



PMLA Geese Management

HOA Board meeting

June 18, 2022



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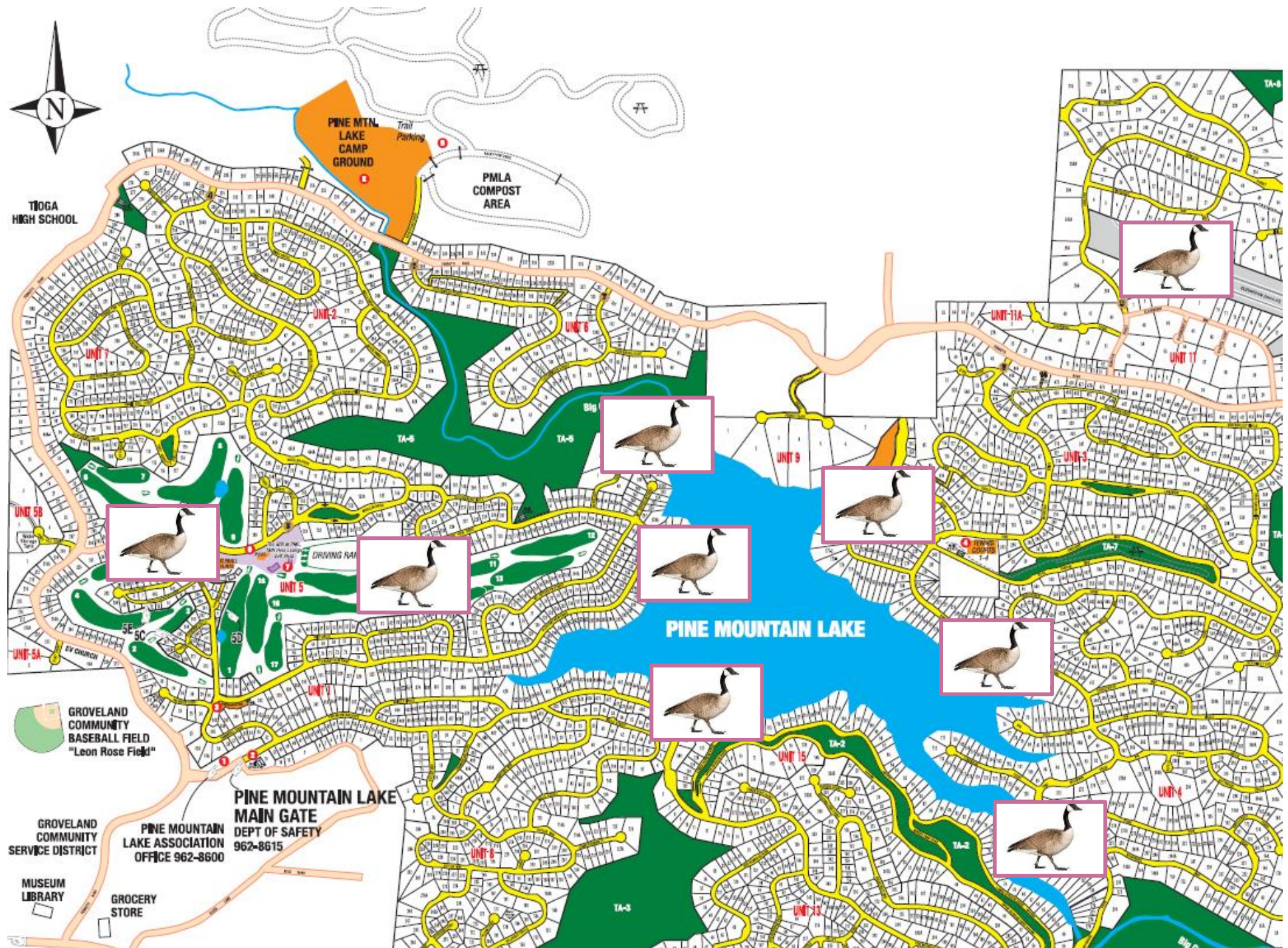


Geese Lifestyle Choices

- Naturally migratory (up to 3K miles!)
- Return to area born for mating & nesting
- Lay 4-10 eggs once each spring
- >5,000,000 in North America
- Live 10-25 years
- Main diet is grasses

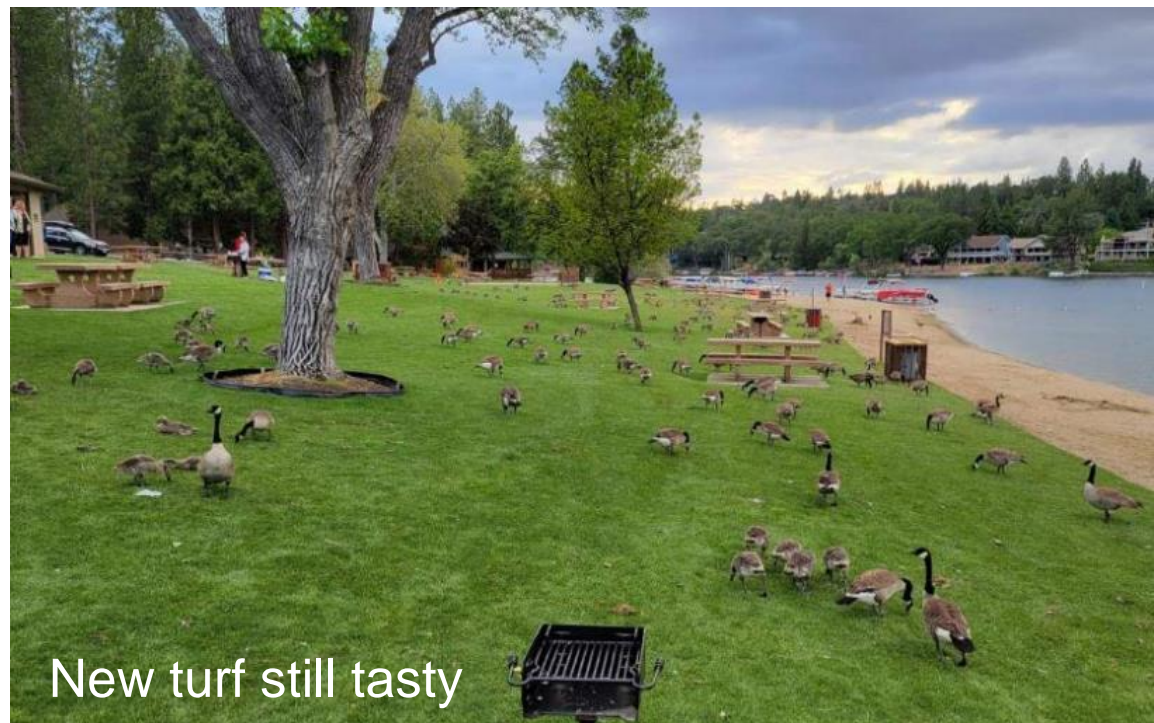


Where They Roam



Geese Problems / Impact\$

- Feather\$ & fece\$ on dock\$, lawn\$, beache\$, golf cour\$e
- Wildlife-member/guest conflicts
- Nutrients swept and drained into lake
- Pathogens everywhere (*likely* Histoplasmosis, e coli, Salmonella, Avian Influenza; *maybe* leptospirosis, listeria, giardia)





The Number\$

- Geese are prolific
 - ~300 geese x 2-3 lbs feces/day
 - Each nest has 4-10 eggs
- Staff clean up feces & feathers
 - 4 workers x 6 hrs/day x 7 days/week x 26 weeks
- Pathogen indicator monitoring
 - Weekly expense to sample, analyze, report
 - Exceedances close beaches

Why is it Getting Worse?

- Lots of nesting areas
- Few predators
- Easy to avoid harassment
- Fed by residents
- Climate beats Canada





Pine Mountain Lake Association

Canada Geese Management Plan

August **, 2022 *DRAFT*



Documenting & planning what gets done

MANAGEMENT PLAN



Outreach Measures

- “No-feeding!” signs
- Newspaper articles
- Facebook posts
- Emails
- Flyers / handouts
- Townhall meeting



Prevention Measures

- **Clean** – Daily remove of feathers & feces
- **Modify habitat** – buffer strips, replace sod
- **Oil eggs** – Find nests in spring (easy permit)



Deterrent Measures

- Dock spiders
- Goosinator harassment
- Laser pointers
- Repellent spray on grass



Monitoring Activities

- Monthly geese counts
- Staff time tracking
- Pathogen indicators at swim areas
- Pathogens in feces





Measures Tried/Considered but Deemed Ineffective

<i>Disturb/ harass</i>	Laser pointers – only after dark Working dogs – \$\$, chase everything Goosinator – staff time, only beaches Chemical spray – irrigation dilutes Noise makers – bothersome, 911 calls
<i>Competition</i>	Swan pairs – too friendly Other waterfowl – too small
<i>Roundup/ Remove</i>	Permit – tough to get Release – where? Come back Render – contracts to render & receive



Other Experiences

- Lake Wildwood (geese toxin outbreak) & Lake of the Pines (nuisance)
- Did & do lot\$ (oil eggs, clean, outreach, landscape, harass, etc.)
- Monitored: more geese → more pathogens
- Both obtained depredation permits (hunted)



Next-Level Measures

- How much (time & effort) is too much?
- **Hunting option**
 - Licensed hunting guide with crew of ~5
 - 10 geese/hunter-day
 - No monetary transactions



Next Steps

- Townhall meeting w/ members (Aug.27?)
- Finalize Geese Management Plan
- Decide what more to do
- Summarize 2022 impacts & efforts



Summary

- Status quo risks health and safety
- Staff are out-competed on a large playing field
- Costs > benefits for current controls
- Managed hunting should be an option



For more information

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