

89.6.2

The Press Democrat

April 1, 1989

THE PRESS DEMOCRAT, SATURDAY, APRIL 1, 1989

## Bosco to prepare bill for laguna reserve

Rep. Doug Bosco plans to introduce legislation to create a federal wildlife reserve along the Laguna de Santa Rosa within two weeks, now that he has the support of the Sierra Club's Sonoma County chapter.

Bosco, D-Occidental, announced Friday he is ready to proceed with the proposal to create a 9,000-acre reserve to save the laguna's wetlands and wildlife.

He said he had waited for the Sierra Club to iron out internal differences over the potential for using tertiary-treated wastewater in the reserve. The treated effluent may become part of the plan if it is considered valuable to the resource, he said.

In addition to concerns expressed by the Sierra Club, farmers

and developers have criticized the plan because of worries about potential restrictions on private land adjacent to the reserve.

The idea of a reserve emerged last year after a grass-roots effort to save the wetlands. Bosco appointed a task force to study a laguna preserve and the result was a plan to purchase 6,000 acres of private land from voluntary sellers. About 2,000 acres belong to the city.

The price tag could be up to \$14 million, about \$4 million of which could come from state bonds and the remainder from the federal government. The federal government would manage the preserve through its Fish and Wildlife Service.