James F. Hanlon
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Re: Request for Rangers at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Reserve
Date: 10-6-13

The Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Lake and surrounding reserve represents a unique and vital resource for some of the most outstanding wildlife in North America. And this type of wide expanse, lake oriented habitat, is extremely limited in Los Angeles County, and should be protected to a degree within reason. We have an environmental jewel here (diamond in the rough).

Over the last few years there has been virtually no enforcement of the illegal fishing posting at the Sepulveda Basin Wildlife Lake.

The illegal fishing at the lake appears to be the greatest threat to the potentially thriving wildlife. Lines and hooks are often times left in the water, but more importantly, the Ospreys, Cormorants, egrets, herons, and other fish eating birds' food supply is constantly being diminished by the numerous number of illegal fishermen currently fishing at the lake today.

Other hunters with air guns, bows and arrows, and sling shots have also been noted to frequent the area. But these more extreme events are fairly rare.

In this regard, I think it is essential (primarily for the sustainability of the dynamic wildlife) to have some enforcement at the lake and along its immediate surrounding perimeter. The enforcement could be as limited and simple as sending in one ranger or two in random, alternating spot checks for three-four hours, three-four days a week.

And the municipal code is hopefully being amended to allow for parking level tickets (or higher) to be quickly and efficiently issued to poachers at the Sepulveda Basin Willdlife Reserve. With just warnings, the fishermen will come back.

I would be happy to sit down and discuss these and other ideas further at anytime.

This is clearly an important pocket for wildlife in the California corridor, and the City of Los Angeles's attention and reasonable follow through is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Jim Hanlon
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