



Loomis Lake Restoration Group
Summary of Activity
Presented to Tides West Homeowners Association Annual Meeting
8/20/22

Janet Easley, a long time member of Tides West patiently, persistently, calmly and with everlasting determination lead a core group of people to rid Loomis Lake of the noxious weeds for over 25 years so that all of us could enjoy it for kayaking, swimming, fishing, bird watching, and just foul enjoyment today! She secured seed money from Tides West and Sunset Sands Homeowner Associations of \$500.00 each. She then led the Group to secure State grants to manage the weeds in lake during these years. I have suggested Tides West honor Janet in some way considering her diligence to the Lake. She moved to Vancouver in 2019 to be with family and the weeds continued to persist and overtake our lake.

Loomis Lake is the largest lake in Pacific County but is not owned by any government block as Black Lake is owned and managed by Ilwaco. Fish and Wildlife manage the public access and Pacific County has some responsibility with water control and rights. There have been some studies regarding plants in the lake including an extensive study in 2015 called the Integrated Aquatic Vegetation Management Plan.

The Lake has been treated for Brazilian Elodea and Milfoil in 2016, 2018, and 2021 all funded by expensive WA State grants. These were given because of crisis noxious weed invasion to Loomis Lake. The WA Dept. of Ecology said they would not issue any more grants for Loomis Lake mainly because the noxious weed control is now a management problem not a crisis. The State notes that because no government agency has responsibility for managing the lake, it is up to concerned citizens as to the direction of lake viability. A Lake Management Group was suggested by the Dept. of Ecology. This has been researched and discussed at our meetings and presently has been rejected because of concern of unfair taxation.

MA Seeger assumed Janet's role of Coordinator for the Loomis Lake Restoration Group in Sept. 2021 after complaining of the weeds while kayaking. (You complain and you get put on a committee). Since then, a core group of concerned citizens of 20 to 30 people have met at Sunset Sands in Nov. 2021, February 2022, and June 2022. Anybody interested in the viability of Loomis Lake is welcome. We have had Ken Behn, DFW speak especially to the issue of various management paths specifically to management by carp, which is not a viable option. Todd Brownlee, WA State Depart. Of Natural Resources has been involved with the Loomis Lake Group for many years in application and management of waters in the state including Loomis Lake and Black Lake, and Jeff Nesbitt from Pacific County Noxious Weed Control Board who has been so helpful in his knowledge of weeds and process.

In June of 2022 the Group made a decision to take on funding the management of weed control for at least the next 3 years strictly and solely by donations of interested users, residents, and concerned citizens. We raised \$3,000.00 by citizen donations, which ranged from \$25.00 to \$1,500.00. A big thank you goes out to a few Tides West residents who contributed to the Management Fund and participated in the meetings. Sunset Sands as an Association donated \$500.00 and **I am requesting Tides West Board vote to also donate for the enjoyment of their residents and continued enrichment of resident's home values because of an access to a viable Lake.**

In July 2022 we purchased \$2700.00 worth of Diquat (chemical to target milfoil and elodea). Todd and Jeff graciously donated their boat with applicator and time then applied ½ of it to the south end of the Lake and plan on applying the other ½ to other needy parts this fall. So this year is covered. 2023, 2024 will be assessed for needy area and hopefully we can secure money for keeping up with the Elodea and Milfoil.

The Group appreciates the affect the chemical has on foul and monitors such as Heidi Sicka have a keen and frequent eye on the weeds, and all of us have our eyes on the birds and fish. We know there is a life cycle of lakes but believe we can smartly manage the viability with educated and planned work. Rebecca Lexa, naturalist has done an extensive survey of ALL plants in the lake and has a vision of possibly planting native plants to push out the noxious weeds that are invasive. I hope to have her speak to this issue at the next meeting. Please connect with me if you want to be on the email list for notice of meetings.

AND: please go to Facebook Group Page of Loomis Lake Restoration Group and see Heidi's wonderful pictures of the lake and minutes and notices of our meetings. And the Chinook article on 7/19/22 was great shows our dock with many weeds.

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Donations accepted at:

Loomis Lake Maintenance Fund (this is **not** a non profit fund)

% Pam Reynolds, Treasure 2813 217th St Ocean Park, WA, 98640