



Find us online at theyodeler.org and sierraclub.org/sfbay

JUNE 2016

ENDORSEMENTS

ON PAGE 3

Bay Area cities can lead the way to 100% clean energy

In his blog post “America’s Ready for 100,” the Sierra Club’s executive director Michael Brune wrote: “Time, tides, and climate disruption wait for no one. National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration and NASA announced that global temperatures last year reached their highest level in 136 years of record-keeping. There’s only one rational response to news like that: cut climate pollution as fast as we possibly can. That means not only pushing back against fossil fuel projects but also expanding and accelerating our development of renewable energy. As Buckminster Fuller put it, we need to ‘build a new model that makes the existing model obsolete.’”

That’s where the Sierra Club’s “Ready for 100” campaign comes in. We know it’s possible for the United States to power itself with a new model of 100 percent clean energy. Solar prices have fallen 80 percent in recent years. Wind prices have fallen 60 percent. In several regions of the country, clean energy is already cheaper than coal and gas and nuclear power. But the necessary transition to clean fuels won’t happen fast enough unless we set and meet some ambitious goals. Right now, the most effective way to do that is for cities, businesses, and local



Northern pintail ducks take off from the marshes of Coyote Hills Regional Park in Fremont. Approximately 80 percent of the San Francisco Bay’s tidal wetlands have been lost since 1800. Measure AA on the June ballot in all nine Bay Area counties will restore rich wetland ecosystems throughout the Bay Area, providing habitats for fish and wildlife, filtering out pollutants from the water, increasing public access to our shorelines, and helping to protect our communities from sea-level rise. Vote Yes on AA! Photo by Jerry Ting.

communities to commit to renewable power.

The “Ready for 100” campaign kicked off early in 2016 with a surprise action during the U.S. Conference of Mayors meeting in Washington, D.C., and a challenge to get 100 U.S. cities to commit to 100 percent renewable energy. Already, 15 U.S. cities have declared they will go all-in on clean energy. Three of them, Burlington, Vermont, Greensburg, Kansas, and Aspen, Colorado, have already achieved that goal.

San Francisco was one of the first cities to commit to going 100 percent renewable, with a target date of 2020. Clean-PowerSF — the local “Community Choice” clean-energy program that launched in May to provide an alternative to PG&E’s dirtier, pricier power — is a big part of how the city plans to reach that goal. Programs to increase energy efficiency and ramp up local renewable-power generation will also be key.

In addition to San Francisco, there are several other Bay Area cities that are ready to step up to meet the “Ready for 100” challenge. This year, the Bay Chapter and our local partners will be focused on getting Richmond and Oakland to take the pledge to commit to 100 percent renewable energy. Both cities have large environmental justice communities that are impacted by the fossil fuel industry (just look at emissions from

Continued on page 11

 **POWER YOUR HOME WITH SOLAR!** 
Save \$750 and raise \$1000 for the Sierra Club! 

Go Solar in June and get a special \$750 discount!

Summer is just around the corner! With more daylight to burn, rooftop solar panels around the country are generating lots of clean energy and powering hundreds of thousands of homes.

When you sign up to go solar with the Sierra Club and Sungevity in the month of June you will receive a special \$750 discount *and* the Bay Chapter will receive \$1,000 toward our work to protect the local environment.

Getting started with solar is quick and easy. Request an iQuote from Sungevity today at SC.org/SolarPrint or call our solar homes representative at (844)815-5614 for more information.

Take advantage of these sun-filled hours by finding out if solar is right for your home. Go solar today!

Find the fullest and most up-to-date coverage at theYodeler.org.

Elections coming for chapter Executive Committees — Candidate applications due September 5th

In November/December, the Bay Chapter will hold elections for the Chapter Executive Committee and its eight group Executive Committees. Members are encouraged to consider candidacy for themselves, nominate another member, or volunteer for the Nominations and Elections Committee.

Key responsibilities

Chapter and group Executive Committees represent Sierra Club members in setting local environmental policy, endorsing political candidates, and administering programs and activities: essential functions that require a sustained commitment from our volunteer leadership.

Each Executive Committee (ExComm) member is expected to be actively involved in some aspect of the chapter or group's work — from administration and conservation to fundraising. ExComm members at either level must attend regular meetings and take an active part in helping the chapter or group function well. A substantial time commitment between meetings is the norm. This is not an entry-level role; some knowledge of how the Sierra Club works is essential.

Chapter Executive Committee

The Bay Chapter ExComm oversees a sizable annual budget and 10 full- and part-time staff, as well as facilitating the work of hundreds of volunteers. In addition to its administrative oversight, the Chapter ExComm sets priorities and policies on issues that impact the whole chapter area.

Group Executive Committees

Groups are the smallest geographic units of the Sierra Club, so group ExComms are important to making sure we keep an ear to the ground in our neighborhoods, parks, and streets. Group ExComm members work on issues within their geographic boundaries. They also organize meetings and activities.

We need you!

If you are a member with experience serving on another committee or with organizing, environmental issues, or fundraising, we could use your skills. The Sierra Club is a rare organization where members make key decisions. Success depends on the strength of our membership. It's empowering and effective. Please consider stepping up to run for a position in the Chapter.

How to run

To be a candidate for the Chapter or a group ExComm, to nominate someone else, or to volunteer for the Nominations and Elections Committee, contact committee chairperson Matt Morrison at (925)413-6213; or e-mail the committee at elections@sfbayclub.org.

Candidate packets will be available at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/2016chapterelections on July 5th.

Candidates must be members in good standing of the Sierra Club's San Francisco Bay Chapter. Candidates for group ExComms must be members in good standing of that group. Each Sierra Club member is automatically assigned to the group corresponding with their address, unless they have specifically requested otherwise.

To be considered for nomination, applications must be received at the chapter office, at: 2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite 1 Berkeley, CA 94702-2000 by 5 pm on Monday, September 5th. The Nominations Committee will respond to applications by Monday, September 12th. Candidate statements are due from all nominees by 5 pm on Friday, September 30th.

Candidates not nominated by the committee can run by petition. Petition forms and instructions are available at the chapter office or by contacting elections@sfbayclub.org. The deadline for receipt of petitions and candidate statements from petition candidates is 5pm on Monday, September 26th.

Matt Morrison

Backpacking section's Thomas Meissner receives Michener Award for outstanding outings leadership






Meissner at Germany's Watzmann Mountain on a Sierra Club trip to the Alps.

Thomas Meissner, chair of the Bay Chapter's backpacking section, is the 2016 winner of the Michener Award for outstanding outings leadership. Thomas has introduced many people to the joys of backpacking through the annual Beginners Backpacking course. Stay tuned for a profile of this exceptional Club leader in the next issue of the Yodeler.

Congratulations, Thomas, and thanks for your commitment to getting Club members into the great outdoors with just a pack on their backs!

The Bay Chapter Online

Follow us on social media!

-  [SierraClubSFBayChapter](https://www.facebook.com/SierraClubSFBayChapter)
-  [@SFBaySierraClub](https://twitter.com/SFBaySierraClub)
-  [SierraClub_SFBay](https://www.instagram.com/SierraClub_SFBay)

Explore our website!

The Bay Chapter website, online at sierraclub.org/sfbay, is home to helpful information and resources including:

- Issue briefs
- Group info and leadership roster
- Full events and activities calendar
- Volunteer opportunities



West Contra Costa group election now open!

The Sierra Club's West Contra Costa County group is holding a special election to fill two open positions on its Executive Committee. Voting is now open.

If you are a member of the West Contra Costa County group, you are eligible to vote in this election and you should have received a paper ballot as an insert to this paper. If you are a member of the group and didn't get a paper ballot, you can call the chapter office at (510)848-0800 and we will mail you one.

You can also opt to vote online at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/wcccgroupelection. All ballots, whether paper or electronic, must be received before 2 pm on Friday, July 1st.

Buying or Selling a Home? Support the Chapter at Zero Cost!

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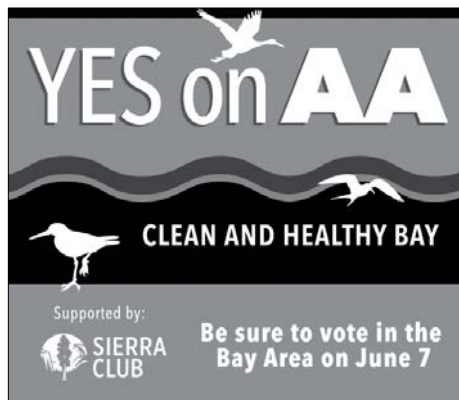


VOTE GREEN 2016 – JUNE ELECTION ENDORSEMENTS

Here are the Sierra Club's recommendations for candidates and ballot measures that deserve your support in the June 2016 election. Please note that not all endorsements were finalized before this paper went to print; visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/june2016endorsements to find an up-to-date list.

U.S. Senate

Kamala Harris for U.S. Senate
www.kamalaharris.org



Bay Area-wide ballot measure

YES on AA: For a Clean and Healthy Bay
www.yesonaaforthebay.com

The San Francisco Bay Clean Water, Pollution Prevention, and Habitat Restoration Program, known as the "Clean and Healthy Bay Ballot Measure," would raise \$500 million over 20 years to fund critical wetland-restoration and flood-protection projects. This measure needs two-thirds of Bay Area voters behind it, so every vote of support is important.

But pollution and other problems have put the health of the Bay at serious risk. Fish in the Bay are contaminated with harmful chemicals like PCBs, mercury and pesticides. The Bay has lost over 80 percent of its tidal wetlands over the last few centuries as humans have altered the shoreline for agriculture, salt production, and urban development.

Measure AA will fund wetlands restoration projects around the Bay that will:

- Expand habitat that supports fish, birds, and other wildlife;
- Reduce pollution in the Bay by filtering toxins and trash out of our water;
- Enhance public access to the Bay and shoreline recreation; and
- Protect shoreline communities and vital public infrastructure from flooding, sea-level rise, and storm surge caused by climate disruption.

Volunteers needed for Measure AA phone banks!

We need volunteers for evening phone banks at our Berkeley office through June 6th. If you're interested in helping get out the vote for Measure AA, contact Nathan Duran at (510)848-0800 or nathan.duran@sierraclub.org.

East Bay endorsements

East Bay candidates:

Keith Carson for Alameda County Supervisor, District 5
www.keithcarson.org

Al Mendall for Hayward City Council
www.alforhayward.com

Nancy Skinner for State Senate, District 9 (Richmond/Oakland)
www.skinner4senate.com

Tony Thurmond for Assembly, District 15 (Richmond/Berkeley)
www.tonythurmond.com

Rob Bonta for Assembly, District 18 (Oakland/Alameda)
www.robbona.com

Mike Thompson for U.S. House of Representatives, District 5 (Northwestern Contra Costa County)
www.mikethompsonforcongress.com

Jerry McNerney for U.S. House of Representatives, District 9 (Northeastern Contra Costa County)
www.jerrymcnerney.org

Mark DeSaulnier for U.S. House of Representatives, District 11 (Contra Costa County)
www.desaulnierforcongress.com

Barbara Lee for U.S. House of Representatives, District 13 (Northern and Central Alameda County)
www.barbaraleeforcongress.org

Eric Swalwell for U.S. House of Representatives, District 15 (Central and Eastern Alameda County)
www.swalwellforcongress.com

Mike Honda for U.S. House of Representatives, District 17 (Southern Alameda County)
www.mikehonda.com

East Bay ballot measure:

NO on Pleasanton's Measure K
www.savepleasantonhillsides.com



Marin endorsements

Marin candidates:

Dennis Rodoni for Marin County Supervisor, District 4
www.rodoniforsupervisor2016.com

Frank Egger and **Kevin Haroff** for Marin County Supervisor, District 2 (dual endorsement)
www.frankegger.com
www.kevinharoff.com

Marc Levine for Assembly, District 10 (Marin/Sonoma)
www.marclevine.org

Jared Huffman for U.S. House of Representatives, District 2 (Marin)
www.jaredhuffman.com

San Francisco endorsements

San Francisco candidates:

David Chiu for Assembly, District 17
www.votedavidchiu.com

Phil Ting for Assembly, District 19
www.asmdc.org/members/a19

Nancy Pelosi for U.S. House of Representatives, District 12
www.pelosiforcongress.org

Democratic County Central Committee

17th Assembly District:

Alysa Alexander
Tom Ammiano
David Campos
Petra DeJesus
Jon Golinger
Frances Hsieh
Jane Kim
Rafael Mandelman
Aaron Peskin
Gladys Soto
Wade Woods
Cindy Wu

19th Assembly District:

Angela Alioto
Brigitte Davila
Sandra Fewer
Hene Kelly
Leah LaCroix
Eric Mar
Gabriel Medina
Myrna Melgar

San Francisco ballot measures:

NO on B: No Blank Check

The Park, Recreation and Open Space Fund would put billions of dollars under the control of the Mayor and Board of Supervisors without specifying how it would be spent. Proposition B is a blank check. Vote 'No' on B.



YES on C: Affordable S.F. for all

www.yespropc.com

This charter amendment will allow the Board of Supervisors to update affordable-housing requirements for new developments. It will also set interim requirements for below-market-rate housing at 25% of all units in developments of 25 units or more. That would more than double the city's affordable-housing requirements for new market-rate residential projects — an important step to curbing displacement. When people can afford to live near where they work—particularly in transit-rich, walkable, urban areas like San Francisco—there is an aggregate reduction of sprawl and greenhouse gas emissions.



Some endorsements were still being finalized at the time this paper was sent to print. For an up-to-date list, visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/june2016endorsements.
Thanks for voting!

Oakland City Council moves forward with process to ban coal exports — Critical hearing on June 27

Early in May, the Oakland City Council took an important step toward banning coal exports from the redeveloped Oakland Army Base. The Council voted unanimously to approve a contract with consulting firm ESA to prepare a report on the health and safety impacts of coal exports. Signing a contract now means that it is still possible to get a final decision on this matter before the Council's upcoming summer recess.

Now that the City has finalized this contract, the consultant can begin the process of evaluating the thousands of pages of evidence pointing to the significant health and safety impacts of coal exports, submitted by experts and advocates including the Sierra Club. From increased asthma rates to decreased emergency vehicle access, the risks of exporting coal through Oakland are grave. We expect ESA's findings to concur.

The City Council was originally scheduled to approve a contract with ESA on February 16th that would have pushed the timeline well into the fall and cost the city nearly \$250,000. Prior to the February council meeting, Mayor Libby Schaaf released a statement urging the council to postpone contracting with ESA to evaluate more options.

The city ultimately decided to stay with ESA, while scaling down its scope of work. In a recent statement, the mayor said, "The revised contract with ESA is more financially responsible and appropriately limits their

role to validating evidence and assisting the City in its job to determine whether there is 'substantial evidence' to find 'substantial endangerment' of health and safety. The revised scope clarifies that this determination belongs to the City and not a contractor."

Hearing set for June 27

The consultant, ESA, has been given a mid-June deadline to evaluate evidence so that an initial consideration by the Council of any health and safety regulations can be heard prior to July. Acting on a recommendation from council member Rebecca Kaplan, the full council voted unanimously to take up the issue on June 27th at a special City Council meeting.

Setting June 27th for a hearing of findings is a step in the right direction to getting the city to enact a ban on coal exports, as any action the city takes to enact such a ban will require two readings of an ordinance. A first reading in June gives the council enough time to have a second reading and final vote in July, before council goes on break for summer recess.

Blocking additional fossil fuels

On May 9th, the City Council held a special public hearing to receive information, testimony, and evidence regarding the public health and safety impacts of transportation, transloading, handling, and export of fuel oil, gasoline, and crude oil in and through the City of Oakland. Although there are no

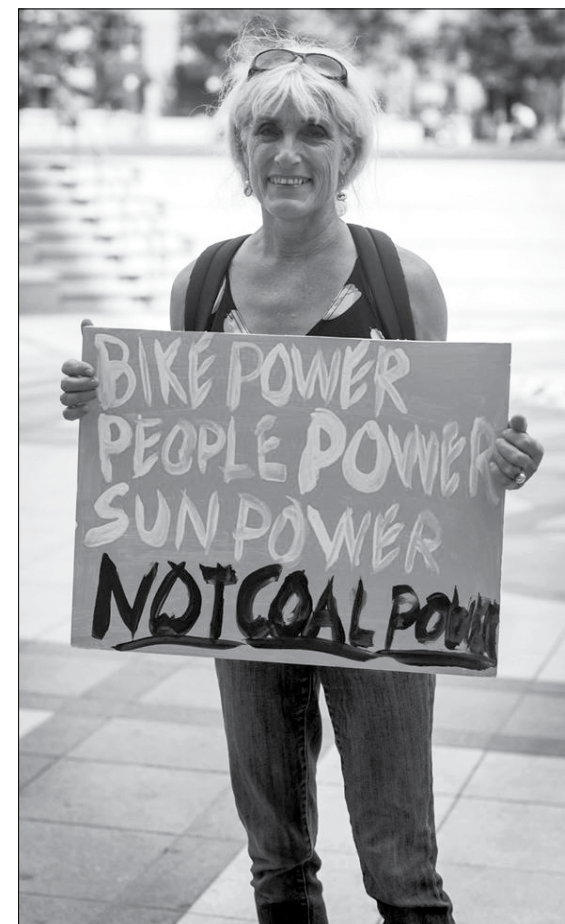
current plans to ship these products through Oakland, both fuel oil and gasoline were listed among the potential commodities that could be shipped through the terminal at the army base redevelopment.

In 2014, the city passed a resolution opposing the transportation of hazardous fossil fuel materials, including crude oil, coal, and petroleum coke, through the City Of Oakland. As a follow-up to that resolution, ESA will consider the health and safety impacts of these additional fossil fuels in their report on coal.

If all goes as planned, the city will be able to introduce and pass an ordinance banning *all* fossil fuel exports, though the council has made it clear that coal is the top priority. We will be watching to make sure the council acts on their resolution to ban these dirty and dangerous products before they go on summer break. After more than a year of waiting, the people of Oakland deserve to know where their council members stand on this important issue before casting their votes in November.

To get involved in this campaign, contact Brittany King at (510)848-0800 or brittany.king@sierraclub.org.

Brittany King



Oakland residents have been protesting the coal-export proposal for over a year. Here, Katy Polony of No Coal in Oakland carries the message to Oakland City Hall last July. Photo by Brooke Anderson.

Zeke rides again! Fourth annual climate ride for 15-year-old from Berkeley

Now 15 years old, Zeke Gerwin will ride again this summer to raise awareness of climate change and raise money for the Bay Chapter's work to create a just transition to a 100-percent-renewable-energy economy and stop dangerous fossil fuels from coming through the Bay Area.

This is the fourth year in a row that Zeke will be spending his summer break pedaling for climate justice. Last year he raised \$4,939 from fans and supporters who share his concerns about the climate and want to encourage Zeke's dedication. Here are a few words from Zeke about this year's ride:

"This summer I've chosen to ride my bicycle along the dirt roads and trails that run 4,000 miles along the length of the Rocky Mountains through three countries (Canada, the U.S., and Mexico).



Zeke and his bike, from his Instagram page, @zekegerwin

While I am super excited about this ride because it will be an amazing adventure, it does not seem like it will do all that much to stop climate change. It might not. It might be useless (come to think of it, this might not actually be the smartest thing to put in a letter imploring people to give money to the Sierra Club). But I really, really hope it will do at least something, act

as a tiny levee to stop the flood of carbon dioxide. I want to talk to the people who live along the Great Divide; the First Nations people of Alberta whose homes are destroyed by the Tar Sands; the ranchers in Montana who have watched coal mining ruin whole mountains; the Coloradans who have to admire the view of miles of pine forest scoured by the pine beetle (which is now surviving through the winter due to global warming); farmers in Estado de Chihuahua who have

observed the Chihuahuan Desert march forward, once lush mountainsides ravaged by drought. I want to talk to people who subscribe to the views of the Koch Brothers and Cruz and Trump and Kasich and Clinton. It will be hard, and I may end up avoiding it, but I want to convince them that this is happening, to show them the evidence.

The Sierra Club has defeated over half of the coal plants in the United States, worked with many other environmental groups to stop the Keystone XL pipeline, and is now battling on the front lines to stop coal exports, right here in the Bay Area. And in case you were wondering, since this is a self-organized ride funded by my oh-so-generous parents, every cent of your donation goes to the Sierra Club."

If you believe in Zeke's mission, please give today at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/zekesride. Or, make out a check pay-

able to "SF Bay Chapter, Sierra Club" and send it to:

2530 San Pablo Avenue, Suite 1
Berkeley CA 94702

Put "Zeke's Ride" in the memo line so that your contribution counts toward Zeke's goals.

Want to ride with Zeke?

Zeke is looking for a biking buddy for the last leg of his trip from August 15th in Los Angeles to August 24th in Mexico. If you are a seasoned cyclist interested in joining the trip, send an email to zekesride@sfbaysc.org for more information.

Can't get enough Zeke? Follow him on Instagram @zekegerwin and check out his blog here: <https://anotherfundamentallyboringblog.wordpress.com>.

Happy trails, Zeke, and thanks!



Zeke dipping his tire in the Pacific after last summer's 4,000-plus-mile ride across the continental U.S.



Events & Activities

of the SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER

JUNE-JULY
2016

Our outings are open to all. They are designed to educate participants about the great outdoors through direct experience and contact with nature, and to cultivate an appreciation of nature and the local environment.

About this calendar

This calendar includes many Sierra Club Bay Chapter events and outings, but the most extensive calendar is found on the Chapter website at:

sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities.

The Calendar website may include changes, cancellations, or outings that were submitted after the print deadline. Many of our activity sections place additional information and more outings in section newsletters, or on section websites, which are found at the above URL.

Hike and backpack ratings

Hike ratings are based on distance and elevation gain (the sum of all gains in elevation per day):

- | | |
|------------------|-----------------------|
| 1. up to 6 miles | A. under 1,000 feet |
| 2. 6 - 10 miles | B. 1,000 - 2,000 feet |
| 3. 10 - 15 miles | C. 2,000 - 3,000 feet |
| 4. 15 - 20 miles | D. over 3,000 feet |
| 5. over 20 miles | E. over 3,500 feet |

Backpack ratings include a third digit for travel:

- T.** trail
1. limited/easy crosscountry
 2. moderate crosscountry
 3. strenuous/difficult crosscountry.

What to bring

For day hikes always bring lunch and enough water. Consider layered clothing, sunscreen, good hiking boots with treads, and hiking poles. Non-service dogs are allowed only if specified in the listing; canine hikers should bring leashes, litter bags, and water for their dogs.

Liabilities

To participate on a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To read a copy of the waiver form, visit <http://tinyurl.com/outingswaiver> or call (415)977-5630.

Problem resolution

If you have an outing-related concern that you are not able to address via the outing's leader, please contact the chair of the sponsoring section or group. If that is not sufficient, you can contact the Activities Committee ombudsman, Seth Feinberg, at sethfeinberg@yahoo.com or (510)969-7151, or the Chapter office at (510)848-0800.

Carpooling

Carpooling helps the environment and allows folks without cars to participate. If you are driving to a hike, please stop by the carpool point to pick up others. If you're a rider, pay a share of expenses.

Many activities are listed on the Chapter's Meetup site a couple weeks in advance of the event. Join the Meetup group and post a comment requesting or offering a ride at:

www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay.

Tuesdays

Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. **Meet:** 4 pm at boathouse. **Leader:** Dolores Gruenewald, (510)351-6247 or doloresgru@aol.com. (Solo Sierrans)

Wednesdays

Lafayette Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. **Meet:** 4 pm in parking lot (takes five quarters or annual pass). **Leader:** Lee Cowden, (925)934-6357. (Solo Sierrans)

First and Third Fridays in June and July

Redwood Park evening 1A hike. *June 3 and 17; July 1 and 15.* Early evening stroll through Oakland's Redwood Park. This 4-mile hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. The terrain is hilly so be prepared for at least a light cardio workout. Friendly dogs welcome. Heavy rain cancels. **Meet:** 6:30 pm at Redwood Staging Area, Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard. Parking lot is about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center. **Leader:** Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

June 1 • Wed

Mount Tam circumambulation with poetry reading 3C hike. Following the Buddhist steps of the Beat Poets in the 1960's we share poetry at 10 specific energy points. Poetry reading is not required. **Meet:** 8:30 am at Muir Woods lower parking lot near Dipsea Trail. **Leader:** William H Mayers, (415)785-3516 or (415)302-4802 (cell), whmayers@gmail.com. (Hiking)

June 4 • Sat

Point Reyes Santa Maria beach 3C hike. Hike up the Mount Wittenburg Trail to the ridge and descend the Sky and Fire Lane Trails to spectacular Santa Maria Beach. Hike along the beach to Sculptured Beach for lunch on a fantastic rocky outcropping overlooking the ocean. Return by the Woodward Valley and Meadow Trails. Moderate pace, 12 miles. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 9 am sharp to depart at Bear Valley Visitor Center upper gravel parking lot near restrooms. **Ends:** 4 pm. **Carpool:** Depart CVS Pharmacy, 2151 Meeker Ave, Richmond at 8:15 am sharp. Email leader first. **Leader:** Katy Christie, (510)277-5386 or katyhike@gmail.com (preferred). (Hiking)

Wildcat Canyon 2B hike. This 6.5-mile loop hike is moderate, with a few very steep sections. Our hike climbs up and down along the ridge line, then descends back to the trailhead. We will hike on fire roads, single track and a few paved sections. **Meet:** 9:30 am at the top of the parking lot where the trail starts at Alvarado staging area. This means entering the gates and driving or walking all the way to the end of the parking lot where there is horse trailer parking. **Leader:** Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

Wunderlich County Park 3B day hike. Explore one of the Peninsula's best-kept secrets: the lush redwood and madrone forests of Wunderlich County Park, which used to be the Folgers Estate of coffee fame. Primarily in shade with occasional views of the East Bay hills. Some avoidable poison oak. Mellow hikers welcomed. Any rain cancels. Parking is very limited. **Meet:** 11 am at Alambique Trail, Woodside. **Carpool:** Leader will be at Walnut Creek BART at 9:15 am. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 silbakaley@lbl.gov. (Mount Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

June 4 • Sat

Tilden Park Nature Area bee talk and 1A hike. We'll join naturalist Myles Lynn for a talk on "The Truth about Bees." Come to the farm classroom to meet local bees, watch the waggle dance, and learn the importance of a healthy bee population. Optional short walk after the talk. **Meet:** 12:50 pm at Tilden Park Nature Area. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

June 4 • Sat - June 5 • Sun

Austin Creek State Recreation Area 1BT backpack. Relaxed pace in Sonoma County: perfect for beginners, lapsed backpackers, or those who just like to take it easy in the backcountry. Cost: \$30 includes car camping Friday night, backcountry camping fees Saturday night, and contribution to the Backpack Section. **Bring:** Individual commissary. Guides will bring stoves. Water purification required. **Meet:** 9 am at Armstrong Redwoods State Natural Reserve, 17000 Armstrong Woods Rd, Guerneville. **Directions:** Details will be sent to all signed-up participants two weeks before the trip. **Leaders:** Inga Aksamit, (415)470-1812 or iaksamit@aol.com; M Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or mike.bandrowski@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

June 5 • Sun

Mount Diablo circle the mountain 2C hike. This classic loop provides views in all directions as we circle the park's dominant peak via Deer Flat, Prospector's Gap, Devil's Elbow and Oak Knoll. Parts of this hike will pass through burn areas of the September 2013 Morgan Fire. Late spring wildflowers should still be abundant. Allow 7 hours for this 8.5-mile hike with a total elevation gain of about 2,300 feet. Steady, relaxed pace with breaks. Be prepared for poison oak. Hike may be shortened due to heat. **Cost:** \$10 per vehicle. **Meet:** 9:30 am parking lot at Juniper Campground entrance on Summit Road. **Leader:** Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net (preferred). (Mount Diablo Group & Save Mount Diablo)

Angel Island 2B hike. From Tiburon we will sail across Raccoon Strait into Ayala Cove and then hike up and around Mount Livermore. Afterwards we will head down to secluded Perles Beach. Wide variety of terrains and (weather permitting) spectacular views of the bay. Heavy rain cancels. **Cost:** \$15 cash for the ferry (round trip), plus parking, \$5 and up. **Meet:** 9:30 am in front of the restrooms at the Tiburon Ferry Terminal, 21 Main St., to take the 10 am ferry. **Leader:** Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

June 7 • Tue - June 10 • Fri

Car Camping at Big Basin. Big Basin is California's oldest State Park, established in 1902. Home to the largest continuous stand of ancient Coast Redwoods south of San Francisco. Restrooms at our group camp. Showers at other camp sites nearby. **Cost:** \$50 plus \$40 food contribution. **Meet:** 2 pm at Big Basin Redwoods State Park. **Leader:** Maurie J Ange, (510)527-9343 or mjange@msn.com. (Solo Sierrans)

June 11 • Sat

Mount Tamalpais 3C hike. A moderate hike in memory of Mary Duffin, a longtime Sierra Club hike leader. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 9 am at Fairfax Parkade. Carpool from meeting place to trailhead. **Leader:** Pao Chen, (510)237-7570 or paoc945@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

Continued on following page.

Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities.

June 11 • Sat

Piedmont architectural 2A hike. An architectural and historical walk past Piedmont mansions, emphasizing homes designed by Julia Morgan. Leisurely pace, but takes all day, returning about 5 pm. Any rain cancels. **Bring:** Money for post-walk dinner. **Meet:** 9:45 am on Piedmont Elementary School lawn, corner of Piedmont Avenue and Echo Street in Oakland. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

June 11 • Sat - June 12 • Sun

Chilnualna Falls, Yosemite 2DT backpack. Enjoy beautiful and tranquil waterfalls in the southern Yosemite. This is a moderately strenuous trip that is suitable for fit beginner backpackers. **Cost:** \$30 includes car camping Friday night and Wilderness Permit. **Bring:** Individual commissary. Bear canisters required. **Meet:** 9 am at Wawona. **Leaders:** Lesley Kao, (415)504-7109 lesleymkao@yahoo.com; Kent Lewandowski, (510)759-6646 or kentlewan@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

June 12 • Sun

Grizzly Island Wildlife Area easy 1A hike. Grizzly Island is located in the heart of the great Suisun Marsh, the largest remaining contiguous area of coastal wetland in California. 3-3.5-mile hike over flat levee trails, which can be overgrown and bumpy. Full sun. **Cost:** \$2.50 entry. **Meet:** 10 am at 2899-2901 Grizzly Island Rd, Suisun City, CA 94585, USA. **Leader:** Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com (preferred). (Gay & Lesbian)

June 17 • Fri - June 20 • Mon

Lassen Volcanic National Park + PCT 3CT backpack. We should see lots of wildflowers along the way due to the wet winter. We will see geysers, fumaroles, mud pots, and other volcanic activities. **Cost:** \$45. Individual commissary. **Leaders:** Ernest Castiaux, ecastiaux@hotmail.com; Sanjay Reddy, reddysanjay@comcast.net. (Backpacking)

Up the Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, Yosemite 2DT backpack. Celebrate the return of our snowpack and the revival of our Sierra rivers! Marvel at the 4,000-foot-deep Grand Canyon of the Tuolumne, hiking up the 28 miles from White Wolf to Tuolumne Meadow with a side hike to a 1,200-foot overlook on Wildcat Point. **Cost:** \$30. Individual commissary. **Leaders:** Rodney Omachi, contact by email after March 7 at rodomachi@yahoo.com; Linda Weldele, lindaweldele@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

June 18 • Sat

Seal and sea otter watch by kayak. Adventure in Elkhorn Slough National Marine Estuary. The protected water of the slough is an ideal place to observe some of California's finest coastal resources. Sea otters, harbor seals, sea lions, and an array of birds can be seen at close range. We will be using double sea kayaks, which are very stable and easy to use. No previous kayaking experience necessary. Email leader to RSVP. Details upon registration. **Cost:** \$58. **Meet:** 9:30 am at Elkhorn Slough. **Leader:** Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com (preferred). (Gay & Lesbian)

June 18 • Sat

Big Basin 3B loop hike. Moderately paced day hike through giant redwoods, along babbling brooks, and around impressive falls. Worth the drive. Any rain cancels. **Cost:** \$10 parking. **Bring:** Insect repellent recommended. **Meet:** 10 am at the Redwood trailhead across from Big Basin State Park headquarters. **Carpool:** Leader at Walnut Creek BART at 7:45 am; no-host carpool from Rockridge BART at 7:30 am. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov. (Mount Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

Redwood Park 2B hike. Pleasant hike with many redwoods and ferns. Leisurely pace. Hike ends about 4:30 pm, followed by potluck/barbecue in park. **Cost:** \$5 parking. **Bring:** Food to share at potluck. **Meet:** 11 am in Wayside parking lot on left side of main park entry road (NOT in Canyon Meadow lot at end of road). **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

June 24 • Fri - June 26 • Sun

Skyline-to-the-Sea 2BT backpack. Hike one of the premier backpacking routes in the Bay area, the Skyline-to-the-Sea Trail from Castle Rock State Park, through Big Basin, to Waddell Beach. Approximately 30 miles from Skyline Drive downhill almost 3,000 feet past towering redwood trees and a series of exquisite waterfalls to the ocean. Limited space, must RSVP. Individual commissary. Carpooling will be required for all drivers. **Cost:** \$35. **Leader:** Mike Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or mike.bandrowski@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

June 25 • Sat

Corona Heights Natural Area workday. GLS volunteers and others have worked here since 1993 to maintain and nurture the extensive variety of native plants (more than 100 species) and to improve the habitat for wildlife by removing invasive plants, planting native species, removing trash, and doing general trail maintenance. Children welcome if accompanied by parent or guardian. All tools and gloves are provided. **Meet:** 10 am on south side of Randall Museum, at end of Museum Way, just off Roosevelt Way. Street parking available on Museum or Roosevelt Way. **Ends:** 12 pm. **Leader:** Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

Glen Park BART to 24th Street BART 1B hike. One-way hike via Bernal Heights with wonderful city views and many colorful murals along the way. **Ends:** 4 pm. Any rain cancels. **Bring:** Bring lunch and liquids. **Meet:** 10:15 am at Glen Park BART. **Leader:** Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

June 26 • Sun

Bear Valley to sea 3C hike. Climb up to Mount Wittenberg before dropping down to explore the coast. We then head past Arch Rock as we work our way back to the trailhead. **Meet:** 9 am at the Fairfax Parkade to carpool to the trailhead. **Leader:** Tom Post, (415)690-6572 or tpost123@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

June 26 • Sun

Carquinez Strait Regional Shoreline walk. Leisurely loop with scenic views of Carquinez shoreline and bay. Back by 12 noon. After walk, buy one drink at Port Costa cafe and get free buffet lunch. **Meet:** 11:15 am in Bull Valley staging area on left. **Ends:** noon. **Leader:** Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795 or lidiacampos@sbcglobal.net. (Delta Regional Group)

Tilden Park Nature Area dragonfly talk and 1A hike. Join naturalist Anthony Fisher for a talk on dragons damsels. The highly skilled and strangely beautiful dragonflies have ruled the earth since the Jurassic. Today, we delve into their mind-bending world and try to understand these aerial predators. Optional short walk after the talk and an early dinner on Solano Avenue. **Meet:** 2:50 pm at Tilden Park Nature Area. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

June 30 • Thu - July 4 • Mon

Yosemite Hetch Hetchy Tuolumne River 3DT backpack. We visit waterfalls, lakes, and vistas in and high above the the Tuolumne River Canyon. **Cost:** \$50 includes car camping, wilderness permit, and a contribution to the Backpack Section. Individual commissary. Bear canisters required. **Leaders:** Thomas Meissner, 707-795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net; Roger Williams, (415)601-2079 or rogerw@ymail.com. (Backpacking)

July 1 • Fri - July 4 • Mon

July 4th weekend campout. This year we're heading to the Red's Meadows section of the eastern Sierra Nevada Mountains. We will have access to some of the most spectacular wilderness in the Sierras. GLS trips feature a variety of daily hikes, food and camaraderie around our new propane firepit, The Follies (not to be missed skits and home-grown entertainment), and a potluck dinner one evening. More details provided upon registration. **Meet:** 4 pm at Pumice Flat Campground. **Leader:** Beth Bittle, callingu2@gmail.com; Paget Valentzas, pagetvalentzas@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

July 2 • Sat

Art Deco Oakland 2A walk. An urban walk featuring architecture and history of downtown Oakland. Leisurely pace, but takes all afternoon, ending about 5:30 pm near 12th Street BART. Post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Bring:** Money for post-walk dinner in Oakland. **Meet:** 11 am at 10th Street and Fallon side of Oakland Museum next to statue of nursing bear (one block from Lake Merritt BART). Oakland Museum garage is not open late enough for return to it after dinner. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

July 3 • Sun

Presidio of San Francisco 2B hike. Many scenic trails and views and a little history along our way. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 10 am at Lombard Street Gate and Lyon Avenue. **Ends:** 4 pm. **Leader:** Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

July 9 • Sat

Point Bonita Lighthouse 3C hike. Hike to spectacular lighthouse and enjoy lunch overlooking the Golden Gate. Look for sea lions on the rocks that are sunning below the trail down to the lighthouse. Hike through the tunnel carved in pillow basalt rock and enjoy views from the rocky precipice that the lighthouse was constructed upon. Return by Rodeo Beach along the Coastal Trail for spectacular ocean views. Moderate pace, 13 miles or shorter option 10 miles. **Meet:** 9 am sharp at picnic tables near restrooms, Tennessee Valley (across from the horse stables). **Ends:** 4:30 pm. **Carpool:** Depart CVS Pharmacy, 2151 Meeker Ave, Richmond CA 94804 at 8:15 am sharp. Email leader first. **Leader:** Katy Christie, (510)277-5386 or kathyhike@gmail.com (preferred). (Hiking)

July 10 • Sun

Mount Tamalpais pancake 2A hike. Leisurely 8-mile hike from Rock Springs to the East Peak of Mount Tamalpais via West Point Inn, where we will stop and enjoy one of their famous pancake breakfasts. Fluffy pancakes, tasty sausage, and hot coffee are only \$10 (kids are \$5). Orange juice and cantaloupe are available for \$1 extra. Scenic views and live music included with your breakfast. Cash only. **Meet:** 10:30 am at Rock Springs Parking Area, Mount Tamalpais State Park. **Leader:** Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

July 10 • Sun - July 12 • Tue

North Fork of Big Pine Creek to view Palisades Glacier 2C1 backpack. At the head of Big Pine Creek soars the longest spine of 13-14,000-foot peaks in the lower 48 states: the legendary Palisades. At every turn the North Fork Trail reveals new perspectives on these splintery crests, all while touring past six inviting lakes. The largest glaciers in the Sierra gather in benches below the peaks, completing the setting for an alpine tableau unmatched in California. Individual commissary. **Cost:** \$35. **Leader:** Mike Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or mike.bandrowski@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

July 14 • Thu

Exploring the 'Wilderness Next Door'. This year marks the 100th birthday of the National Park Service. Yellowstone and Yosemite are known and loved by all, but how much do you know about our nearby national parks? Did you know that when you hike to the top of Mount Diablo, you're actually walking on a piece of the Marin Headlands? Or that Muir Woods' famous 'Kent Tree', dedicated to the man who saved the old growth redwood forest from being chopped down, is a Douglas fir and not a coast redwood? Come on an armchair tour of the Marin Headlands and Muir Woods to learn about the natural and cultural history of our local national parks. **Meet:** 1 pm at 1500 St. Marys Road, Moraga. **Ends:** 2:30 pm. **Leader:** Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities.

July 16 • Sat

Hidden Golden Gate Park 3A hike. A lengthy walk in seldom-seen parts of Golden Gate Park. Lunch stop is in Dutch Windmill garden at northwest corner of park. We take a leisurely pace, but the walk takes all day, returning to the start about 6 pm. **Bring:** Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Meet:** 9 am at entry to Botanical Garden (Strybing Arboretum) inside Park near Ninth Avenue and Lincoln. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Central Point Reyes 3C loop hike. Leisurely to moderately paced scenic day hike through varied terrain. Highlights include the top of Mount Wittenberg and Kelham Beach. Return to cars approximately 7 pm. If you wish to hike fast and get back early, this is not the hike for you. Mellow hikers welcomed. **Meet:** 9:30 am in front of Bear Valley Visitor Center. **Carpool:** Leader at Walnut Creek BART at 7:30 am. No-host carpool at Rockridge BART at 7:45 am. **Ends:** 7 pm. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov (preferred). (Hiking, Sierra Singles, and Mount Diablo Group)

Martinez Regional Shoreline sunset walk. Enjoy a leisurely stroll along scenic shoreline and marina. Optional stop after for dinner, sociability, and possible sightings of the busy beaver family in downtown Martinez. **Meet:** 5 pm in front of former Amtrak Station near Ferry Street railroad intersection. **Ends:** 6:30 pm. **Leader:** Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795 or lidiacampos@sbcglobal.net. (Delta Regional Group)

July 16 • Sat - July 18 • Mon

Yosemite Young Lakes 2BT backpack. Join us on this rejuvenating mid-summer outing to three pristine alpine lakes known as Young Lakes. On Saturday, we hike to the Lakes passing Dog Lake on the way, and set up camp for two consecutive nights. Sunday is reserved for either relaxing around the Lakes or hiking in nearby scenic areas. On Monday, we return via Tuolumne Meadows with a renewed sense of purpose and rejoin our cars off of Tioga Road. Apply for the trip by emailing Teri Shore. **Cost:** \$45 plus park entrance fee. Full refunds will be given up to 30 days before the trip. **Bring:** Individual commissary. Bear canisters required. **Leaders:** Ernie Castiaux, ecastiaux@hotmail.com; Teri Shore terishore@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

July 23 • Sat

Kelham Beach 3B hike. Enjoy a moderately paced 12-mile hike at Point Reyes. Begin with a vigorous climb up Mount Wittenberg; then take the Sky Trail, with vistas of the sea, down to Kelham beach. The hike ends with a leisurely walk up the shady Bear Valley Trail, and is followed by an optional dinner at Avatars' Punjabi Burrito in Fairfax. **Meet:** 10:30 am at the bulletin board in front of Bear Valley Visitor Center. **Leader:** Tom Hinshaw (402)770-0534 or Thomas.V.Hinshaw@gmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

July 24 • Sun - July 27 • Wed

Hidden Boothe Lake in Yosemite 2B2 backpack. Visit mostly unnoticed Boothe Lake, tucked away below more popular Vogelsang High Sierra Camp and thus providing a secluded home base to two exceptional day hike destinations you won't forget. One is the 150-foot granite fin jutting above Emeric Lake where the Fletcher and Emeric Creeks converge and rush over a smooth water-marked granite riverbed, forming a steep, 2,000-foot sliding-board! The other is the summit of Rafferty Peak with a nearly 360-degree view. **Bring:** Bear canisters and mosquito repellent required. **Cost:** \$45 includes wilderness permit and campsite on Saturday. **Leaders:** JP Torres, (415)269-5406 or jpinkflo@xecu.net; Adrienne Klein, (415)776-8682 or aksf@sbcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

July 29 • Fri - July 31 • Sun

Mokelumne Wilderness loop 2C2 backpack. Spend three days in the spectacular and lightly traveled Carson Pass Wilderness Area backpacking to high-altitude lakes and enjoying a variety of mountain scenery. **Cost:** \$35. Please include in your trip RSVP if you plan to camp the night before. **Leaders:** Kent Lewandowski, (510)759-6646 or kentlewan@gmail.com; Jack Bowers, (510)531-6440 or jakbowers@yahoo.com. (Backpacking)

July 30 • Sat

Bayshore at Point Isabel in El Cerrito 1A hike. Hourlong walk on flat and easy paved paths. Wheelchair accessible and perfect for seniors. Afterward, optional Chinese dinner at Pacific East Mall. **Bring:** Binoculars for shorebird sightings. **Meet:** 5 pm at small parking lot at the end of Rydin Road. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Up from the ashes 1A hike. Perkins Canyon was ground zero for the 2013 Morgan Fire that scorched 3,300 acres on Mount Diablo. Join us on an evening hike to discover how the natural landscape has changed since the inferno. Our 3-mile route takes us past an historic dam built by a cowboy from San Francisco who always rode wearing a stylish Fedora instead of a Stetson hat. We'll also see what remains of some old mercury diggings once mined by circus clown turned prospector, Doc Ryder Powell. **Meet:** 6 pm at the Perkins Canyon trailhead on Morgan Territory Road. Look for the large blue barn on the right. **Ends:** 8 pm. **Leaders:** Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com; Elizabeth Watson, sweettrails00@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Aug 3 • Wed - Aug 7 • Sun

Silliman Tablelands light and fast 5E2/3 backpack. For those superfit few with a lightweight travel ethic. Up to 25 miles and 5,000 feet of gain per day, with class 2/3 cross-country travel. Start and finish at Lodgepole, hiking across the Silliman Tablelands, Deadman Canyon, Lion Lake, Nine Lakes Basin, Moose Lake. Expect unparalleled beauty, fast hiking, and relaxing naps by lakes. See online description for full route. **Leaders:** Kevin Sawchuk, (925)362-1542 or ksawchuk@gmail.com; Brian Gunney, (925)667-5236 or brian@gunney.net. (Backpacking)

Aug 4 • Thu - Aug 9 • Tue

Pioneer Basin Backpack 2C2 backpack. Join us on a cross-county adventure into Pioneer Basin, where lofty peaks and pristine high alpine lakes beckon us to explore. Hike from McGee Creek on a moderate cross-country route over Hopkin's Pass. We'll spend a layover day exploring lovely Pioneer Basin, deep in the John Muir Wilderness. Fit backpackers only should contact Andy Westborn to apply. **Bring:** Individual commissary. **Cost:** \$45 includes car camping Wednesday night at East Fork Campground, wilderness permit, and a contribution for the Backpack Section. **Leaders:** Andy Westborn, 707-483-2083 or andywestborn@gmail.com; Inga Aksamit, (415)470-1812 or iaksamit@aol.com. (Backpacking)

Aug 6 • Sat

Oakland Hills stairways 2B hike. Walk through parkways and stairs in Oakland Hills. Much of the walk is in the area of the 1991 Oakland Hills Firestorm. Leisurely pace, but takes all day. Many stairs. Return to College Avenue not far from Rockridge BART about 4:30 pm for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Meet:** 10:30 am at Rockridge BART near base of escalators. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Aug 13 • Sat

Inner Sunset to Ocean Beach 2A hike. This is a moderately paced one-way hike passing lovely homes in Sea Cliff and the very scenic Coastal Trail. Any rain cancels. **Cost:** Muni return fare is \$2.25 or \$1 for seniors. **Meet:** 10 am at 9th and Irving Streets, Northeast corner. **Ends:** 4:30 pm. **Leader:** Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

Aug 20 • Sat

Butano State Park 3B day hike. Leisurely to moderately paced day hike through varied terrain (giant redwoods, pines, oak, and manzanita) in this lovely coastal park. **Cost:** \$10 parking fee. This is yellow jacket season; if you are allergic bring necessary medication. **Meet:** 10 am at Butano State Park entrance. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or slbakaley@lbl.gov. (Mount Diablo Group)

Stinson Beach to Mount Tamalpais 2C hike. Hike up Steep Ravine to Pantoll Station. We will return via Matt Davis Trail through a variety of terrains including dense woods along a creek. Weather permitting we will have magnificent views of the Pacific Ocean. Be prepared for a long, slow climb up the mountain. **Meet:** 10:30 am by the restrooms in the Stinson Beach Parking lot. **Leader:** Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

Alamere Falls and Bass Lake 2B hike. Scenic hike to a large waterfall on the beach. Nine miles round-trip. Leisurely pace. Post-hike dinner at local restaurant. **Bring:** Swimsuit and towel; money for post-hike dinner in Bolinas. **Meet:** 11 am at parking lot for Palomarin trailhead at end of Mesa Road near Bolinas in Point Reyes National Seashore. **Ends:** 5 pm. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

Aug 22 • Mon - Aug 26 • Fri

Car camping at Lassen National Park. Four nights of car camping at Lost Creek Group Camp, which offers over 150 miles of hiking trails for all levels of ability. Discover the devastation of Lassen Peak's last eruption on the accessible trail at the Devastated Area, and explore Lassen's largest hydrothermal area on the Bumpass Hell trail. Showers, swimming, fishing, and kayaking at Manzanita Lake, 5 miles away. Campers responsible with others for providing one evening meal (up to \$40) and for their own breakfasts, lunches, and happy hours. Campfire at night. **Cost:** \$50 plus food contribution. **Leader:** Enid C. Pollack, (415)505-0941 or enidcpollack@gmail.com. (Solo Sierrans)

Aug 28 • Sun - Sept 4 • Sun

South Lake to North Lake: a week in the High Sierra 3CT backpack. One of the Sierra's classic routes that should be on everyone's bucket list. On the way, we cross several high Sierra passes: Bishop Pass (11,972'), Muir Pass (11,955') and Piute Pass (11,423'), and spend several days on one of the best stretches of the JMT/PCT. Moderately strenuous trip with two layover days. We'll cover about 56 miles with several thousand feet of elevation change most days. Individual commissary. **Cost:** \$75 includes permit fees and Saturday campsite. **Leaders:** Roger Williams, (415)601-2079 or rogerw@ymail.com; Alice Chung, (415)203-4133 or syingchung@yahoo.com. (Backpacking)

Sept 3 • Sat - Sept 5 • Mon

Emigrant Wilderness 2AT family backpack. Join our compound by Piute Creek for Labor Day weekend. Spend your afternoons relaxing by the stream bank, watching your children go wild in cascading pools — or join them. Site is 7.5 miles in. Individual commissary. **Cost:** \$15 per person. **Leader:** Brian Gunney, (925)667-5236 or brian@gunney.net (email preferred). (Backpacking)

Sept 16 • Fri - Sept 18 • Sun

Emigrant Wilderness 3BT backpack. Enjoy fall colors in the Northern Sierra with its prolific lakes and creeks. **Cost:** \$40 includes car camping, wilderness permit, and a contribution to the Backpack Section. Individual commissary. Bear canisters required. **Leader:** Thomas Meissner, (707)795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

Sept 23 • Fri - Sept 25 • Sun

Trinity Alps Stuart Fork 2BT backpack. September is usually a beautiful time to enjoy the Trinity Alps. We will hike the long canyon of Stuart Fork to Emerald and Sapphire Lakes in the Trinity Alps. Our first day will take us about 8.5 miles to our base camp in Morris Meadows. 12 miles round trip on Day 2 to beautiful Emerald and Sapphire Lakes. Return on Day 3. Individual commissary. Bear canister required. Group limited to 8. RSVP. **Cost:** \$35. **Leader:** Mike Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or mike.bandrowski@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities.



Learn Wilderness First Aid with the Sierra Club — Next class the weekend of July 23-24

Saturday, July 23 to Sunday, July 24, 8:30 am to 5 pm, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

Come to an all-day class in Wilderness First Aid (WFA) sponsored by the Bay Chapter Activities Committee. The class satisfies first-aid requirements for most outing leaders (confirm requirements with your section/group officers). Students have two options:

- One-day class on Saturday and receive the Basic WFA certification of the American Safety & Health Institute—\$50 for members/\$60 for non-members; or
- Two-day class (Saturday and Sunday) for an additional \$30/\$40, and receive ASHI's higher-level WFA certification.

If you already have the current WEC textbook (200 pages) and show it at the registration table, deduct \$15.

Basic Wilderness First Aid (one-day class) is a practical, eight-hour course that prepares you to recognize and avoid wilderness hazards,

and do first aid outdoors with whatever equipment you have or can improvise. Wilderness First Aid (in eight more hours) adds more advanced skills and role-playing scenarios.

Registration

If you are a current Bay Chapter outing leader, register by the Tuesday before the class; call (510)848-0800 or email wfa@sfbaysc.org.

Then mail a \$30 deposit check (payable to "Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter") to:

Sierra Club
Attn: Wilderness First Aid
2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite I
Berkeley, CA 94702.

This check will be returned in class, but will be cashed if you don't show up. Include your mailing address, email, phone number, and which section you lead for. Indicate if you are also attending the Sunday class; you will pay the \$30 fee for the second day in class. If

you are a leader candidate or trainee, you must follow the non-leader procedure and cost for registering, as spelled out below.

If you are not a current Chapter outing leader, register with the instructor at:

Steve Donelan
donelan@speakeasy.net
P.O. Box 1227
Berkeley, CA 94701.

Indicate if you are attending the Sunday class. Include your membership number. Be prepared to pay the fee in class.

People who have taken Steve Donelan's one-day class in the last year can sign up for the second day only, for \$30/\$40. Those who have taken Steve's two-day class can repeat the second day for free. Pre-register with Steve at the email address listed above.



Hikers above Clair Tappaan Lodge, site of the Wilderness Outdoor Weekend, June 10-12

Outdoor adventure weekend at Clair Tappaan June 10 - 12, Clair Tappaan Lodge

Experience the magic of nature at *Sierra* magazine's annual Wilderness Outdoor Weekend, hosted at the Sierra Club's flagship Clair Tappaan Lodge, located near Lake Tahoe close to the Pacific Crest Trail.

Your whole family will enjoy guided hikes, rock climbing, stand-up paddleboard and kayak clinics, yoga, a trail-service project, speaker engagements, and gear demos from our partners. Guests will also enjoy live music, delicious food, and giveaways.

Guests are able to check in Friday night or come for the day on Saturday and/or Sunday to enjoy outdoor activities for enthusiasts of all ages and sports ability. Book your weekend today at www.sierramagazine.org/wow.

The Clair Tappaan Lodge is offering special overnight package rates for the weekend. Spaces are filling up quickly, so reserve your lodging today by calling (530)426-3632 or online at www.clairtappaanlodge.com.

Sierra Club Oakland Tree Team seeks a volunteer grant writer

Each Saturday from November through June, volunteers for the Sierra Club's Tree Team plant and prune trees in Oakland neighborhoods with low tree cover. This year, we're on track to plant a record number of trees. We planted 125 in April alone — a one-month record! Our goal is to plant 1,500 in the next three years.

To make this work possible, the Tree Team is looking for a volunteer grant writer to assist in identifying appropriate foundations and funders, and then helping to draft grant applications, with support from the advisory team. If you have grant-writing or fundraising experience, please email SCTreePlanting@gmail.com for more information.

The Tree Team also needs volunteers to plant new trees and prune existing trees. Volunteers meet Saturday mornings, 9 am to 1 pm through June. To learn more about volunteering, or to request a tree, visit www.treesforoaklandflatlands.org.

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REFLECTIONS IN WATER Selections by the California Art Club



There is a universal fascination with water. Vital to life and one of Earth's four classical elements, water beckons us whenever we feel the need to escape from our daily lives and the unending stream of digital distractions. Being close to a body of water and embracing its healing and rejuvenating properties evokes a sense of calmness, clarity and creativity. So it should not be surprising that the water that covers more than 70 percent of our world is a continual source of inspiration to artists. In this exhibition, California Art Club artists share the serenity they have found by the water's edge as they reconnect with nature, recharge the spirit and reflect upon life's many wonders.

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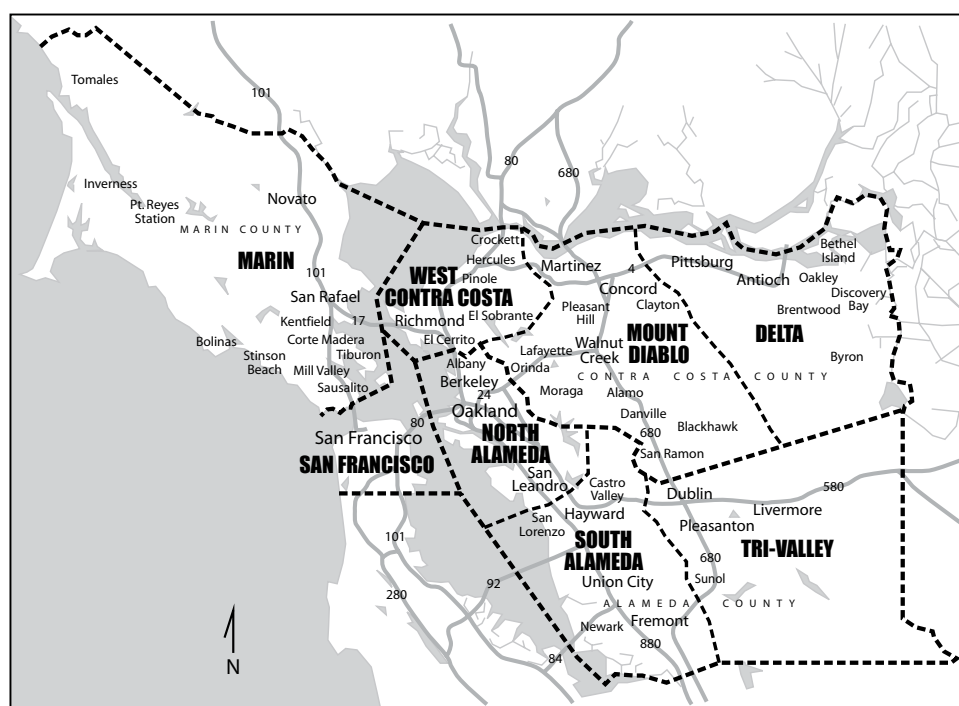


Groups

What is a group?

Because Sierra Club chapters cover so much territory, they form local sub-units called “groups” (or sometimes “regional groups”). The San Francisco Bay Chapter is divided into eight groups. Groups address environmental issues that fall within their boundaries. They may also sponsor outings and other activities. These events are open to everyone; you don’t need to be a group member to participate.

Visit www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/local-groups to learn more about Bay Chapter groups and find out how you can get involved in your group.



Mount Diablo Group — “Exploring Ireland through pictures and song”

Wednesday, July 20, 7 pm, Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek.

Saint Patrick’s Day is long past, but join us at our July meeting to experience the cultural and natural history of the Emerald Isle. Our guide is naturalist and closet leprechaun, Marisa Nordstrom.

Marisa won a grant to backpack in Ireland during the summer of 2014. It was her dream to study traditional Irish singing, called *sean-nós*, and to backpack in the three southwestern peninsulas of Ireland. Marisa studied *sean-nós* and the Irish language for two weeks at the Blas Summer Camp at the University of Limerick, and backpacked throughout the Beara, Dingle, and Kerry Peninsulas. She was

fortunate enough to visit Skellig Michael and see Puffins with their babies. Her presentation will include pictures, songs, and more.

Marisa Nordstrom is a singer, dancer, writer, storyteller, and environmental educator at the Point Bonita YMCA in the Marin Headlands. She studied English literature and politics at Stanford, and received her MA in Performance Studies at Northwestern University. Marisa has lived and worked in India, Canada, Mexico, Italy, Australia, France, and Ecuador.

This program is free and open to all. No reservations are necessary. If you have questions about this program, email Ken Lavin at ken_lavin@hotmail.com or phone him at (925)852-8778.



The Cliffs of Moher in Ireland. Photo by Marisa Nordstrom, who will present at the July Mount Diablo Group meeting.



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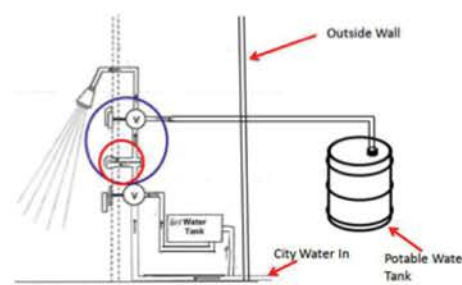
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Take a healing walk along the refinery corridor

You're invited to join Idle No More SF Bay and other frontline activists for a series of healing walks along the refinery corridor of the northeast San Francisco Bay this spring and summer.

Inspired by Native American tradition, the healing walks are intended to bring attention to the health risks and dangers posed by refineries and oil trains that deliver toxic and explosive crude.

Members of Idle No More SF Bay conduct prayers at each refinery and toxic site along the way. Prayers for the waters are conducted by Native American women at the beginning and end of each walk.

Front-line indigenous activists help participants understand the journey of oil from the extraction sites such as the tar sands in Alberta, Canada, and the Bakken oil fields in North Dakota, to our own refineries here in the San Francisco Bay Area

Join us for two upcoming walks:

- Saturday, June 11: Benicia to Rodeo
- Sunday, July 17: Rodeo to Richmond

Learn more at www.refineryhealingwalks.com.

A cap on refinery emissions can keep tar sands and fracked oil out of the Bay Area

Back in 2012, the Bay Area's air regulators determined that changes in the types of crude oil being brought in by local refineries would lead to an increase in emissions. Since the Air District's own research had found that levels of toxic air pollution were already "unacceptably harmful to public health," they resolved to pass a regulation preventing increases in refinery-wide emissions. Four years later, we've seen a lot of delays and excuses, but still no rule to keep emission levels from rising.

What the Air District foresaw back in 2012 has now come to pass. From 2012 to 2015, Bay Area refineries have requested permits for at least ten infrastructure projects that would allow them to bring in and refine dirtier and more dangerous grades of crude oil like Canadian tar sands and fracked Bakken shale oil. And to our dismay, the Air District has proceeded to rubber-stamp these refinery proposals with little or no public input.

A rule capping refinery emissions including particulate matter and greenhouse gases would effectively keep out these dirtier and more dangerous oils. It would protect Bay Area families from pollutants that cause asthma, cancer, and heart disease, and protect the global climate from the most carbon-intensive types of crude oil.

Unfortunately, the Air District staff has again and again delayed the introduction of a rule capping refinery emissions (also known as Rule 12-16). Any further delays could push introduction of this rule into 2017, when



At a recent community forum in Richmond, Sierra Club organizer Ratha Lai explained why we need refinery emission caps to protect public health and the climate.

a turnover in board members could make adoption of a strong rule much more difficult.

We're asking the Air District board to do three things:

1. Direct the Air District staff to prepare a rule adoption package for Rule 12-16 that will allow the board to consider adopting refinery emission caps no later than August 20, 2016.
2. Ensure that Rule 12-16 includes specific, enforceable, numeric emission limits on each refiner's facility-wide emissions, based on actual current emissions.
3. Hold the adoption hearing in a Bay Area refinery community on a weekday evening so that the communities most impacted by refinery emissions are able to attend.

If you've had enough polluted air for one lifetime, tell the Air District board. You can send a message online at <http://tinyurl.com/enoughpollution>. To get involved in this campaign, contact organizer Ratha Lai at (510)848-0800 or ratha.lai@sierraclub.org.



Andrés Soto of Communities for a Better Environment led a break-out session on institutional advocacy at the recent Richmond community forum on refinery regulations.

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The Bay Area is “Ready for 100”

Continued from page 1

Richmond’s Chevron refinery and the proposal to export coal through Oakland). Both cities also have Bay shorelines threatened by sea-level rise.

For Richmond and Oakland, as for San Francisco, being part of a Community Choice local clean-energy program will be an important part of getting to 100. Richmond already gets its power from Marin Clean Energy, which offers customers the option of 52 percent (the base “Light Green” option) or 100 percent (“Dark Green”) clean energy. As the cost of clean energy continues its downward trajectory and more renewable resources are developed locally, the percentage of clean energy in MCE’s “Light Green” option will rise, and more customers will migrate to the Dark Green option. Oakland, meanwhile, is likely to join the Alameda County Community Choice energy program now in development and projected to launch in early 2017.

The transition to a clean-energy economy will help Bay Area communities now, not just down the line. A recent economic study estimated that a transition to clean energy will add 1 million jobs in the U.S. by 2030 and increase household disposable income by \$350-\$400 in 2030 and by as much as \$650 in 2050 (source: <http://next-genamerica.org/blog/our-clean-energy-economy>). San Francisco’s CleanPowerSF program, for example, is projected to create 8,100 construction jobs by build-

ing \$2.4 billion worth of proposed solar, wind and geothermal projects.

As Richmond works to develop a Climate Action Plan and Oakland re-opens its own for updates, now is the time for these Bay cities to show their climate leadership and commit to 100 percent clean energy. Making this commitment will help create a safer, healthier world for future generations, as well as supporting our local economies.

We need your support to convince Bay Area cities to take the “Ready for 100” challenge. The first thing you can do is send a message to your mayor that you’re ready for 100 percent clean and renewable energy. Head to <http://tinyurl.com/imreadyfor100> to take that action today!

To get involved in the “Ready for 100” campaigns in Oakland and Richmond, email conservation organizer Nathan Duran at nathan.duran@sierraclub.org.



Activists at the 2015 Paris Climate conference made a full-body appeal for 100 percent renewable power. Credit: Yann Arthus-Bertrand / Spectral Q.

Who is “Ready for 100”?

At www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100, individual Americans tell their stories and explain why they are calling for 100 percent clean energy. Explore their stories, and add your own!

We Are Ready for 100% Clean Energy



“I’m taking action because of the identities I hold as a young, queer, Iranian-American person. I believe that it is my responsibility, both to myself and to the people I love, to take action for just, equitable climate solutions.”

Kian Martin

Lincoln High School (class of 2016)

Kian, a high school student in San Jose, California, is a leader on campus working with Seize the Grid to get his school to install solar panels and mentoring other high school students on how to organize for clean energy solutions.



ADD YOUR IMAGE TO THE #READYFOR100 PHOTO PETITION

100 percent clean energy for all — and that means you! If we’re going to reach our goal of getting 100 cities to commit to transitioning to 100 percent clean energy, then we’re going to need 100 percent participation from activists like you. Let’s show our local leaders just how widespread and beautiful the movement for clean energy really is. #Ready? Smile!

There are a few ways to add your photo. You can submit it via the #ReadyFor100 Tumblr at <http://readyfor100.tumblr.com>, or simply use the #ReadyFor100 hashtag when uploading your photo to Twitter or Instagram!

Your photos will be used in our campaign to demonstrate support for a transition to 100 percent clean energy.

Check out the current submissions below and submit a #ReadyFor100 photo to add your voice for 100 percent clean energy!



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Double trouble: County transportation plans take credit for State GHG reductions

Every resident of Planet Earth has a stake in making sure that greenhouse gas emissions go down. In the Bay Area, cars and light-duty trucks are the biggest generators of climate-warming emissions. That's why it's so critical that the local planning processes tasked with reducing car and truck miles are doing their job. Unfortunately, the plans for Alameda and Contra Costa are going in exactly the wrong direction.

The Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) are preparing a Regional Transportation Plan for adoption next year. The Plan will have a Sustainable Communities Strategy as required by SB 375, the California Sustainable Communities and Climate Protection Act of 2008. The purpose of the Sustainable Communities Strategy is to reduce the driving of cars and light-duty trucks to cut greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. The California Air Resources Board has set a standard for the Bay Area to meet in terms of reduced GHGs from driving—a 15 percent reduction from 2005 levels by 2035.

While ABAG and MTC are working on the new 2017 Regional Transportation Plan, both the Alameda and Contra County transportation planning agencies are preparing long-term transportation plans that will be significant components of the regional plan. An important issue is whether the county plans help cut GHGs to the 2035 required level. Unfortunately, a review of materials released to the public indicates that neither plan will cut

driving to the extent required and, therefore, will not cut GHGs to the extent required.

Alameda County has a \$9-billion long-range plan adopted in 2012, plus a \$7-billion transportation sales tax expenditure plan approved by voters in 2014. Based on information the Alameda County Transportation Commission (ACTC) has provided to the Sierra Club, these two plans, when combined, may result in a 19 percent increase of GHGs per capita from cars and light trucks between 2005 and 2035. That is a long way from a reduction of 15 percent.

A draft of Alameda County's 2016 long-range transportation plan was recently released. ACTC is not following CEQA and will not prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Also, ACTC reports in the draft plan that while GHGs from transportation will go down due to cleaner vehicle and fuel technologies, there will be a gain in GHGs between 2010 and 2040 due to growth in driving. Unlike the 2012 plan, the 2016 draft does not provide figures showing either changes to vehicle miles traveled per capita or GHGs per capita—another reason an EIR would help both the public and the ACTC governing board better understand what to expect from the plan.

Contra Costa County has a \$9-billion long-range plan adopted in 2009. When the plan was adopted, vehicle miles traveled per capita were expected to increase by about 22 percent through 2030. The plan notes that "Vehicle miles traveled are closely correlated with increased levels of GHGs."

With the 2009 long-range plan as a base,

the Contra Costa Transportation Authority (CCTA) is now developing a \$2-billion sales tax expenditure plan headed for the November ballot. A "Performance and Equity Evaluation" of the draft tax expenditure plan, released in March, has a section on air-quality impacts and climate protection, which states that "passenger vehicle daily CO₂ emissions per capita are not expected to change substantially between 2013 and 2040..." Like ACTC, CCTA is not preparing an EIR for review by the public and CCTA governing board as it develops its 2016 tax expenditure plan.

CCTA also reports on reduced GHGs due to better car technology and fuel formulas, but, as is the case with ACTC, county agencies are not supposed to be taking credit for advances the California Air Resources Board is making in those areas. What they should be doing is reducing vehicle miles traveled per capita. Both regional agencies — ABAG and MTC — have indicated they understand

that their mission is to reduce driving to cut GHGs per capita and not to take credit for the State's work. *Planbayarea.org* (the web site for the 2013 and 2017 Regional Transportation Plans) states this clearly, calling the practice "double counting."

The general public doesn't closely follow county transportation plans. But as climate-change impacts become more evident, more people are paying attention to the dangers of GHG emissions. If people can be made aware of the connection between routine government-agency planning processes and the emissions that cause global warming, perhaps there will be more public outcry when these plans fall short.

We all have a responsibility to hold our governments accountable when they act against the public interest. We should all be asking why these two county agencies have not met their obligations to reduce GHG emissions.

Matt Williams, chair of the Transportation and Compact Growth Committee

Volunteer at Sierra Club backcountry huts

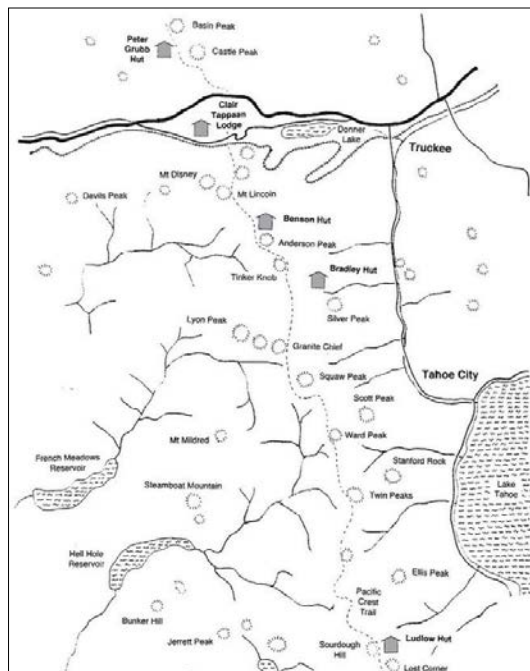
The Sierra Club owns and operates four backcountry huts for skiers and snowshoers in the Donner Summit/Lake Tahoe area. Maintenance is done by volunteers on weekends. The first volunteer opportunities begin as the snow melts: cutting firewood that will be stacked in the cabins before the following winter. The Club provides tools and supplies; all you need to bring is gear for an overnight backpack, clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and a healthy attitude toward manual labor.

If you are interested, contact leaders for the following dates:

- Ludlow Hut, June 11-12: Jason McLachlan, propwash876@gmail.com
- Grubb Hut, June 18-19: Dick Simpson, hut.coord@yahoo.com
- Benson Hut, June 25-26: Jim Gannon, jgannon99@sbcglobal.net
- Grub Hut, July 9-10: Dick Simpson, hut.coord@yahoo.com

The July weekend is a backup in case there's still too much snow in June. For

more information, visit <http://clairtappaan-lodge.com/backcountry-huts>.



Map of the Sierra Club's backcountry huts.

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Urban Water Management Plans: what are they and why do they matter?

A thin sheen of water in its various forms — snowpack, rivers, aquifers, estuaries, wetlands — feeds all life forms in naturally dry California. This tenuous system is stretched to the breaking point as we divert from the environment approximately half of the entire supply for human activities. Groundwater levels are at record lows, the SF Bay-Delta is becoming increasingly saline, and Delta smelt and winter-run Chinook salmon are close to extinction. To reverse these trends and prepare for climate-change impacts we must reduce water diversions even as the state's population increases. Urban Water Management Plans (UWMPs) represent a potentially useful tool for monitoring and better managing available water resources.

A "Potentially useful" planning tool

The greatest human consumer of California water resources is agriculture, which represents approximately 80 percent of human use. The remaining human uses of water in homes, schools, hospitals, businesses and industries are gathered under the label of "urban use."

Water suppliers for the urban-use sector have evolved since the 1800s into a dizzying patchwork of agencies that include private and public, wholesalers, retailers, special districts, city water departments, county water agencies, groundwater districts, and more. In 1983 state legislation called the Urban Water Management Planning Act was passed to encourage a higher standard of planning at these agencies. It required agencies to submit plans to the California Department of Water Resources (DWR) at regular five-year intervals, reporting on the forecasted future water demand in their service area and detailing how water would be provided over the next twenty years to serve future growth, including under varying drought scenarios.

Two additional pieces of legislation were adopted in 2003. The "Show Me the Water" bills (SB 610 and SB 221) were intended to coordinate water supplies and local land-use decisions by requiring water agencies to prepare written water assessments and assurances that they would be able to supply water to new residential developments of 500 units or more.

Thus Urban Water Management Plans, working in tandem with SB 610 and SB 221, form the basis for important development and growth decisions. They are potentially helpful tools for preventing unsustainable growth. But that requires vigilance to make sure that the plans present a realistic picture.

Risks of UWMPs

At their worst, Urban Water Management Plans start with overinflated assumptions about population growth or a projected quick rebound in per-capita water use to pre-drought levels (which history has shown is not what typically happens; after drought restrictions

are lifted water use rises slowly). These faulty assumptions result in high demand projections that create a perceived need for additional water imports and expensive new infrastructure.

demand levels and identifying local backup supplies. New development, if permitted at all, would have to be designed to be water neutral or provide offsets. An offset could involve, for

example, paying for the swapping out elsewhere of old, inefficient toilets, or rerouting of graywater from showers and laundry to replace potable water used in outdoor irrigation at existing homes.

The UWM planning process should have been able to prevent the near disaster that occurred last year involving Mountain House, a planned community of 11,000 homes near Tracy in San Joaquin County. The unincorporated community came close to running out of water when

its sole supplier's Delta water rights were terminated due to California's historic drought. This and many other examples up and down the state illuminate the need to further tighten water planning statutes and requirements when new growth is proposed.

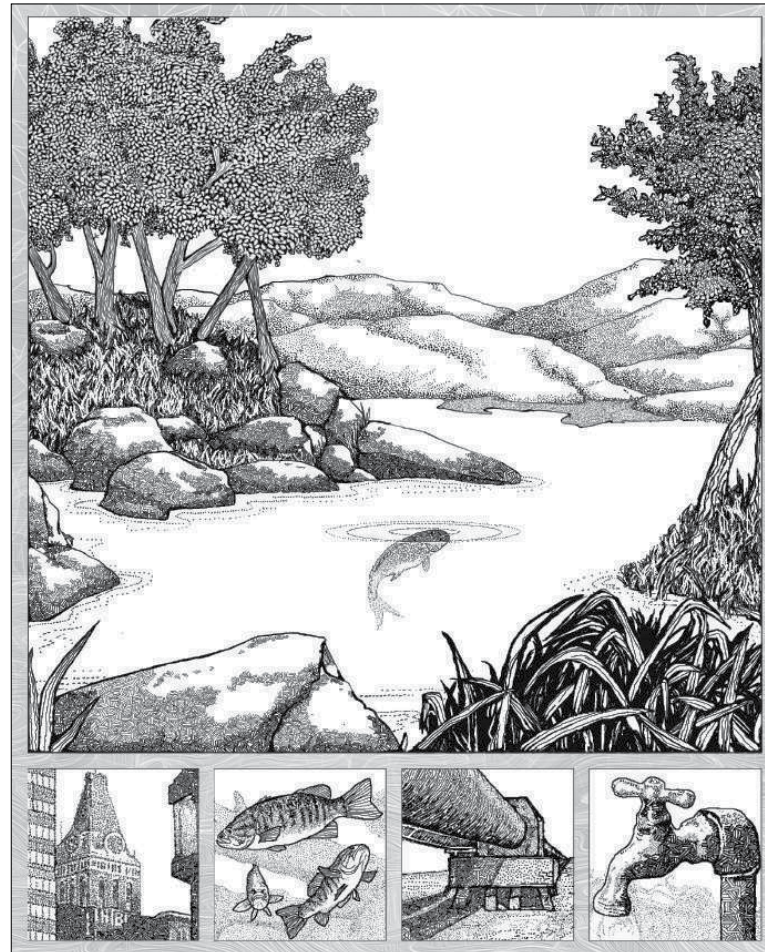
Get involved

Water suppliers across the state are finalizing and approving their 2015 Urban Water Management Plan updates for submission to the state by July 1, 2016. The draft documents can generally be accessed on agency websites and are open to public comment for some period of time prior to final adoption. For more information about what the state requires in UWMPs, visit <http://tinyurl.com/uwmpinfo>.

A link to EBMUD's Draft 2015 UWMP is online at <http://tinyurl.com/ebmuddraftuwmp>. SFPUC's Draft 2015 UWMP can be found at <http://tinyurl.com/sfpucdraftuwmp>.

UWMP updates are one area where the public can get directly involved in shaping local policy that has an impact on how we allocate scarce water resources for human uses and what we leave for the environment. If you're interested in getting involved in this or other local and state water-resource policy issues, consider attending a meeting of the Bay Chapter's Water Committee. The Committee meets the third Monday of each month — in person at the Bay Chapter's Berkeley office in odd-numbered months; and via conference call in even months. For more information, you can reach out to Water Committee co-chair Sonia Diermayer at sodier@mindspring.com or (510)336-1102.

Sonia Diermayer for the Bay Chapter Water Committee



Illustrations from the 2015 East Bay Municipal Utility District's Urban Water Management Plan.

Projections for water availability can be equally flawed. Those districts obtaining water from the State Water Project — which collects water from rivers in Northern California and redistributes it south — currently rely on a Delivery Capability Report that is still based on pre-2003 data, thereby promising unrealistically high amounts of water to its contract agencies. Overly optimistic supply projections lead to agencies routinely rubber-stamping unsustainable development projects.

Los Angeles' 2010 UWMP plan, for example, overestimated average annual deliveries from the State Water Project to Southern California's water wholesaler, the Metropolitan Water District, for the most recent ten years by a factor of two, and overestimated the minimum amount of water it would receive in a critically dry year by a factor of three.

Opportunities from UWMPs

At best, UWMPs can provide a clear advance warning that some agencies might not be able to meet demand during a protracted drought. That can force leadership to strategize ways to immediately start reducing

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Sierra Club and allies help shape a clean-energy program for the East Bay

Planning is underway for a Community Choice Aggregation (CCA) clean-energy program for Alameda County. The East Bay Clean Power Alliance, of which the Bay Chapter is a member, has been closely following this process to ensure that Alameda County's program emphasizes community participation, development of local renewable resources, and the creation of local clean-energy jobs.

On May 4th, the Steering Committee for the development of Alameda County's CCA met to discuss two meaty items: draft results of the CCA feasibility study, and a draft Joint Powers Authority (JPA) agreement.

CCA Feasibility Study

The County's technical consultants, MRW & Associates, presented the overall electricity load of the County — assuming all eligible cities are participating — and presented three scenarios the program's energy portfolio could move forward on.

1. Minimum Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) compliance: 33% to 50% qualifying renewables;
2. More aggressive: Initially 50% RPS with lower greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions; and
3. Very low GHG emissions: 50% to 80% by year five.

The analysis then projected the program's rate and how competitive it was in comparison to Pacific Gas & Electric (PG&E). For Scenarios 1 and 2, the CCA's rates were, on average, 5% less than PG&E's; but, for

Scenario 3, the rates were closer to PG&E's rates. The analysis then provided different energy portfolios for the above scenarios with different levels of non-renewable, hydro, and renewable sources.

For a comprehensive view, the study then provided a rate projection of all three scenarios in comparison to PG&E, depending on real-life possible situations that may occur over the years, such as high natural-gas prices, a high Power Charge Indifference Adjustment fee (or PCIA, and also known as "exit fees," levied on customers who leave PG&E for a CCA), and the relicensing of the nuclear power plant in Diablo Canyon.

Outside of the program's energy portfolio, the study also presented the macroeconomic implications of each scenario (spurring local economic development and jobs), the administration and development of energy-efficiency programs, and the capacity for building local renewable resources; the study estimated that up to 10% of the program's renewable supply could come from local resources by 2030.

JPA Agreement

The Joint Power Authority agreement is the legal document that will officially form the agency that will run Alameda County's CCA program. At the May 4th meeting there was a general overview by County counsel of the draft JPA agreement, with much of the discussion focusing on the voting procedures of the JPA board. In sum, all matters, except as expressly required, need a simple majority of all Board



The Sierra Club's allies at the East Bay Clean Power Alliance carry signs at the May 5th meeting of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors reading, "Community Choice should represent the diversity of the East Bay!" Photo courtesy of the Local Clean Energy Alliance.

members. However, two or more Board members may request a "voting shares" vote, which is a weighted vote that is calculated through a formula of a city's annual electricity usage.

There was also major support for spelling out the community goals in the JPA agreement. As the program's founding document, it is critical that desired values, goals, and priorities are enshrined in it, including: community representation, aggressive greenhouse gas reductions, local jobs and renewables development, and more.

The Alameda County Steering Committee meets every first Wednesday of the month in the Castro Valley Library. County staff is expected to return with the results of the feasibility study and JPA agreement in June to show any feedback that was integrated in the drafts and continue the discussion to finalize the documents.

You can view a presentation of the CCA status update online at <http://tinyurl.com/ccamarchupdate>, and the draft JPA at <http://tinyurl.com/draftjpa>.

Luis Amezcua

SF's long-awaited renewable-energy program launches with strong enrollment, low rates

On May 1st, following years of advocacy and planning, CleanPowerSF officially launched as the default energy provider for San Francisco. This is a major milestone in the ongoing campaign to power San Francisco with 100 percent clean and renewable energy — and it is only possible because of the thousands of San Francisco residents who wrote letters, made calls, and showed up at events to support CleanPowerSF over the past decade. Thank you to everyone who took action to make CleanPowerSF a reality. *Your* hard work has contributed to a big step forward on the path to a 100 percent clean-energy future!

Enroll by August 1st

San Francisco residents and businesses will be enrolled in CleanPowerSF in phases, neighborhood by neighborhood, with businesses in parts of Districts 5 and 8 up next — *but you don't have to wait!* Pre-enroll at www.cleanpowersf.org before August 1st and you'll be part of the next wave of CleanPowerSF customers this November.

City seeing strong enrollment

The rollout of CleanPowerSF is going even better than expected. When Marin Clean Energy launched in 2012, around 20 percent of potential customers opted to stay with PG&E. So far in San Francisco, less than 1 percent of customers have opted out of CleanPowerSF. The rollout of CleanPowerSF to all San Francisco customers should take about five years, so don't wait until your neighborhood is automatically phased in — enroll yourself today at www.cleanpowersf.org.

Go 100% clean with SuperGreen

You can sign up for the default Green program (cleaner and cheaper than what you were getting under PG&E), or better yet, you can opt up to SuperGreen, the 100 percent clean energy choice. For the average residential customer, SuperGreen will cost just \$6 more a month: a low price to pay to slash your carbon footprint. Either way, sign up today at www.cleanpowersf.org!

Read more about San Francisco's path to 100 percent clean energy in the cover story, "Bay Area cities can lead the way to 100% clean energy."



Energy from the Montezuma Hills Wind Resource Area — located in the rolling green hills of southern Solano County, deep in the Delta — will supply CleanPowerSF with a portion of its energy supply. Photo courtesy Greg McQuaig via Flickr Creative Commons, Flickr.com/photos/gmcquaig.

Greener pastures: East Bay Park District should update grazing policy to protect public lands

Nearly two thirds of the 120,000 acres of parkland in the East Bay Regional Park District (EBRPD) are leased to cattle-grazing interests, under the oversight of park managers. Grazing policies have an important impact on plant habitat, riparian areas, the preservation of native species, and sediment runoff into San Francisco Bay. Unfortunately, current grazing policies aren't adequately protecting our public resources.

Starting in the late 1980s, environmentalists fought to protect grassland and mixed woodlands from the impacts of overgrazing. After years of discussion, a détente was reached among EBRPD, academics, and environmentalists who all agreed to work together on a compromise plan. EBRPD staff and an eight-member Range Management Technical Advisory Committee that included ranchers, academics, park staff, and environmentalists released the "Wildland Management Policies and Guidelines" policy statement in 1992. The document was redrafted in 2001 "to better protect riparian areas, to improve monitoring and restoration activities, to improve conditions for park users, to encourage alternative management techniques, and to

improve public understanding about grassland management."

In the 15 years since, drought conditions have prevailed in Northern California and are ongoing, without historical precedent in terms of duration and intensity. With ecosystems subject to severe stress, environmental stakeholders must join together again to reconfigure grazing policies and practices to face the new epoch of climate extremes. The science of range management has progressed and changed, with a better understanding of interdependencies, a growing acceptance of the use of fire as a management tool, and better economic models for managing open-space preserves.

Grazing licenses set forth management policies for each grazing contractor, and are revised annually. Their objective is to leave enough dry vegetation on the ground to protect the pasture from loss of topsoil, prevent sediment runoff, and retain moisture. Each contract specifies a minimum amount of vegetation, the mass of Residual Dry Matter (RDM) in the pasture at the end of the dry season in early fall. The requirement is greater than 1,000 pounds per acre (10.41 grams per

square foot), usually between 6 and 8 inches of standing grass.

Traditional grazing practices such as high-herd densities and year-round intensive foraging are not adapted to intense drought conditions, as shown by widespread shortfalls in Residual Dry Matter measurements. This indicates that grazing management has failed to keep pace with environmental changes and evolving science. Traditional practices have stripped vegetation, terraced steep hillsides, and trampled riparian habitats. In some areas of the EBRPD you can see evidence of cattle damaging wetlands, encroaching on busy trails, and stripping grasslands to less than six inches of dry grass. Overgrazing of grassland creates a bare appearance, like a golf course without the putting greens, interspersed with patches of dense, prickly non-native thistle. Practices that cause such degradation of our public parkland must change.

Maintaining adequate forage cover lessens erosion, increases soil permeability to store moisture, and reduces evaporation losses.



Sedimentation runoff due to overgrazing. Photo courtesy William Yragui.

Grasslands found throughout the East Bay Regional Park District must be managed as public landscapes to serve diverse stakeholders, including threatened native species. The environmental community should have several seats at the table as the EBRPD Wildland Management Policies and Guidelines are redrafted.

William Yragui

Letter to the Editor:

March 30, 2016

I just received my April-May Yodeler and saw "A note to our members" on page 2. I had not previously seen the insert [on vegetation management in the East Bay hills] in the last Yodeler.

I'm so grateful for getting the link to www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/hillsfacts. What was written was SO clarifying and reasonable. I admit that I was thrown for a loop when I received Mary McAllister's mailing. She seemed to be making some sense but I was confused because I wondered: How could the Bay Chapter support an approach that was as negative and destructive as Ms. McAllister was portraying?

After reading everything on the website and links, I'm MUCH relieved. And I want to thank the chapter leadership for its comprehensive and thoughtful work on this issue.

Sincerely,

Paula Silver

Bay Chapter member — and someone who lost her home in the 1991 East Bay hills fire



Visit www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/hillsfacts to watch a new video from the Sierra Club and the Claremont Canyon Conservancy on vegetation management for fire safety in the East Bay hills. The video was created by Corinne Weber and Marc Boublil, with coordination by Norman La Force, production help by Jim Hanson, and logistical support from Janis Bankoff.



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When drafting your will, please consider a bequest to the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Contact Melanie Jolly at (510)848-0800, ext. 302, or melanie@sfbaysc.org.

Employment

The Bay Chapter seeks a **Membership Outreach Representative**. Responsibilities include contacting members during evening phone banks to educate them on our issues, raise money, and identify volunteers. Must have excellent communication skills, interest in fundraising, and passion for environmental issues. For more information, contact melanie.jolly@sierraclub.org.

Send us your #SierraSnapshots!

On an April hike in the Calistoga Palisades led by Sierra Club outings leader Bob Solotar, Alejandro Leon spotted these tent caterpillars weaving a silky nest. Thanks for sharing your find, Alex!

What surprising, stunning, or just plain beautiful sights have caught your eye lately? Share your favorite photos from your outdoor adventures and your work could be featured in the Yodeler!

How to send us your photos:

You can tag the photo #SierraSnapshots when you upload it to Twitter, Facebook, or Instagram, or email it to us at yodedit@sfbaysc.org. Be sure it's a high-resolution file and include the photographer's name, names of the people in the photo, where and when it was taken, what's happening, and how long you've been a Sierra Club member.



Photo by Alejandro Leon.

Secret Contra Costa Water District 'Twin Tunnels' deal sells Delta short

Recently, a backroom deal was made between Contra Costa Water District (CCWD) and the State Department of Water Resources that sells short CCWD customers as well as Delta fish and farmers.

The story began when CCWD opposed a petition by the State to divert more fresh water from the Sacramento River around the Delta as part of the controversial twin tunnels, or "WaterFix," project. CCWD was against the proposal because it would negatively impact water quality throughout the Delta, including sites where it draws water for its customers.

On March 24th, in a closed-session meeting that wasn't announced ahead of time, the CCWD's Board of Directors approved an agreement with the Department of Water Resources to get upstream water from the State to offset the impact of the proposed twin tunnels — in exchange for CCWD dropping its opposition to the diversion petition.

CCWD operates under the State's Ralph M. Brown Act, which requires that local agencies conduct their business in open meetings "... to facilitate public participation in local government decisions and to curb misuse of the democratic process by secret legislation..." In violation of the spirit, if not the letter, of the Brown Act, there was no release of a public agenda nor announcement of the closed session. The board didn't even report on the substance of the agreement in open session at the public meeting during which the closed session was held. A subsequent news release just said that the Board of Directors would review details of the agreement at the April 6th board meeting.

On April 2th, *East Bay Times* reporter Denis Cuff broke the story in an article titled "East Bay Water District's Delta Deal raises eyebrows among environmentalists." At the April 6th board meeting, details of the agreement were at last revealed to the public, but there was no opportunity for input into the decision since action had already been taken.

CCWD's decision to enter the agreement was extremely disappointing and a significant departure from past policy. The board's action

runs contrary to interests of its constituents as well as the Delta environment. By obtaining more higher-quality water upstream of the Delta, less fresh water will run into and through the already threatened estuary. This at a time when indicator species such as the critically endangered Delta smelt have declined significantly in numbers and now face extinction.

For decades, CCWD fought alongside Contra Costans to protect the Delta in order to save fish populations and to protect irrigation sources for farmers. In 1982, CCWD was a leader in the successful effort to defeat the Peripheral Canal, which 96 percent of Contra Costa residents and a majority of State voters opposed. Now the Peripheral Canal is back, renamed the "WaterFix."

There are many protests in play against the State's change-of-diversion petition that would make way for the twin tunnels; DWR is trying to buy them off one by one. Building the tunnels hinges on the willingness of water agencies — including several in the Bay Area — to pay for it. Bay Area residents will be directly affected by the tunnels, and can have a voice in these decisions by urging our water agencies to stand firm in protecting the Delta and opposing the tunnel plan. Deals like CCWD's agreement will strengthen the tunnels' proponents, and put the Delta in greater jeopardy.

CCWD's decision violated its legal requirements to be transparent and accountable to the public. The Board should hold a public hearing on the agreement as soon as possible to reconsider its position. The Sierra Club recommends that the CCWD board revoke the settlement agreement with the State and reinstate their protest against the WaterFix tunnels.

WhatYouCanDo

Send a letter to the CCWD Board of Directors and General Manager Jerry Brown, 1331 Concord Avenue, Concord, CA 94524. Tell them that because they violated specific provisions as well as the spirit of the Brown Act on a critical and controversial issue — the twin tunnels deal — they should hold a public hearing as soon as possible to reconsider their position. Urge them to revoke the settlement agreement

and reinstate their protest of the twin tunnels.

If you're interested in this and other water issues, consider attending a meeting of the Chapter's Water Committee. The Committee meets the third Monday of each month — in person at the Bay Chapter's Berkeley office in odd-numbered months; and via conference call in even months. For more information, you can reach out to Water Committee co-chair Sonia Diermayer at sodier@mindspring.com or (510)336-1102.



The critically endangered delta smelt could disappear if more fresh water is diverted from the Delta. Photo courtesy USFWS Pacific Southwest Region Flickr page.

Bay Chapter Water Committee

SAVE THE DATE!

THE 6th ANNUAL
David Brower
Dinner

A CELEBRATION OF THE
NATIONAL PARKS CENTENNIAL

September 8, 2016

Delancey Street Town Hall, SF

www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/davidbrowerdinner2016