and bring a friend.

JUNE MOUNTAIN PROBABLE PARTIAL CLOSURE

According to Rusty Gregory, CEO of Mammoth and June Ski mountains, they are seriously considering closing the June Mountain Ski Resort three days a week starting next year.

Rusty stated that the decision is based on financial business reasons.

These major ski operating changes have put the June Lake Community in turmoil, driving endless debates about their impact and their justification.



STATE WATER BOARD COMPLAINT

In January, following advice by the State Water Resources Control Board, the JLA filed a complaint in regard to the following concerns related to the June Lake PUD:

- a. Some records have been damaged or destroyed or their location is unknown.
- b. The PUD apparently did not respond properly to SWRCB 2002 inspection findings, according to which water diversion right applications had expired in 1995 and combined diversion water right limits had been reduced.
- c. The 2004 Master Water Plan Update does not reflect combined diversion rights limits: the PUD believed it had water diversion rights of 666 acre feet annually, however, the actual figure is only 281 acre feet and the buildout required estimate is 430 acre feet.
- d. It appears that some metering is not being performed in compliance with water application regulations.

While the JLA regrets having to file such a complaint, the board felt that because the Rodeo Grounds development will put a strain on limited water resources, it is in the best interests of the June Lake Loop for the PUD to have accurate records on which to base its water supply projections and decisions and for it to follow established procedures in order to avoid any possible complications in the future.

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***"JuneLakeAdvocates.org,
Preserving the Loop."***

**JUNE LAKE ADVOCATES NEW V.P.
RICKY GRAHAM**

The Board of Directors of the June Lake Advocates elected Ricky Graham as the new Vice President. Ricky Graham is a long time local contractor and resident of June Lake. As one of the founding members of the JLA, his concern for and belief in the June Lake area will ensure that the JLA commitment will continue. Congratulations Ricky!

**JIL STARK APPOINTED TO THE
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

Jil Stark, a long time property owner, Executive Vice President of the Silver Lake Association, and one of June Lake Advocates Advisors, was appointed to the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee (JLCAC). Jil was instrumental in the updating and approval of the June Lake Loop Trails Plan (2003). Jil has a great passion for the Loop and will provide an objective point of view to the JLCAC.

MEMBERSHIP

Our numbers continue to climb as more and more June Lake property owners and friends of June Lake hear about our existence and our resolve to protect June Lake from overdevelopment. As of March, 2006 our membership is 531 persons. The JLA Board of Directors is extremely grateful for your generosity to date. In an organization such as ours, money is always necessary to keep our heads above water. As our expenses never seem to just go away, we are asking that you, our dear members, make a donation on a yearly basis. Each newsletter mailing, which is sent to over 1600 residents, property owners, and members, costs over \$800 for postage and printing. All labor is volunteered. Again, our thanks for your continued support and generosity.

June Lake Advocates' Mission Statement: To ensure that the community of the June Lake Loop develops into a moderately- sized year-round community that preserves the existing natural environment, mountain lifestyle and ambience of the area. This will be accomplished in accordance with the wishes of the members, property owners, residents and businesses and in conformity with Mono County General Plan, June Lake Area Plan (JLAP) and past precedent in existence at the time of the formation of the June Lake Advocates.

Monthly Calendar of Mono County and June Lake Meetings		
Body	Day/Time	Place
Mono County Board of Supervisors	First three Tuesdays, 10 a.m.	Courthouse, Bridgeport
Mono Co. Planning Commission	Second Thursday, 10 a.m.	Courthouse, Bridgeport
June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee.	First Tuesday, 7 p.m.	June Lake Community Building
June Lake Fire Commission	Second Tuesday, 7 p.m.	June Lake Fire Station
June Lake Public Utility District	Second Wednesday, 7 p.m.	June Lake Fire Station
June Lake Chamber of Commerce	Second Wednesday, 9 a.m.	Varies: call 648-7584

WANT TO GET INVOLVED?

Do you want to get involved? Help the community? Be informed about local issues? Contact us at jlamembers@cs.com. We also welcome any ideas that may help the JLA achieve their mission.

Current Board of Directors/Officers:

Scott Davis – President/Chairman
Ricky Graham – Vice President
Al Heinrich –Board Member
Craig Meinhard –Board Member
Igor Vorobyoff – Board Member
Bill Waite – Board Member
Dorothy Burdette – Secretary
Patti Heinrich –Treasurer
Mary Meinhard – Legal
Ann Tozier -- Membership

Outreach

We continue to correspond with various News media agencies, public and political officials addressing JLA's concerns in regards to the Rodeo Grounds Project. We encourage you to express your views and opinions in writing to your representatives and the Mammoth Times.

Advocates Advisory Board
Ron Gilson **Dan Mazmanian**
Maynard Jenkins **Jil Stark**
Andrea Lawrence **Kirk Stapp**

“...we are not saying NO;
 ...we are only saying HOW.
 -JLA.

Your Letters Make a Difference!

WRITE YOUR COUNTY SUPERVISORS

Members wanting to write our county supervisors have requested their addresses. Handwritten letters are known to have the greatest impact on county officials, followed by typed letters, and then email. The addresses are:

Last Name	First Name	Email Address	PO Box	City	State	ZIP
Cecil	John	jcecil@mono.ca.gov	PO Box 654	Bridgeport	CA	93517
Farnetti	Tom	tfarnetti@mono.ca.gov	PO Box 1237	Mammoth Lakes	CA	93546
Hunt	Byng	bhunt@mono.ca.gov	PO Box 2608	Mammoth Lakes	CA	93546
Hazard	Hap	hhazard@mono.ca.gov	PO Box 554	Mammoth Lakes	CA	93546
Magee-Bauer	Vikki	vbauer@mono.ca.gov	PO Box 25	June Lake	CA	93529

MORE PAIUTE HISTORY

Over 10,000 years ago native Paiute tribes, known as "The People" inhabited the Eastern Sierras and parts of Nevada, Oregon, Washington and Idaho. Numerous events that occurred separately throughout this area were documented in various media:

In the 1850's and 1860's thousands of white soldiers marched to fight for California, gold was discovered in California and the United States government offered free land of 160 acres(Homestead Act) to immigrants to inhabit Oregon. At this time about 360,000 indigenous American Indians inhabited areas that over 20 million whites were encroaching upon. By 1890, westward movement increased white people population of the Western states to over 8.5 million.

Initially, Paiutes lived in intimate and precarious equilibrium with the environment. They were nomadic and were only loosely associated in small bands until white society encroachment pressures forced the people into tighter groups we now know as tribes.

In the 1850 timeframe, some Paiutes were involved in some cattle disputes caused by encroaching ranches in Los Angeles.

In 1860, outraged at whites for mistreating

two Indian women, Indians burned down the settlement of Williams Station near Virginia City, Nevada and killed over seventy five avenging Nevadans. Two hundred soldiers and five hundred miners formed a punitive force that killed almost all of the Paiute Warriors in the area. It was later learned that the soldiers had attacked the wrong tribe and that it was actually the Bannock Indians who burned down the settlement not the Paiutes.

In 1861, the economy washed out and it appeared that the Washoe Valley would be given back to the few surviving Paiutes.

In 1878, Bannocks and Paiutes, who were neighbors of the Nez Perces, living in Idaho's Salmon River area were driven onto reservations by General Howard's soldiers.

In the late 1800's two Paiute reservations were established in western Nevada and a Paiute/Shoshoni reservation was located on the Idaho/Nevada border.

Nomadic Paiutes, Utes and Shoshoni inhabited the Great Salt Lake Basin before Brigham Young selected the area for the Mormons to settle.

(Sources: Men to Match My Mountains by Irving Stone, The Indian Frontier by Robert Utley)

**JUNE LAKE WOMEN'S CLUB
THRIFT STORE**

The June Lake Women's Club has long been active in meeting the needs of June Lake residents who need help or support for whatever reason. It provides college scholarships, responds to family emergencies, and in general, is the glue which holds our little community together. The Women's Club sponsors many fund-raising activities throughout the year in order to fund these charitable works— notable among them are the flower bulb sales in the autumn, the St. Patrick's Day dinner, plant sales in the spring, and the dessert booth at the Annual Fireman's Bar-B-Q each August. But the most consistent and biggest fund-raiser is the Thrift Shop, now under the management of Katie Feliz. Historically, Ria Combes and then Lil Root were the captains of this amazing operation. The Thrift Shop is open Wednesdays from noon to 3 PM and Saturdays from 1 to 4 PM and is filled with clothing, household wares, books, bedding, and just about anything else you can think of. The prices are ridiculously fair and everything is in great condition. Remember, one person's JUNK is another person's TREASURE. In order to keep this operation healthy, the Thrift Shop is always in the need of donations. So please remember when you clean out your closets, drawers, or garages, please think of the Thrift Shop and bring your clean and well-functioning donations to the June Lake Community Building (preferably during hours of operation). The citizens of June Lake thank you, in advance, for your generosity.

continue to provide the maximum benefit for everyone who lives or visits here.

If you have not renewed your membership recently, we encourage you to do so. You help to make the June Lake Loop a shared resource.

**CORRECTION TO SUMMER 2005
NEWSLETTER**

It was stated in an article titled "Proposed Update to June Lake Transportation Plan" in the Summer 2005 Newsletter, that "Rob Morgan, Business owner – cement/snow removal who has contracts with Intrawest"... Rob Morgan has stated that "he has not had any contracts with Intrawest or June Mountain for the last five years". If our facts were wrong, we regret the error.

The Meaning of Membership

Membership in the June Lake Advocates is a voluntary act that encourages conversation and discussion about development in the June Lake Loop. By joining the JLA, you help exercise a relationship between governmental agencies, private business, and individual citizens that is inclusive, broad, and transparent. With your membership and dues, we are able to monitor and participate in activities related to the June Lake Area Plan, working to insure that the guidelines in the plan

June Lake Advocates Membership Renewal Form

Yes, please enroll/re-enroll me as a member of the June Lake Advocates. I am enclosing annual membership dues in the amount checked below:
\$10 _____ \$15 _____ \$25 _____ \$50 _____ Other Amount \$ _____
Name: _____ Email Address*: _____
Preferred mailing address: _____
Please mail this form to **June Lake Advocates, PO Box 610, June Lake, CA 93529**
* Your email address is very important to us in helping keep postal costs down. We will keep it confidential and use it for JLA business only.

**Membership
Renewal**

“JUNE LAKE REGIONAL TRANSPORTATION PLAN,”

continued from page 1...

street... If “willing sellers” are not found, the County may pursue condemnation to acquire property. (We don’t support condemning or taking private property for street construction).

Objective C, Action 3.3

If redevelopment proves unfavorable to the community consider using... (We believe that if it is unfavorable to the community, it should not be done).

Objective H, Action 3.2

Investigate the feasibility of developing an overhead lift into the Village... (Affected homeowners that we have talked with do not want lifts crossing over or adjacent to their property).

Objective J, Action 4.1

Promote the acquisition of land for parking facility construction... If “willing sellers” are not available, acquire property using the condemnation process. (Again, we don’t support condemning or taking private property for parking lots).

The result of the Commission meeting chaired by three Mono County Supervisors and two Mammoth Town officials was to handle these concerns as revisions to the June Lake Transportation Plan. They also requested that the concerns be resolved by the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee and the JLA. Additionally, the Mono County Planning Department was tasked, and just provided the JLA with a written point to point response to our submitted suggestions, This is currently being reviewed by the JLA.

JLA ADOPT A HIGHWAY

The June Lake Advocates applied for and obtained a Caltrans easement allowing us to clean a one-mile segment of Highway 158 (the June Lake Loop) beginning from its North Junction with US Highway 395. In trade for our commitment to remove litter from this highway segment four times a year, Caltrans has posted Adopt-a-Highway signs reading “JUNELAKEADVOCATES.ORG”.

There are three reasons why this Caltrans easement was sought: 1) to participate actively in the Loop’s care and maintenance; 2) to broaden public awareness of our organization; 3) to provide a place for persons hostile to our conservation efforts to drop beer bottles and thereby release pent-up emotions.

Your Dues Make a Difference!

JLA MAKES PROGRESS

The JLA has made great strides since the last newsletter.

First, we can claim some share of credit for the downward changes in Intrawest’s latest proposal: reduction in height goals from 90 feet to 60 feet, with variance approval, reduction of commercial leasable space by 40%, and density reduction from approximately 900 units to 499 units.

Second, the JLA’s presentation at the March meeting of the June Lake Citizens Advisory Committee, which once again contained an appeal for cooperation, had the ultimate effect of getting CAC members to publicly recognize the JLA as a credible force, and to call for dialogue as a means of working toward consensus.

Third, our presentation to the CAC also sparked discussion on the possibility of holding a roundtable for the purpose of bringing together all interested local organizations to share information and resolve differences concerning the Rodeo Grounds development. Supervisor Vikki Bauer suggested creation of a “June Lake Coalition” to this end, and is currently working on making the idea a reality.

WATER STUDY REQUIREMENTS

December 22, 2005:

Stanford Law Clinic, on behalf of the JLA, submitted a letter to the Mono County Planning Department stipulating what should be included in the Intrawest Water Study.

This is important. The development of the Rodeo Grounds must take into consideration the ability of the natural resources of the June Lake Loop to sustain reasonable growth. By ensuring the accountability of a major development to a complete study of the water resources of the area, we hope to avoid problems in the future.

The value of an active advocacy group such as the June Lake Advocates is clear. With your membership and financial support, we are able to make sure that growth and development in the Loop is balanced with the need to preserve the unique natural resources that exist here.

We appreciate the efforts of the Stanford Law Clinic in helping us to identify the scope of a proper study of the water resources in the June Lake Loop.



FISHING & LOCAL ECONOMY

Why is JLA so concerned about major development potentially destroying fishing and the environment?

- Fishing is the #1 Outdoors Sport in the United States
- There are over 50,000,000 US Anglers
- Fishing is vital to the Eastern Sierra Economy
- There are **20** times more fisherman than skiers in the US
- The national economic impact of fishermen was \$108.4 Billion in the late 1990’s
- Fisherman paid \$15.4 Billion in travel related costs in the late 1990’s
- Fishermen contributed \$2.4 Billion annually in State Tax Revenue and \$3.1 Billion in Federal Income Tax
- California is the #1 Fishing State
- There were 1.2 Million fishing related jobs in 1996 (a 25% increase over 1991)
- There was a 22% Increase in Anglers between 1991 and 1996

(Source: Mammoth Times, June 2-8, 2005, by Christina Reed)

PRESERVE ANGLING HERITAGE!



JUNE LAKE COALITION PROPOSED

Mono Country Supervisor, Vikki Magee Bauer, is contemplating organizing a coalition of June Lake representatives of entities interested in the vitality of June Lake. The June Lake Advocates has submitted candidates to be on this committee. If you have any recommendations for business related ventures or expansions in the Loop, submit your ideas to our email address for forwarding to the committee.

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