

LAFCO Summary – Park District for Herlong / Honey Lake Island Area

Purpose:

The proposed Park District seeks to create public land on 75.98 acres near Pole Line Rd. on the southeast peninsula of Honey Lake (Honey Lake Island) for passive recreation, birdwatching, ecological education, conservation, and some public safety training.

Mission:

To protect sensitive desert-wetland ecosystems—especially habitat supporting the Carson Wandering Skipper and migratory bird populations—while providing public education, walking, birdwatching, virtual access, and a safe, low-impact site for search and rescue (SAR) and fire training drills, particularly in partnership with Herlong PUD and other local fire departments.

Legal Organization:

Under California Public Resources Code §5780 et seq., the district will function as a registered-voter-based independent special district ensuring transparency, local accountability, and adherence to the Brown Act and Public Records Act.

Functions & Services / Public Benefits:

- Passive recreation and public nature access
- Habitat and endangered species conservation
- SAR and fire training for regional emergency agencies
- AI-driven educational and ecological monitoring programs
- Collaboration with other local agencies
- Promotes environmental education and local stewardship

Governance & Funding:

- Five-member elected board
- Self-funded through contributions, conservation grants, and educational initiatives
- No reliance on general taxation

Public Support:

The proposed district has support from:

- Herlong PUD and Fire Department
- Intent to work with Sierra Alliance and other 501 C3
- Honey Valley Resource Conservation District Director
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- California Department of Fish and Game biologist
- Lassen County Sheriff's Office