

Four courses are planned in \$150M California project

NIPOMO, Calif. — Seventy residents of this town listened with varying degrees of optimism to a plan for a multimillion-dollar development that would bring four golf courses, 1,000 hotel rooms, commercial centers and research facilities to the mesa between Highway 1 and U. S. 101.

John Janneck, a consultant representing Hanson Industries, said the company would spend between \$150 million and \$200 million for the project.

He said the development, as proposed, would provide 7,600 jobs, and added that the local

climate, unlike desert resorts where summers are too hot, would attract top-notch hotel operators because golf can be played year-round.

Two of the proposed courses would be operated in conjunction with the hotels. The course proposed for the northwest part of the development is designated as a public county course.

The project also includes a health club and tennis center.

Ninety percent of the project area would be taken up by the golf courses and open space. The research and development centers would be isolated among the golf courses and open space.

Rain said of little help in Southern California

Southern California residents are on general water cutbacks of 10 to 25 percent, and one golf course superintendent said "unless we get above-normal rainfall (in April) it will probably be at 50 percent this summer."

Ray Davies, president of the Southern California Golf Course Superintendents Association, said: "The vast majority of courses use potable water and are facing dramatic cutbacks. A few are digging wells."

While the area had rainfall in mid-March, Davies quoted experts as saying it would take 40 days of rain to pull Southern California out

of its five-year drought. "It's hard to catch up in one week of rain what you've missed over five years," he said.

Davies, whose Virginia Country Club in Huntington Beach, uses wastewater, said whether a course has enough water for irrigation "depends entirely on local circumstances."

About 10 percent of the courses in his area use effluent, so have no shortage of water, he said. Others use ground water, which, is in good shape, he said.

But the majority of courses depend on potable water and face the regulations of governments and water districts. In Los Angeles, no lawn watering is allowed during the daytime.

Marin County, which encompasses the San Francisco area, is holding its residents to a 50-percent cut in water use.

"We're still bemoaning the fact that we haven't authorized any water projects in California in the past 20 years, while the population has continued to skyrocket," said Bob L. Vice, president of the California Farm Bureau Federation.

Los Angeles and Mexico are studying a possible multibillion-dollar desalination plant project. They hope to be able to use build a power plant and use its steam plant to run a desalination plant that would be built beside it.

Southern California in the past has relied on the snowpack in Northern California for 50 percent of its water. Most of the rest comes from the Colorado River. But the supply from the north has been cut off.

Destroyed heron nests mean criminal charges at Port Ludlow course

PORTLUDLOW, Wash. — Criminal charges may follow destruction of five blue heron nests near Port Ludlow during expansion of a golf course on Pope Resources property.

John Raymond, Jefferson County prosecutor, noted that under state law it is a misdemeanor offense to knowingly destroy habitat of protected species.

Bulldozer driver Bob Soushek said he simply was laying out the center line for one of the future fairways, an expansion of Port Ludlow Golf Course. He said he did as instructed, staying clear of an area marked as a heron rookery.

David Cunningham, Pope Resources vice president, said two heron rookeries are on the property, and that his company went to great lengths to protect one, but didn't know about the other.

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