

TIDES WEST ANNUAL MEETING – REPORT by JANET EASLEY

AUGUST 25, 2018

- **WEEDS IN THE LAKE.** I hope that many of you have looked at Loomis Lake recently. There is little trace on the surface of the noxious weeds that infested the lake a few years ago. There were 2 herbicide treatments in 2016, 1 in 2017 and there will be a treatment later this year. The weeds will never be eradicated but at this time they are under control. The Department of Natural Resources checked the lake on July 10th of this year and did not feel that the small isolated patches on the south-end of the lake or around the shoreline warranted a treatment. There will be a November treatment focusing on the perimeter, the south end of the lake and a few other areas. A group of kayakers go out on the lake on a regular basis and note any patches of weeds and report them to the Department of Natural Resources. This activity will continue always.
- **INFORMATION BROCHURE ON TAKING CARE OF THE LAKE.** A draft of a brochure has been completed and will soon be finalized and illustrated. When it is ready for publication, copies will be made and mailed to everyone on our email list, including those of you who have been involved in the lake project. It will also be on the Tides West website. It will suggest such things as the best landscaping for those yards on the lake or near it, the best drainage methods and what type of detergents to use in the home. We are hoping to receive grant funding to purchase equipment that a member of our committee will use to measure the presence or absence of contaminants in Loomis Lake water. Very little of this has ever been done.
- **TREASURY.** We have a bank account with a balance of \$1,050 that can be used for printing and postage expenses. Thanks to Tides West and some of you for your contributions to this account.
- **PUBLIC ACCESS AREA.** The Loomis Lake overall group has one committee that has met and considered the public access area which is just south of Tides West. In discussions with the Department of Fish and Wildlife which owns the area, we discovered that Fish and Wildlife cannot maintain the public access area. They would welcome help from volunteers to clean up trash, paint the restroom and do that type of thing, but without a source of funding there will be no new boat dock or boat launch in the area to replace what has been destroyed by weather and neglect. Our group decided that since Fish and Wildlife cannot maintain the area, that we will leave things as they are at this time and enjoy what our efforts have accomplished.

In summary, we report that the condition of Loomis Lake is much improved from what it was several years ago. The Loomis Lake Steering Committee will continue to coordinate the kayak group which is monitoring the presence of noxious weeds in the lake and to work with the Pacific Conservation District which is the grant administrator. A brochure describing how to take good care of the lake will be published this year and distributed to those who live on or near the lake. It had been our hope to make Peninsula residents and tourists aware of the lake, and to encourage more public use of the lake. However, without a good public access area, that goal cannot be met at this time.

Thank you, Tides West, for your support. We have a healthy lake again.

The Tides West members of the Loomis Lake Steering Committee: Maggie Bloomgarden, Lynda Cangemi, Janet Easley, Nadine Long, Judi MacPherson, Vanessa Ulku-Howard, Royal and Vickie Waldock, and Anne Wilson.