

# Sierra Club YODELER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER ♦ WINTER 2021-22

**VOTE!**  
CHAPTER  
ELECTIONS  
BALLOT ON PG.14  
**VOTE!**



- ♦ VOTE FOR YOUR LOCAL SIERRA CLUB LEADERS! BALLOT INSIDE ♦
- ♦ TESLA PARK SAVED FROM OFF-ROAD VEHICLE DESTRUCTION ♦
- ♦ BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION SPREADS ACROSS CALIFORNIA ♦
- ♦ COLUMN: JEMEZ PRINCIPLES FOR DEMOCRATIC ORGANIZING ♦

## LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

Rain! We finally see rain! This is a welcomed relief as all the plants, even succulents, are looking so thirsty and birds and animals are desperate for water.

As it is misting down and refreshing everything around, I can't help but find myself melancholic and contemplative. My thoughts are ranging from how to implement more water conservation measures to designing our urban and rural habitat to accommodate all species and provide access to water that is frequently cut off by fencing and roads. Perhaps the closeness of the holiday season that signifies the end of the year contributes to my reflective state of being and reminds me of how much consumption and waste can be avoided with conscientious gift giving. My mind also wanders to the upcoming UN Climate Change Conference of the Parties (COP26) in Glasgow. What renewed commitments to climate change mitigation are going to be made there and what could my role be in forming and implementing those measures?

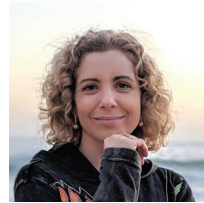
My feelings include joy from observing rain – Mother Nature's way of refreshing herself and washing away all the dust and pollutants covering our lands. But they also include sadness about the fact that in this circular system there is nowhere to wash pollutants away other than into our majestic oceans. I also feel hope from observing people's willingness to be more vulnerable and real with each other, which leads me towards anticipation of coming together stronger than ever to solve many challenges that stand in our way.

Perhaps mindfulness and contemplation are what we need more of in this fast-paced world. After all, where are we going? And who do we want to be when we arrive there?

As another tumultuous year is coming to an end, I am inviting us to contemplate these questions frequently so that we have the clarity and intentionality to embrace ourselves and all beings around us with unapologetic and relentless empathy and love. Let us be in awe of this magical world and continue to have the courage and renewed commitment to support each other and protect our beautiful planet!

With gratitude for this amazing community of dedicated colleagues and friends!

P.S. Please vote in the upcoming Chapter elections (see more information inside this issue)! We want to hear your voices! Thank you!



**Olga A. Bolotina**  
CHAPTER CHAIR

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**Cover Photo**  
A harbor seal balancing on a rock in the incoming surf, Pigeon Point, CA. Photo by Jerry Ting.



# WINTER 21-22 CHAPTER NEWS

## Vote Now in Our 2021 Chapter Election to Make a Difference!

What are three simple things you can do for our environment and community this month?

1. Refuse the plastic water bottle next time it's offered
2. Check out a new food with a lower carbon footprint
3. Vote for the Chapter leaders you think can best help us achieve positive change!

You can make a difference: enclosed is your paper ballot for the 2021 Chapter Election on pages 14 - 31. Each candidate has provided a statement so you can learn more about those running, and you can also join our virtual Candidate Meet & Greets on November 9th and 10th and ask any questions you may have. Register using the event listings on our Activities and Events Calendar at [sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities).

Voting opens on November 3rd, and all ballots must be received by November 30th at 11:59pm. You can vote using the paper ballot provided, or you can vote online with the electronic ballot sent to your email address. For more information on voting, candidates, and the election process, head to [sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections). If you have any questions, please reach out to the Chapter Elections and Nominations Committee at [elections@sfbaysc.org](mailto:elections@sfbaysc.org). Happy voting!

## Reduce Waste This Winter Season With the Climate Solutions Challenge

With leaves falling and temperatures cooling, the season of cozy café visits and festive warm beverages has begun. But did you know that Americans use over 120 billion disposable coffee cups a year? By replacing a

disposable cup with a reusable mug every day for a year, you can save up to 30 lbs of greenhouse gas emissions, 16 lbs of waste, and with reusable cup discounts at some cafés, over 35 dollars!

Learn more easy ways you can reduce waste by joining 66 households taking part in the Sierra Club Climate Solutions Challenge at [brightaction.app/sierraclub](http://brightaction.app/sierraclub). Check out our tutorial video to learn how the platform works and how to get started at [bit.ly/climatechallengevideo](http://bit.ly/climatechallengevideo).

## Sierra Club Groups Working Together in the Fight to Ban New Gas Stations



Earlier this year, the Sonoma County town of Petaluma garnered international attention by banning the construction of new gas stations. Recently, the Sonoma Group of the Sierra Club Redwood Chapter and the Marin and San Francisco Groups of the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter met to discuss this effort.

The SF Group went on record in support of such a ban in San Francisco. The Sonoma Group is currently working with groups like the Coalition Opposing New Gas Stations to implement a countywide ban on new gas stations, with three stations successfully being stopped so far.

In Marin, the towns of Fairfax and San Rafael have stopped new gas stations, and the Marin Group has joined with No New Gas to stop the construction of a megastation near a sensitive ecological preserve in Novato. You can learn more about the Marin Group's work in this fight at [sierraclub.org/sfbay/marin](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/marin).

**PHOTO CREDIT:** Marin County activists fight a mega-gas station in Novato by Silke Valentine.

# Governor Newsom and State Legislature Strike Deal to Save Tesla Park!

SIERRA CLUB CALIFORNIA



In September, a long-awaited agreement was reached with the Legislature, the Governor, and the California Department of Parks and Recreation to protect the environmentally sensitive and habitat-rich Tesla Park from off-highway vehicle use. This deal arises from years of advocacy by Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, Senator Steve Glazer, Alameda County, and a coalition of environmental groups including the Sierra Club and Friends of Tesla Park.

“This rich biological and cultural area’s fate has been tied up for years in the courts, proving to be a drain on our State resources and needlessly putting this unique land in jeopardy,” said Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan. “We are incredibly thankful that the Governor has recognized Tesla Park’s vital importance, including it now in the ongoing protection of critical natural resources in California. It has been my great honor to fight alongside Senator Glazer, the Sierra Club, Friends of Tesla Park and the countless organizations and individuals to ensure this land will be protected and enjoyed by all of California’s citizens.”

In the late 1990s, State Parks’ Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division (OHMVR) purchased Tesla Park without an acquisition environmental impact report (EIR) or public review being conducted. Since then, the Sierra Club and its partners have intensely opposed opening the area to damaging off-road vehicle recreation. The use for motor vehicles was challenged in court, and earlier this year, the judge ruled that the EIR and General Plan were inadequate and that State Parks needed to redo both documents.

In the ruling, the judge determined that preservation of the Tesla parkland was consistent with the OHMVR statute that includes responsibility for the conservation of lands — correcting the false claim by the OHMVR Division that its only responsibility was to provide off-road recreation.

Assemblymember Bauer-Kahan and Senator Glazer have led the legislative fight to save Tesla Park and have jointly authored five bills over the last few years — which have resulted in a vast coalition of environmental leaders, legislators, local advocates, and community members rallying together to protect this land.

With this new agreement, Tesla Park is removed from the existing Carnegie State Vehicular Recreation Area and will be made into an independent park under the authority of the California Department of Parks and Recreation. The agreement also bans off-highway vehicles from ever accessing the land. Additionally, the protection of this land furthers the goals of the Governor’s Executive Order to protect biodiversity and conserve 30 percent of California’s land and coastal waters by 2030.

A planning process will be conducted by State Parks to determine the classification and management of the park and develop a use plan. Friends of Tesla Park, the Sierra Club, and our other partner organizations will engage with this process to ensure the park’s management plans protect its sensitive ecological and cultural resources.

In exchange for the protection of Tesla, the state will reimburse the Off-Highway Vehicle Trust Fund \$29.8 million for the cost of the park, supposed appreciation, and expenses throughout the expansion planning process. The payment also allocates \$11 million towards off-road vehicle expansion in another location. While the language does not include official approval for any specific area, a portion of the 87,000-acre Henry W. Coe State Park could be a potential location. The Sierra Club will continue to fight for sensitive lands across the Bay Area and their protection against destructive off-road recreation uses and management practices, including opposing opening any state parkland to off-road recreation.

Even though there will be more work to come, for now we celebrate the victory of this 20-year-long hard-fought battle for the protection of Tesla Park and thank all our members and supporters for their dedicated work towards this effort.

This article includes contributions from Sierra Club California, SF Bay Chapter staff, and Friends of Tesla Park.

# An Evening of Celebration: Our 11th Annual Awards Ceremony

On September 23rd, our community gathered for a joyous evening of appreciation, celebration, and connection. After a welcome reel highlighting our chapter’s work this year and some friendly mingling in breakout rooms, our chair Olga Bolotina and director Virginia Reinhart kicked off the evening. We welcomed a series of speakers to introduce each of our honorees, including our chapter organizers Melissa Yu and Jacob Klein, Sierra Club attorney Aaron Isherwood, and our chapter’s vice chair Chance Cutrano.

The awards were presented to each of our inspiring honorees: Richmond City Councilmember Eduardo Martinez, Berkeley City Councilmember Kate Harrison, long-time Sierra Club activist Bruce Hamilton, and the youth-led Sunrise Movement Bay Area, with Megan Nguyen accepting for their organization. We are incredibly grateful for their

dedicated work towards the environmental and social justice movements, and we were delighted to celebrate their achievements as a community.

After our awardees’ moving and insightful speeches, we continued the fun with an exciting round of SF Bay Chapter-specific trivia, and five knowledgeable attendees received Sierra Club swag, including a fleece, water bottle, tote bag, and more. The evening concluded with a cocktail reception, allowing guests to intermingle between rooms and ignite conversations.

We appreciate all of our members and supporters who joined us in community and whose attendance directly supported the ongoing work of our chapter. A huge thank you to our sponsors listed below for their generous funding, our speakers and honorees for their impactful words, and our staff and volunteers who helped put on a wonderful event. If you were unable to join us for this event, you can still support the work of the chapter by making a gift using the donation form at the bottom of this page.

**THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:**

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## Make a donation to support your local chapter's work here in the SF Bay Area!

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Contributions to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.

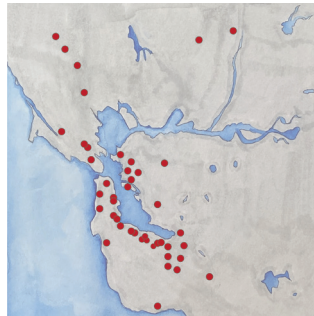
**PHOTO CREDIT:** Looking west into Tesla Park and Tesla grade, courtesy of Save Tesla Park.

This is the third installment in an illustrated series about electrification of residential buildings.

# BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION: POLICY WINS

VRINDA MANGLIK  
Instagram: @art\_by\_vrinda

Codes and ordinances across California are helping to advance gas-free buildings.



1 To date, 50 cities and counties in the state have passed commitments or "reach codes" to reduce the use of gas in new buildings.



2 In August, the California Energy Commission passed a building code that encourages the use of electric heat pumps for space and water heating in new construction.



3 In September, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a water reuse ordinance for new buildings which will help expand good green jobs for pipefitters no longer putting in gas pipelines.

"This ordinance is a perfect pairing with all-electric new buildings. This bold, collaborative policy reduces greenhouse gas emissions and creates high road jobs for labor. San Francisco's novel policy solution is something we should lift up and support in communities across California."  
-Matt Gough, Sierra Club

Thank you to our partner organizations and local activists who have helped achieve this exciting progress towards a greener, healthier, all-electric future!  
Continue reading to learn more about how to electrify existing buildings.

## Bay Area Paves the Way for Building Electrification Ordinances Across California

MELISSA YU

In August, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) released its scientific findings, confirming that the climate crisis has continued to accelerate since the last IPCC report in 2018. We've continued to experience even more extreme weather events, including historic droughts, heat waves, and wildfires. It could be easy to despair when faced with such climate calamities, but the renewable energy solutions that will help us out of this crisis are within our grasp.

Residential and commercial buildings are one of the largest sources of carbon emissions in California, and consume 70 percent of the state's electricity. Roughly half of their emissions come from on-site combustion appliances like gas or propane furnaces and water heaters. But there are clean, highly efficient electric alternatives that can replace these gas appliances, including modern heat pumps, electric water heaters, and induction stoves. Building electrification is going to be key in our state's clean energy transition, and the Bay Area is already taking the lead.

As you may have read in a previous issue of the *Yodeler*, building electrification can provide health, economic, workforce, and climate benefits due to lowering emissions from buildings. Newly constructed, all-electric homes can be cheaper to build than gas-heated buildings: a Statewide Utility Codes and Standards Team found that building all-electric reduced construction costs on average by \$5,000 for single-family homes and over \$2,000 per unit in a multi-family building.

Building electrification will also spur development of the local workforce and create jobs that are critical for the transition to a green economy. While the demand for heating, ventilation, and air conditioning (HVAC) technicians is expected to grow enormously, the gas distribution jobs would decrease. To combat this challenge, San Francisco Supervisor Rafael Mandelman, who spearheaded the ordinance to require all-electric buildings for new construction, also brought forth a water reuse ordinance — a win-win for conservation and job

**BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION WILL ALSO SPUR DEVELOPMENT OF THE LOCAL WORKFORCE AND CREATE JOBS THAT ARE CRITICAL FOR THE TRANSITION TO A GREEN ECONOMY**

creation. This September, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed this ordinance unanimously. "This ordinance will more than double the amount of water that new large buildings are required to collect and re-use on site and direct the [Public Utilities Commission] to come up with a plan for expanding the City's supply and use of recycled water," said Mandelman.

The San Francisco Public Utilities Commission estimates that these changes could double the amount of water savings in residential and mixed-use buildings. These additional savings would offset the water use of roughly 5,500 San Francisco residents per day. Larry Mazzola Jr., Business Manager of UA Local 38 Plumbers and Pipefitters, said "the re-use of water from on-site treated greywater systems for toilets and other non-potable uses are a proven way to reduce demand for potable water as California faces the threat of persistent water shortages. This ordinance is a step in the right direction and will have a significant positive impact on jobs for our skilled and trained workforce to provide sustainable work opportunities moving forward."

50 cities and counties in California have now adopted local building electrification codes more stringent than required by the state. While we have secured these policy wins, we still have a long way to go as existing buildings continue to contribute to our climate crisis. Most household appliances that run on gas emit nitrogen oxides (NOx) when burned. NOx endangers human health by causing respiratory conditions, such as asthma, wheezing, decreased lung functioning, and increased likelihood of hospital visits, heart disease, and even early death.

Fortunately, the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) is currently considering setting zero-NOx emissions standards for home furnaces and water heaters with a plan for an equitable, affordable transition. On October 18th, the BAAQMD Stationary Source Committee unanimously decided that staff should initiate a working group that will put out an annual report on the market, finance, and equity considerations surrounding these standards. The BAAQMD Board will reconvene in February 2022 to have a rule hearing. If you're interested in learning more about this effort, please contact Melissa Yu at [melissa.yu@sierraclub.org](mailto:melissa.yu@sierraclub.org).

What we do over the coming decade will largely determine what kind of world we leave for future generations. We must rapidly switch to clean energy, stop fossil fuel carbon pollution, and end methane leaks.

# 30 by 30 Team Focuses on Saving Point Molate Shoreline

VICKY HOOVER, NORMAN LA FORCE & POINT MOLATE ALLIANCE

Conserving 30 percent of our lands and coastal waters by 2030 is part of the action-oriented global movement to protect half of the Earth for nature — and this crucial campaign is at work right here in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Our Sierra Club 30 by 30 Task Force seeks to protect our local conservation priority areas to help achieve 30 by 30 in California. Already the SF Bay Chapter's 30 by 30 team has seen one significant victory — the protection of Tesla Park against motorized vehicle use, which you can read more about on page 4 — and now the focus turns to the next top priority: Point Molate on the Richmond shoreline.

Point Molate is the last opportunity to protect an intact ridge-to-shoreline ecosystem on San Francisco Bay. With 413 land and water acres, it is also home to Ohlone sacred sites, a Chinese shrimp camp site on the National Register of Historic Places, over 200 bird species including ospreys and bald eagles, as well as over 600 plant and other animal species. According to Dr. Katharyn Boyer of the Estuary & Ocean Science Center, Point Molate includes 120 acres of San Francisco Bay's healthiest eelgrass meadows, critical to the welfare of the Bay's fish, crab, and other wildlife. In fact, these eelgrass beds provide eelgrass for restoration projects all along the West Coast of the United States.

Point Molate could become a world-class park, bringing natural resources to Richmond and protecting the Ohlone people's sacred sites. As great parks always do, it would attract new families and investment to our neighborhoods and remind park-goers of Richmond's coastal past so it can be a part of Richmond's present and greater future.

However, Point Molate is threatened with the proposed development of a luxury housing site. Between 1,400 and 2,100 housing units would be built, with almost all at market rate aside from 67 affordable housing units. To qualify for the market-rate housing, one would need an annual income of



\$200,000 at today's prices. These units would be built in the most dangerous fire zones designated by the State due to their vegetation and proximity to the massive Chevron oil refinery. The economic analysis of the proposed project showed that Richmond taxpayers would end up bearing the costs — paying millions of dollars for the infrastructure needed for this massive luxury housing project.

But the Sierra Club, with the Richmond Shoreline Alliance, members of the Confederated Villages of Lisjan (Ohlone), Citizens for East Shore Parks, SPRAWLDEF, and others, are not only challenging this project legally and politically but also identifying sources of funding to turn Point Molate into a great regional park. The Chapter's East Bay Public Lands Committee is the lead entity on this issue, with chair Norman La Force also serving as an attorney in the legal battle to save Point Molate along with Stuart Flashman and Robert Cheasty.

On October 19th, the Richmond City Council voted 4 to 3 instructing the City Attorney to file a brief in the federal appeals court case in support of the Sierra Club and community groups that have sued the city. After opposing us, the City will now go on record admitting that it violated the Brown Act and California's land use law when it secretly approved

a settlement with developers hoping to build a casino on Point Molate. This illegal 2019 agreement resulted in the proposed luxury housing project we face today. Please send a letter thanking the four councilmembers who took this courageous action: Gayle McLaughlin, Eduardo Martinez, Claudia Jimenez, and Melvin Willis. Their contact information can be found at [ca-richmond2.civicplus.com/149/Biographies-Terms](http://ca-richmond2.civicplus.com/149/Biographies-Terms).

You can become involved in this effort through the Chapter's East Bay Public Lands Committee (contact Norman La Force at [n.laforce@comcast.net](mailto:n.laforce@comcast.net)) or our Chapter 30 by 30 Task Force. You can also find more information about this important ecosystem on the Point Molate Alliance's website at [ptmolatealliance.org](http://ptmolatealliance.org).

Our 30 by 30 team continues to fight for our local lands and waters throughout the Bay Area — you can find a full list of priority conservation areas at [bit.ly/SFBay30by30Areas](http://bit.ly/SFBay30by30Areas). This list is not final — it can evolve and grow. If you know of another local area threatened by development or otherwise needing protection, or if you wish to volunteer with the 30 by

30 campaign, please contact the SF Bay Chapter's 30 by 30 chair Alan Carlton at [carltonal@yahoo.com](mailto:carltonal@yahoo.com) or our new co-chair Hannah Tikalsky at [hjtikalsky@gmail.com](mailto:hjtikalsky@gmail.com).

## Dangerous Hayward Power Plant Operations Must Be Stopped

MARTHA KREEGER & MELISSA YU

On May 27, 2021, a steam turbine generator exploded at the Russell City Energy Center gas-fired power plant in Hayward. This explosion caused shrapnel and metal debris to launch into the surrounding area, heavily damaging nearby buildings. Many pieces landed at Hayward's wastewater treatment plant, and at least one piece crashed through the roof of a homeless navigation center. In total, the explosion caused an estimated \$100 million in damage.

Despite the fact that their steam turbine generator has not been repaired, the Russell City Energy Center has requested a special permit from the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to resume operations. Without the steam turbine damaged in the explosion, the plant will operate at a lower efficiency, producing a similar amount of pollution and greenhouse gases while only generating a fraction of the electricity. So in order to comply with Air District emissions rules, the plant has requested for its permit to be loosened. Disturbingly, the plant has already resumed operations even before receiving the emissions exemption.

The City of Hayward announced in June their opposition to the Russell City Energy Center's request: "Given what transpired, we believe it would be premature to proceed with a restart until we understand the root cause of the turbine failure and whether facilities in place to contain the explosion performed as intended," said Mayor Barbara Halliday. She added, "it also is essential that we understand the potential environmental and health impacts to our community of Calpine's proposal to resume plant operations."

In August, Sierra Club members came together and submitted 665 written comments urging BAAQMD to deny Russell City Energy Center's request to operate until they repair their generator. As the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change just reported in terrifying detail, climate change is upon us, and Californians are currently feeling its effects day in and day out. Granting a greenhouse gas efficiency exemp-

This article includes contributions from Norman La Force, Point Molate Alliance, and Sierra Club California 30 by 30 Volunteer Co-Lead Vicky Hoover.

tion in this climate would be unconscionable.

Furthermore, the Russell City Energy Center has operated for years at a capacity far lower than its full potential. As the plant is used at lower capacity utilization, its efficiency also declines. In the first half of 2020, the plant's efficiency was only 43 percent — very low compared to the 50 to 60 percent efficiency of similar plants. Lower efficiency increases the amount of fuel, the cost of fuel, and the amount of pollutants emitted per megawatt-hour of electricity generated.

In addition to climate-warming greenhouse gases, the power plant creates emissions that are harmful to human health, including asthma-triggering nitrogen oxides. The City of Hayward is already disproportionately impacted by pollution. This facility is a danger to our community, our health, and our climate future. BAAQMD must stay true to its mission to "create a healthy breathing environment for every Bay Area resident."

If you're interested in getting involved in this issue, please contact organizer Melissa Yu at [melissa.yu@sierraclub.org](mailto:melissa.yu@sierraclub.org).

Martha Kreeger is the chair of the Sierra Club Southern Alameda County Group Executive Committee, Melissa Yu is an organizer for the SF Bay Chapter.



## SUPPORT THE CHAPTER BY GOING SOLAR

Thinking of going solar? If you go solar through SunPower, you'll receive a \$1,000 rebate and SunPower will donate \$500 to the SF Bay Chapter. It's a win for you, your local Sierra Club chapter, and the planet. Head to [bit.ly/sunpowerforthebay](http://bit.ly/sunpowerforthebay) to get your free quote and find out how much you can save.

# Sierra Club Sues to Stop Urban Limit Line-Busting Development

JIM BLICKENSTAFF



The Sierra Club has been firm in its long-standing opposition to the Tassajara Parks “mitigated development plan,” which would move Contra Costa County’s Urban Limit Line (ULL) in order to build 125 homes across 30 acres east of Blackhawk. Unfortunately, this summer the Contra Costa County Board of Supervisors voted to overturn their own Planning Commission’s rejection of this ill-advised sprawl plan, and instead approve it with no changes. On August 12th, the Sierra Club joined with Greenbelt Alliance, former Supervisor Donna Gerber, and 30-year Sierra Club activist Jim Blickenstaff to file suit against the County. This suit was in conjunction with Court filings by the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD), and the Town of Danville.

The Supervisors were swayed to approve the development due to the landowner agreeing to dedicate 727 acres of their undeveloped land for open space. These “mitigations” are an attempt to distract from the basic fact that this development plan represents a classic sprawl development in almost every aspect. Along with a weak and incomplete California Environmental Quality Act evaluation, the Supervisors’ decision relied on legally dubious “agreements” and interpretations of County statutes governing exceptions to their ULL.

The Tassajara development is on the protected side of the County’s ULL, outside San Ramon’s own voter-approved Urban Growth Boundary, outside both Danville and San Ramon’s city limits, and outside EBMUD’s service area. EBMUD has repeatedly said it will not supply any water to the project, and yet the plan has failed to identify a secure, long-term, water source. It should be noted that the “mitigation” acreage that would be further protected from a development threat is already very well protected by the fact it is also outside all these service and jurisdictional growth boundaries.

Tassajara Parks would only include expensive, market-rate houses, and as an edge development, would be heavily car-dependent, increasing unnecessary greenhouse gas emissions and traffic congestion — primarily in the Town of Danville. This city will bear the brunt of the negative impacts of this development, and yet is inexplicably and specifically excluded from a mitigated development agreement, with only one city participating — San Ramon. This “lead” and only city in the agreement is over five miles from the development site with open space between its city growth boundaries and Tassajara Parks. While the primary — and unrepresented — stakeholder, Danville, is just two miles away, has the main direct road access, and already has developed land next to the site.

In the San Francisco Bay Area, sprawl into open spaces destroys wildlife corridors and natural spaces, increases greenhouse gas emissions, and puts communities in the path of climate disasters like wildfires. While the region is in dire need of new housing, the Sierra Club supports transit-oriented infill development.

Typical of sprawl projects, the negative impacts of this plan will be amplified by inducing and encouraging other similar plans that will, as in this case, open up more of the protected side of the County’s growth boundary to incremental development. This is witnessed by the number of development companies holding or otherwise controlling property on the protected side of the ULL — and waiting patiently to have the opportunity to go forward with their own line-busting development plan.

In 2006, Contra Costa voters strongly reinforced the ULL until at least 2026. In 2016, the Board of Supervisors confirmed there was plenty of buildable space within the boundary until 2036. The County’s own Planning Commission rejected the Tassajara Parks proposal in a 4-2 vote. But, in spite of all of this, the Board of Supervisors voted to approve a classic sprawl project that presents a direct open-door threat to the ULL.

It’s worth repeating because it is as true today as when this plan was first proposed a decade ago: incentivizing sprawl is inherently a bad idea. It’s time to reinforce the sanctity of the Urban Limit Line — the best tool the County has ever had to contain sprawl, induce smart growth, and protect agricultural and open space. If you’d like to get involved in this effort, contact Jim Blickenstaff at [jpblick@comcast.net](mailto:jpblick@comcast.net).

Jim Blickenstaff is a member of the Sierra Club Mount Diablo Group.

PHOTO CREDIT: Tassajara Parks site provided by Gretchen Logue.

# WINTER 21-22 EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

## GREEN FRIDAYS

NOV 12, DEC 10, JAN 14 • FRI • 7:30 PM ZOOM

The Green Friday speaker series is beaming straight into your home via Zoom! Join us virtually on the second Friday of each month for presentations on some of the most interesting and important environmental issues of our time.

### Nov. 12 – How Human Impacts Are Amplifying California Tree Diseases

Matteo Garbelotto will explain how the intersection of climate change, anthropogenic pressure, and emergent diseases is a major threat to California trees. His talk will explore four types of tree pathogens and how together they are capable of reshaping the distribution, composition, and structure of California forests within a single human generation.

Matteo Garbelotto is a Cooperative Extension Specialist and Adjunct Professor at UC Berkeley and the director of the Forest Pathology and Mycology Laboratory.

### Dec. 10 – Protecting Nesting Bird Habitat in Bay Marshes From Invasive Species



Claire Meyler of the California Invasive Plant Council will share their work protecting nesting bird habitat in San

PHOTO CREDIT: Ridgway's rail in Arrowhead Marsh by Aaron Maizlish via Flickr Creative Commons (CC BY-NC 2.0).

Francisco Bay marshes from invasive plant species. The Bay is a major global biodiversity hotspot and the largest estuary on the west coast of North America. It is a critical stopover point along the Pacific Flyway migration route for millions of shorebirds and waterfowl. However, Atlantic cordgrass planted as erosion control in the 1940s has since hybridized with Pacific cordgrass to create a super strain that threatens Bay wetlands and their endangered inhabitants like the Ridgway’s rail. Learn about our hometown heroes who are doing their part to address the global biodiversity crisis.

### Jan. 14 – Growing Up in the Age of Climate Change: Facing Eco Anxiety & Climate Grief

In the first installment of a multigenerational speaker series, Dr. Robert Root and Dr. Robin Cooper will discuss the spectrum of emotional responses related to living in the world of climate change. They will also address the range of additional impacts that climate change has had on all living beings in this world. Dr. Cooper will speak to how young people can work towards viewing these uncomfortable feelings as normal, and how these feelings can alert us to take effective action and join collectively to create community-based solutions.

Robert Root, M.D., received his medical degree from Yale and trained in medicine and psychiatry at the NY Hospital Cornell Medical Center. Dr. Root was the Medical Director of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry at California Pacific Medical Center from 2001-2019 and has worked at the non-profit Child Mind Institute. He has also served as an Assistant Clinical Professor of Psychiatry at the UCSF and Dartmouth Schools of Medicine.

Dr. Robin Cooper is a San Francisco psychiatrist who has had a private practice for over 35 years and is also a faculty member at UCSF, Dept. of Psychiatry and Behavioral Sciences. She has been a leader in the Citizens’ Climate Lobby, as well as the co-founder and on the steering committee of the Climate Psychiatry Alliance.

### REGISTRATION:

Read more about each speaker and register for free via the Activities and Events calendar listings at [sierraclub.org/sfbay/events](https://sierraclub.org/sfbay/events) and we’ll send you instructions for how to join the Zoom meeting.

## ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

Activities listed here are abbreviated. For full listings, registration, and waivers visit: [sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities](https://sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities). The online calendar will also include changes, cancellations, and outings submitted after the print deadline.

### 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 in a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To read a copy of the waiver form, call (415) 977-5630 or visit [tinyurl.com/outingswaiver](https://tinyurl.com/outingswaiver).

### COVID-19 Protocol

Masks are optional for adults in outdoor areas but required in indoor close quarters such as vehicles, public transport, restaurants, or visitor centers. Vaccinations are not required, so please be aware you may be on trips with unvaccinated individuals. Masks are required at all times for unvaccinated minors. If you are experiencing any possible COVID-19 symptoms, do not attend the outing and contact the outing leader. Report any positive COVID-19 tests after an outing to the outing leader.

### Carpooling

Carpooling helps the environment and allows people without cars to participate. You can arrange carpools on our Meetup group: [meetup.com/sanfranciscobay](https://www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay). Outings will be listed there 2 - 3 weeks prior to the event. Masks are required in carpools.

# WINTER 21-22 OUTINGS CALENDAR

## OCT 30 • SAT

**Muir Beach to Tennessee Valley Beach 2B Hike.** If the weather is clear we will have some spectacular views of the coast on this 9-mile loop. Moderate pace with some steep climbs, strong and experienced hikers only. Heavy rain cancels. BRING: Lunch, snacks, and a good supply of water. Wear hiking boots and layered clothing. MEET: 10am at Muir Beach parking lot. LEADER: Jeffrey Sanchez, [amagi@pacbell.net](mailto:amagi@pacbell.net). (Sierra Singles)

## OCT 31 • SUN

**Bike Ride Colma Necropolis.** This tour will take us through a variety of cemeteries and final resting places of both notable and notorious former citizens of San Francisco. Expect to see private mausoleums from the likes of the Hearst and Flood families, massive marble angels, and strange sarcophaguses. Hear stories of intrigue, quests for power, and all the dirt behind why San Francisco buries its dead in Colma. Only 10 miles, but several steep hills. Any rain cancels. REGISTER: Registration on Meetup or by contacting the leader is required with a limit of ten people. BRING: Water, snacks, and a patch kit. Helmets are mandatory. MEET: 11:30am at Colma BART. ENDS: 2:30pm. LEADER: Paget Valentzas, [pagetvalentzas@gmail.com](mailto:pagetvalentzas@gmail.com), (415) 271-2945. (Rainbow Sierrans)

## NOV 6 • SAT

**2C Hike Mission Peak from Oblone College.** Enjoy expansive views of the South Bay and little-explored parts of Mission Peak Regional Preserve, with a lunch stop at the peak. 9-mile distance with approximately 2500 feet of elevation gain. Moderate to leisurely pace, i.e. approximately 2 mph on average. Any rain cancels. COST: \$4 parking fee. BRING: Lunch, liquids, layered clothing, and well-fitting hiking boots. MEET: 10am at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage. ENDS: Return to cars by sunset. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, [sbakaley@gmail.com](mailto:sbakaley@gmail.com). (Southern Alameda County and Santa Cruz County Groups)

## NOV 14 • NOV 27 • DEC 12 • JAN 1

**Luxurious Walking in Delight Zen Mindfulness 1A Walk.** Slow, luxurious walking designed to relax and balance yourself resulting in deepening connection to your inner nature. Attend either in-person or virtually in your backyard on Zoom! Heavy wind or rain cancels. REGISTER: If attending in-person, registration on the online listing is required with a limit of ten people. To attend virtually, register using the Zoom registration link posted on the online listing. BRING: Clothes for the weather. MEET: 11am at 1853 Solano Ave, Berkeley or on Zoom. ENDS: 12:30pm. LEADER: Halley Forest, [sierragreenforest@gmail.com](mailto:sierragreenforest@gmail.com). (Hiking)

## Jemez Principles for Democratic Organizing: A Column

JACOB KLEIN

### 1. Be Inclusive

*If we hope to achieve just societies that include all people in decision-making and assure that all people have an equitable share of the wealth and the work of this world, then we must work to build that kind of inclusiveness into our own movement in order to develop alternative policies and institutions to the treaties policies under neoliberalism.*

*This requires more than tokenism, it cannot be achieved without diversity at the planning table, in staffing, and in coordination. It may delay achievement of other important goals, it will require discussion, hard work, patience, and advance planning. It may involve conflict, but through this conflict, we can learn better ways of working together. It's about building alternative institutions, movement building, and not compromising out in order to be accepted into the anti-globalization club.*

Welcome back to Jemez Principles: A Column, where I'll be diving into environmental justice principles for democratic organizing, a tool and a gift for environmental activists to use when working for climate justice. We're moving into the first of six principles: Be inclusive.

It seems easy enough, right? Many of us already consider ourselves inclusive: anybody is welcome to join the fight. Oftentimes, however, there's more at play than we might realize.

It's so easy to get entrenched in habits, to fall into the structures we were socialized into, to keep our focus narrowed. In many ways, this helps us make sense of the wild world that we live in. But it can also prevent us from including everyone that can and should be involved.

Being inclusive is not as easy as simply inviting someone different than you to the table and expecting everything to change. That's a lot of work for one person to take on! So how do we do it? I'll tell you right now, that it's not the easiest work — but it's possible and it is rewarding. As the principle above states, it requires inclusion at every level. It requires

hard work, patience, and planning. And it takes time.

Conflict will arise, but conflict is an opportunity for growth. I remember a situation in which I was working on a sign-on letter and hoped to get BIPOC-led organizations on board. I circulated the letter asking for feedback and hoping for sign-ons, while also working against a perceived timeline. I did not end up getting the sign-ons I hoped for. Why? Because I didn't collaborate with these organizations to put this letter together, I simply showed it to them and expected their support.

Since then, I've realized that there needs to be discussion and planning with your desired collaborators before asking for something. I've worked hard to build and maintain long-term relationships that rely on checking in and opening space for conversations.

It takes more time, which is hard for us when we are keenly feeling the looming threat of climate change. But dedicating that time leads to more generative and more groundbreaking results. At the core of organizing lies people. Imaginative, daring people. You never know what you might be missing, what brilliant solution may exist, if those imaginative daring people aren't in the room with you.

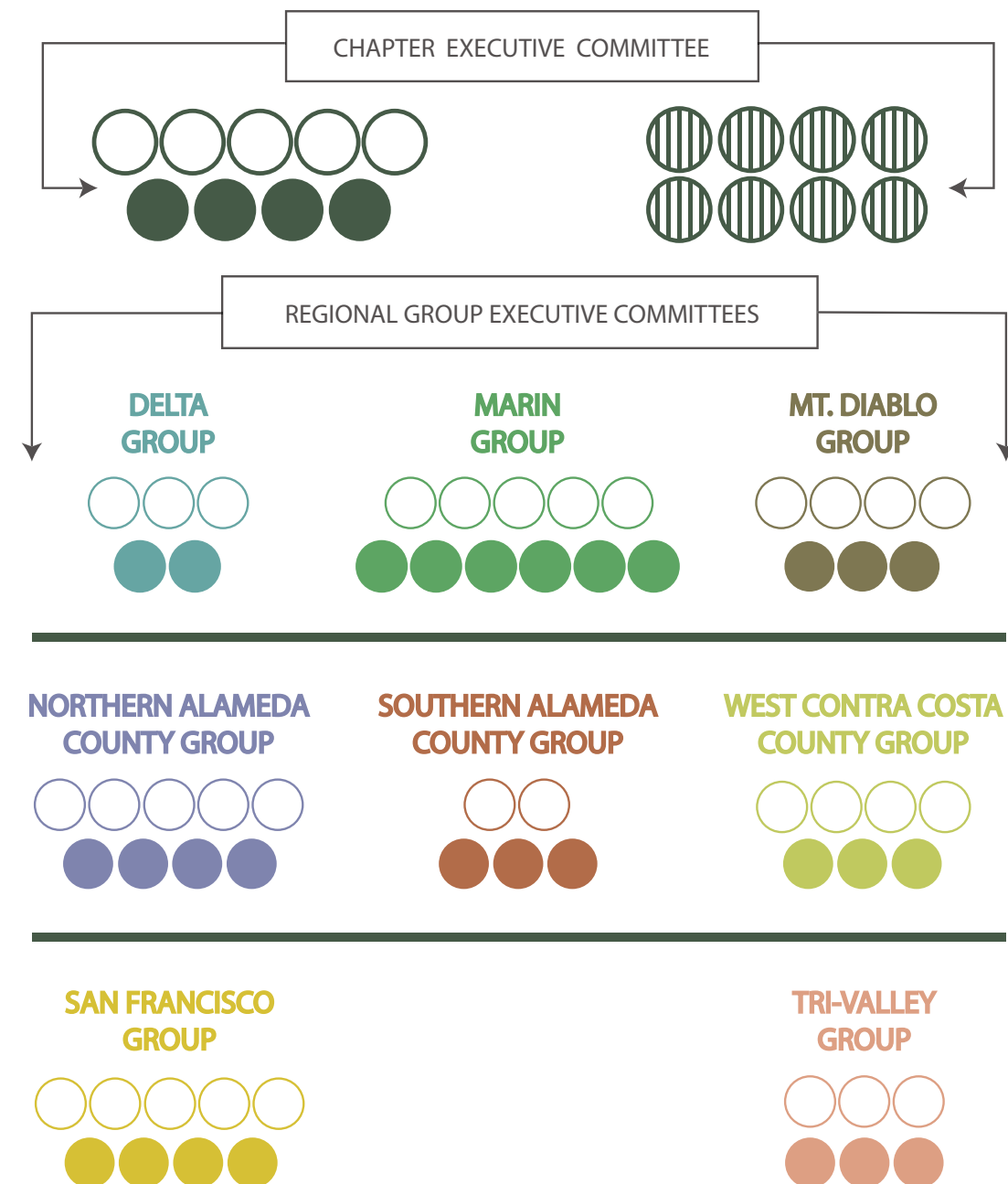
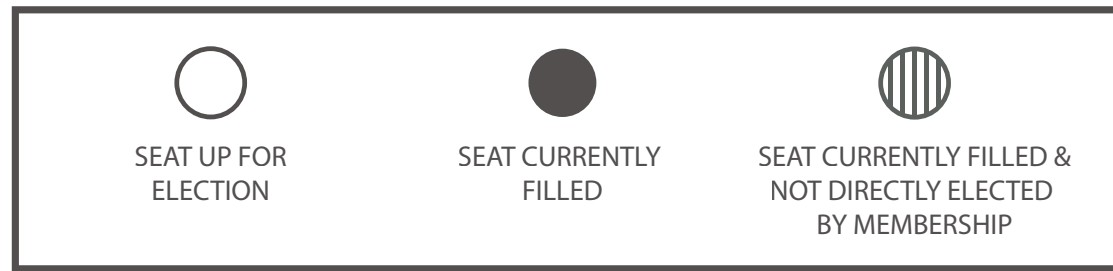
Jacob Klein is an organizer for the SF Bay Chapter.



## GIFT A VEHICLE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Spread holiday cheer this winter by donating your vehicle to support the Sierra Club Foundation's SF Bay Chapter! Not only will your generous donation continue to help us make a difference, but it can also help you qualify for a tax deduction. It's easy, the pick-up is free, and our partners at CARS accept cars, boats, motorcycles, RVs, and more. To get started, visit our website at [scfch.careasy.org](https://scfch.careasy.org) or call (844) 674-3772.

# SIERRA CLUB SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER 2021 ELECTIONS



# 2021 CHAPTER ELECTION

## Voting Instructions:

All members of the Sierra Club who live in Alameda, Contra Costa, San Francisco, or Marin Counties, and who were registered as a member of record in the Club database as of November 1st, can — and are encouraged to — vote. Each Bay Chapter member can vote in the chapter-wide Executive Committee election and in the election for the Executive Committee of their local group (see below for finding your group affiliation).

All ballots must be **received** by Tuesday, November 30th.

Questions? Contact the Chapter office at 510-848-0800 or email the Elections Committee at [elections@sfbaysc.org](mailto:elections@sfbaysc.org).

### VOTE BY MAIL OR ONLINE:

You may choose to vote by paper ballot or online. If we receive both electronic and paper ballots for the same membership number, only the electronic ballot will be counted.

Your paper ballot is on page 31. Once you have made your selections, cut out the page, place the ballot in a stamped envelope, and mail it to: Ballot Submission, Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, P.O. Box 2663, Berkeley, CA 94702. Paper ballots sent by fax or email will not be counted. The mailing label printed on the reverse of your ballot, which includes your unique membership number, will indicate it's valid.

The chapter will also email a link to the online ballot to all members whose email addresses we have on file. If you do not receive this email but wish to vote electronically, go to the chapter election webpage at [sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections).

### WHAT GROUP DO I BELONG TO?

To determine which group you belong to, look at the mailing label on this *Yodeler*. If you are a Bay Chapter member, a three-digit number beginning with "10" should appear in the line above your name, following your eight-digit membership number. This number designates your local group: 100 = No group membership; 102 = Marin; 103 = Mount Diablo; 104 = San Francisco; 105 = Delta; 106 = West Contra Costa County; 107 = Southern Alameda County; 108 = Northern Alameda County; 109 = Tri-Valley.

### WHAT IF I HAVE A JOINT MEMBERSHIP?

Just after your group number, your mailing label also indicates whether your household has a single (SNGL) membership or a joint (JNT) membership. Each section of the ballot has two columns for votes. If you have a single membership, mark only in the

first column. For joint memberships, each member makes their selections in one column. Both members in a joint membership must vote in the same medium (either paper or electronic ballot).

### WHAT CAN "SPOIL" MY BALLOT?

Your ballot will be considered spoiled and will not be counted if:

- you vote in the incorrect group election (spoils group vote);
- you vote for more candidates than the maximum indicated;
- your ballot is illegible; or
- you already cast your ballot online.

## Bylaw Amendments:

*Bold font indicates new or amended language.*

## BAY CHAPTER AMENDMENTS

### CHAPTER AMENDMENT 1:

*Add wording in bold to Section 3.5 to impose term limits for the Chair and Vice Chair.*

#### 3.5 Officers:

The ExCom shall elect from its members the following officers, who shall also be Chapter officers: a Chair, a Vice-Chair, and at its option, a Secretary and a Treasurer. The ExCom may appoint from outside its membership any other Chapter officers it considers necessary, including the Secretary and Treasurer. All such officers shall be Chapter members. **Term limits for ExCom Chair and Vice Chair are no more than 3 consecutive years in either role, with a break in service of a minimum of 1 year for either role.**

### CHAPTER AMENDMENT 2:

*Add wording in bold to Section 3.5 to create a new Immediate Past Chair role.*

#### 3.5 Officers:

At the discretion of the ExCom, offices may be combined, provided there are at least two distinct officers. Assistants to these officers may be designated from among Chapter members.

**In the event that a new Chair is elected, the previous Chair shall assume the role of Immediate Past Chair. This role is strictly consultative, intended to result in a continuation of institutional memory and the provision of guidance to the succeeding Chair, and does not bestow any special powers on the Immediate Past Chair.**

Notice of the officers and appointees of the Chapter shall be provided to Club headquarters annually upon selection, or as required by the Board or its designees.

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE



**CHAPTER AMENDMENT 3:**

*Add wording in bold to clarify that the Chair may not serve on the Nominating and/or Elections Committee.*

**A. Nominations Committee**

i. The Nominations Committee is responsible to recruit, vet, and nominate candidates to fill all open Executive Committee seats.

ii. The Nominations Committee shall report the nominees by committee to the Executive Committee at least two weeks before the deadline for submission of nomination petitions and at least 5 weeks prior to the ballot mailing date.

iii. The Executive Committee may accept, but not modify, the Nominating Committee report. Formal acceptance of the report shall not be required for the election to proceed.

iv. The Nominations Committee shall inform members who expressed an interest in being candidates but were not nominated by committee of their option to have their name placed on the ballot by gathering the required number of member signatures.

v. An election should not be delayed if the Nominations Committee does not nominate at least two more candidates than the number of Executive Committee members to be elected

**vi. The Chair may not serve on the Nominating and/or Elections Committee.**

## NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP AMENDMENTS

**NAC AMENDMENT 1:**

*Add wording in bold to clarify that the Chair may not serve on the Nominating and/or Elections Committee.*

**A. Nominations Committee**

i. The Nominations Committee is responsible to recruit, vet, and nominate candidates to fill all open Executive Committee seats.

ii. The Nominations Committee shall report the nominees by committee to the Executive Committee at least two weeks before the deadline for submission of nomination petitions and at least 5 weeks prior to the ballot mailing date.

iii. The Executive Committee may accept, but not modify, the Nominating Committee report. Formal acceptance of the report shall not be required for the election to proceed.

iv. The Nominations Committee shall inform members who expressed an interest in being candidates but were not nominated by committee of their option to have their name placed on the ballot by gathering the required number of member signatures.

v. An election should not be delayed if the Nominations Committee does not nominate at least two more candidates than the number of Executive Committee members to be elected.

**vi. The Chair may not serve on the Nominating and/or Elections Committee.**

## Candidate Statements:

*The Chapter Executive Committee candidates are first, then the Groups are listed in alphabetical order. Candidate statements within each section are listed in alphabetical order by last name.*

### CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

There are six candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

#### Chance Cutrano



**Residence:** Fairfax

**Occupation:** Environmental Nonprofit Director

**Sierra Club member since:** 2016

**Contact:** ccutrano@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee Vice-Chair
- Sierra Club Council of Club Leaders (Alternate)
- Sierra Club California Political Committee
- Sierra Club California Northern California Candidate Review Committee
- Sierra Club California Conservation Committee (Delegate in 2020 and Alternate in 2021)  
(Dates: Jan. 2020 - Present)
- Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Interim Treasurer
- Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Interim Finance Committee Chair  
(Dates: May 2020 - June 2021)
- Sierra Club National Climate Adaptation Task Force  
(Date: May 2018 - March 2019)

**Statement:**

Over the last two years I have had the great privilege of serving our Chapter on the Executive Committee and supporting our Chapter leadership as our Chapter Vice-Chair (and Interim Treasurer and Finance Committee Chair). As a nonprofit director, I recognize that two of the most critical elements required to realize any mission are the financial health of an organization and the development of a culture that upholds the Standards of Conduct and a productive and enjoyable atmosphere. In my leadership capacities with the Sierra Club, I have grown immensely by committing myself to the not-so-easy task of supporting staff to improve the financial health of the Chapter and to support our Chapter in the necessary transition to a more inclusive Sierra Club, where all members and supporters feel welcomed and are empowered through our grassroots volunteer and advocacy opportunities. This mission is not over. As our Chapter evolves and grows, I believe our influence and impact in the region will continue to grow as well. I believe the Chapter is well positioned for the next decade of intersectional environmental stewardship and ecological restoration. I would

be honored to continue this project as a Sierra Club leader, and I hope you will join me.

#### Martha Kreeger



**Residence:** Fremont, Alameda County

**Occupation:** Issues and Campaign Organizer

**Sierra Club member since:** 2019

**Contact:** marthakreeger@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Chair, Southern Alameda County Group (SAC G)
- SAC G Alternate, SF Chapter Executive Committee
- Chapter Delegate, California Conservation Committee
- Member, SF Bay Chapter Rules / Bylaws Task Force
- Member, SF Bay Chapter Equity Working Group
- Member, Sierra Club Wildlands & Wilderness Team, Recreation Issues Sub-Committee

**Statement:**

We are tasked with achieving ambitious and just climate solutions, and time is so very short. When I came to the Sierra Club as an organizer, it was to join this powerful team of environmental activists working to reverse the planet-killing effects of climate change. Sierra Club is helping to build an incredibly powerful and just environmental movement and there is work to be done for all of us.

We see this work in Hayward, where Sierra Club is partnering with labor movements, local community groups, and environmental justice groups to find solutions to block a “last mile delivery station” within the Hayward shoreline from impacting already overburdened and under-resourced communities with potentially sharp increases in vehicle emissions. We need leadership that respects, includes, and empowers the next generation of leaders, and for that we need to embrace diverse perspectives, diverse goals, and a wider range of comprehensive solutions.

Within Sierra Club, volunteers and leaders can use organizing to make it easy to be a part of this movement in actions with similar bridge building partnerships, groups, and chapters. We want to create this movement within our organization, look to bylaws and make changes that create a more sustainable organization, then empower new members to lead. We cannot do this alone, we need to continue the work to build a powerful and just environmental movement. This is the organizing work that shaped me and I am so hopeful to have found a space where we can pass that professional collaboration to others. To contact me: [marthakreeger@gmail.com](mailto:marthakreeger@gmail.com).

#### Max Perrey



**Residence:** Mill Valley

**Occupation:** Director, Communications & Public Affairs, Redwood Community Health Coalition

**Sierra Club member since:** 2009

**Contact:** (415) 450-0774, [max.perrey@gmail.com](mailto:max.perrey@gmail.com)

**Activities:**

SF Bay Chapter:

- Executive Committee (2016-2019)
- Finance Committee (2015-2017)
- Strategic Planning Committee (2019-Present)
- Political Committee (2016-2019)
- David Brower Annual Dinner Planning Committee (2017-2019)

Marin Group:

- Chair (2016-2017)
- Executive Committee (2010-2014, 2015-2019)
- Treasurer (2015-2017)
- Secretary (2011-2012)

Sierra Club California:

- Political Committee (2017-2019)
- Subcommittee for 2018 Governor's race
- Subcommittee for 2020 ballot measure making the tax system more fair

**Statement:**

The Sierra Club holds an important role as a long-standing force for conservation, climate advocacy and biodiversity protection, and in the last decade, for environmental justice, public health, and a fairer and more resilient economy. At its best the Club has embraced diversity within its ranks and effectively prioritized issues impacting the environment and human health. I am running to build on this legacy.

Responding to climate change, which includes both ambitious mitigation and adaptation strategies implemented at all levels, is imperative. We are at the 11th hour, and while our technology capabilities are there, our political will to act often is lacking. That's where we — a multigenerational multiracial coalition including the Sierra Club — come in. Through advocacy and partnership with vulnerable frontline communities, we can apply political and consumer pressure and ensure the resilient future that we all want.

Any questions on local issues, I invite you to call or text me at 415-450-0774 or email me at [max.perrey@gmail.com](mailto:max.perrey@gmail.com).

Together we can build a movement!

#### Nick Pilch



**Residence:** Albany

**Occupation:** Manager of Software Engineers

**Sierra Club member since:** 1990

**Contact:** (510) 525-3405, [nicky@mindspring.com](mailto:nicky@mindspring.com)

**Activities:**

- National and Local Outings Leader, 2005-present
- Committees:
  - Northern Alameda County (NAC) Executive Committee (ExCom), 2010-2011
  - Bay Chapter ExCom member, 2011-2016
  - Outreach Chair, 2011-2012
  - Nominations/Elections Chair, 2013
  - Fundraising Chair, 2015

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

- Local Ballot Measure Review Committee, 2016-present (Sierra Club California)

**Statement:**

I am active with both Outings and the political side of the Club.

In the community, I co-founded Albany Strollers & Rollers, and was a founding member of Carbon Neutral Albany (now Albany Climate Action Coalition), and Albany for Everyone, a group promoting needed housing in Albany.

While serving on the Albany City Council for six years, I continued my environmental work and advocacy. I was appointed to the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Policy Committee. I supported and campaigned for city environmental work and ballot measures, such as the 2020 Albany Measure DD which will fund climate action work. I served 4 years on the East Bay Community Energy Board. Currently, I am currently a member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the Alameda County Transportation Commission.

My priorities for the Club are:

- fighting climate change above all
- cordial and respectful and fruitful relationships amongst volunteers and leaders
- diversity in all aspects
- attracting and retaining young membership. Increasingly, the membership is skewing older. We can't maintain the Club if we can't continue to bring in young volunteers and leaders.
- attracting and retaining people of color. The Sierra Club must represent the diversity of our geographic boundaries.
- making sure the Chapter is working on all aspects of environmental work — environmental justice, and climate change including alternative transportation and energy, and resource conservation.
- finally, maintaining fiscal solvency. The Chapter depends on contributions and fundraising is imperative. I will do my part in donating and fundraising as well.

**John Rizzo**

**Residence:** San Francisco

**Occupation:** Tech writer, author

**Sierra Club member since:** 1982

**Activities:**

- Chapter Executive Committee Chair, 2005-2007, Vice Chair, 2002-2004
- Group Executive Committee Chair, 2001-2005, Committee member, 1998-present
- Chapter Political Committee Chair, 2007-present
- Chapter Executive Committee Chair, 2005-2007, Vice Chair 2002-2004, currently Committee member
- Other committees (Water Committee, Chapter Communications Committee, Hetch Hetchy Liaison to the RCC)

**Statement:**

As a Sierra Club leader I have been active in the fight against climate change, advocating for renewable energy. I've

also fought for public parks and open space all around the Bay Area, and advocated for better public transit, and worked to reduce plastic waste.

I have worked to help counties start Community Choice programs in order to build more solar. I also led the effort to save the successful GoSolarSF program, a rebate program that has quadrupled San Francisco's solar energy.

In 2017, I received an award for my work on CleanPowerSF. In 2008, I received a commendation from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for my leadership in helping defeat the construction of a new fossil fuel power plant in Southeast San Francisco.

In 2018, I put together and moderated a panel on plastic waste pollution at the NOAA Sixth International Marine Debris Conference for the European environmental group, the Let's Do It Foundation.

As the Chapter's Political Chair, I have led the Club's effort to elect candidates who will make the environment a priority. Now more than ever we need elected officials who won't compromise on the environment.

I have also brought my environmental activism into public service. As an elected member of the Board of Trustees of San Francisco City College, I led an effort to establish green jobs training programs, an integrated energy efficiency plan for the district, and worked for LEED Gold certifications in new buildings.

**Igor Tregub**

**Residence:** Berkeley

**Occupation:** Senior Policy Advisor, CA

Solar & Storage Association

**Sierra Club member since:** 2008

**Contact:** igor@sfbaysc.org

**Activities:**

Sierra Club:

- NAC Chair
- SF Bay Chapter Chair Emeritus
- California Executive Committee & Summit Co-Chair
- Chapter Transportation Committee, California Energy Committee
- Chair, Chapter Bylaws Task Force

Other:

- Chair, California Democratic Party Environmental Caucus
- Fellowship Coordinator; Clean Energy Leadership Institute
- VP Communications, Young Professionals in Energy
- Chair, Berkeley Measure O Bond Oversight Committee
- Past Chair, Berkeley Housing Commission & Zoning Board
- AC Transit Parcel Tax Oversight Commissioner

**Statement:**

Preserving the environment and ensuring that policy decisions are made with an equity lens and ample input from impacted communities have always been at the forefront of my work as

a legislator and climate activist.

I crafted some of the strongest affordable housing policies in the nation; helped pass the nation's first gas ban in new buildings; and enhanced access to energy upgrades and solar financing for residents. I helped craft local Green New Deal policies intended to protect our air and water, integrate clean energy solutions with good jobs, and say "NO!" to coal traveling through our communities.

Having chaired the local chapter and group, I used my experiences as an immigrant to recruit, retain, and expand the Chapter's membership and leadership base. Amid trying times nationally, we welcomed an unprecedented growth in new membership and enhanced the financial sustainability of our chapter. I've worked tirelessly to ensure that the Chapter is here for you so we can weather the storm — whether your passion is our conservation issues, expanding our climate campaigns, or joining our fantastic outings programs.

I humbly ask for your vote, so I keep serving you as we take dramatic action to save our planet. Together we will remain a potent and effective voice for the climate and strengthen partnerships within and outside of the Club. Please contact me at [igor@sfbaysc.org](mailto:igor@sfbaysc.org) with your questions and ideas. Thanks for your consideration!

**DELTA GROUP**

There are no candidates for the 2021 election.

**MARIN GROUP**

There are four candidates. You may vote for four or fewer.

**Chance Cutrano**

**Residence:** Fairfax

**Occupation:** Environmental Nonprofit Director

**Sierra Club member since:** 2016

**Contact:** [ccutrano@gmail.com](mailto:ccutrano@gmail.com)

**Activities:**

- Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee Vice-Chair
- Sierra Club Council of Club Leaders (Alternate)
- Sierra Club California Political Committee
- Sierra Club California Northern California Candidate Review Committee

- Sierra Club California Conservation Committee (Delegate in 2020 and Alternate in 2021) (Dates: Jan. 2020 - Present)

- Sierra Club Marin Group Executive Committee
- Sierra Club Marin Group Treasurer
- Sierra Club Marin Group Conservation Committee
- Sierra Club Marin Group Climate Solutions Committee Co-Chair
- Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Financial Committee (Dates: Jan. 2018 - Present)

- Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Interim Treasurer
- Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Interim Finance Committee Chair (Dates: May 2020 - June 2021)

- Sierra Club Marin Group Political Committee Chair
- Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter Political Committee Vice Chair (Dates: Jan. 2018 - April 2020)

- Sierra Club National Climate Adaptation Task Force (Dates: May 2018 - March 2019)

**Statement:**

The Sierra Club's Marin Group is in an exciting moment. This long-respected environmental group is witnessing the rise of a youth-led, intergenerational and intersectional climate justice movement in Marin and Chapter-wide. With our experienced volunteer leaders and Chapter support, the Sierra Club Marin group has the network and the toolkits to help this more diverse and more dynamic climate movement amplify historically marginalized environmental justice stories AND has the ability to help clarify and promote the intersection of environmental issues in our wildlands and our built environment. As a Sierra Club volunteer leader in Marin I plan to support our staff, our volunteers, and our members and supporters as we work to mitigate the most dire effects of the climate crisis; and furthermore, I envision a future where the Sierra Club Marin Group will continue to aid our region in setting an example for progressive environmental leadership for the state and the country.

**Sharon Farrell**

**Residence:** San Rafael

**Occupation:** Television producer and programming development

**Sierra Club member since:** 2005

**Contact:** [Sharonfarrell2003@yahoo.com](mailto:Sharonfarrell2003@yahoo.com)

**Activities:**

- Court Appointed Special Advocate for foster children since 2016

**Statement:**

I am a life-long outdoor enthusiast and hiker. I am honored by the opportunity to serve the Sierra Club on the Marin Group Executive Committee.

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My interest is in the preservation of our natural environment, in particular, trees. Most recently, I was involved in a solo effort to stop the proposed downing of several healthy redwood trees with Heritage status. During the process, I discovered that Heritage redwoods are not truly or adequately protected despite the label of being “protected.” Additionally, I found that the overall permit and approval process to cut down a Heritage redwood, or any tree, lacks needed oversight, in particular during nesting season. Our trees, birds, and wildlife deserve informed and consistent voices to speak up for them.

My career as a producer requires the ability to envision and execute creative ideas, develop successful collaboration, and utilize written and verbal communications to get the job done despite uphill battles. I’m just as passionate about serving and protecting trees, birds, water, and wildlife. It’s imperative to stand up for our natural environment.

I am grateful for the opportunity to work in tandem with the outstanding and dedicated members of the Marin Group Executive Committee and would greatly appreciate your vote.

Thank you.

## Jinesse Reynolds

**Residence:** San Anselmo, Marin County

**Occupation:** Artist, Oil Painter

**Sierra Club member since:** June 2019

**Contact:** jrey94925@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Chair Sierra Club Marin Group
- Chair SF Pol Com
- Member of Plastic Free Marin (Sierra Club subcommittee)
- Life-long outdoor enthusiast enjoying both water and mountain activities

**Statement:**

I have been a member of the Marin Group Executive Committee since January 2020. I served as Co-Chair Pol Com and managed the incredibly lengthy endorsement process for the election year, 2020. In addition, I served as the Vice Chair and shifted to Chair in November 2020 as the current Chair had to take leave for medical concerns.

My approach throughout my professional career has always been to think with a beginner’s mind and stay curious with an eye toward the future. Both the Sierra Club Ex Com and Pol Com experiences have inspired me to expand my understanding on how to move meaningful change forward on state and local levels. It has also confirmed to me that one person can truly make a difference.

The current moment is calling for immediate actions to mitigate the growing effects of climate change. The U.N. climate report has upped the Global Warming Warning as ‘code red for humanity’. In the past year and a half it has become indubitable to me that unless we address the intersection of environment, racial, and social justice as one, the climate change movement will never win.

With that understanding, I am committed and ready to show up (if elected) with my best to join the efforts and work



side by side with some of Marin’s and the Bay Area’s finest environmental, racial, and social justice advocates and activists to make rapid and positive change.

## Judy Schriebman

**Residence:** San Rafael

**Occupation:** Writer/Activist/Elected

**Sierra Club member since:** 1993

**Contact:** judymarinsierra@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Elected to Las Gallinas Valley Sanitary District Board
- Board member Gallinas Watershed Council, Watershed Alliance of Marin, and Sierra Club Marin Group ExCom
- Bioneers attendee for past 20 years
- Member of North Bay Watershed Association board, Marin County JPA on Solid and Hazardous Waste, and Citizen’s Advisory Committee for MCSTOPPP (Marin County Stormwater Pollution Prevention Program)
- At Lucas Valley Elementary School, I help lead the maintenance, funding, and development of their Outdoor Classroom, a native plant restoration project on the banks of Miller Creek.
- I love organic and regenerative gardening, hiking, writing, and raising monarch butterflies.

**Statement:**

Elected to the ExCom in 2017 as a petition candidate, I then served 2 years as chair. I have advocated at numerous public hearings on environmental and social justice issues. My administrative and organizational skills include: developing agendas, leading meetings, website updating. Spearheaded archiving official letters, minutes, and position papers into one accessible location.

While Covid has hampered so many of our activities, inappropriate development and environmental degradation continue without let up, as our economic, legal, and government systems still support the non-wise abuse of natural “resources,” as if all of nature were disposable and limitless. This same thinking propels the treatment of people as disposable, with harmful projects located in minority neighborhoods, and low-income residents treated with disdain and disrespect.

It is imperative we work quickly, efficiently, collaboratively, and intelligently to protect ourselves from the worst effects of our reliance on fossil fuels, chemicals, and plastics. Our environmental heroes and sheroes of the past diligently protected Marin’s landscapes. These areas will not remain intact if we are not vigilant in their continued protection. This is our group’s and my imperative. I hope to earn your vote by continuing to help grow and strengthen the Marin Group Sierra Club.



## MOUNT DIABLO GROUP

There is one candidate. You may vote for one or fewer.

### Beth Bittle

**Residence:** Walnut Creek (unincorporated)

**Occupation:** Adventure tour guide

**Sierra Club member since:** 2014

**Contact:** callingu2@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Chair - Rainbow Sierrans Governing Committee, 2015 - 2018
- Chair - Rainbow Sierrans Governing Committee, 2020 - present
- Nominations and Elections Committee, 2018 - 2020
- Rainbow Sierrans Outings Leader, 2014 - present
- National Sierra Club Outings Leader, 2015 - present
- Michener Award for outings leadership, 2018

**Statement:**

I am an avid outdoors person. I love to spend as much of my time as possible camping, hiking, kayaking, or cycling. If elected, I hope to bring new people into the Sierra Club by promoting access and inclusion, as well as helping young people and families connect to the Sierra Club. In addition, I will advocate for the preservation of parks and open spaces, protection of habitat and wildlife in the Mt. Diablo region, as well as the expansion of safer cycling routes.

Since 2014, I have been very involved in building community and leading outings through the regional Rainbow Sierrans, but am eager to work on conservation issues near home, in the Mount Diablo Chapter. I look forward to bringing my experience as an outings leader, as well as my service on the Rainbow Sierrans Governing Committee into a new leadership role in my local community as a member of the Mount Diablo Group Executive Committee.



## NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP

There are seven candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

### Ben Fong

**Residence:** Albany

**Occupation:** Transportation Director, Transportation Commissioner

**Sierra Club member since:** 2017

**Activities:**

- Vice Chair, Albany Transportation Commission
- Council on Foreign Relations Member
- Former U.S. Diplomat/Foreign Service Officer in the



Obama Administration

**Statement:**

As a Transportation Commissioner and transportation professional, I work every day to reduce greenhouse gas emissions via green sustainable transportation. Transportation is the largest contributor to greenhouse gas emissions in California and I want the Sierra Club to double its efforts to combat climate change.

As a diplomat in the Obama Administration from 2010-2015, I worked internationally on environmental issues, including increasing global cooperation on solar energy panel manufacturing, reducing plastic waste, and implementing US-led climate change adaptation projects in Southeast Asia. As an environmental officer at the U.S. Department of State, I helped to shepherd the Port State Measures Agreement, the first binding international agreement to specifically target illegal, unreported, and unregulated fishing. As a U.S. Delegate to the Asia-Pacific Economic Forum (APEC), I served as the United States’ representative on the environmental committees.

I’ve written for the Sierra Club blog and have helped organize volunteers for trail maintenance and removing invasive species in Claremont Canyon. As Transportation Commissioner, I have helped improve the Ohlone Greenway and improve bike lanes across Alameda County. I am also an avid gardener and member of the Ocean View Community Garden.

As your Executive Committee Member, I will fight to accelerate our advocacy for green transportation infrastructure, engage with community stakeholders including the Asian and Pacific Islander communities, and accelerate our conservation efforts across the state. California is in crisis. We need to urgently accelerate our work to protect the environment and bring in a diverse group of stakeholders to implement our vision. I ask you for your vote today!

## Sophie Hahn

**Residence:** Berkeley

**Occupation:** Berkeley City Councilmember & Bay Restoration Authority Governing Board Member

**Sierra Club member since:** 1992

**Contact:** sophie@sophiehahn.com

**Activities:**

(Current)

- Berkeley City Council, District 5
- Bay Restoration Authority Governing Board
- Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group (NACG) Executive and Conservation Committees
- Berkeley Board of Library Trustees
- Alameda County Stop Waste
- Founder, Berkeley Edible Gardens Initiative & Berkeley Basket Urban CSA

(Past)

- Co-Chair, 15th CA Assembly District Environmental Task Force
- Berkeley Zoning Adjustments Board



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- Co-Convener, Berkeley Deep Green Building
- Chair, Berkeley Commission on the Status of Women
- Board, Planned Parenthood
- President, King Middle School PTA

**Statement:**

It is my honor to serve on the Berkeley City Council and Bay Restoration Authority Governing Board, championing environmental progress in both capacities, and to have served since 2011 on the NACG Executive Committee, including as Chair.

Over these ten years, clear evidence of the damage wrought by climate change and pollution has escalated dramatically, increasing the urgency to act decisively. Persistent discrimination and injustice present another set of existential threats that require our urgent attention.

The Sierra Club plays a critical role in securing a sustainable future across the United States, and the globe. But no great progress is made without local action, and it is imperative that diverse, active, environmentally and socially conscious regions like ours lead the way to address both the climate and social justice emergencies.

I authored internationally acclaimed anti-plastics legislation, co-authored Berkeley's ban on natural gas in new buildings, and advocated to establish East Bay Community Energy, bringing 100% clean and renewable energy to every Alameda County household.

I'm dedicated to using my local voice and leadership with the Sierra Club to make change in our region — and inspire change across the globe — to achieve a just and sustainable future.

I respectfully ask for your vote, and look forward to continuing to serve you.

## Melinda Howard-Herrarte



**Residence:** Berkeley

**Occupation:** Health care project manager

**Sierra Club member since:** 2019

**Contact:** quetalquetzal@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Vice Chair, Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee, 2020-2021
- Member at Large, Bay Chapter Executive Committee, 2021
- Alternate Representative, Bay Chapter Executive Committee, 2020
- Member, Conservation Committee, Northern Alameda County Group, 2020-2021

**Statement:**

I strongly believe in the goals and mission of the Sierra Club. Urgent, equitable, climate action is critical. We maximize our impact when everyone has a seat at the table, so I'm particularly interested in finding ways to promote equity and inclusion at all levels of leadership in the Northern Alameda County Group, the Bay Chapter, and the Club. In my current term as a Group Executive Committee member, I've served as Group ExCom Vice Chair, Alternate Group Representative to

the Chapter ExCom, and leader of the Berkeley Zero Emissions Opt-Up task force. I'm also a part of several Chapter committees/ work groups/ task forces including environmental justice and 2021 David Brower Dinner. If elected to a second term, I'd like to explore creative ideas for local and global partnerships to fight the climate crisis, and continue working on environmental justice and climate action initiatives.

I live in Berkeley and work full time as a project manager for a local nonprofit healthcare company, where I am San Francisco/Oakland co-site lead of its employee environmental sustainability group. I split my volunteer time between Sierra Club and the United Nations Association (UNA). I currently serve on UNA's National Council, and in leadership roles in my local Chapter and the Northern California Division. With UNA, I help educate about the UN's sustainable development goals, and advocate at the federal level for issues like re-entry into the Paris Climate Accord.

## Andy Katz



**Residence:** Berkeley

**Occupation:** Environment / Workers'

Rights Attorney

**Sierra Club member since:** 2002

**Contact:** andy@andykatz.com

**Activities:**

- Northern Alameda County Group Executive Committee (2005 - 2021)
- Sierra Club California Chair (2011-2012) and California Legislative Committee (2007-2021)
- Former Chair Bay Chapter Transportation Committee
- Sierra Club delegate to UN climate negotiations (2009 - 2021)
- Director, East Bay Municipal Utility District

**Statement:**

I joined the Sierra Club after working on the San Francisco Bay Chapter's successful campaign to establish an urban limit line for Alameda County in the November 2000 election. The challenges of protecting our climate and natural resources will continue to persist. Sierra Club must maintain its strong environmental advocacy and build our grassroots so members can be a part of the process.

My areas of conservation expertise include air quality and climate change, renewable energy, transportation, land use and affordable housing, and water. Professionally, I work as an environmental and workers' rights attorney, and am trained as a transportation and environmental planner. As a board member of the East Bay Municipal Utility District, I fought hard to defeat the proposal to expand Pardee Reservoir because of the impacts flooding miles of the Mokelumne River, now protected as a California wild and scenic river, and worked to double investment in water conservation programs and ensure drought resilience.

In my role on the California Legislative Committee, I have worked closely with our activists and staff to ensure our legislative advocacy program remains strong by defending CEQA and advancing California's clean energy and climate laws. Our mem-

bership needs to grow to reflect the diversity of California, and more members need to get actively involved with our mission. I am running for re-election to the Northern Alameda County Executive Committee to contribute my experience in environmental policy and community organizing in continuing service for our environmental movement. I welcome your feedback — write me with your ideas and questions at [andy@andykatz.com](mailto:andy@andykatz.com).

## Kent Lewandowski



**Residence:** Oakland

**Occupation:** Health Care IT Specialist

**Sierra Club member since:** 1999

**Contact:** kentlewan@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee Member, 2009-2014
- Northern Alameda County Group Member, 2005-2014, 2020-2021
- Northern Alameda County Group Chair, 2006-2012
- Backpack Outings Leader, 2018-

**Statement:**

I began volunteering for the Sierra Club in 2005 when I moved to Oakland, where I have lived since then and now call home. My hobbies are outdoor recreation, gardening, and volunteering, including for the Sierra Club, where I have made a lot of friends over the years.

The Sierra Club is a great organization because it draws on a diverse, committed base of volunteers, it has a rich history, and a democratic decision-making structure. I have seen the Club be an effective advocate for the environment at both the local and national level. Locally, we helped keep coal shipments from being routed through the East Bay and Oakland's disadvantaged communities. We defended Measure G urban limits in the Tri-Valley area and promoted affordable housing development elsewhere. Nationally, Sierra Club's Beyond Coal campaign helped shut down coal power plants across the country. Those are all accomplishments we can be proud of. However, much more needs to be done. Our planet is literally on fire. While many environmental problems demand national solutions, the local groups can help by pushing planet-friendly legislation in the cities and counties we serve. We can also promote environmental awareness for all citizens, especially for our youth. We have only one planet. We are all stewards. As one of your elected leaders, I will advocate for solutions that our members and leaders agree are worthy and align with our organizational mission. I also value feedback from members like yourself. Only by working together will we succeed. You can contact me at [kentlewan@gmail.com](mailto:kentlewan@gmail.com).

## Nick Pilch



**Residence:** Albany

**Occupation:** Manager of Software Engineers

**Sierra Club member since:** 1990

**Contact:** (510) 525-3405, [nicky@mindspring.com](mailto:nicky@mindspring.com)

**Activities:**

- National and Local Outings Leader, 2005-present
- Committees:
  - Northern Alameda County (NAC) Executive Committee (ExCom), 2010-2011
  - Bay Chapter ExCom member, 2011-2016
  - Outreach Chair, 2011-2012
  - Nominations/Elections Chair, 2013
  - Fundraising Chair, 2015
  - Local Ballot Measure Review Committee, 2016-present (Sierra Club California)

**Statement:**

I am active with both Outings and the political side of the Club.

In the community, I co-founded Albany Strollers & Rollers, and was a founding member of Carbon Neutral Albany (now Albany Climate Action Coalition), and Albany for Everyone, a group promoting needed housing in Albany.

While serving on the Albany City Council for six years, I continued my environmental work and advocacy. I was appointed to the League of California Cities Environmental Quality Policy Committee. I supported and campaigned for city environmental work and ballot measures, such as the 2020 Albany Measure DD which will fund climate action work. I served 4 years on the East Bay Community Energy Board. Currently, I am currently a member of the Bicycle and Pedestrian Advisory Committee of the Alameda County Transportation Commission.

My priorities for the Club are:

- fighting climate change above all
- cordial and respectful and fruitful relationships amongst volunteers and leaders
- diversity in all aspects
- attracting and retaining young membership. Increasingly, the membership is skewing older. We can't maintain the Club if we can't continue to bring in young volunteers and leaders.
- attracting and retaining people of color. The Sierra Club must represent the diversity of our geographic boundaries.
- making sure the Chapter is working on all aspects of environmental work — environmental justice, and climate change including alternative transportation and energy, and resource conservation.
- finally, maintaining fiscal solvency. The Chapter depends on contributions and fundraising is imperative. I will do my part in donating and fundraising as well.

## Celina Reynes



**Residence:** San Leandro

**Sierra Club member since:** 2021

**Contact:** (510) 517-0794, [celina@uchastings.edu](mailto:celina@uchastings.edu)

**Statement:**

Born and raised in the East Bay, Celina currently resides in San Leandro, California. Celina has worked as a middle- and

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high-school English teacher since 2018, and joined the Sierra Club in 2021. She is now a first year student at UC Hastings Law, where she is pursuing a concentration in Social Justice Lawyering.

Celina is proud to volunteer with various San Leandro and Bay Area organizations, including April Showers and the Prison University Project at San Quentin (now known as Mount Tamalpais College). In 2020, she founded a public safety policy advance group called San Leandro for Accountability, Transparency, and Equity (SLATE), which launched a campaign to successfully fund a community police oversight program in San Leandro by 2022. She has served her city as a member of the inaugural Community Advisory Budget Task Force, putting forward recommendations for the City to explore a mental health response program, invest in community police oversight, and devote additional resources to climate resilience and environmental sustainability. She currently serves as an Associate on the Alameda County Democratic Central Committee and Secretary of the East Bay Young Democrats. She will be running for San Leandro City Council in 2022.

Celina wants to do her part to protect her community from unprecedented climate disasters and work to protect San Leandro's abundant natural resources, including the Marina, San Leandro Creek, and other parks and green spaces. She is looking forward to working with the Sierra Club to advocate for policy that will make San Leandro a healthier, greener place for current residents and future generations.

## SAN FRANCISCO GROUP

There are seven candidates. You may vote for five or fewer.

### Hunter Cutting



**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Professional advocate, climate protection  
**Sierra Club member since:** 2015

#### Activities:

##### Club Activities:

- Member, SF Group Conservation Committee (2016-present)
- Member, CNRCC Sea Level Rise Task Force (2018-present)
- Member, Chapter Transportation and Compact Group Committee (2020-present)
- Member; vice-chair SF Group Political Committee (2018-present)
- Bay Chapter Elections Committee (2018)
- Clair Tappaan skiing (1970s)

##### Other activities:

- Founder/volunteer leader, Save Clipper Cove
- Member, 350.org
- Member, California Native Plant Society

- Member, California Waterfowl Association
- Member, Harvey Milk Democratic Club

#### Statement:

I was raised in the Bay Area, and grew up hiking and sailing in northern California and the Sierras. My mom had me licking envelopes back in the day for Ron Dellums, and I have good memories of skiing off the Club's tow ropes at Clair Tappaan (and doing chores!)

Experiencing and learning about natural landscapes is a personal passion of mine. And climate protection is the focus of my professional work. Back in the late 90s, I worked with many others in the Club to defeat an anti-immigrant measure on the Club's national ballot. In 2015, I started and led Save Clipper Cove, an organization dedicated to fighting real estate developers pushing to take Clipper Cove at Treasure Island for a private luxury marina (we won).

I see climate change as the most important issue facing the Club. And I see urban development as the most important issue facing the San Francisco Group in particular.

The recent movement to promote ride hailing (over mass transit) and deregulate urban development threatens to undermine the integrity of San Francisco, degrade the urban environment, erode the stock of affordable housing, and further accelerate the displacement of marginalized communities. I will work to help champion a vision of urban development that promotes affordable housing and stands in solidarity with the progressive struggles of all communities.

### Barry Hermanson



**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Retired Small Business Owner  
**Sierra Club member since:** 1998  
**Contact:** (415) 255-9494, barry@hermansons.com

#### Activities:

- Member, Sierra Club San Francisco Group Executive Committee, 2016 to present
- SF Bay Chapter Executive Committee, SF Group rep., June 2018 to present
- Chair, SF Group Conservation Committee, March 2019 to present
- Member, San Francisco Green Party County Council, 2009 to 2020
- Co-Chair, Green Party of California Coordinating Committee, 2009 to 2012
- Green Party Candidate for various offices, 2002 to 2018
- Small business owner 1980 – 2005, working to improve wages and benefits for temporary employment workers
- Proponent and major donor for SF's minimum wage ballot measure that raised wages for 50,000 workers in 2003
- Co-Chair, SF Living Wage Coalition, passing legislation raising wages for 20,000 workers in 2000

#### Statement:

It has been my pleasure to serve alongside strong advocates for the environment on the SF Executive Committee for nearly six years. I believe climate change requires a much more rapid

response than the proposed 2045 date of carbon neutrality made by our political leaders. Greens believe 2030 should be the target. Every year we delay will bring greater change to our climate.

I recently wrote about converting my home to all electric. San Francisco has the opportunity to be a world leader. Shutting off the gas will not be easy, but it is possible. It can be done sooner rather than later for less cost per month than our collective monthly payments to PG&E: [sfbayview.com/2021/08/turning-off-the-gas](https://sfbayview.com/2021/08/turning-off-the-gas).

I encourage you to put the third Tuesday evening of the month on your calendar. The SF Group Conservation Committee meets from 7 to 8 p.m. The Executive Committee meets after a brief break. Your participation is needed to help protect the environment.

I look forward to the possibility of continuing this work. I ask for your vote.

### Joshua Klipp



**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Attorney/Disability Access Consultant  
**Sierra Club member since:** 2020  
**Contact:** joshuaklipp@gmail.com

#### Activities:

- Mission Verde Team Captain
- Friends of the Urban Forest, Planting Leader
- San Franciscans for Urban Nature, Member
- Demonstration Gardens, Board Member

#### Statement:

I was raised believing it's our responsibility to leave this planet better than we found it. I live this value through volunteerism and advocacy for urban trees. A thriving urban canopy is critical in the fight against climate change; is a matter of public and community health; plays a crucial role in sustainable urban infrastructure; and is a matter of environmental justice.

Twelve years ago, I began volunteering with Friends of the Urban Forest and, since then, I've planted more than 700 trees. As a 20+ year attorney and disability access consultant, I also push for policy and regulatory changes to move our city toward improved green infrastructure. I've drafted revised legislation, successfully implemented policy changes within several city departments, lobbied for increased tree funding, and am well-regarded at City Hall for my reasoned and practical advocacy. While my primary focus is on smart growth and preservation of canopy, in this work I have also become well-versed in the nuanced complexities of urban settings, housing and development, and creative regulatory and design innovations that, I hope, will make our city livable and resilient for future generations. My background as Certified Access Specialist (CASp) through California's Division of the State Architect also provides me the lens of access to green spaces for all bodies, regardless of ability. As a lifelong environmentalist, I have long admired the Sierra Club. If elected to the SF Group Executive Committee, my promise would be to always act with integrity, to be well-researched, to listen to the wisdom of those around

me, to be willing to change my mind, and to put myself in the shoes of those whom I ask to change.

### Olga Mandrussow



**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Environmental-Investigative Paralegal (retired)  
**Sierra Club member since:** 1994  
**Contact:** mandrussow@gmail.com

#### Activities:

- Active volunteer: Sierra Club National; November 3, 2020, campaign
- Active volunteer: Sierra Club California
- Active volunteer: SF Bay Chapter Advocacy Team
- Active volunteer: Sister District Action Network
- SF Group Transportation Committee
- SF Group Conservation Committee
- 2020: Led highly successful inaugural fundraising campaign for Victorian Alliance of San Francisco (historical preservation nonprofit)
- For over two years, stewarded neighborhood mini-park, working closely with Parks Alliance and challenging neighborhood association dynamics

#### Statement:

My overwhelming concern is the climate crisis. I wholeheartedly support anything that stops, reduces, and/or discourages the release of carbon into the atmosphere. I depend on science-based facts. I support conserving at least 30% of land and water by 2030, car-free open spaces such as JFK Drive and the Great Highway, affordable housing, and public transportation.

Within the SF Group, I hope to begin a conversation about the SF Group working more closely with Sierra Club staff on substantive issues (e.g., legislation, government entities, building codes), and moving away from issues best relegated to neighborhood associations. To rejuvenate the SF Group Executive Committee, I propose volunteer term limits, as well as conducting meetings that feel comfortable and inclusive to new, younger members.

Endorsements: Great Highway Park Initiative

### John Rizzo



**Residence:** San Francisco  
**Occupation:** Tech writer, author  
**Sierra Club member since:** 1982

#### Activities:

- Chapter Executive Committee Chair, 2005-2007, Vice Chair, 2002-2004
- Group Executive Committee Chair, 2001-2005, Committee member, 1998-present
- Chapter Political Committee Chair, 2007-present
- Chapter Executive Committee Chair, 2005-2007, Vice Chair 2002-2004, currently Committee member

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- Other committees (Water Committee, Chapter Communications Committee, Hetch Hetchy Liaison to the RCC)

**Statement:**

As a Sierra Club leader I have been active in the fight against climate change, advocating for renewable energy. I've also fought for public parks and open space all around the Bay Area, and advocated for better public transit, and worked to reduce plastic waste.

I have worked to help counties start Community Choice programs in order to build more solar. I also led the effort to save the successful GoSolarSF program, a rebate program that has quadrupled San Francisco's solar energy.

In 2017, I received an award for my work on CleanPowerSF. In 2008, I received a commendation from the San Francisco Board of Supervisors for my leadership in helping defeat the construction of a new fossil fuel power plant in Southeast San Francisco.

In 2018, I put together and moderated a panel on plastic waste pollution at the NOAA Sixth International Marine Debris Conference for the European environmental group, the Let's Do It Foundation.

As the Chapter's Political Chair, I have led the Club's effort to elect candidates who will make the environment a priority. Now more than ever we need elected officials who won't compromise on the environment.

I have also brought my environmental activism into public service. As an elected member of the Board of Trustees of San Francisco City College, I led an effort to establish green jobs training programs, an integrated energy efficiency plan for the district, and worked for LEED Gold certifications in new buildings.

**Howard Strassner****Residence:** San Francisco**Occupation:** Retired Mechanical Engineer**Sierra Club member since:** 1961**Contact:** (415) 661-8786, routhow1@gmail.com**Activities:** I am an active member of: SF Transit Riders and my West Portal Neighborhood.**Statement:**

Muni must improve service. A Muni that works is essential for SF prosperity and to reduce climate crisis gases. As service on each line improves, it gathers more riders who then transfer to intersecting lines. This becomes a virtuous cycle and soon there is less driving and less auto interference with buses and transit improves. Less driving means less climate crisis gases. The main ways to improve Muni, line by line, include: signal priority; bus bulbs; boarding islands; transit lanes and exclusive right-of-way. The Sierra Club should support these Transit First efforts. The SC should also support Muni's need for additional funding to replace Covid losses, less revenue from parking, and to make transit service more complete and equitable for all.

The production of affordable housing is another problem. I, with your ExCom, have supported ballot measures and ordi-

nances which tend to maintain and expand the supply of affordable housing. But, we should also support additional market rate housing near good transit, even if this means accepting greater, but reasonable, height and density. This will help fund affordable housing. This policy is similar to SC National policies on housing and driving, which seek to have people live in places where they don't have to commute long distances and don't have to use a car for most of their everyday needs.

I am asking for your support again, for election to the SF Group ExCom, so that I can continue to work with my colleagues to support "tree hugging" while I try to bring them closer to supporting our City's efforts to solve transit and housing problems.

**Howard Wong****Residence:** San Francisco**Occupation:** Architect (retired)**Sierra Club member since:** 2009**Contact:** Howard Wong, AIA, wongaia@aol.com**Activities:**

- San Francisco Tomorrow, Board of Directors (since 2007)
- SaveMuni, founding member and officer (since 2008)
- Transbay Joint Powers Authority, Citizens Advisory Committee (since 2018)
- Telegraph Hill Dwellers, Transportation Committee, Chair
- Central Waterfront Advisory Group (CWAG) and Southern Advisory Committee (SAC), Port of San Francisco (since 2006)
- NEXT Village SF, founding Board Member (aging-in-place nonprofit, since 2008)
- North Beach Neighborhood Court, Lead Adjudicator (District Attorney's, since 2007)
- A Better Chinatown Tomorrow (ABCT), Co-chair
- District 3 Democratic Club, President
- Past member of Pioneer Park Project at Coit Tower (public/ private partnership that built new stairways, green spaces and terraces, founding member); AIA Minority Resources Committee (Chair); Civil Grand Jury; Muni Citizens Advisory Committee and Parks and Open Space Advisory Committee
- Past Board Member of Chinese Historical Society of America (Vice-President); International Federation of Professional & Technical Engineers, Local 21 (President); Neighborhood Parks Council; San Francisco Heritage; SPUR and Telegraph Hill Dwellers (Vice-President)

**Statement:**

We face herculean environmental challenges, where local adaptations need to be part of regional/national/global strategies and scalable for wider implementation. Ten countries contribute 67% of global greenhouse gas emissions, of which the United States' 13% is second only to China's 26%. Half of the world's population, 3 billion people, cook meals with solid fuels, like wood, coal, charcoal, and dung. Rising global temperatures fuel extreme weather events; drought, ice melt, ocean acidification,

fire—parts of a vicious climate feedback loop.

What we do locally has to help shape broader sustainable practices—through creativity, innovation, best practices, and example. In San Francisco, we have a rare blend of academic/political/scientific environmentalists, advocacy groups, green technology and green venture capital—with opportunities for green partnerships. As an architect, neighborhood activist and transit advocate, I hope to help the Sierra Club in environmental and quality of life solutions.

**SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP**

There are three candidates. You may vote for two or fewer.

**Vinnie Bacon****Contact:** (650) 863-6549, vbacon@vbacon.com**Statement:**

I've been fighting for the environment in Southern Alameda County for over 20 years. I got involved with the SAC Group in 2001 and quickly became the group's Chair. I ran for Chapter ExCom and won in 2008. I served on these through 2012 when I was elected to the Fremont City Council. I served on the City Council through 2020.

My first significant activity was the fight against the Patterson Ranch development in Fremont, a massive auto-oriented housing proposal right next to Coyote Hills Regional Park. We gathered signatures and created a ballot measure to reduce the amount of allowed development there.

It was this experience, and my time on the Chapter's Political Committee, that I learned the importance of electing good people into office, ideally from our own membership. I first ran for the Fremont City Council in 2008 and won in 2012.

I have Masters degrees in City Planning and Transportation Engineering from UC Berkeley and know what good city planning is. Sadly, developer profit has driven most of the development in the Bay Area. The result is the car dependence we have and all its associated problems.

I campaigned on a platform of not taking developer money. As a Councilmember, I fought against unaffordable, auto-oriented development. I fought for real, mixed-use transit-oriented development, for easier solar installation permitting, increased EV charging stations, and for pedestrian and bicycle improvements.

I ran for Alameda County Supervisor last year and was endorsed by the Sierra Club. My candidate questionnaire is still online: [bacon4supervisor.com/environment](http://bacon4supervisor.com/environment).

I try to be a good environmentalist in my personal life. I bike 70-80 miles a week. I have solar and drive a Nissan Leaf. I'm a vegetarian whose back yard has nine raised bed gardens and 10 fruit trees. I'm also an avid bird photographer.

**Marlina Rose Selva****Residence:** Hayward**Occupation:** Mental Health Professional**Sierra Club member since:** 2018**Contact:** dr.selva3@gmail.com**Activities:**

- Southern Alameda County Group Executive Committee
- Ohlone Audubon Society Board of Directors
- Friends of San Lorenzo Creek
- Save the Redwoods League
- Ho'okahi Pu'uwai Outrigger Canoe Club
- National Museum of the American Indian
- American Association for Marriage and Family Therapy
- California Association of Marriage and Family Therapists

**Statement:**

The world today looks a lot different from just fifty years ago. Changes are occurring at unprecedented levels. It will take the effort of everyone collectively to create a sustainable environment for future generations. The melting of polar ice caps has accelerated, temperatures continue to rise, a global pandemic persists, and demands for more resources increase with population growth. All living things are interconnected like the web of a spider. With Sierra Club, I work to help everyone gain access to nature, shelter, and health.

I hold a bachelor's and doctoral degrees in psychology, and am a UCLA alumni. I work in private practice with adolescents and families, specializing in foster care and adoption. My profession allows me to merge nature and mental health. It also provides me the experiences of working with youth to understand their concerns about the environment.

I am passionate about wildlife conservation, including habitat protection and restoration. I advocate strongly with the local community for creek protections. Protecting the Earth's natural resources, starting with restoring our water to safer and cleaner levels, is a fundamental part of my focus. As an ethnic minority, I advocate for environmental justice and Indigenous rights. While moving away from fossil fuels and toward cleaner forms of energy, it is necessary to protect our local ecosystems and reintroduce Native plant species. We must bring Indigenous knowledge from the past into the present in order to build a sustainable future. I hope to earn your vote to achieve this goal together, thank you.

To contact me: [dr.selva3@gmail.com](mailto:dr.selva3@gmail.com).

**William Yragui****Residence:** Fremont**Occupation:** Business owner since 1992**Sierra Club member since:** 2012**Contact:** (650) 642-5150**Activities:**

- Current SAC ExCom Member
- Chair, Chapter Activities Committee
- Secretary, East Bay Public Lands
- Member, Transportation & Compact Growth, Political, and Outreach Committees

- Hike and Bike Leader
- Co-Founder, Mission Peak Conservancy
- Member, Bay Area Trail Advisory Council

**Statement:**

The Sierra Club needs energetic advocates to protect our open spaces, native species habitat, and agricultural lands, and I have proven my effectiveness. As Political Chair for the SAC Group, I have worked with Club leadership to endorse candidates who share our perspectives regarding sea level rise, climate change, and the transition to renewable energy. I have demonstrated strong leadership, worked to attract new members, and supported projects that are congruent with Sierra Club goals. As a result, the SAC Group has contributed to protecting agricultural lands from inappropriate development; opposed filling in wetlands in Newark and Hayward; helped write ordinances that limit the dumping of construction fill; and supported new trails and regional parks. We have supported HARD in creating trails on San Lorenzo Creek, in the Hayward foothills, and alongside the SF Bay. We support the Morrison Canyon Trail in Fremont and the Niles Canyon Trail.

During the pandemic, I have worked tirelessly to advocate for more multiuse paths, expanded park hours, and access to nature. We need to complete the East Bay Greenway, Niles Canyon, Bay Area Ridge, and Bay Trails by engaging the public in Hayward, San Lorenzo, Union City, Castro Valley, Newark, and Fremont. Climate change is real. Encouraging bike and pedestrian use reduces greenhouse gases and leads to better health. I support the efforts of HARD and HASPA to address sea level rise along the Bay shoreline to protect Hayward, San Lorenzo, and Union City. I would sincerely appreciate your vote. If you have any questions, please contact me at 650-642-5150. Thank you.

## TRI-VALLEY GROUP

There are five candidates. You may vote for three or fewer.

### Donna Cabanne



**Residence:** Livermore

**Occupation:** Teacher, retired

**Sierra Club member since:** 1980

**Contact:** donna.cabanne@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Tri-Valley Executive Committee from 2000 to present
- Sierra Club Representative to the Altamont Landfill Community Monitoring Committee from 2000 to present
- Education Advisory Board Member for Reduction, Reuse and Recycling from 2000 to 2016

**Statement:**

Hello Fellow Environmentalists !!! The Tri-Valley continues to face many environmental challenges. If re-elected, I will focus on:

1. Maintaining and strengthening Measure D, which protects open space, endangered species, and limits development;
2. Continuing our efforts to reduce climate change by supporting renewable green energy sources with an emphasis on solar panels in the built environment FIRST. No large solar power plants on farmlands, ranches, open space, and other sensitive areas until we blanket our roofs and parking lots with solar collectors;
3. Reducing our dependence on fossil fuels by prohibiting oil drilling and all horizontal fracking in the county.

The Livermore 737 jet airport expansion would be a disaster. It violates noise restrictions for all Tri-Valley cities and the Alameda County General Plan, and could cause health impacts from lead in aviation fuel.

Water shortages and possible ways to supplement our water supplies safely and economically will remain an ongoing issue. Air quality is always a pressing concern as we live in one of the dirtiest air basins in Northern California. Achieving truly affordable housing while maintaining local control and current CEQA requirements is critical.

On a positive note, after 20 years Friends of Tesla Park, Sierra Club, and many others were able to secure a 3,100-acre new state park with no off-highway motorized vehicles. Many thanks to Senator Steve Glazer and Assemblymember Rebecca Bauer-Kahan for their determination to make this happen.

I have had the honor to serve as a Tri-Valley Sierra Club Executive Committee member for over twenty years and have actively participated in all the environmental issues mentioned and many others.

I welcome your feedback and encourage your participation!!! You can reach me at [donna.cabanne@gmail.com](mailto:donna.cabanne@gmail.com). I respectfully ask for your vote so we can continue making our Tri-Valley a safer environment for our families, and our future.

### David Furst



**Residence:** Livermore

**Occupation:** University Professor, retired

**Sierra Club member since:** 2019

**Contact:** (925) 371-1860, dmfirst442@gmail.com

**Activities:**

- Sierra Club representative, Altamont Landfill Open Space Committee
- Friends of Open Space and Vineyards, Board
- Livermore Area Recreation and Park District, elected Director

**Former member:**

- Friends of Tesla Park, Steering Committee
- Tri-Valley Conservancy, Citizen Advisory Committee
- Livermore Ad hoc Growth Review Committee
- Livermore Ad hoc Bikeways & Trails Committee
- Alameda County Parks, Recreation and Historical Commission

**Statement:**

With many years of experience on local environmental issues, I can be an effective member of the Tri-Valley Group Ex-Com. East County is the largest area of unincorporated land in the county and is under constant threat from various types of development. Tri-Valley cities face many environmental challenges: air and water pollution, traffic; and a shortage of parks and recreational opportunities. I live in the Tri-Valley and know these issues.

As LARPD Director, I initiated the purchase of land to expand our parks and spear-headed the creation of numerous trails including the link between Sycamore Grove and Del Valle.

Among my top concerns are the unending attempts to weaken Measure D, our landmark open space ballot initiative. We cannot let it die by a thousand cuts.

I support clean energy such as wind and solar farms, but only after the Board of Supervisors establishes an official policy. We need to be creative in placing solar panels such as covering water canals, which will help minimize evaporation, as well as to install rooftop solar on commercial as well as residential buildings in our cities.

Health impacts from noise and pollution from leaded fuels must be fully investigated before Livermore expands its airport and allows larger jets.

Tesla Park now appears to be saved from destruction. I helped by testifying in Sacramento before the CA Senate and Assembly Committees.

I ask for your support.

### Larry Gosselin D.V.M.



**Residence:** Rural Alameda County South of Livermore

**Occupation:** Equine Veterinarian, Biotechnology Consultant

**Sierra Club member since:** 1999

**Activities:****Current**

- Alameda County Agricultural Advisory Committee (AAC)
- Solar Subcommittee (AAC)
- Urban Agriculture Infrastructure Subcommittee (AAC)
- Equine Subcommittee (AAC)
- Citizen Climate Lobby
- Alameda County ALL IN EATS - Executive Committee
- Alameda County ALL IN EATS - Working Group
- Alameda County ALL IN EATS - Live-Work-Farm Committee
- Rancher-Conservationist

**Past**

- East County Board of Zoning Adjustments (2002-2016)
- Agricultural Water Task Force
- Working Landscape Plans

**Statement:**

I like to plan. But even more, I like to implement. As a

veterinarian I designed and built my equine hospital, assessed teams, designed and built research facilities, developed animal welfare strategies and assisted research, and was recognized as a legal expert on matters related to veterinary standards and equestrian operations. When immigrants at our southern borders exceeded the capacity of our immigration system, I worked with friends to identify, unite, sponsor, and find employment and housing for a family of 5 that is now receiving favorable political asylum judgments from the immigration court. When East Bay Regional Park District purchased Doolan Preserve, I developed and implemented a strategy with their staff to provide public access across private property. Presently I am working with community leaders to develop food hubs, housing for agricultural workers, and enhanced farming systems that merge the urban and rural agroecology.

My interests extend across the urban-rural interface. The Tri-Valley Group is undergoing progressive change that is positive for diversity and inclusion. I hope to work with other members to expand the diversity and youth membership of the Group. I believe we should evaluate and push the implementation of a regional multiuse trail system that promotes recreation, commuting, and pedestrian/hiking activity on a regional as well as local scale. I will help move existing plans that were guided by Sierra Club members, as well as other stakeholders, from their spots on shelves gathering dust to be implemented. These plans were intended to create regional wildlife corridors and conservation connections, enhance agriculture, and enhance North Livermore land use. The planning has been done. It is time to drive implementation.

I thank those who prompted and supported my petition candidacy, and those supporting proactive leadership by the Tri-Valley Group Executive Committee.

### Marisol Rubio



**Residence:** San Ramon

**Occupation:** Director, Dublin San Ramon Services District (DSRSD); Health Care Provider

**Sierra Club member since:** 2019

**Contact:** mrubiosierraclub@gmail.com

**Activities:****Sierra Club:**

- SF Bay Chapter At-Large Executive Committee, Bylaws & Standing Rules Task Force, and Diversity, Equity, & Inclusion/Environmental Justice Committee Lead Chair
- Tri-Valley Group Vice-Chair/Acting Chair
- California Conservation Committee, Chapter Delegate

**Other:**

- Vice-Chair, DSRSD-EBMUD Recycled Water Authority
- San Ramon/Central San Liaison Committee
- Former State Senate District 7 Candidate
- County Central Committee Rules & former Issues Committee Co-Chair

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

- Assembly District Delegate
- Contra Costa Labor Council Climate Caucus and Delegate

**Statement:**

Protecting our environment has been a personal passion since college when I worked on forest restoration projects and learned firsthand how human behavior impacts our ecosystem. This experience prompted me to reduce my carbon footprint by adopting a vegetarian and then vegan diet for 22 years.

Today, I uphold these values through my leadership roles by sponsoring and passing bold climate initiatives such as the California Green New Deal, Protecting the Brentwood Urban Limit Line, and the Environmental and Climate Crisis Council Platform and by helping to organize the first Labor-Climate Convergence meeting. As a State Senate candidate, I refused fossil fuel, developer, or corporate contributions. Now, as DSRSD Director, I work to ensure water safety and availability by closely monitoring PFAs in our groundwater wells and identifying solutions to meet our growing demand. As Tri-Valley Group Vice Chair and acting Chair, I elevated our community visibility and impact by inviting local elected officials and field experts to provide informative presentations about our water and solar-powered light rail systems and by facilitating thorough and timely consideration of our most pressing issues.

Your vote will enable me to continue my work with local leaders to protect our natural resources and open spaces, further transition to clean energy, create green jobs, encourage Smart Growth, and defend our planet. Please feel free to contact me at [mrubiosierraclub@gmail.com](mailto:mrubiosierraclub@gmail.com). Thank you for your time and consideration.

**Lynn Seppala**

**Residence:** Livermore

**Occupation:** Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, optical scientist (retired)

**Sierra Club member since:** 1977

**Contact:** (925) 872-1321, [LynnSeppala@gmail.com](mailto:LynnSeppala@gmail.com)

**Activities:**

Past or present Chair:

- Chabot Las Positas College Bond Oversight Committee
- Las Positas College Foundation
- Three arts organizations

Past or present Boards:

- Friends of Open Space and Vineyards
- UC Merced Foundation
- Axis Community Health Capital Campaign

**Statement:**

In 1977, I met my future wife during a Sierra Club hike on Pleasanton Ridge where leaders emphasized the need for a park. In 1980, residents defeated a referendum for ridgetop developments. In 1988, the East Bay Regional Park District purchased land, creating the Pleasanton Ridge Regional Park. Citizen involvement was essential.

I bring management experience, with leadership roles in a variety of organizations.



**Lisa Park**

**Residence:** Richmond

**Occupation:** Registered Environmental Health Specialist

**Sierra Club member since:** 1981

**Contact:** [lpark@sonic.net](mailto:lpark@sonic.net)

**Activities:**

- Treasurer of the West CoCo Group

**Statement:**

I have been on the Executive Committee of the West CoCo Group since 2017 and became Treasurer in 2018. I also worked on the Group Elections Committee. Until the pandemic, I was involved in No Coal in Richmond; worked in the Chapter office, and was a commissioner on the Contra Costa County Hazardous Materials Commission. Then the pandemic hit, and as the months went by, all my activities ended in one way or another, except for my position as West CoCo Group Treasurer and Election Committee for the 2020 elections. The West CoCo Group, of course, met on Zoom for our monthly meetings. I miss in-person participation and find that remote meetings have sapped my enthusiasm. So I am in a holding pattern as far as Sierra Club activities go.

ALL CANDIDATE STATEMENTS CAN ALSO BE READ ONLINE AT [SIERRACLUB.ORG/SAN-FRANCISCO-BAY/2021-CANDIDATE-STATEMENTS](http://SIERRACLUB.ORG/SAN-FRANCISCO-BAY/2021-CANDIDATE-STATEMENTS)

I was active in other campaigns to preserve open space. I knocked on doors urging passage of Alameda County's Measure D, defining agricultural land use policies. I collected hundreds of petition signatures that helped convince the Livermore City Council to adopt an Urban Growth Boundary.

For decades, Measure D, Tri-Valley cities' UGBs, and South Livermore Valley Area Plan have protected agricultural lands, saving endangered plants and animals, and preserving the scenic corridor for all to enjoy.

Measure D is constantly attacked from groups similar to those who proposed in North Livermore a large crematorium and the Pardee Homes Development that would have destroyed environmentally sensitive areas. With citizen support, those efforts were thwarted, but this is no time to relax. The County has authorized a 400-acre solar installation, ignoring Measure D while failing to formulate a promised land use policy.

My 37 years at LLNL were spent developing alternative energy sources. We must limit the effects of global warming, while heeding the Club's mission to protect our Tri-Valley's ecosystems.

I welcome your support and trust in me that I will adhere to the Club's policies protecting our Tri-Valley's environment.

**WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP**

There is one candidate. You may vote for one or fewer.



**2021 Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter Election Ballot:**

Please vote for the Chapter Executive Committee and your local group Executive Committee. Candidate names have been listed in alphabetical order by last name. Mark your ballot with black or blue ink. Please make your selections legible and keep your marks within the boxes. If you mismark your ballot, you may make a correction in a manner that clearly indicates your intended vote.

Once you have made your selections, cut out this page, place the ballot in a stamped envelope, and mail it to: Ballot Submission, Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter, P.O. Box 2663, Berkeley, CA 94702. Paper ballots sent by fax or email will not be counted. The mailing label printed on the reverse of your ballot, which includes your unique membership number, will indicate it's valid. Your ballot must be **received** by Tuesday, November 30th.

If you prefer to vote online, visit [sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections](http://sierraclub.org/sfbay/chapter-elections). For further instructions on voting and submitting your ballot, see page 15. The 2021 Chapter Nominations and Elections Committee (Peggy da Silva, Scott Simmons, Lucy Claire Curran, Sarah Ranney, Pamela Green, and Tiffany Ngo) thanks you for voting!

CHAPTER EX COM (vote for 5 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Chance Cutrano		
Martha Kreeger		
Max Perrey		
Nick Pilch		
John Rizzo		
Igor Tregub		

CHAPTER BYLAW AMENDMENTS (write YES or NO for each, or leave blank)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Amendment 1		
Amendment 2		
Amendment 3		

MARIN GROUP EX COM (vote for 4 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Chance Cutrano		
Sharon Farrell		
Jinesse Reynolds		
Judy Schriebman		

MOUNT DIABLO GROUP EX COM (vote for 1 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Beth Bittle		

NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM (vote for 5 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Ben Fong		
Sophie Hahn		
Melinda Howard-Herrarte		
Andy Katz		
Kent Lewandowski		
Nick Pilch		
Celina Reynes		

NORTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP BYLAW AMENDMENT (write YES or NO, or leave blank)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Amendment 1		

SAN FRANCISCO GROUP EX COM (vote for 5 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Hunter Cutting		
Barry Hermanson		
Joshua Klipp		
Olga Mandrussow		
John Rizzo		
Howard Strassner		
Howard Wong		

SOUTHERN ALAMEDA COUNTY GROUP EX COM (vote for 2 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Vinnie Bacon		
Marlina Rose Selva		
William Yragui		

TRI-VALLEY GROUP EX COM (vote for 3 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Donna Cabanne		
David Furst		
Larry Gosselin		
Marisol Rubio		
Lynn Seppala		

WEST CONTRA COSTA COUNTY GROUP EX COM (vote for 1 or fewer)	Single member/ first joint member	2nd joint member
Lisa Park		

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**#SierraSnapshots** | A California quail in the Warner Mountains, July 2021. Photo by Neil Tsutsui. For a chance to get your snapshots featured in the next issue of the Yodeler, email photos to [yodedit@sfbaysc.org](mailto:yodedit@sfbaysc.org) or share them on Twitter or Instagram with the hashtag #SierraSnapshots. Include your name, the names of any people in the photo, and where and when the photo was taken.

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#### **SIERRACLUB.ORG/SFBAY**

Our website is home to helpful information and resources including:

- Our blog, updated regularly
- The full events and activities calendar
- Group information and leadership roster

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Chapter elections open on Nov. 3rd! Vote for your local Sierra Club representatives by Nov. 30th (p. 14)
- Building electrification illustration highlights policy wins across California (p. 6)
- Green Friday educational programs continue through winter (p. 11)

#### **EMAIL**

Visit [sierraclub.org/sfbay/email](https://sierraclub.org/sfbay/email) to sign up for Bay Chapter emails, including monthly bulletins and action alerts.