

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

Welcome to the Spring issue of the Yodeler! We're well into another wonderful year here at the Bay Chapter, and as we emerge from the holidays many of us have started to think about getting outdoors more. Some of us have been hiking all winter long — whether it's close to home with a nice walk in the Presidio or further afield with some quality snow camping in the Sierra. How can we rest when all of California's natural splendors lie at our doorsteps?



Whether you've been active all winter long or you're just gearing up again for the warmer seasons, the Sierra Club has a wonderful array of hikes, bike rides, backpacking trips, and other adventures for you to join in on. Be sure to check out the activities listings starting on page 16 of this issue.

Of course, activities and outings are not the only things we do. As you know, we are not only involved in exploring the outdoors, but in protecting it. This spring is no different, with a full plate of campaigns: from fighting the Trump administration's offshore drilling proposal (see page 4) to strategizing how to protect Richmond and Oakland residents from dirty coal exports (page 7); from advocating affordable housing in downtown Berkeley (page 5) to pushing for protections for the East Bay's primary water source (page 11). Some of these campaigns are years-long efforts, having started long before my tenure, while others are fresh to us. Either way, each day we make more progress towards a better future in the Bay Area.

For myself, I have some new beginnings as well. As some of you know, I'm currently out on maternity leave as my family welcomes a new little one into the fold. Not to fear though; I am leaving you with a brilliant staff, a passionate volunteer leadership, and the power that only occurs when 40,000 Sierra Club members come together to create change for our future. Whether it is to hike or to lobby, I hope you'll join your fellow members for a wonderful spring.

Minda Berbeco
DIRECTOR

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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOGRAPH: Offshore-drilling protestors in Sacramento on February 8, photo by Jane Richey Photography, janerichey.com

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SPRING 2018 CHAPTER NEWS

Chapter launches new platform to match volunteers with opportunities to help out

Volunteers are critical to getting the work of the Bay Chapter done. From stuffing envelopes to helping elect environmentally friendly candidates (and everything in between), we have a job that needs doing. To help you find volunteer opportunities that match your interests and availability, we've launched a new page on the website Volunteer Match where we post upcoming volunteer opportunities.

You can find the link to our Volunteer Match page—as well as information about other ways to get involved in the Club—online at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/volunteer.

National Sierra Club elections are underway

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway. Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive in the mail (or by Internet if you chose the electronic delivery option) your national Sierra Club ballot in early March. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's website.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation.

In a typical year, less than 10% of eligible members vote in the Board elections. A minimum of 5% is required for the elections to be valid. Our grassroots structure is strengthened when our participation is high. That means your participation is needed in the voting process.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. Each candidate provides a statement about themselves and their views on the issues on the official election ballot. You can learn more by asking questions of

your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. You can also visit the Club's election website for additional information about candidates: www.sierraclub.org/board/election. Then make your choice and cast your vote!

Even if you receive your election materials in the mail, we encourage you to use the user-friendly Internet voting site to save time and postage. If sending via ground mail, please note your ballots must be received by no later than Election Day, April 25, 2018.

Celebrating Earth Day 2018

While we celebrate the Earth every day at the Sierra Club, Earth Day is officially celebrated on April 22 and throughout the months of April and May. The Bay Chapter participates in many events, fairs, festivals, and community cleanups. Volunteers use these opportunities to share information about the Club and how we "Explore, Enjoy, and Protect the Planet". Once our Earth Day schedule is finalized the events will be posted on our online calendar and in a digest form on our blog: www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/blog.

The Outreach Committee seeks volunteers for Earth Day events. If you can help in any capacity, please contact Joanne Drabek at joanne1892@gmail.com or 510-530-5216.

One event we know we'll be at is the Earth Day and John Muir birthday celebration at the John Muir Historical House in Martinez on Saturday, April 21 from 10 am to 4 pm. Celebrate the legacy of the Sierra Club's founder and first president with free admission to the historic Muir home and orchards, environmental exhibits, food, music, and entertainment.

Do you do Dewey?

The Sierra Club Library is a small, historic collection of books, reports, journals, and photographs located at the headquarters office in downtown Oakland. We are looking for a volunteer to help shelve, shift, and assist with special projects, one day a week. Must be physically fit to lift, bend, and stretch. Previous library experience and/or Dewey Decimal-literate preferred (but not required).

If you are interested, please email colby.library@sierraclub.org, or call 415-977-5506. To learn more about Sierra Club's William E. Colby Memorial Library, visit us on the web at www.sierraclub.org/library.

No drill, no spill: Advocates take a stand against offshore drilling

Hundreds of Sierra Club members and allies joined together on February 8 in Sacramento to rally against offshore oil drilling. The occasion was a federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management hearing on a Trump administration proposal to open 90% of America's coasts to offshore drilling, including six locations off the California coast. The hearing—the only one for the entire state—was held in Sacramento, far from any beach, but hundreds of people from coastal communities throughout the state managed to show up anyway, hoping to be heard.

Before the hearing, a broad coalition of organizations and tribal groups, including the Sierra Club, the Center for Biological Diversity, Ocean Protectors, and Brown Girls Surf, hosted a rousing rally outside the capitol building. We were joined by more than half a dozen elected officials.

State Controller Betty Yee drew rousing applause when she announced to Washington that “the Pacific Ocean is not just another property for you to drill 18 holes in.” Senators Hannah-Beth Jackson and Ricardo Lara, and assemblymembers Monique Limón, Al Muratsuchi and Jim Wood, affirmed their outrage for the offshore drilling proposal and reminded the audience of their timely legislation to block it.

Senator Jackson, who introduced SB 834, described the Trump administration as “the most backward in the history of the nation.” Assemblymember Limón, who introduced AB 1775, condemned the federal government’s “attacks on our environment, on our ecosystem, on our marine life and on a coastal economy that helps everyday Californians be successful.” The identical bills, if passed by the legislature by August 31, will protect our coastal environment from the hazards of proposed expanded oil drilling by prohibiting the infrastructure needed to process the oil from being constructed in state waters and lands. Stay tuned for messages from Sierra Club California on how you can support legislation to protect our coasts.



TRUMP'S BIG OIL GIVEAWAY

At the same time that Trump's Department of the Interior has proposed opening 90% of US coasts to offshore drilling, Congress is moving to dismantle safety regulations that were enacted after the Deepwater Horizon oil spill. They also failed to renew a longstanding oil tax that funds cleanup efforts for oil spills. It almost sounds too sinister to be true—they want to open 90% of our coasts to drilling but won't enforce basic safety standards or fund programs to clean up the inevitable spills.

If Trump's plan becomes reality, spills will be inevitable—and devastating. In 2010, the Deepwater Horizon oil spill damaged 1,313 miles of coastline. That's more than the entire length of California, or half the Atlantic coast. Offshore oil spills happen frequently, devastating marine environments, commercial fishing industries, and tourism businesses.

Here in California we know the toll that offshore drilling can take on our coastlines, coastal communities, and marine life. If you were alive at the time of the 1969 Santa Barbara oil spill, you will never forget the images of oil-soaked birds, dead seals and

dolphins washing up on beaches, and a miles-wide oil slick. That disaster helped catalyze the environmental movement and triggered a moratorium on new leases for offshore drilling in the state that has lasted for 35 years, through both Democratic and Republican administrations. Until now.

Even without a major disaster, offshore drilling is dirty and destructive. The combination of seismic blasts, increased traffic, and smaller spills would do irreparable damage to marine life and coastal communities. And given California's vulnerability to sea level rise, wildfires, and drought from fossil-fuel-driven climate change, Californians should oppose offshore drilling in all of our oceans.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

If you haven't submitted your comments already, please take a moment to share your concerns about offshore drilling before the March 9 deadline. Visit <https://tinyurl.com/protect-thepacific> to submit your comments today.

Editor's note: This article includes content from a *Sierra* magazine article "Californians Say No to Oil Drilling at Interior Department Hearing" by Wendy Beckett and from a Sierra Club California *Capitol Voice* newsletter article "No Drill, No Spill: Advocates Take a Stand for the Pacific" by Katherine Garcia.

Parking requirement threatens Berkeley's ambitious affordable housing project

IGOR TREGUB & LUIS AMEZCUA

Putting underground parking below planned housing for the homeless in Berkeley is not only costly and short-sighted, but will reduce the number of units that can be built.

At its March 13th meeting, the Berkeley City Council will discuss the Berkeley Way project—the city's most ambitious development for affordable and supportive housing for the homeless since the David Brower Center. Last year, the City Council voted unanimously to prioritize the project and reserved a \$3.1 million Housing Trust Fund allocation to help finance the project. Even with this projected infusion of funding, the project—which has been planned by the City Council for nearly five years—faces a \$12-15 million overall funding shortfall.

Overall, the plan proposed by City of Berkeley staff to close this funding gap looks like a reasonable plan to finance this incredible project. But one significant hurdle remains, which pits 20th-century thinking about parking requirements against today's acute need for permanently affordable housing, shelters, and supportive services. Namely, the city's plan to replace the surface-level parking lot that will hold the complex with as many as two levels of subterranean parking. The stated goal is to recapture "\$800,000 in revenue annually that goes into the city's parking fund."

The Sierra Club is concerned that introducing this amount of parking would at best lead to a reduction in below-market-rate units on this site, and at worst render the project cost-infeasible. It would be contrary to the mission of a walkable, bicycle-friendly, and transit-accessible downtown. The project, a few blocks away from the Downtown Berkeley BART station and numerous AC Transit bus stops, is within a Priority Development Area—a designation that encourages local communities to provide benefits such as housing at all income levels, transit access and amenities, and open space.

The development of transit-oriented housing is one of the most effective strategies to reduce greenhouse gas emissions—particularly those associated with transportation from single-occupancy vehicles. At a City Council work session in December regarding the city's Climate Action Plan, the city

reported that "transportation is the largest source of community-wide emissions, and modeled data shows a slight increase of 5% from 2000 to 2015," resulting in transportation accounting for 56% of the city's greenhouse gas emissions. The city has laid out a variety of strategies to achieve 80% greenhouse gas reductions by 2050, which includes reducing petroleum use by 75% and reducing "vehicle miles traveled by focusing growth along transit corridors, smart parking policies, and increasing access to less-polluting travel modes, such as biking, walking, and public transit."

Berkeley cannot meet its emission reduction goals without putting the strategies it has identified into practice. We are sympathetic to the concerns of some downtown Berkeley merchants, but believe that the entire nature of parking and transportation will soon change. If the viability of this project is sacrificed in support of parking, we just may be stuck with an underutilized subterranean parking lot that is extremely difficult to convert to a more needed use. In the interim, the Center Street garage, three short blocks away, will create about 400 more parking spaces than used to be there previously—which will more than account for any parking reduction at Berkeley Way.

At the conclusion of the previous meeting at which the Berkeley Way project was discussed, and thanks to broad support from the Sierra Club and other organizations, the City Council took one very important step: unanimously voting to have city staff study the following issues: (1) The effect of including parking in the project on competitiveness of securing cap-and-trade funds; (2) The time and cost to redesign the project under each parking scenario, including a zero-parking scenario; (3) An analysis of cost implications for each parking scenario, and potential sources of funds if parking revenue falls short; and (4) Building-height options and construction type.

In March we will ask the City Council to build upon this vote. The Sierra Club strongly supports building an affordable and transitional housing project with supportive services at the Berkeley Way site in the face of an unprecedented housing affordability and homelessness crisis in our community. We urge the City Council to prioritize housing over parking in order to ensure this critical and much-needed project is financially feasible and moves forward as quickly as possible. Please contact the City Council at council@cityofberkeley.info with your thoughts on this item by Tuesday, March 13 at 2 pm.

Igor Tregub is the chair of the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter. Luis Amezcua is the chair of the Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group.

Editor's Note: A previous version of this article appeared in *Berkeleyside* on January 29, 2018.

A "peak bagger" photographs Bay Area high points

DAVID SANGER

We live in a part of the world surrounded by marvelous natural beauty and much of it has been preserved thanks to dedicated conservation efforts of so many people. Even so, a large number of Bay Area residents are unaware of the natural wonders that surround us.

There are over 550 hills, peaks, ridges, and mountains in the San Francisco Bay Area. For years I have been hiking and photographing these hills and mountains. In 2014 I began a comprehensive effort to hike and photograph as many of them as I could. Beginning in July I began by climbing a new peak in the Bay Area for 121 straight days. This was the genesis of the Bay Area Peaks Project.

Over the following few years I explored an amazing variety of landscapes: lush redwood forests of the Santa Cruz Mountains, bare grassy hillsides of Western Marin, rocky slabs and towers of the Pinnacles, brushy chaparral and manzanita of the Ventana Wilderness, and gentle oak and bay woodlands of the East Bay Hills. Working from lists compiled by fellow peakbaggers and discovering a few summits of my own, I hiked to scores of new locations I had no idea existed: hills, peaks, and summits in a wide variety of venues including national, state, county, and city parks, national forests, land trust acquisitions, private easements as well as private ranches, woodlands, and vineyards where owners generously allowed me access.

Having worked as an international travel photogra-

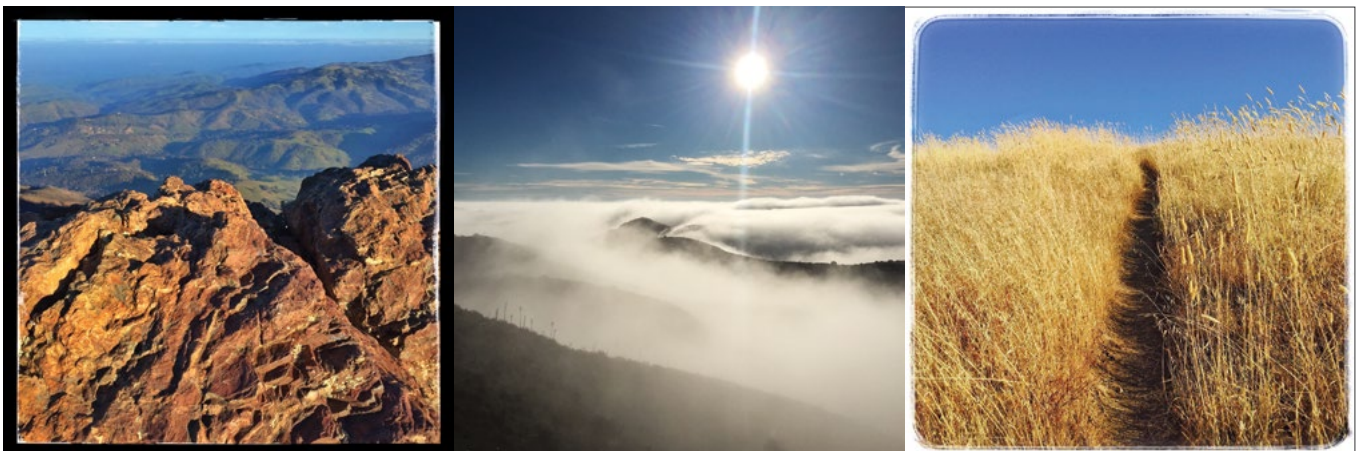
pher I wanted to bring the same wonder of faraway places to my own backyard and community. Photography is a key element of the project, not classical landscape images like Sierra Club calendars (I have done that) but "on-the-go" shots with ordinary equipment (not my expensive Nikon gear). All the images are taken with an iPhone and edited on an iPad. The focus is more on the experience of being there, rather than going out expressly to make an image.

Hikes have ranged from a quarter mile to 20+ miles, on and off trail, in all sorts of weather and in all seasons, from rugged backcountry treks up Snow Mountain in the north of Lake County and Mount Junipero Serra in Monterey County, to rock climbs on Hawkins Peak in Pinnacles National Park, city walk-ups like Telegraph Hill in San Francisco, and even unnamed summits like Peak 2469 in Henry W. Coe State Park

When the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter recently announced the Nifty Ninety—a list of local publicly accessible peaks—it was a great match. There were only seven peaks I hadn't done, so with a five-day push to visit them all, I finished the list on Mount Saint Helena South just before the end of December. If you want to get out and explore, the Nifty Ninety is a great starting point. Download the Sierra Club's Nifty Ninety list at tinyurl.com/niftyninety.

To discover even more peaks you can find a selection of images and stories from the Bay Area Peaks Project at www.bayareapeaks.com.

David Sanger has worked for thirty years as a travel photographer for magazines, books and stock agencies. For a multi-year book project with environmental author John Hart, sponsored by the Bay Institute and the National Audubon Society, he photographed extensively throughout the San Francisco Bay estuary. Their book *San Francisco Bay: Portrait of an Estuary* was published by the University of California Press.



Help stop pollution from Richmond coal exports

JULIA WALSH

As West Oakland battles to keep out a coal terminal, just a few miles north in Richmond a terminal has been quietly exporting coal for years. The Levin-Richmond terminal, located right on the San Francisco Bay waterfront, is one of the few remaining coal-export terminals on the entire West Coast. The Richmond terminal stores coal and petroleum coke (a.k.a. petcoke, a dirty fuel that’s a byproduct of the oil refining process) in massive uncovered piles that waft dirty coal dust and smaller particles into the surrounding communities.

The particle pollution from coal and petcoke exports worsens heart and lung disease for local residents; stains cars, homes, and businesses with black dust; and fouls the Bay. Open-top coal trains moving through the city (and many other communities along the way) to the terminal spew coal dust and diesel exhaust, exacerbating health problems and contaminating waterways.

After the coal and petcoke leave the terminal and are burned at their destination, the resulting greenhouse gas emissions contribute to global climate change — with effects on us locally including rising water levels, air pollution, poor health, and more.

Coal has been exported through the terminal for at least five years, with the result that it’s an accepted fact for many Richmond residents. Many have asked: Can anything be done about it? Some have even taken a “why bother” attitude—can we really expect change?

In 2015, the Richmond City Council took a first step towards changing the dialogue about the terminal by passing a resolution opposing the transport of coal and petcoke through the densely populated areas of Richmond. This is a great first step—a resolution is an acknowledgement of a problem and a commitment to change—but it is not enforceable. So the question for us, our community partners, and of course the residents of Richmond is: What’s next?

Since late last year, the chapter has been meeting with community partners, city council members, and other decision-makers to figure out what can be done with regard to this private facility. Can it be regulated like other facilities through the local Bay Area Air Quality Management District? How could local ordinances impact its ability to run at night? Do the open-top train cars deposit coal and coal dust as they travel through neighborhoods and over waterways?

(We know the answer to that one — they do!)

We are exploring several strategies with the help of a network of residents, activists, scientists, and decision-makers. Join us! Come to our next meeting: Wednesday, March 21st at 7 pm at the Bobby Bowens Progressive Center, 2540 Macdonald Avenue, in Richmond. More information will be posted to the online calendar, www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/events, closer to the event date.

Julia Walsh MD, MSc recently retired from the UC Berkeley School of Public Health where she was a Professor in Community Health Sciences.

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West Oakland needs investment — not dirty coal

CHRIS JACKSON

In January the Sierra Club argued in court alongside the City of Oakland to defend the city’s right to protect its residents’ health and safety—in this case, from the impacts of a coal terminal in West Oakland. The lawsuit was brought by developer Phil Tagami, who wants to force through his dirty coal terminal despite overwhelming opposition from the people of Oakland. Now we await the judge’s decision.

West Oakland, where the coal terminal would be located, has a long history of negative impacts from policy decisions. From the destruction of businesses to build BART to the loss of grocery stores which created a food desert, West Oakland already has many issues that must be addressed through public policy. Air pollution is one issue that a coal terminal would aggravate; West Oakland residents are already twice as likely to go to the emergency room with asthma as people in Alameda County overall.

Rather than making things worse with a coal terminal, I urge developers like Phil Tagami to reinvest in West Oakland to create an environment that fosters quality jobs, strong public health, and a community where working-class families can afford to live again. They should directly fund workforce development and increase funding for the West Oakland Health Center. We must also ensure the sustained presence of a full-service grocery store such as Mandela Foods, and invest in and directly subsidize affordable housing. West Oakland needs investment — not dirty coal.

Chris Jackson is a father, an activist, and educator at Oakland Unified School District. He serves as an executive committee member of the Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group.

SF pension fund fails to divest fully from fossil fuels

LINDA WEINER

In April 2013, the San Francisco Board of Supervisors passed a unanimous resolution urging the SF Employees' Retirement Board (SFERS) to divest from fossil fuels within five years. It is now the winter of 2018 and there has been little progress, even though a concerted effort has been made by many groups including 350 Bay Area, SEIU-1021, the Sierra Club, and SF Defund DAPL Coalition.

In December 2015, SFERS directed its staff to prepare a plan to divest from coal. But in May 2017, staff proposed and SFERS approved divesting \$446,000 (less than 1%) of its \$48 million in coal holdings. Clearly there is much more to be done. And it needs to be done now.

For three years, SFERS has undertaken an "engagement" strategy with fossil fuel companies, working with other shareholders in those companies to develop clear expectations, but this strategy has not worked. Engagement is a slow and arduous process. Moreover, tackling climate change requires overhaul of the core business model of the fossil fuel industry, which is not legal to demand through shareholder engagement. Lastly, engagement makes no sense

without the threat of divestment.

It is painfully clear that the impacts from climate change in California are accelerating dramatically: wildfires, drought, mudslides, and sea-level rise; it is equally obvious that the number one barrier to genuine climate progress is the fossil fuel industry. Along with being the only moral choice in an ever-warming world, divestment makes good financial sense. As the world moves its energy system away from fossil fuels, more investment has been steadily occurring in renewable energy. Meanwhile, it has been determined that approximately 50% of the SFERS fossil fuel investments have had negative returns for at least three years.

The moral and financial imperatives to divest have been presented to SFERS at many meetings, but on January 24th, a special meeting was called on divestment. Hundreds of letters and emails were sent to the Retirement Board in support of divestment and over 100 people showed up at the meeting to provide public comment, including representatives of the Sierra Club. Beforehand, a news conference was held at City Hall, spearheaded by Supervisor Aaron Peskin's office, to urge SFERS to divest.

Several investment professionals at the meeting spoke in favor of some type of divestment soon. But despite the outpouring of public support for divestment and the many reasons to do so now, the Retirement Board did not vote for full divestment with a timed deadline. They opted instead for a continuation of the "engagement" process and a "phased divestment" of the riskiest and dirtiest funds once they determine how to define them. They also voted to move \$1 billion into a "carbon-constrained" fund, and agreed to hire a staffer to oversee environmental and social engagement in their overall portfolio. A motion was passed to develop a plan for investment by April 30, 2018 that would protect pension returns and divest from some fossil fuels.

The only way this plan will work is if our coalition monitors progress and continues to pressure the board to do the right thing in a timely fashion, because there is no time to waste. The serious impacts from climate change will continue, but so will our strong commitment to stop carbon emissions and transition to renewable energy.

Linda Weiner is a member of the Sierra Club's San Francisco Group Executive Committee.



"Imagine yourself in Hetch Hetchy..."

— John Muir



To see how, visit hetchhetchy.org

PHOTO CREDIT: Holding the Sierra Club banner, left to right, Sierra Club San Francisco Group Executive Committee members Kathy Howard, Linda Weiner, and Barry Hermanson before the January 24 SFERS board meeting on divestment.

Troubling disclosures in Plan Bay Area 2040: too many cars

MATT WILLIAMS

The Sierra Club’s three Bay Area chapters have been analyzing the future climate impacts of our region’s newly released transportation plan. Our investigation has found that rather than reducing our planet-warming emissions, the plan will lead to a million more cars on the road by 2040. Not only will these million additional cars increase greenhouse gas emissions, but finding room for them will also reduce the space and resources available for much-needed housing.

The Bay Area’s Regional Transportation Plan is called Plan Bay Area 2040. The Draft Plan Bay Area 2040 and its accompanying Draft Environmental Impact Report were released in March 2017, and regional authorities adopted the Final Plan Bay Area 2040 in July 2017. The plan will account for the expenditure of \$303 billion through 2040.

By state law, the regional transportation plan must have an accompanying "Sustainable Communities Strategy" to cut greenhouse gas emissions from transportation “through the promotion of more compact, mixed-use residential and commercial neighborhoods near transit.” Unfortunately, a close look at Plan Bay Area's Draft Environmental Impact Report raises serious questions about the viability of its emission-reduction strategy.

One troubling disclosure is contained in Table 2.1-11, “Bay Area Demographic Forecasts (2015–2040).” This table has population, jobs and household figures for base year 2015 and estimates on the plan’s ending year of 2040. We see that the Bay Area’s household total is expected to increase by 666,200. The households figure is important to know, because the average number of vehicles per household is also shown. For 2015, there were 1.74 cars per Bay Area household. That works out to 4.8 million cars. In 2040, the estimate is 1.7 cars per household, which means there will be 5.8 million — an *increase* of one million personal vehicles (a 21% increase).

Plan Bay Area's Sustainable Communities Strategy is

based on new households going into already developed urban areas (in the Bay Area, they are called Priority Development Areas). Where the one million additional vehicles will be parked is an important and unanswered question.

Another question is: on already congested local streets and arterials (eg, Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco), how will the additional vehicles fit?

A third big question is whether building parking spaces in new residential developments increases costs and makes solving the housing crisis that much more difficult.

One of the objectives of the Sustainable Communities Strategy is to shift people from cars and light trucks to walking, biking, and mass transit, such as buses. How will one million additional cars support this objective?

Matt Williams is chair of the Bay Chapter's Transportation and Compact Growth Committee.

Table 2.1-11 Bay Area Demographic Forecasts (2015-2040)

Demographics	2015	2040 Plan	Change (2015 to 2040 Plan)	
			Numerical	Percent
Total Population ¹	7,571,300	9,627,500	2,056,200	+27%
Total Jobs	4,010,100	4,698,400	688,200	+17%
Employed Residents	4,027,000	4,663,900	636,900	+16%
Total Households	2,760,500	3,426,700	666,200	+24%
Share of Households with Zero Autos	10%	11%	+1%	+10%
Share of Households with One Auto	33%	34%	+1%	+3%
Share of Households with Multiple Autos	57%	55%	-2%	-4%
Average Number of Vehicles by Household	1.74	1.70	-0.04	-2%

Note:
¹ Population statistics reflect the total Bay Area population able to travel on the region’s transport network; it does not include immobile, involuntary populations such as prison inmates.
 Sources: Association of Bay Area Governments 2016; Metropolitan Transportation Commission Travel Demand Forecasts 2015



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Your donation will go towards raising awareness of our efforts to protect and improve the natural environment around us. We make the process of donating your old car or unused vehicle both simple and easy. Plus, you may even qualify for a tax deduction.



1. Give us a call today!









2. Schedule your free pick up



3. Receive a donation receipt

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Most Bay Area energy customers are served by a "Community Choice" energy program. Use this chart to learn about YOUR energy choices!

	MARIN COUNTY	CONTRA COSTA COUNTY	SAN FRANCISCO	ALAMEDA COUNTY
Your Community Choice program:				
Is my city part of the program?	All of Marin County	El Cerrito, Lafayette, Richmond, San Pablo, Walnut Creek, Concord, Danville, Martinez, Moraga, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, San Ramon, and unincorporated areas <i>(Available to all cities in April 2018)</i>	All of the City and County of San Francisco	Albany, Berkeley, Emeryville, Oakland, Piedmont, San Leandro, Dublin, Livermore, Hayward, Union City, Fremont, and unincorporated areas <i>(Available for commercial, industrial, and municipal customers in these areas June 2018; for residential customers this fall)</i>
How does it work?	 Your locally run, non-profit Community Choice program buys and builds clean energy supply.	 PG&E continues delivering energy, repairing lines, and handling billing.	 You benefit from clean and renewable energy, affordable rates, and local investment.	
Why now?	More renewables and a cleaner planet! CCAs place power in the hands of consumers, allowing us to make choices about our energy sources for a better environment and lower carbon footprint . More of the electricity you pay for will come from non-polluting and constantly replenishing sources.			
What are my energy options?	<p>Light Green: 50% renewable</p> <p>Deep Green: 100% renewable</p> <p>Local Sol: 100% local solar</p>		<p>Green: 40% renewable</p> <p>SuperGreen: 100% renewable</p>	<p>Bright Choice: 38% renewable</p> <p>Brilliant 100: The current proposal is 40% renewable plus 60% carbon-free. The Sierra Club is pushing for a 100% renewable option.</p>
How can I go above and beyond?	Opt up to Deep Green or Local Sol for an average of just \$4 more per month! *		Opt up to SuperGreen for an average of just \$5 more per month! *	To be determined
Need more convincing?	Community Choice Aggregation (or CCA) is a model that allows communities to purchase electricity on behalf of their local power customers. CCA programs are administered by local governments with a mission to provide clean and renewable energy at prices that are competitive with the dirtier energy of the investor-owned utility. Profits are reinvested back into the community to create jobs and local infrastructure like solar and wind farms.			
Where can I sign up?	mcecleanenergy.org	mcecleanenergy.org/mce-contra-costa	cleanpowersf.org	ebce.org
How your Community Choice program gives back:	By using pollution-free energy MCE has eliminated over 185,000 metric tons of greenhouse gas emissions – the equivalent of 40,000 passenger vehicles on the road for a year.	MCE partners with RichmondBUILD to provide labor and job training to low-income households for its local solar projects, including MCE Solar One, which provides enough power for more than 3,400 homes per year.	CleanPowerSF offers powerful advantages for customers with solar panels, including significantly higher credits than PG&E offers when you generate more electricity than you consume.	EBCE reinvests earnings back into the community, creating local jobs and clean power projects.
Why switch?	A cleaner environment, competitive rates, greater local control, increased economic benefits, and community investment!			

State study recommends Wild and Scenic protections for Mokelumne River

HEINRICH ALBERT

The Mokelumne River is one of the many beautiful rivers draining the west slope of the Sierra, known for its high water quality. The river, which begins high in the Sierra in Alpine County and flows west to the Delta, provides 90 percent of the water used by East Bay Municipal Utility District customers. Previous efforts to permanently protect sections of the upper river with California Wild and Scenic designation failed to pass the state legislature, but we now have another chance. Permanently protecting the Mokelumne with Wild and Scenic designation would protect not only water quality, but also the scenic and recreational values of this special river.

Recently the State Natural Resources Agency released the draft *Mokelumne River Wild and Scenic Study Report*, which recommends adding 37 miles of the Mokelumne above EBMUD's Pardee Reservoir to the California Wild and Scenic River System. The report was mandated by the 2015 passage of Assembly Bill 142, which also established Wild and Scenic-comparable interim protections for the affected river reaches through 2021.

AB 142 was supported by local governments, water agencies including EBMUD, businesses and business groups, tribes, and outdoor-oriented nonprofit organizations, including the Sierra Club. It required the Natural Resources Agency to conduct a study to determine the suitability of sections of the upper Mokelumne River and North Fork Mokelumne for inclusion in the state system. The study segments included in the bill start below Salt Springs Dam and end at Pardee Reservoir's flood surcharge pool downstream of Highway 49 near Jackson, with gaps around PG&E hydroelectric facilities on the river.

The study's findings and conclusions include the following:

- The major effect of Mokelumne Wild and Scenic designation would be to ban onstream dams and reservoirs in the affected reaches of the river, as well as new diversions of water for use outside Amador and Calaveras counties.
- After designation, current uses of the Mokelumne River would continue. Wild and Scenic designation



will not affect existing water rights, hydropower generation, hunting and fishing, land use, grazing, or agriculture. Designation would have no effect on EBMUD's water storage and diversions.

- Local water agencies could develop water projects upstream of the designated reaches provided the projects do not adversely affect "the free-flowing condition, natural character, and extraordinary scenic and recreational values of the Mokelumne's designated segments." The study also makes clear that state Wild and Scenic designation "does not seem to have adversely affected [water] diversion applications on wild and scenic rivers," based on the 2017 findings of the California Research Bureau.

The study lauded the diverse recreational opportunities along and near the Mokelumne, which include camping, rock climbing, water play, fishing, swimming, gold panning, wildflower viewing, and whitewater boating. It states, "This array of both relaxing and challenging recreational opportunities and values is unique among western Sierra Nevada rivers and already designated State Wild and Scenic Rivers."

While local, statewide and national conservation, fish, and recreation organizations including the Sierra Club have applauded the report, we do have some concerns about the draft Mokelumne study. We believe it should recognize the extraordinary wildlife value of the Mokelumne, which is home to numerous special status species and potential restoration spawning habitat for fall-run Chinook salmon.

For this process to move forward, CNRA needs to adopt this report and forward it to the legislature. From there, we need the legislature to act and make the proposed sections of the Mokelumne part of the our Wild and Scenic River System.

The draft Mokelumne study is available for public review and comment at <http://resources.ca.gov/programs-projects/wildandscenic>.

Heinrich Albert is co-chair of the Bay Chapter Water Committee.

Climate Literacy Resolutions gain momentum in Bay Area School Districts

SARAH RANNEY

Against a national backdrop of environmental roll-backs, deregulation, and climate change skepticism, and amidst the terrifying and historic fires that destroyed neighborhoods and lives in the North Bay and Southern California, it has been a disorienting time to make hopeful plans. And yet, there's never been a more critical time to advocate for climate literacy in our schools.

Climate literacy is a cross-disciplinary concept that is defined as an understanding of the causes of climate change; its potential for harm; requirements to avoid destabilization and ensure a livable future; and the key people and institutions involved in implementing those actions. The Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club has taken on the charge of having local schools sign on to this commitment.

.....

Since the formation of the Climate Literacy Committee in November 2016, the volunteer leadership has been focused on building a coalition of interested teachers, parents, activists, labor leaders, and partner organizations. The committee has also created a set of resources—including a model climate change resolution, curricular support, and other tools to support their efforts in local school districts.

Momentum is building in several school districts, notably the Oakland Unified School District (OUSD). Students from Joe Senn's AP Environmental Science classes at Oakland Technical High School are leading the charge. Student Cabrel Kapsiak voiced the shared opinion of her classmates, saying "we believe ... climate literacy in high schools is essential to informing and engaging the next generation of environmental advocates." Students are reaching out to local leaders and activists, as well as to school board members, to build a coalition. They plan to present a Climate Literacy Resolution at the OUSD School Board meeting in April.

The students have a bold goal: to persuade the Oakland Board of Education to adopt the Resolution by June 2018. It's an ambitious goal, but one they feel driven to pursue. Cara Plumhoff, another student leader, declared, "creating a policy that all students are climate change literate in the district is a crucial step towards ensuring that future generations of policymakers care about our planet."

In taking this initiative and making it their own, these OUSD students are demonstrating the power for good that members of the Bay Chapter can achieve by working together.


The Climate Literacy Committee is committed to supporting their efforts, and those of other Bay Area school districts. We recognize that today's young people will look back at this time and remember the lessons they learned about climate change ... or wonder why it was ignored.

Inspired? There are several ways to get involved:

- Attend the next meeting of the Climate Literacy Committee at 12-2 pm on March 10 at the Bay Chapter's Berkeley office;
- Find out if work is already happening in your school district (or start it yourself!);
- Offer your own ideas, connections, or suggestions. Whether you can build a website or have curriculum suggestions, we welcome your contributions;
- Sign the OUSD students' petition and share it with your networks at <http://bit.ly/OUSDCLC>; and
- Sign up to attend the April OUSD School Board meeting to support the student effort.

To get started, please email Sarah at clc@sfbaysc.org.

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Collect signatures to protect Sand Creek in Antioch

DICK SCHNEIDER

The Sand Creek area in south Antioch, located in eastern Contra Costa County, encompasses 1,850 acres of ranch and farmland. It is habitat for San Joaquin kit foxes, California red-legged frogs, tiger salamanders, burrowing owls, and a variety of sensitive plant species.

Unfortunately, the area is at imminent risk of development. A Southern California land development company has submitted an application for 1,300 houses on both sides of Sand Creek. If approved, this massive development would destroy the natural qualities of the area and lead to even more sprawl development adjacent to Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve.

Fortunately, there is something we can do about it. A group of local residents, Antioch Community to Save Sand Creek, has submitted a voter initiative that would zone the area for rural residential uses, agriculture, and open space. This will preserve the natural qualities of the



Sand Creek stream corridor, vernal pools, scenic views of Mount Diablo and its foothills, and the habitat for the many plants and animals that live there.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

You can help qualify the initiative for the ballot by collecting signatures of Antioch registered voters. No prior experience is needed. Training will be provided by Sierra Club and other campaign leaders. The only requirement is that you be at least 18 years old.

You will be paired up with another volunteer for a two-hour shift in front of a grocery store or other high foot-traffic area in Antioch. No door-to-door soliciting will be involved. All you have to do is ask shoppers as they enter or leave the store if they are Antioch registered voters and will sign the petition to qualify the initiative for the ballot.

Collecting will occur on Saturdays and Sundays in Antioch throughout March, April, and May.

If you can help in this vital effort to protect Sand Creek from urban sprawl or just want more information, please contact Dick Schneider at richs59354@aol.com or by phone at 510-926-0010.

Dick Schneider is a member of the Sierra Club Tri-Valley Group Executive Committee.

Give local to help the Bay Area environment

MATT BIELBY

Want to make sure your dollars stay here in the Bay Area, protecting the air you breathe, the water you drink, and the lands you walk?* Donate to the Bay Chapter!

90% of our budget at the local chapter comes from donors just like you who live here in the Bay Area and want to protect our local environment. There are two ways to donate and keep your money local:

TO DONATE TO LOCAL POLITICAL AND LOBBYING WORK, donate on our website at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/donate. These gifts are not tax-deductible, but they're critical in election years like 2018 so that we can support

candidates who will stick up for the environment and ballot measures that will keep our agenda moving forward.

TO MAKE A TAX-DEDUCTIBLE GIFT, donate to our fiscal sponsor, the Sierra Club Foundation. You can make your gift online at <https://tinyurl.com/baychapterfnd> or send us a check. Your donation must say "SF Bay Chapter" in the memo line to keep your money local. Please make the check out to "Sierra Club Foundation" and mail it to: Sierra Club, 2530 San Pablo Ave Suite I, Berkeley CA 94702.

As you have read in this issue of the Yodeler, our region is facing great challenges. Gifts from local supporters like you ensure that we have the resources to step up and meet these challenges head-on. Thank you for supporting your local chapter.

Questions? Contact Matt Bielby at 510-848-0800 or matt.bielby@sierraclub.org.

*Only \$1 of your membership dues go to the local chapter.

PHOTO CREDIT: View looking southeast across grassland and Sand Creek, where the 1,300-unit "The Ranch" development has been proposed on both sides of Sand Creek.

NATIVE PLANTS THROUGH A MODERN LENS



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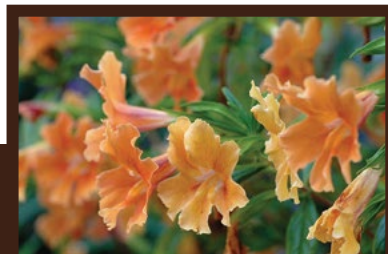
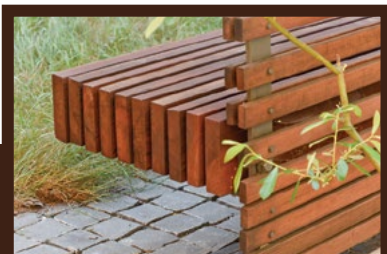
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Meet Julia, the Bay Chapter's new organizer for transportation and open-space campaigns

Julia Foote started work as the Bay Chapter's newest staff member in late January. Get to know Julia by reading her answers to a few questions about her background, what she's looking forward to doing at the Sierra Club, and where she'd put one more (magical) BART stop.

Tell us a little about your environmental background.

When I entered college I knew I wanted to focus on environmental and sustainability studies, having grown up in an environmentally conscious household. Upon joining the environmental department, many opportunities for environmental action arose. I marched against the Keystone XL pipeline my very first week, participated in the People's Climate March in New York, worked on a compost campaign to push Brown University to implement composting in all its dining halls, partnered with the Providence Parks Department to solve an environmental and social justice issue, spent my weekends tending to the student garden, volunteered at a local farmers market, and led art workshops related to and in celebration of Earth Day.

You're a recent transplant from the East Coast. What are you enjoying most about the Bay Area?

I love being able to live in an urban area that is so close to nature. Not only do I have easy access to coasts and forests in the Bay Area, but all of the parks bring nature back into the city and allow me to stay connected to it daily. The agreeable weather, endless vegetarian food options, and vibrant artistic community are also a major plus. As far as California goes, I'm enjoying the more relaxed and friendly nature of people compared to New Yorkers. Geographically I have much to explore, but I'm most excited to hit all of the national parks!

What's your favorite way to spend time outdoors?

My favorite way to spend time outdoors is to go to the beach from the early morning until sunset, alternating between swimming in the ocean and laying in the sun.

If you had a magic wand, where would you add one more BART stop – anywhere in the world!

I would add a BART stop to my home beach on Fire Island so I wouldn't have to miss my friends, family, and pets so much. I also miss the lighthouse, softer sand, and



warmer water which I have yet to find on the West Coast!

What's your favorite plant?

My favorite plant is a pear tree because I grew up with one in my backyard and many across the street in my grandma's yard, one for each of her grandchildren. The pears were always mealy and hard as rocks and we had to collect them in a laundry basket so my dog wouldn't eat them off the ground, but it always made me happy to see them blossoming in the spring.

What are you looking forward to in your work at the Sierra Club?

I'm really looking forward to being able to apply my knowledge of sustainable cities to my work on transit-oriented development and open-space preservation in the Bay Area. I feel so lucky to have found a position within this organization that matches my educational background and allows me to meet and work with so many incredible leaders and activists working towards environmental causes through various avenues. I have already been inspired and encouraged by a number of Sierra Club members and I'm looking forward to growing my network within this organization and partner organizations so that I can learn how to drive effective change with the work I do.

Have an open-space or transportation issue you want to discuss with Julia? Shoot her an email at julia.foote@sierraclub.org or give her a call at 510-848-0800 ext. 304.

ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

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

Problem resolution

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

Carpooling

Carpooling helps the environment and allows people without cars to participate. If you are driving to a hike, please stop by the carpool point to pick up others. If you're a rider, pay a share of expenses. Many activities are listed on the Chapter's Meetup site a couple weeks in advance of the event. Join the Meetup group and post a comment requesting or offering a ride: www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay.

SPRING 2018 OUTINGS CALENDAR

TUESDAYS

Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. MEET: 4 pm at boathouse/cafe. LEADER: Dolores Gruenewald, (510)351-6247 or dolores-gru@aol.com. (Solo Sierrans)

WEDNESDAYS

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

MAR 1 • THU

Cesar Chavez full moonrise 1A canine hike. Short walk along the waterfront to the solar calendar at Cesar Chavez Park. Watch the sun set and the full moon rise. Well-behaved dogs welcome on leash. ENDS: 6:30 am. Heavy rain cancels. BRING: Flashlight. MEET: 5:30 pm at Perimeter Trail, at the roundabout at the end of Spinnaker Road, Berkeley. LEADER: Virginia Preston, (510)559-8155 or ginnypreston5@gmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

Full moon celebration hike. Celebrate the March full moon with a 4.5-mile hike to Wildcat Canyon Peak. MEET: 4:30 am at Tilden Nature Area, 600 Canon Drive, Berkeley. BRING: Flashlight. LEADER: Maria Teresa Garcia De La Noceda, (510)725-8405 (no texts please) or estella.cycling@gmail.com. (Sierra Singles)

MAR 3 • SAT

Early bloomers 1A hike. An early season wildflower walk up Mitchell Canyon. We'll share stories of early botanical pioneers, explain how the flowers come to be named, and describe Native American uses of local flowering plants. Four miles round trip. Any rain cancels. COST: \$6/vehicle park entrance fee (exact change required). MEET: 9:30 am at the Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center. LEADER: Ken Lavin (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

Sutro Forest and beyond 1B hike. Through Sutro Forest and then on to an interesting walk through Cole Valley. Any rain cancels. MEET: 10:30 am at Irving and Arguello in front of UC hospital, SF. LEADER: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

Tennessee Valley strenuous 3B loop hike. We'll take the Coastal trail for scenic views of the Golden Gate Bridge, bay, and San Francisco high rises. Start at Marincello trailhead and end on Old Springs trail. Rain cancels. No dogs allowed. MEET: 10 am at the end of Tennessee Valley Road, at picnic tables under the trees on the left side of the road, just before you get to the main parking area/restrooms. Come early for parking. LEADER: Marian Stainbrook, (510)673-7408 or marian2049@att.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

MAR 3 • SAT - MAR 4 • SUN

Explore Tahoe series: Sugar Pine Point State Park snowshoeing/x-country skiing. Explore Ludlow Hut and Desolation Wilderness in winter. Side trip to Lost Lake. Registration required; contact leaders. Details upon registration. COST: \$35. LEADERS: Michael Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or mike.bandrowski@gmail.com; Sanjay Reddy, (925)828-3229 or reddysanjay@comcast.net. (Snow Camping)

MAR 9 • FRI

Mount Diablo Moses Rock Ridge 2C hike. Savor a variety of vegetation zones and enjoy splendid views as we explore the wild northwestern slopes of the Mountain. Steady relaxed pace with breaks. Rain cancels. COST: \$10 vehicle entry. MEET: 10 am at Diablo Ranch trailhead on North Gate Road. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

MAR 10 • SAT

Mount Diablo Falls trail strenuous 2B hike. Explore one of the most scenic parts of Mount Diablo State Park, with panoramic views, rugged rock outcroppings, and cascading rivulets. Challenging, strenuous hike. Rain cancels. COST: \$6 for parking. MEET: 10 am at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center. LEADER: Ann Lehr, (925) 287-1639 or xenaphile1@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

MAR 10 • SAT - MAR 11 • SUN

Yosemite: Crocker Point 1B2 snowshoeing/x-country skiing. Explore the southern rim of Yosemite Valley. Must be alumni of the chapter's Snowcamping Training Series; relatively easy trip ideal for new alumni. Limited to 12. Details upon registration. COST: \$35. LEADERS: Roger Williams, (415)601-2079 or rogerwsf@outlook.com; Robert Postar, (510)551-4979 or rpostar@gmail.com. (Snow Camping)

MAR 10 • SAT - MAR 12 • MON

Igloos and other snow-saw structures snowshoeing/x-country skiing. Learn to use a snow saw and shovel to build an igloo or trench-gloo and then sleep in your structure! Registration required; must be alumni of the chapter's Snow Camping Training Series. COST: \$35. LEADER: Mark Johnson, snowcamperz@gmail.com. (Snow Camping)

MAR 11 • SUN

Round Valley 2B hike. Follow a lovely creek to emerald-green Round Valley with verdant grasses, abundant wildflowers, ancient oaks, and occasional artifacts of early ranching and farming. Return via a highland route with spectacular views before descending along High Creek. Steady, relaxed pace. Rain cancels. MEET: 10 am at Round Valley Regional Preserve trailhead on Marsh Creek Road. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

MAR 11 • SUN - MAR 12 • MON

Glacier Point overnight ski tour. All-day ski over rolling terrain to Glacier Point Hut, a tasty dinner, an evening in front of the fire, games, a bunk bed, breakfast, and ski out. Registration required via online calendar, or contact leader. Details upon registration. COST: \$185. LEADER: Robert Schuur, (510)289-1164 or rajschuur@yahoo.com. (Snow Camping)

MAR 16 • FRI

Black Diamond 3C hike. From Markley Canyon we will ramble up and over a verdant ridge before heading down into a lovely valley of grassland and oaks. Circuitous return route through chaparral and sandstone outcroppings. Wildflowers should be abundant. Steady, relaxed pace. Rain cancels. MEET: 9:30 am at Black Diamond Regional Preserve Somersville Staging Area. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

MAR 17 • SAT

Black Diamond Mines 2C hike. Beautiful views, pleasant woods, and historic sites. Moderate pace with several steep climbs and possibly muddy trails. MEET: 10:30 am at Black Diamond Mines Regional Preserve Somersville Staging Area parking lot (NOT the Visitor Center parking lot). LEADER: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

MAR 18 • SUN

Mount Diablo State Park Back Canyon and Diablo Falls 2C hike. March is a good time to see wildflowers and water on the rugged north side of Mount Diablo State Park. Includes close-up viewing of the falls and cataracts of upper Donner Canyon. Steady, relaxed pace. Rain cancels. COST: \$6 vehicle entry fee. MEET: 9:30 am at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

Butano State Park 3B hike. Explore one of the San Mateo County coastside's less-traveled parks. See both first- and second-growth redwoods as well as great views and maybe some calypso orchids. Moderate pace. Rain cancels. MEET: 10:15 am at Butano State Park entry kiosk off Cloverdale Road, Pescadero. ENDS: 6 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

Walnut Creek Regional Trails 1A hike. Leisurely walk on scenic paved canal trails. Optional refreshment stop after hike. Wheelchair accessible. Rain cancels. MEET: 10:30 am at Heather Farms Park parking area on right, near preschool. ENDS: 12:30 pm. LEADER: Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795. (Delta Regional Group)

MAR 24 • SAT

San Jose 3A history walk. An all-day educational walk in downtown San Jose, featuring local history and architecture. Any rain cancels. COST: \$5 car parking in furthest Diridon Caltrain parking lot. BRING: Money for post-walk dinner. MEET: 10 am in front of Diridon Caltrain station in downtown San Jose. ENDS: about 5:30 pm. LEADER: Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

Private animal experience at Lindsay Wildlife Experience. Meet three animal ambassadors up-close: a great horned owl, California kingsnake, and a desert tortoise. Hourlong program about the natural history and personal story of each animal. Must register at <http://glsbikes.org/event-2819547>. COST: \$7 for GLS members; \$10 for non-members (does not include \$10 admission). MEET: 10 am at 1931 1st Avenue, Walnut Creek. ENDS: 11 am. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

MAR 24 • SAT

Henry Coe Madrone Soda Springs and China Hole Day Hike 2B/3B bike. Mellow, tolerant hikers welcome. Rain cancels. COST: \$8 parking fee. MEET: 10 am at Henry Coe Ranch Visitor Center. ENDS: 4:30 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo and Santa Cruz County Groups)

MAR 30 • FRI

Mount Diablo Riggs Canyon and Highland Ridge 3C bike. Explore the hills framing Riggs Canyon. Stunning views, abundant wildflowers. Steady, relaxed pace. Rain cancels. MEET: 9:30 am at parking lot on Morgan Territory Road just after junction with Marsh Creek Road. Carpool to trailhead. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925)933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

MAR 31 • SAT

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C bike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended but our goal is to hike by moonlight. MEET: 6:30 pm at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. ENDS: no later than 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 or wyragui@infobond.com. (So Alameda County)

Las Trampas perimeter 3C bike. Hike past Eugene O'Neill's home, Tao House, as we circumnavigate the perimeter of Las Trampas Ridge and check out the green hills of spring. Not for speed demons, but not a beginner's hike. Rain cancels. MEET: 10 am at Danville Park & Ride on Sycamore Valley Road for carpools to Remington Loop trailhead. ENDS: 6:45 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

Corona Heights Natural Area habitat work service/stewardship. Remove invasive plants, plant or maintain natives, or other light maintenance work. Tools and gloves provided. Children welcome with adult. No dogs. MEET: 10 am on north side of Randall Museum at end of Museum Way, SF. ENDS: noon. LEADER: Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

Marin Headlands full moon 2C bike. Our hike begins at Rodeo Beach just before sunset. Slow climb up Coastal trail to Wolf Ridge. After a stop at Hill 88 for stunning views, we descend on Miwok trail and finish with a stroll beside Rodeo Lagoon. Strong and experienced hikers only. BRING: Warm clothes and flashlight. MEET: 6:30 pm at 11049 Mitchell Road, Mill Valley. LEADER: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

MAR 31 • SAT - APR 1 • SUN

Calpine Fire Lookout 1B2 snowshoeing/x-country skiing. Moderate trip in the Tahoe National Forest. Visit a forest-fire lookout tower constructed in 1934 by the Civilian Conservation Corps. Registration required. Must be alumni of the chapter's Snowcamping Training Series. Limited to 10 participants. COST: \$35. LEADERS: Roger Williams, (415)601-2079 or rogerwsf@outlook.com; Sanjay Reddy, (925)828-3229 or reddysanjay@comcast.net. (Snow Camping)

APR 1 • SUN

Easter morning 1A wildflower walk. Mitchell Canyon is a Bay Area floral hotspot and we are sure to find some rare and not-so-rare spring bloomers. We'll share stories of early botanical pioneers, explain how the flowers come to be named, and describe Native American uses of local flowering plants. Don't be surprised if we spot some native (Easter) bunnies along the trail. Rain cancels. COST: \$6/vehicle entrance fee. MEET: 9:30 am at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center. ENDS: 12:30 pm. LEADER: Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group)

APR 7 • SAT

Diablo restoration workday, Marsh Creek service/stewardship. Enjoy the beauty of Mount Diablos foothills as we help native bunchgrasses, shrubs, and woody plantings establish in the Marsh Creek riparian corridor. Bring a lunch and picnic in the gazebo. Rain or shine. Register and sign the waiver at <https://tinyurl.com/april7marshcreek>. MEET: 9 am at 3240 Aspara Drive, Clayton. ENDS: 12 pm. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

Calistoga Palisades 3C bike. Hike the historic Oat Hill Mine Road to view spectacular cliffs in one of the most geologically unique sites in the Bay Area. Some steep and rocky terrain. Any rain cancels. MEET: 8 am at corner of Highway 29 and Lake Street in Calistoga, directly across from Oat Hill Mine Road trailhead, by pizza restaurant. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

APR 8 • SUN

Mitchell Canyon 1A wildflower bike. Leisurely loop walk to discover spring wildflowers in a scenic canyon. After hike, optional stop nearby for refreshments. Rain cancels. COST: \$6 parking. MEET: 4 am at Interpretive Center parking area. ENDS: 6 pm. LEADER: Lucy Henderson, (925)254-2898. (Delta Regional Group)

APR 13 • FRI - APR 14 • SAT

Point Reyes 1AT backpack. Leisurely hike from Palomar and an overnight at Wildcat Camp near the beach. After we set up camp, we can walk to nearby Alamere Falls, a tidal waterfall that flows into the ocean—or you can relax at camp. On a clear day, we should have views of the Farallon Islands and San Francisco. Bird watchers should have plenty to see. Fit beginners welcome. Individual commissary. Limited to 10 participants. Sign up through the online calendar (beginning March 9) or email leader. COST: \$20. LEADER: Inga Aksamit, (415)470-1812, ingasadventures@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

APR 14 • SAT

Tomales Bluff 2B bike. The bells toll as bay meets sea at land's end on a leisurely paced hike along the moors of the northern tip of Point Reyes. Mellow hikers welcome. Any rain cancels. MEET: 11 am at McClure's Beach lower parking lot at the end of Pierce Point Road. ENDS: 5 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Hiking and Santa Cruz Group)

APR 14 • SAT

Glen Park and its canyon 1B hike. A walk through Glen Park, its hidden lanes and canyon. Any rain cancels. MEET: 10:30 am at Glen Park BART station plaza (outside main entry gates). LEADER: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

APR 15 • SUN

Briones Reservoir 3B wildflower hike. Thirteen miles of undulating hills and cheerful fields of poppies await you. What better way to celebrate spring? MEET: 9:30 am at EBMUD Bear Creek Staging Area. LEADERS: Morgan Evans, (510)529-8657 or frankenfreddie@yahoo.com; David Gibson, (510)529-8643 or david.gibson3@comcast.net. (Hiking)

APR 21 • SAT

Parks and paths of Albany, Berkeley, and Kensington 2A hike. Walk many pathways connecting small parks (with big boulders). Many stairs, leisurely pace. Return to Solano Avenue (not far from start) by 5 pm for a post-walk dinner at a local restaurant. Any rain cancels. MEET: 10:30 am near the restroom at the rear of Albany Memorial Park (located at Portland and Carmel Avenues in Albany). LEADER: Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

APR 28 • SAT

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C hike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended but our goal is to hike by moonlight. MEET: 6:30 pm at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. ENDS: no later than 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 or wyragui@infobond.com. (So Alameda County)

Corona Heights Natural Area habitat work service/stewardship. Remove invasive plants, plant or maintain natives, or other light maintenance work. Tools and gloves provided. Children welcome with adult. No dogs allowed. Rain or shine. BRING: Close-toed shoes, wind and sun protection, water. MEET: 10 am on north side of Randall Museum at end of Museum Way, SF. ENDS: noon. LEADER: Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

MAY 5 • SAT

Annual GLS picnic. Join us for our annual picnic at the Lafayette Reservoir! Stay tuned for more details about hikes before the picnic. Rain cancels. BRING: a potluck dish to share and your own cup, dish, and silverware. MEET: 11:30 am at Lafayette Reservoir small picnic site, next to the playground. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510)759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

UC Berkeley and beyond 2A walk. This all-day walk of over 6 miles is an introduction to the history and architecture of UC Berkeley. We will climb almost 400 fairly continuous steps to the hill trail, but the pace is leisurely. Rain cancels. BRING: Money for optional dinner. MEET: 11 am at Oxford and Addison Streets, on the steps on the lawn. DIRECTIONS: Parking is difficult so BART is recommended. LEADER: Eihway Su, (415)566-5412; Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

MAY 12 • SAT

Benicia State Recreation Area 1A hike. Our trail, mostly paved, leads beside marsh and shoreline with scenic views of coastal hills and bay. Wheelchair accessible. After hike, optional visit to Old Town Benicia for refreshments and exploration. Rain cancels. MEET: 10 am at Benicia State Recreation Area trailhead parking area on right, just off freeway (parking fee). ENDS: about 12:30 pm. LEADER: Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795. (Delta Regional Group)

Mission and Monument Peaks from the wild east side 3C hike. Climb Mission Peak from the wild east side and continue on to Monument Peak. Not for speed demons but not a beginner's hike. Steady rain cancels. COST: \$5 car entry fee plus \$2/person for trail permit (purchase at entry station). MEET: 10 am at Sunol Regional Wilderness Visitor Center. ENDS: 6:30 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

MAY 19 • SAT

Butano State Park 3B hike. Hike through varied terrain (giant redwoods, pines, oak, and manzanita) in this lovely coastal park. Rain cancels. COST: \$10 parking. MEET: 10 am at Park entry kiosk. ENDS: 6 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, (831)612-6575 or slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo and Santa Cruz County Groups)

MAY 26 • SAT

Corona Heights Natural Area habitat work service/stewardship. See description for March 31 event. MEET: 10 am on north side of Randall Museum at end of Museum Way, just off Roosevelt Way in SF. Park is short walk from Castro and Market Muni station. ENDS: noon. LEADER: Russell Hartman, (650)242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

MAY 27 • SUN

Colma cemetery 2A hike. Historical walk through many of the cemeteries of Colma, "the City of Souls." This hike is Part 1; Part 2 is in Oct-Nov. BRING: Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. Leisurely pace. MEET: 10 am at Colma BART station near station agent's office. LEADER: Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

MAY 29 • TUE

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C hike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended but our goal is to hike by moonlight. MEET: 6:30 pm at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. ENDS: no later than 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650)642-5150 or wyragui@infobond.com. (So Alameda County)

JULY 1 • SUN - JULY 4 • WED

Kennedy Meadows to Leavitt Meadows Backpack 2C2 backpack. Trek through some of the most scenic parts of the Emigrant and Hoover Wilderness areas. The terrain is filled with mountain lakes, streams, meadows, and spectacular summits. COST: \$40. Approval required; contact kentlewan@gmail.com. LEADER: Kent Lewandowski, (510)759-6646 or kentlewan@gmail.com; Roger Williams, (415)601-2079 or rogerwsf@outlook.com. (Backpacking)

SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

EAST BAY DINNERS

MEET: *No-host cocktails/social hour at 6 pm, dinner at 7 pm, program at 8 pm, after-hours group discussion 9:15–11 pm. Berkeley Yacht Club on the Berkeley Marina.* **COST:** *Dinner and program is \$30, including tax and tip; \$10 for program only.* **RESERVATIONS:** *Send your check, payable to "Sierra Club, S.F. Bay Chapter," with your name, telephone number, and the names of your guests, to: Jane Barrett, 170 Vicente Road, Berkeley, CA 94705. With questions, call 510-845-8055. Attendance is limited to 115. Reserve early; programs fill up.*

This spring, join East Bay Dinners for the three-part “**John Muir Series: Answering the Call of Life.**” We will “answer the call” together, both in-person at the Dinners, and via continuous online conversations on *Radish.org*.

Abrupt climate change is now upon us. An overview of the last 12 months reveals a rapid downward spiral: from droughts, wildfires, and mudslides here in California to melting icecaps, rising seas, and 100-year hurricanes becoming the new norm. The possibility of near-term human extinction is a real concern; and the acceleration of the current sixth mass extinction event, a near certainty.

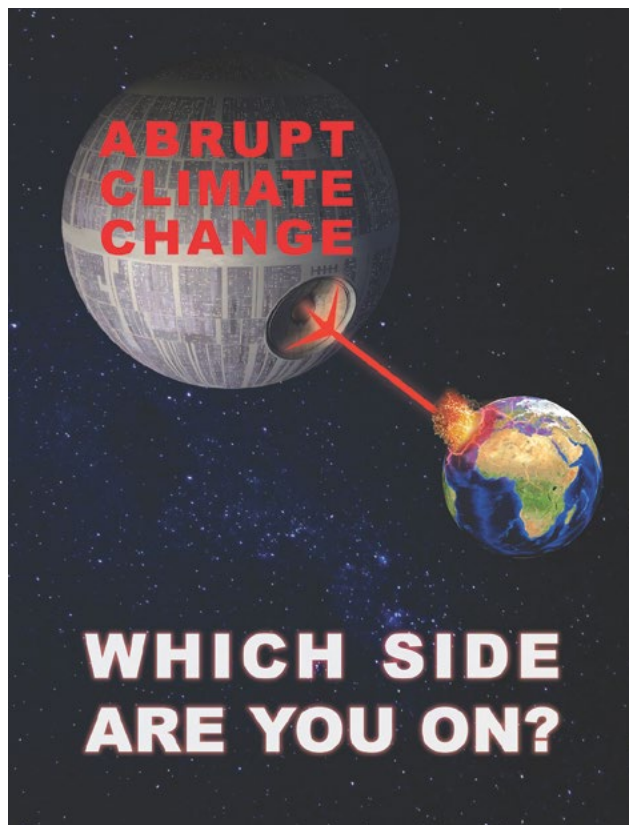
Given the broad spectrum of predictions regarding time frames and impacts of climate change, the central question becomes: In the face of all this uncertainty, what can we do today in order to course correct—before it’s too late?

Thu, Mar 22 – Part I: “Abrupt climate change”

For the series inauguration, we welcome back Professor Guy McPherson, proponent of the worst of the worst-case scenarios. Professor McPherson will lead us through the fascinating findings of his life-long career as a conservation biologist, including a “grand synthesis” of the relevant peer-reviewed scientific literature. His conclusions will clear the ground for an exploration of possible strategies and solutions for preventing his predictions.

This program will address the following questions as a foundation for our collective response to the predicament of abrupt climate change: On the spectrum of scientifically predictable impacts and timeframes of abrupt climate change, what is the worst-case scenario? What is the likelihood of it coming to pass? Short of that “worst case,” what are the other scenarios predicted by scientists? And finally, in the face of such serious scenarios, what set of strategies and goals may still be established for life on Earth to survive and perchance even thrive?

Reservation deadline is March 15.



Thu, Apr 26 – Part II: “Strategies and solutions for abrupt climate change”

Building off of Part I, this program will zero in on those strategies and solutions which hold the most promise for saving as much of the diversity of life on Earth as possible

Come join us as we explore the exciting prospects of possible solutions—from global geoshading to local archologies (similar to Biosphere 2). These “physical solutions” will only work when paired with the necessary political and economic solutions, since nothing short of a deep transformation across all the relevant realms of life on Earth can possibly carry the day.

Reservation deadline is April 19.

Thu, May 24 – Part III: “Applying collective intelligence to abrupt climate change”

In Part III we turn from a high-level discussion of problems and solutions to a discussion of the collective intelligence necessary to generate all of the strategies, solutions, and details required to achieve the overarching goal of saving life on Earth. We are talking about nothing less than an evolution and indeed radical revolution in the way we walk the Earth, both individually and collectively. Albert Einstein famously said, “we cannot solve our problems with the same level of thinking that created them.”

By coming together and having conversations we are being part of the solution. Part III is less a conclusion than a commencement of the global movement we urgently need to launch.

Reservation deadline is May 17.

SAN FRANCISCO DINNERS

MEET: Social hour 6 pm, dinner 7 pm, program 8 pm. Grace Lutheran Church, 3201 Ulloa St. at 33rd Ave. **COST:** Send a check for \$22 made out to "Sierra Club, S.F. Bay Chapter," to Gerry Souzis at 1801 California St., #405, San Francisco, CA 94109. Please indicate the program date, number of guests, vegetarian meals requested, and your phone number. Non-members welcome. **BRING:** Wine or soft drinks. Glasses and ice available. **LEADER:** For questions, contact Gerry between 4 and 9 pm at 415-474-4440 or gsouzis@hotmail.com.



Thu, Mar 15 – “Adventure in Japan,” with Anita Medal

Japan is a country of vast geographic and ecological diversity, and yet is legendary for the traditional homogeneity of its people. It is also undergoing dramatic transformations to its own identity as Asia itself is changing. Join us for Anita Medal’s epic five-week adventure throughout Japan as she shows us rich contrasts between the sparkling new and the traditional, spanning architecture, transportation, and manner of dress, among other facets. Get up close and personal as couples get married and children prepare for traditional ceremonies. Beautiful photos of the countryside, gardens, pagodas, and ecology round out a captivating repertoire.

Anita Medal is a longtime resident of Berkeley who became passionate about photojournalism as she traveled the world documenting her observations, interspersed with a career as one of the first prominent women in the Silicon Valley high-tech industry.

Checks must be received by February 12.



Thu, Apr 19 – “The seasons of Yellowstone” with Buff and Gerald Corsi

Yellowstone is our first national park, initially established in 1872 to protect its amazing geothermal features — the finest in the world. It also is home to the largest concentration of wildlife in the Lower 48. The big mammals are there, and the bird life is abundant. The landscape features snow-capped mountains, forests of pines, wide-open sagebrush and meadows. The elevation averages about 7,500 feet, with lower elevations in the Northern Range that provide the essential forage to keep the animals fed throughout what is often a brutally cold, snowy winter.

Join us as Buff and Jerry Corsi take us on a journey through three seasons in Yellowstone. Having made many trips to the park over the years, they will show us the abundant wildlife, as well as some of the geysers, steam vents, and mudpots.

Jerry and Buff together ran a company that took nature photographers on trips around the world. Now retired, they devote their time to wildlife photography; Jerry shoots with a still camera while Buff shoots video. Their photo trips have taken them to all seven continents, always in search of wildlife.

Checks must be received by April 14.



Thu, May 17 – “Trekking the Dolomites” with Seiji Kawamura

There are endless miles of hiking trails in the Dolomites, a mountain range covering northeastern Italy. Seiji Kawamura has spent the last three summers trekking the region, from the picturesque town of Bolzano to the magnificent ski resort of Cortina d’Ampezzo. Join Seiji as he treks hut-to-hut along the high-level trails, Alta Via I and II, passing through many ranges including Sasso Lungo, Sella, Marmolada, and Pale di San Martino. The ranges are connected by grassy valleys carpeted with wild flowers, truly a Sound of Music moment.

Seiji is a retired high school physics teacher from Fremont. He has trekked extensively in the Alps, Himalayas, South America, and Africa. For the past nine years he has done volunteer trail maintenance work on the Pacific Coast Trail, last year as the camp cook.

Checks must be received by May 14.

SPECIAL EVENTS & PROGRAMS

GREEN FRIDAYS

Green Friday programs feature speakers and presentations on the most important environmental issues of our time. MEET: Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Ste. I, Berkeley. Doors open at 7 pm, program runs 7:30 to 9 pm including questions and discussion. Refreshments are served. COST: \$3 requested donation.



Fri, Mar 9 – “Understanding tsunami hazards” with Cynthia Pridmor and Kevin Miller

More than eighty tsunamis have been observed or recorded in California. Significant recent tsunamis to impact California include the 1964 Alaskan earthquake and tsunami which caused 12 deaths and destroyed parts of Crescent City, and, even more recently and closer to home, the effects of the Japan 2011 tsunami on the Bay Area and California. Although most historical tsunamis that have affected California have been small, non-inundating events, larger ones are a possibility that must be considered for coastal communities.

Cynthia and Kevin will cover what a tsunami is and what causes them, natural warning signs and public notifications, recent effects of tsunamis on California, and an overview of the Bay Area’s vulnerability and planning for potential future events. Tsunami preparedness posters and pamphlets will be provided.

Cynthia Pridmor is an engineering geologist with the State Department of Conservation’s California Geological Survey. Kevin Miller is Tsunami Program Officer with the California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services.



Fri, Apr 13 – “The Life and Legacy of John Muir” with Devin Jackson

Our April speaker Devin Jackson is a longtime environmentalist and hiking enthusiast and an avid follower of John Muir’s research and writings on botany, phenology, ecology, environmentalism, glaciology, weather, and climate.

During the summer of 2017, Devin worked as a Teacher Ranger Teacher at the John Muir National Historic Site in Martinez. There, he designed a unit plan about phenology as a tool for studying the environmental impacts and effects of human-caused global climate change. As Devin researched phenology, he gained a new appreciation for John Muir that he would like to share with the environmental community. Please join us for a walk through the awe-inspiring life and legacy of John Muir.

Devin Jackson is a middle school science and engineering teacher in Walnut Creek. He was a co-founder and hike leader of the Bay Area Young Sierrans activity section of the Sierra Club’s SF Bay Chapter.



Fri, May 11 – “Bees, ZomBees, and citizen science” with John Hafernik

California is home to many species of native bees as well as introduced species such as the European honey bee. They are amazing creatures and important pollinators in natural, agricultural, and urban landscapes. Dr. John Hafernik will introduce the natural history of bee species in the Bay Area and discuss threats to both native bees and honey bees. He will also highlight how citizen science can play an important role in tracking threats to bees and in documenting their changing patterns of geographic distribution.

Along with other colleagues from SF State and the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, Dr. Hafernik founded the ZomBee Watch citizen science project to find out where in the United States and Canada the zombie fly is parasitizing honey bees and whether it contributes to hive losses.

Dr. Hafernik is Emeritus Professor of Biology at San Francisco State University. Dr. Hafernik earned a PhD in entomology from the University of California, Berkeley. He is a past President of the California Academy of Sciences, the Pacific Division of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the Pacific Coast Entomological Society.

PHOTO CREDIT: Top left: Tsunami warning sign by photogreuhphies via Flickr Creative Commons; Bottom-left: Courtesy ZomBee Watch Facebook page; Right: John Muir’s father-in-law, Dr. John Strentzel, with a giant sequoia planted by Muir, circa 1885.

MOUNT DIABLO GROUP

MEET: 7 pm at Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek. COST: Programs are free and open to all. LEADER: Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken_lavin@hotmail.com.



Wed, Mar 14 – “Magnificent Southeast Alaska” with Erin Wilson

Join us at our March meeting for armchair tour of the stunning scenery and wildlife of Southeast Alaska. Naturalist Erin Wilson will lead us down glacial carved valleys, over snow-capped mountains, and through expansive forests to charming seaports in our 49th state. Erin will share her experiences with you, hopefully planting a seed for you to visit, know, and appreciate this magical place.

Erin Wilson hails from the Puget Sound area of Washington State. She is currently a volunteer at Mount Diablo State Park and a docent naturalist with the Mount Diablo Interpretive Association. Erin is an active member of the Mount Diablo Peregrine Team. She enjoys traveling, viewing wildlife, and developing her photography skills.

Wed, May 9 – “The secret life of wildflowers” with Ken Lavin

Spring is wildflower time in our Bay Area hills, canyons, and meadows. But there’s more to our native flowers than meets the eye. Join us for a talk and slide presentation exploring some lesser-known aspects of the flowers we encounter on Mount Diablo. We’ll describe how the flowers came to be named, pioneer and Native American uses of blooming plants, the hidden life of pollinators, and the adventures (and misadventures) of intrepid 19th-century explorers who hiked the Bay Area in search of botanic discoveries. You may never look at a flower in quite the same way again!

Ken Lavin is a Sierra Club hike leader. He also leads nature hikes for the Mount Diablo Interpretive Association and Save Mount Diablo. He works as outings coordinator for Greenbelt Alliance and as a naturalist for Diablo Nature Adventures.

WATER COMMITTEE EVENT

Mon, Mar 19 – “The state of the SF Bay Delta Plan”

MEET: 7-9 pm, SF Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Berkeley. COST: Free to all. LEADER: Chris Gilbert, chris@gilbertbiz.com.

Join the SF Bay Chapter Water Committee and Peter Drekeimer of the Tuolumne River Trust to delve into the status of the SF Bay Delta Plan. The State Water Resources Control Board is proposing steps for restoring the health of the SF Bay Delta, which has been in severe decline for decades. The plan includes increasing the amount of fresh water that flows into the Delta from the Tuolumne (the water source for San Francisco), the Mokelumne (the water source for EBMUD), the San Joaquin, and other tributaries. Many water agencies, including here in the Bay Area, oppose the state agency’s proposals. Come with questions and learn how you can take action to help the Delta.

CLASSES & TRAININGS

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Upcoming classes: Saturday, March 24 and Sunday, March 25; or Saturday, May 19 and Sunday, May 20. Both classes are 8:30 am-5 pm at the Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave in Berkeley

Students have two options: You can take the one-day class on Saturday (\$50 for members or \$60 for non-members) and receive the Basic Wilderness First Aid certification of the American Safety & Health Institute. Basic WFA is a practical eight-hour course that prepares you to recognize and avoid wilderness hazards, and perform first aid outdoors with whatever equipment you have or can improvise. To receive the higher-level WFA certification, you can take the two-day class for an additional \$30/\$40. This option adds more advanced skills and role-playing scenarios.

This class satisfies first-aid requirements for most Bay Chapter outing leaders (confirm with your section/group officers).

REGISTRATION: Current chapter outings leaders visit www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/wfa, call (510)848-0800, or email fstaid@sfbaycs.org for instructions on how to sign up. All others email donelan@speakeasy.net and pay him in class (cash or check).

BEGINNERS BACKPACKING

Application deadline extended to March 4!

Indoor seminar: March 18

Field trips: April 14/15, May 5/6, May 12/13, May 19/20 (choose one)

Learn how to travel safely and comfortably with only a pack on your back during the annual Beginner’s Backpack course run by the Bay Chapter’s Backpack Section. The course consists of a full-day indoor session and one overnight backpacking trip.

The course costs \$110/adult; \$70 ages 12-22. For more information, download the application at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/backpacking-trips. You can also contact Thomas Meissner at meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net or 707-795-7980 (only if you don't have email access).



#SierraSnapshots | A beautiful fungus climbs a tree branch in Point Reyes, photographed by Wai on a Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter hike, January 2018. For a chance to be featured in the next Yodeler, submit your photographs on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook using the hashtag #SierraSnapshots, or email photos to yodedit@sfbaysc.org. Include your name 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:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- We launched a new platform for finding volunteer opportunities (see page 3)
- Learn about the “Community Choice” energy program serving you clean power (page 10)
- East Bay Dinner program launches three-part climate-discussion series (page 20)
- Beginners Backpacking course application extended to March 4 (page 23)

EMAIL

Visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/email to sign up for Bay Chapter emails, including monthly bulletins and action alerts.