



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®  
San Francisco District

**The Eagle's Talon**  
Official Newsletter of Lake Sonoma

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all photos unless noted

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photos Page 1 & 2

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**Website** [www.spn.usace.army.mil/  
lake\\_sonoma/index.html](http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/lake_sonoma/index.html)

## Coming Events

*Pig Hunt Registration starts*  
November 1, 2012

*Election Day*  
November 6, 2012

*Pacific Standard Time*  
November 4, 2012

*Thanksgiving*  
November 22, 2012

*1st Hunt Day*  
November 24, 2012

*1st Day of Winter*  
December 21, 2012

For more information on any  
program call 707-431-4533

## Join our Email list!

Save a tree and save our  
lake water by receiving our  
calendar via email.



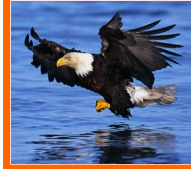
If you are new to our commu-  
nity or have received a print  
copy and would like to switch to  
email, please notify:  
Linda.S.Clapp@usace.army.mil  
or call the Milt Brandt Visitor  
Center desk at Lake Sonoma:  
(707) 431-4533

## LAKE SONOMA PARK NEWS

FALL 2012



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# THE EAGLE'S TALON

### HISTORIC SIGNING

Friday, August 3rd, marked a his-  
toric event at Lake Sonoma. Leaders  
from two nations met at the Milt Brand  
Visitor center to ratify a Memorandum  
of Understanding (MOU) of coopera-  
tion following seven years of coordina-  
tion.

This MOU covers a lease of twenty  
four acres which will be used for cul-  
tural purposes by the Dry Creek band  
of Pomo Indians. US Army Corps Lt.  
Colonel John Baker and Chairman  
Harvey Hopkins signed the agree-  
ment. Witnesses to this ceremony in-  
cluded; Chief of Operations, Michael  
Dillabough; Tribal Elder, Reggie Elgin;  
Tribal Administrator, Gus Pina; and  
tribal dancers, Homer Cordova, Max  
Cordova, Joe Gonzales and Andy  
Gonzales.

A celebratory BBQ for all partici-  
pants completed the day's activities.

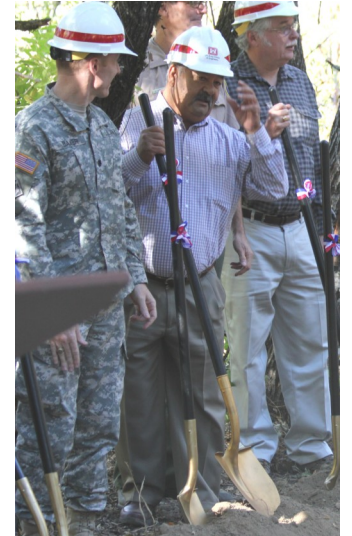


### RESTORING SALMON HABITAT

Ground-breaking just below the Warm  
Springs Dam on Dry Creek starts the next  
step on an ambitious project to improve  
habitat and provide refuge for the native  
Coho Salmon and Steelhead Trout.

October 17th marked the first shovel of  
the \$1.8 million project restoring 1600 feet  
of Dry Creek to pre-dam conditions; slow  
moving, shaded waters. "This project will  
pilot the enhancement of six miles of Dry  
Creek", stated US Army Corps Lt. Colonel  
John Baker. These in-stream improve-  
ments will aid the fish without reducing  
the flow of Dry Creek.

Speakers included Dry Creek tribal ad-  
ministrator Gus Pina; National Marine  
Fisheries Service, Dick Butler,  
County Supervisor Mike  
McGuire, So-  
nomoma County  
Water Agency,  
Grant Davis;  
State Fish &  
Game biologist,  
Erik Larson and  
Contractor Ser-  
vices Group, Inc.  
Shelli Moreda.



(photo-Nicole Davidson)

First Chinook arrived Friday, October 19th, 2012



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Milt Brandt Visitor Center  
at Lake Sonoma  
3288 Skaggs Springs Road  
Geyserville, CA 95425

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# LAKE SONOMA, THERE'S MORE TO DO THAN JUST BOATING AND CAMPING



## **HAVING A BIRTHDAY? CELEBRATE AT WARM SPRINGS RECREATION AREA -**

The recreation area is a popular place with local families wanting to celebrate special events. Check out some of the bounce houses that made an appearance this summer. Warm Springs Recreation Area group picnic shelters are available for only \$50! Log on to [www.Recreation.gov](http://www.Recreation.gov) or call 1-877-444-6777 to make your reservation today!

Do you want to have more people than one site can hold? Do you want to have amplified music? Do you want other special accommodations? If so, you can apply for a Special Use Permit. The application fee is \$50 and the forms are available at Park Headquarters. If you still aren't sure if your event is considered "special use", call one of our Special Use Coordinators, and they will be happy to answer your questions: Nicole Davidson at (707) 431-4525 or Michael Carroll at (707)431-4535.

**CALLING ALL PIGGIES -** During the cooler winter months when visitation is low and the trails are empty, the Corps opens the Lake Sonoma hills to Archery only, wild boar hunts. Pigs do an incredible amount of damage, rooting for acorns and grubs. This rooting increases the erosion rate on the surrounding hills, in turn increasing the silting of the lake.



*New this year*—Hunters can pursue these hogs seven days a week.

Hunter registration begins Thursday, November 1st with Saturday, November 24 as the first hunt day. While hunt regulations remain the same, there is one change for registration. Registration will be at the visitor center, Wednesday through Sunday, only! Hunters need to present a drivers license, hunting license and a pig tag and pay \$30 to complete the process.

**BEST KEPT SECRET IN THE PARK -** The Milt Brandt Visitor Center reopened to the public on July 1st. While the infrastructure is complete, visitors will notice the lack of displays. These are definitely a "Work in Progress".



## **MEMORIALS IN THE PARK -**

Have you seen the newest park memorial near the restoration stream? Stop and enjoy the view of fish and stream bank while resting on the bench dedicated to Nick Wells. Nick was a leader in the renowned United Anglers program while attending Casa Grande. The Booster Club donated this bench in Nick's honor.



## **CORPORATE VOLUNTEERS -** US Army Corps Lt. Colonel John Baker honored the



(photo-Nicole Davidson)

park's first Corporate Volunteer, Powerhouse Gym of Santa Rosa, during the recent groundbreaking ceremony. Owner, Catt Tripoli and assistant General Manager Leesa Pavlos received a plaque and the Corps thanks for their volunteer assistance. Cat and her staff can be seen Sunday mornings at Yorty Creek.

Want more information about corporate Volunteering or Sponsorship? Please contact Charles Fenwick, District Ranger at 707-431-4555.

**HEARD FROM SONOMA COUNTY BOWMEN -** Member Phil Pinto, competed last weekend for the National Field Archery Association Regional Championship and won First Place! Congratulations, Phil. Now is a good time to visit the archery range built by Sonoma County Bowmen located off Lone Rock trailhead to sight-in your bow and practice hiking the steep hillside trails while carrying your equipment.

**VOLUNTEERS -** Larry and Virginia Haseman moved into the Volunteer Village in August to assist the park rangers as Liberty Glen camp hosts. They come to us from South Dakota where they were camp hosts at Coldbrook/Cottonwood Recreation Area for the past five years. They are in the fee kiosk each weekend; registering campers, answering questions and assisting rangers. As camping season slows, they will be painting tables and sprucing up camp sites.



Kate and Paul Goldberg, with us last winter, spent their third summer working at the Madison Junction campground in Yellowstone National Park, and will return in November to assist in the Visitor Center.