



October 2010
Volume 47 No. 9

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DON'T MISS

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Seed Exchange**
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SANTA LUCIAN

Protecting and Preserving the Central Coast



The official newsletter of the Santa Lucia Chapter of the Sierra Club • San Luis Obispo County, California

New Vision for California's Clean Energy Future

Agencies develop 33% renewable energy requirement

A plan for California's energy future was unveiled on September 21 by the state agencies responsible for environmental and energy regulation.

Two days later, the California Air Resources Board put in place a Renewable Energy Standard (RES), the regulatory framework necessary to ensure that one-third of the energy sold in the state by 2020 will come from clean, green energy sources.



a clean energy future will create thousands of new jobs, diversify the state's energy supplies and reduce air pollution from fossil-fuel power generation. The document calls for an integrated approach to energy issues that have, in

ing new transmission infrastructure and ensuring the stability of the electrical grid. Improved planning for

continued on page 8

the November 2 election

Fate of the State

Sierra Club endorses Boxer and Brown

Two of the closest races California has seen in a long time are also two of the most crucial. Barbara Boxer must be returned to the Senate and Jerry Brown must return (after a 27-year absence) to the Governor's office if California is to pull out of its economic tailspin, protect our natural resources, and stay on track as the nation's leader in creating green jobs and transitioning to a renewable energy economy. We also need them both back on the job to avoid the over-the-cliff policy disasters promised by their opponents, both of whom believe that keeping our economy and environment held hostage to fossil fuels and putting up roadblocks to a green economy are good ideas.



For Governor: Jerry Brown

The choices that Californians make in this November's election will have critical impacts on our ability to develop a clean energy economy, live free of toxic harm, and preserve our parklands and open space. No vote will be more important to our future than the choice of our next Governor, and the clear choice for anyone who cares about our environment is Jerry Brown.

When one compares Brown to Meg Whitman on their records, commitment, and platforms, the Attorney General wins hands down in each category. While Whitman could rarely even be bothered to cast a vote until she decided she'd like to buy a term as Governor, Brown has a distinguished record of advancing clean technology, safeguarding our coastline, mountains and deserts,

For US Senate: Barbara Boxer

Senator Barbara Boxer is a true environmental hero who has been a staunch supporter of Sierra Club priorities throughout her 28 years in Congress.

As chair of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, Sen. Boxer is now setting the environmental agenda in Washington. She wrote the 2007 law requiring federal buildings to use technologies that reduce energy use and global-warming pollution, and is committed to the passage of long-overdue legislation to make the United States the world's leader in carbon reduction. She consistently advocates for the creation of clean energy jobs.

For three decades—ever since her days as a Marin County supervisor—she has led the battle to protect the California coast from offshore oil

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Santa Lucian
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It's time for America to get smart about energy and be less dependent on dwindling oil reserves. We need to increase our use of clean, renewable energy sources like wind and solar power.

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Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Supervisors to Parks: Drop Dead

How hard is it to decide that California's State Park System is a public asset and a good thing, and should be kept open and maintained so it doesn't fall to ruin due to lack of funds?

Pretty darn hard, as it turns out, if you are the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors. At the September 7 meeting of the Board, our elected representatives voted against endorsing Proposition 21 and the preservation of our State Parks.

There was an array of excuses coming from the dais, but precious little in the way of credible logic to support them.

From the account of the 4-1 vote that appeared in *The Tribune* the following day:

"The exception was Gibson, who argued that the local tourist economy would benefit from Proposition 21's passage. However, his fellow environmentalists on the board, Adam Hill and Jim Patterson, did not join him. Patterson said vehicle license fees should be used for vehicle-related purposes. He also noted that only 15 to 20 percent of people use state parks, and said the measure would penalize those who don't. Hill said he is growing 'nihilistic' about the use of ballot measures to legislate. 'I find myself wanting to vote 'no' on all these propositions,' he said. Achadjian, who owns gas stations in Arroyo Grande, asked, 'Why go after cars?' He said car sales are down, and suggested user fees to pay for state parks.

"Mary Golden of the Central Coast Natural History Association, supporting Proposition 21, said user fees don't raise enough money to protect parks."

Supervisor Hill's position neatly eliminated any requirement for evaluation, judgment, or otherwise taking up one's time with the task of attempting to comprehend any issue involved in a ballot measure. One size fits none.

Supervisor Patterson, seizing on a statistic, wound up arguing against almost as broad a universe of issues as Hill. By his "only 15 to 20 percent" logic, why pay for schools if you don't have kids? Why keep buses running and libraries open if you don't use them? Why support in any way anything having anything to do with the common good, promoting the general welfare, etc.?

Supervisor Achadjian actually seemed to believe that if prospective vehicle owners have to face the prospect of paying an additional \$18 a year in registration fees as a condition of car ownership, they will refrain from buying a car. Completing that circuit and his feat of deductive reasoning, Katcho leapt to the imaginary defense of car dealerships and voted "no."

Supervisor Gibson stood for the obvious, and for doing the right thing. He stood alone.

Our county's leaders couldn't see their way clear to endorse a measure



Supes behaving badly In County math, the 278 units of the State Park System aren't worth \$18 @ year.

that will keep state parks open, properly maintained, available to future generations as California's premier bastion for species and habitat preserved from the relentless pressures of development.

It was their worst symbolic vote since the previous Board voted against nominating the Carrizo Plain National Monument for the honor of World Heritage Site status, in response to fears that UN troops would parachute into SLO from black helicopters to engage in socialist indoctrination and infiltrate our precious bodily fluids.

Here, by way of contrast, is what Bob Sipchen, the Sierra Club's National Communications Director, said in the September 19 *Los Angeles Times*:

"I've watched at-risk urban kids dive screaming into a cold creek while on their first backpacking trip at Henry W. Coe State Park near San Jose, and I've surfed with investment bankers at San Onofre State Beach in southern Orange County. Pitch a tent at Malibu Creek State Park and you sample a landscape Halle Berry pays millions to inhabit; Watts Towers of Simon Rodia State Historic Park provides uplift from within a notoriously downtrodden neighborhood."

Sipchen recalled "memories conjured by the antiseptic aroma of bleached concrete in the [Russian Gulch State Park] campground showers and restrooms. It's a scent I experienced as a sunburned kid at San Elijo State Beach near San Diego, and as a hitchhiking college student on a rainy morning at Jedediah Smith Redwood State Park near the Oregon border. Along with the sight of rangers in snappy hats and well-maintained signs and stairways, that scent symbolized responsibility. It made me proud that I lived in a state where people took care of the property they shared."

Exactly. There is no organized opposition to Proposition 21. (Almost) everyone gets it. The best the ultra-conservative Automobile Club of Southern California (AAA) could manage was a solemn warning to members that passage of Prop. 21 means free admission to state parks, but "free admission would not be provided for...city and county parks." Ooo-kaaay....

Our thanks to the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors for providing an illuminating illustration of what doing the wrong thing looks like, which should make it easier for all to recognize the right thing, and to do it come November 2 by voting yes on Proposition 21.

SANTA LUCIAN

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The Executive Committee meets the third Friday of every month at 2:00 p.m. at the chapter office, located at 974 Santa Rosa St., San Luis Obispo. All members are welcome to attend.

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Where the GMOs Are

By Jesse Arnold

While debates rage around the potential impacts of genetically modified organisms (GMOs) on human health and the environment, it is indisputable that Monsanto Corporation's genetically engineered crops are a form of corporate control of agriculture. If Farmers Markets are for small farmers, they need to oppose genetically engineered crops, such as Monsanto's Bt Corn.

Last month, we wrote about the Farmers Markets in out county that exclude Monsanto's Bt Corn from their markets ("Farmers Markets Say No to GMOs," September). This month we will identify the Farmers Markets that allow the sale of Monsanto Bt Corn and two markets that have not taken a position on genetic engineering.

North County

The San Luis Obispo County Farmers Market Association allows



You'd never know it At the September 18 Farmers Market in Templeton, contrary to the Market's stated policy, there was nothing posted notifying shoppers of the presence of genetically engineered Bt corn.

the sale of Monsanto Bt Corn. Last fall the *Atascadero News* reported that the North County Farmers Market Association had adopted a rule requiring labeling of genetically

Avoiding a Radioactive BP

Gregory B. Jaczko, Chairman
 c/o Annette L. Vietti-Cook, Secretary of the Commission
 U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission
 Mail Stop O-16G4
 Washington, DC 20555-0001

Dear Chairman Jaczko,

The Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility would like to thank the NRC for hosting the recent Seismic Information Workshop in San Luis Obispo. We would like the NRC to consider this workshop "Phase one" of an "open and transparent" process to collaborate with local and state representatives and agencies.

The month before the Alliance met with you last March, we had read one of your speeches in which you quoted Ben Franklin. We may have already mentioned this, but we know you will agree it's worth repeating:

"It takes many good deeds to build a good reputation, and only one bad one to lose it."

The NRC's reputation on earthquakes and Diablo is historically tarnished. There may be disagreement on the reasons why, or how tarnished it really is, but there is a well-documented record to support the claim that the NRC's seismic credibility falters in California.

The information provided at the NRC seismic workshop was valuable to our community and to all in attendance, though there is little doubt it left more

VOTE NO ON PROP. 23

This is a *partial* list of members of the No on Proposition 23 Coalition, as of early September:

Public Health

American Academy of Pediatrics - CA
American Lung Association in California
Bakersfield Memorial Hospital
Blue Shield of California
Breathe California Bay Area
Breathe California Central Coast
Breathe California Golden Gate
Breathe California of Los Angeles County
Breathe LA
Butte County Health Care Coalition
California Nurses Association
Calif. Public Health Association - North
California Thoracic Society
Catholic Healthcare West
Community Hospital of San Bernardino
Dominican Hospital
Kaiser Permanente
Los Angeles County Medical Association
Marian Medical Center
Mercy Hospital
Mercy Hospital of Folsom
Mercy Medical Center Redding/CHW
National Physicians Alliance - California
Public Health Institute
Public Health Law and Policy
Santa Barbara County Medical Society
Sequoia Hospital
Sierra Nevada Memorial Hospital
Solano Asthma Coalition
St. Bernadine Medical Center
St. John's Regional Medical Center
St. Joseph's Medical Center

Public Safety

California Professional Firefighters
League of Women Voters of California
League of Women Voters of Los Angeles

Consumers

AARP
Consumer Action
Consumers for Auto Reliability and Safety
Consumer Federation of California
Consumers Union

Labor

AFSCME Council 57
American Federation of State, County and
Municipal Employees (AFSCME)
California Labor Federation AFL-CIO
California Conference of Carpenters
IBEW Local 569
Imperial Counties Labor Council
Sheet Metal Workers Local 104
United Steelworkers District 12

Environmental Organizations

1Sky
Acterra
Alliance for Water Education
As You Sow
Audubon California
Bay Localize
Berkeley Partners for Parks
Brown & Winters Environmental Law
California Cars Initiative
California Center for Sustainable Energy
California Council of Land Trust
California League of Conservation Voters
Californians Against Waste
Center for Biological Diversity
Chesapeake Climate Action Network
Chico Conservation Voters
Citizens Climate Lobby
Clean Air Now
Clean Water Action
ClimatePath
Climate Protection Campaign
Climate Solutions
Coalition for Clean Air
Community Environmental Council
Defenders of Wildlife
Earth Day Los Angeles
Earth Day Network
Earth Resources Foundation
Earthjustice
Ecology Action
Ecology Center of Southern California
Endangered Habitats League
Energy Independence Now
Environment America
Environment California
Environmental Defense Center
Environmental Defense Fund
FIT Coalition
Friends of the Earth
Global Green USA
Green Coalition of San Jacinto Valley
Greenbelt Alliance
Green For All
Greenpeace USA
Heal the Bay
KyotoUSA
League of Conservation Voters
National Audubon Society
National Parks Conservation Association
National Wildlife Federation
Natural Resources Defense Council
The Nature Conservancy
Oceana
Occidental Arts and Ecology Center
Ojai Valley Green Coalition

Parents for a Safer Environment
Pew Environment Group
Plan of Action in a Changing Era
Planning and Conservation League
Roots of Change
Sacramento Area Bicycle Advocates
Safe Climate Campaign
San Francisco Baykeeper
Save The Earth Now
Sierra Club California
Solana Beach Clean and Green
Terra Foundation
The Center for Land-Based Learning
The Climate Project
The Wilderness Society
TransForm
Trust for Public Land
Union of Concerned Scientists
Viva Sierra Gorda
350.org

Renewable Energy and Clean Tech

Companies & Organizations
Abengoa Solar, Inc.
ACCIONA Energy North America
Adura Technologies, Inc.
Advanced Alternative Energy Solutions
Advanced Energy Products, Corp.
Akeena Solar, Inc.
All Valley Solar, Inc.
A.M. Shine Electric, Inc.
Ameco Solar, Inc.
Amonix Inc.
Amyris Biotechnologies
Anatone Corp.
Anthony International
Applied Materials
Aspire Clean Tech Communications
Auxin Solar
Aztec Solar, Inc.
Better Place
Beyond Green Strategies, LLC
Bloom Energy
Bottom Line Utility Solutions, Inc.
Breathe-Rite Air
BrightSource Energy
Build It Green
Business Council on Climate Change
Business for Innovative Climate and
Energy Policy (BICEP)
California Clean Energy Committee
California Clean Energy Fund (CalCEF)
California Energy & Power
California Green Designs
California Natural Gas Vehicle Coalition
California Solar Energy Industries
Association
California Wind Energy Association
CALSTART
Calpine Corp.
Cannon Power Group
Center for Resource Solutions
Centrosolar America, Inc.
Clean Economy Network
Clean Power Solutions
CleanTech Energy Solutions, Inc.
Cleantech Law Partners
Cleantech Open
CleanTECH San Diego
Climate Pro Mechanical, Inc.
Coastal Construction
Commercial Solar Design
Conserv Fuel
Cosmic Solar, Inc.
Davis Energy Group Inc.
DBL Investors
DL Energy
DG Technologies
Ecotype Consulting
Efficiency Data & Development
Efficiency First
Eko Asset Management Partners
Electric Vehicles International
eMeter Corporation
Energy Conservation Options
Fresno Solar
Fulcrom BioEnergy, Inc.
Green Design Systems
Green Key Real Estate
Green Planning Collaborative
Green Power Solutions
Green Vehicles
Green Vision for Business, Inc.
groSolar
Haven by Design
HelioPower
Horizon Wind Energy
Hubbell Daily Architecture and Design
I'm in Control
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Invenergy, LLC
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SolarReserve
SolarRoofs.com Inc.
Solid Team, LLC
Soltech Solar, Inc.
Solutions in Solar Electricity
SPG Solar
Springboard Biodiesel, LLC
Sullivan Solar Power
Sungevity
SunPower
Sustainable Business Council
Sustainable Community Advocates
Sustainable Earth Initiative
Sustainable ENWA Technologies, Inc.
SV Green Tech Corp.
Tahoe Solar Designs
ThinkShift Communications
Town Green
Ubuntu Green
United Sustainable Energy
U.S. Green Building Council -
Los Angeles
U.S. Green Building Council -
Northern California
US Green Building Council
Verve Solar Consulting
Vote Solar Initiative
Waste Management
Western Grid Group
Zigg Electric and Solar
8minutenergy Renewables, LLC

Social Justice/Ethnic

CA Apollo Alliance
California Coalition for Civil Rights
California LULAC
California State NAACP
CAUSE
Coastal Women for Change
CREDO Action
Ella Baker Center for Human Rights
Global Exchange
Instituto Laboral De La Raza
Latino Coalition for a Healthy California
New Voices Are Rising
People's Core
Preserving Integrity Network
Rose Foundation
The Greenlining Institute
Urban Habitat

Faith

American Jewish Committee Los Angeles
California Church Impact
California Interfaith Power and Light
Catholic Charities, Stockton Diocese
Lutheran Office of Public Policy
California Interfaith Power and Light
Southern California Ecumenical Council
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry

Student and Youth Groups

California Student Public Interest
Research Group
California Student Sustainability
Coalition

Local Government

California Municipal Utilities Association
City of Baldwin Park
City of Berkeley
City of Chula Vista
City of Cloverdale City Council
City of El Cerrito
City of Del Mar
City of Fairfax
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Public Interest

Center for American Progress
Courage Campaign
HUMANBE
Mainstreet Moms
Ruby's List
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Change SF

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California Council
Armstrong Painting Roofing & Windows
Athena Engineering, Inc.
Atlas Project Support
BetterWorld Telecom
Blu Moon Group
Border Grill and Ciudad
Bowman Design Group
Buena Vista Moving
California Building Performance Contrac-
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California Infill Builders Association
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Commerce
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Green Retirement Plans, Inc.
Green Star Solution
Hot studio
Klean Kanteen
Latin Business Association
Levi Strauss & Co.
Los Altos Chamber of Commerce
Los Angeles Business Council
McCalmont Engineering
M-E Engineers, Inc.
Mendocino Wine Company
Mentorography, Inc.
Merit Technologies, LLC
Method Products
Minerva Consulting
Mountain View Chamber of Commerce
Mr. Joe's Really Big Productions
MSL Consulting
National Association of Women Business
Owners, Los Angeles
Nelson\Nygaard Consulting Associates
New Voice of Business
Pacific Gas & Electric
Palo Alto Chamber of Commerce
Patagonia
Sacramento Municipal Utilities District
San Francisco Chamber of Commerce
Seventh Generation Advisors
Sierra Business Council
Silicon Valley Leadership Group
Small Business California
Sustainable Business Alliance
Tiemann Investment Advisors
Valley Industry & Commerce Association
(VICA)
Virgin America
Warner Bros. Entertainment, Inc.

Agriculture

Dixon Ridge Farms
Family Farm Defenders
Riverdance Farms
Sierra Orchards
Urban Farming Advocates

Education

California Teachers Association

Transportation/Transit

Alameda - Contra Costa Transit District
California Bicycle Coalition
Coalition for Sustainable Transportation
Move LA

Seniors

Congress of California Seniors
California Alliance for Retired Americans

Brown
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and cracking down on pollution. As Governor, Brown established California as a leader in solar and wind power, cut air pollution by almost 50%, adopted money-saving efficiency standards for buildings and appliances, fended off federal efforts to expand offshore oil drilling, and added more than 700,000 acres to the state parks system. As Attorney General, he has worked with cities and counties to develop long-term growth plans to reduce pollution and traffic (including a groundbreaking settlement with the City of Stockton of a suit initially brought by Sierra Club), defended California's pioneering clean-car standards against the auto industry, and stopped Bush Administration efforts to weaken pollution curbs.

In a meeting with Sierra Club California leaders, Brown demonstrated a commitment to environmental values, grasp of complex energy issues, and wisdom derived from actually having sat in the Governor's chair. His environmental platform (read it at www.jerrybrown.org/environment) details his plans to reduce air pollution, promote clean energy and jobs, protect our coast and ocean resources, reduce toxic chemicals, build livable communities, protect parks, open space and wildlife, and conserve California's farmland.

In contrast, Whitman spent the primary campaign pandering to polluters by bashing environmentalists and key protections like AB 32, the Global Warming Solutions Act (see "Climate Clowning with Meg and Carly," February *Santa Lucian*). Since the primary, she has tried to get out of the far-right corner she painted herself into, declaring herself an environmentalist and waffling on key issues like global warming and offshore oil drilling.

For all these reasons, Sierra Club California enthusiastically endorses Jerry Brown for Governor. Please lend your support at www.jerrybrown.org/

Boxer
continued from page 1

drilling and to clean up toxic wastes, and as a senator she has been in the vanguard of preserving the pristine Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. Her sponsorship of the California Wild Heritage Wilderness Act has led to the designation of more than a million acres of federal land as wilderness.

Sen. Boxer has accomplished a great deal, and it is absolutely vital to keep her in the Senate fighting for the environment—combating climate change, preserving our natural wonders, and keeping pollution from ravaging our land, our water, and the health of our communities. In this difficult political year, facing an opponent whose financial resources appear limitless, her campaign depends on people power.

There are several ways to help, besides casting your ballot and sending money. To find out about the alternatives, sign up as a Facebook fan, follow the campaign on Twitter, or visit: www.boxer.com

To act locally, consider hosting a house party. The campaign will provide full instructions; all you need is a location and a group of convivial friends. For more information, contact Victoria Brandon at: vbrandon@lakelive.info or Gayle Eads at: gayle.s.eads@gmail.com.

Vote for Barbara Boxer on Nov. 2: our state, our nation, and our planet depend on her.

Sierra Club Endorsements

FEDERAL

- Barbara Boxer - Senate**
- Lois Capps - Congress**

STATE

- Jerry Brown, Governor**
- Hilda Zacarias - Assembly, 33rd District**
- Gavin Newsom - Lieutenant Governor**
- Kamala Harris - Attorney General**
- Dave Jones - Insurance Commissioner**
- Debra Bowen - Secretary of State**
- Bill Lockyer - State Treasurer**
- John Chiang - State Controller**

STATE PROPOSITIONS

- NO on Prop. 20**
- YES on Prop. 21**
- NO on Prop. 23**
- YES on Prop. 25**
- NO on Prop. 26**

Go to www.sierraclubcalifornia.org/elections for analysis of state ballot propositions, the qualifications of Sierra Club-endorsed candidates, and full list of endorsements in all California Assembly and Senate races.

ARROYO GRANDE

- Joe Costello - City Council**

CAMBRIA

- Harry Farmer - CSD**
- Valerie Bentz - CSD**

LOS OSOS

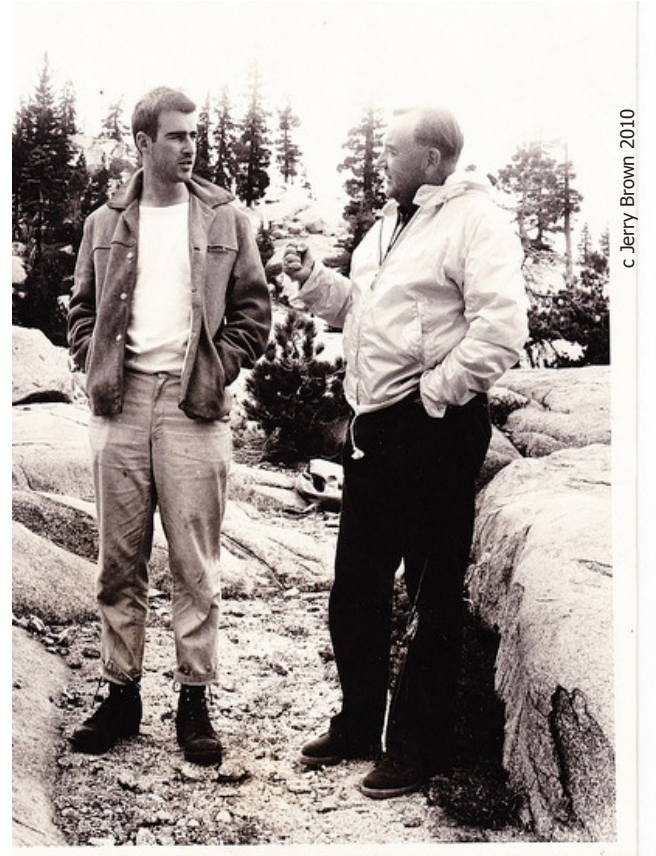
- Paul Malykont - CSD**
- David Vogel - CSD**

MORRO BAY

- Betty Winholtz - Mayor**
- Jack Smith - City Council**

SAN LUIS OBISPO

- Jan Marx - Mayor**
- Dan Carpenter - City Council**
- Kathy Smith - City Council**
- Andrew Carter - City Council**



Generations Edmund G. Brown Jr. and Sr. at Echo Summit, Desolation Wilderness.



For the parks SLO City Councilman John Ashbaugh (with bullhorn) spoke up for Proposition 21, fully funding our State Parks System, at a September 21 rally in Mission Plaza.



She got the nod The Sierra Club's pre-endorsement interview with Senator Barbara Boxer, May 2009. From left: Andy Katz, Victoria Brandon, Bob Schneider, Senator Boxer, Robert Redford, Larry Fahn, Susana Reyes.

Shocking news...

Santa Claus Will Not Bring Us Six Lanes

by Eric Greening

Although past Regional Transportation Plans have always assumed that Highway 101 would eventually be six lanes for the full length of San Luis Obispo County, there is no sign on any reality-based horizon of where the money for such a gargantuan project would come from.

The question of whether we will recognize this reality will be debated on the morning of Wednesday, October 6, by the Board of the Council of Governments (the five County Supervisors plus an elected official from each incorporated city). Executive Director Ron diCarli and the SLOCOG staff have long been gently urging our transportation planning in a more multi-modal, sustainable direction. While their approach has been far too incremental for many of us, with the bulk of transportation spending continuing to be directed toward roads, they have

been trying to move the inertia of consensus opinion in a more far-sighted direction with all the steady, patient pressure of orthodontia. Wednesday's showdown will result in a clear reading of how far we have come. It will give the public a rare opportunity to unhesitatingly support a staff recommendation at a public meeting.

At stake is the 2010 update of our Regional Transportation Plan, which, for the first time, is also called a "Sustainable Communities Strategy." The language that will be fought over can be found on Page 4-10 of the Administrative Draft:

"The 2010 RTP's U.S. 101 improvement strategy takes a departure from the 2005 RTP by no longer recognizing the eventual need for widening U.S. 101 from the current four-lane configuration to a six-lane facility within the 25-year time horizon. The six-lane

phasing, as described in the 2005 RTP, is no longer included as needed improvements."

The cost of such six-laning would exceed a billion dollars, possibly approaching two billion. Even if such resources were to miraculously appear in this county, the question of whether this would be their most effective use must be raised.

In addition, the environmental consequences of keeping such a project in the plan must be fully understood. For example, the people of Santa Margarita are experiencing gravel trucks traversing their city



Paul Kulig/Tomomarusan

4th annual 2010
slo seed exchange

**Saturday
October 23
6-9 pm**

**SLO Library
at Palm & Osos Sts**

photo by Elizabeth Johnson © 2010

* CITY OF SLO PARKS & RECREATION
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every night, every few minutes, just to accommodate a repair project on 101. Highway expansion is far hungrier for this material. Even without it, there is immense pressure to dig up more streams and eat up more mountains to provide road base. Citizens of the North County are watching related developments with great concerns, as Santa Margaritans fight plans for a huge quarry on the Oster property in Calf Canyon, while people farther north seek to protect the Salinas River and its tributaries from becoming an extraction sacrifice zone.

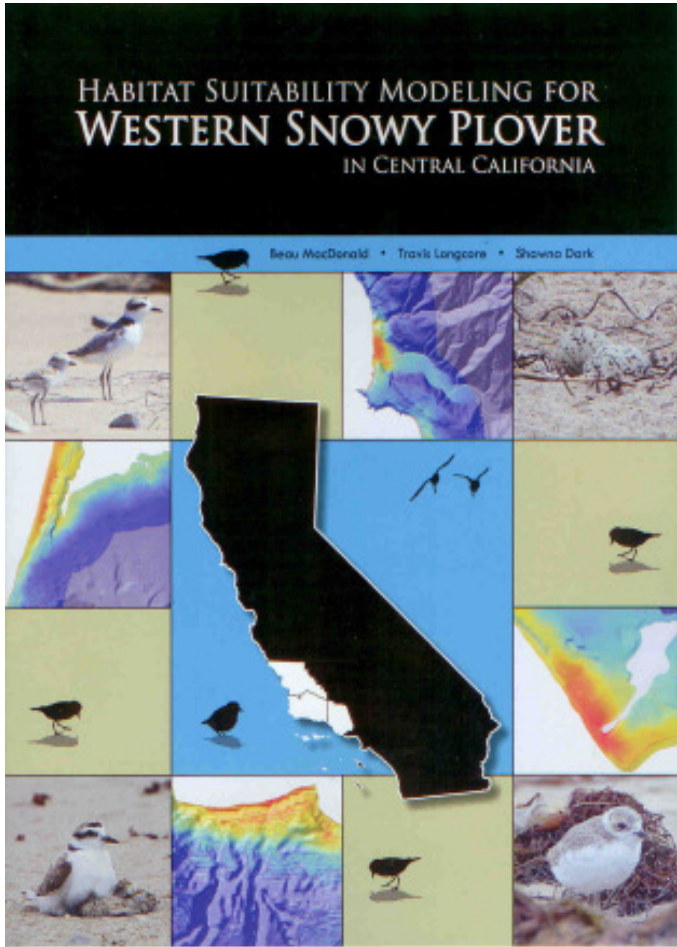
Yet it is hard for public servants to give up attachment to the idea that our "infrastructure" always has to expand. The best way to help them give up this attachment is for the public to let them know in no uncertain terms that *we are ready to let go*. We have other priorities.

The Council of Governments meeting of October 6 will be in the County Government Center beginning at 8:30 a.m. The showdown over the Regional Transportation Plan will probably happen early in the meeting; later on (estimated at 10:30) there will be a decision on whether the Board will take a position on San Luis Obispo's Measure H. Staff is being requested by some board members to oppose this proposition. It is not yet clear what staff will recommend, but it may give some audience members who were there to support staff earlier in the meeting occasion to differ from them later. So be it. The question can legitimately be raised as to why any larger body is taking a position on a question being decided by the citizens of one of its member jurisdictions.

In any event, the biggest question will be dealt with before they get into the Measure H discussion, and it will have huge ramifications whichever way it goes. Are we serious about climate change, reducing vehicle miles traveled, emphasizing non-motorized options and public transit, and ceasing to subsidize the single-occupant driver, or do we expect

continued on page 10

Sierra Club Lawsuit Funds Snowy Plover Study



As a result of the 2005 settlement of our lawsuit *Sierra Club vs. Areias*, the California Department of Parks and Recreation has funded the just published study “Habitat Sustainability Modeling for Western Snowy Plover in Central California,” prepared by the Urban Wildlands Group. The study will aid state wildlife managers in deciding where to best pursue conservation actions for the federally listed threatened species, which has declined sharply across its west coast range.

The study concludes that “the model results...provide the basis for strong argument that ‘take,’ as defined under the Endangered Species Act, is regularly occurring at high habitat suitability value sites that have wintering populations of Western Snowy Plovers but are not managed for the species.”

The funding of the study by the Department of Parks was one of the terms stipulated by the Sierra Club in a 2005 consent decree with the Parks in settlement of a lawsuit brought by the Sierra Club over State Parks’ management of the Pacific snowy plover, least tern and steelhead trout at the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Riding Area. Under the terms of the settlement, State Parks was required to close an additional half-mile of beach to off-road vehicles as an enclosure area during the plover’s March to October breeding season, examine alternatives to vehicle crossings of Arroyo Grande Creek, and provide nearly \$500,000 in funding for research, education, public outreach, and volunteer programs in support of plover recovery efforts statewide.

“Five years later, we are very pleased to finally see the release of this extremely thorough study, which will be key to the evaluation of current management measures,” said Babak Naficy, the San Luis Obispo-based environmental lawyer who represented the Chapter in the litigation. “It greatly expands our understanding of suitable habitat, inside and outside existing recovery sites, and why plovers nest on some beaches and not on others. It should help settle a lot of public debate that has been going on for a long time.”

“California now has a way to identify and evaluate critical habitat for the snowy plover,” said Santa Lucia Chapter Chair Melody DeMeritt. “We’re happy we were able to bring about a new and better model for wildlife managers.”

To download the study, go to: www.urbanwildlands.org/wsp.html.

Sierra Club Presents Obama with Vision for Managing America’s Great Outdoors

On September 10, the Sierra Club presented the Obama administration with its vision for how America’s public lands should be managed as they face the greatest threat in their history — climate change.

The administration has hosted a series of public hearings around the country to give Americans a chance to weigh in on the future of our wildlife and wild places. As part of that process, the Sierra Club encouraged citizens to contact the Obama administration, and we presented leaders with a 28-page vision plan, titled *Protecting America’s Great Outdoors: Sierra Club’s Vision*.

“Today, America’s wild legacy faces its biggest challenge,” said Sierra Club executive director Michael Brune. “Global warming is stressing wildlife like grizzly bears and lynx and threatening habitat with forest fires and drought. Fortunately, our leaders can take steps to protect our public lands and wildlife from the worst impacts of climate change.”

Part of this effort includes limiting outside stresses like irresponsible oil and gas development, off-road vehicle abuse, and logging, which will make it even harder for wildlife to survive global warming. The Sierra Club plan also recommends identifying and protecting key corridors that allow wildlife to migrate and adapt to changing habitat.

Other specific recommendations include:

- Designating the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as a National Monument.
- Putting our public lands to work

fighting climate change by protecting our older, carbon-rich forests.

- Helping reconnect Americans and youth to the great outdoors by removing barriers and providing incentives and safe access to the natural world.

“As wildlife like grizzly bears face diminishing food as a result of climate change, they will need to migrate safely to new habitat,” Brune said. “Protecting corridors will help ensure their survival. America’s forests and wetlands don’t just provide a source

of inspiration, recreation, tourism and jobs. They also play an important role in fighting climate change. Protecting key public lands is one of the most important things we can do to reduce

continued on page 8

It Was Fun While It Lasted

This is our last color issue of the *Santa Lucian* for a while, as we continue with cost-cutting and belt tightening measures of the type being implemented everywhere these days. Returning to black & white newsprint, we’ll save about three hundred bucks a month in the newsletter’s production costs, and apply those savings elsewhere in our mission to preserve and protect the central coast.

We did enjoy our colorful year! To see it off in style, let’s all enjoy this killer shot of Cerro Alto by B.K. Richard, from his series “San Luis Beautiful.” (Our on line edition will continue in full color at www.santalucia.sierraclub.org).



B.K. Richard

Energy Future

continued from page 1

the past, not always been addressed in a fully coordinated fashion. In contrast, a consensus among the agencies drives the current effort in which a coordinated statewide approach is key in balancing climate change mitigation, renewable power generation and the use of advanced technologies with grid reliability and reduced costs to consumers.

"California's energy policy must be clear and focused on meeting our advanced efficiency and renewable energy goals," said ARB Chairman Mary D. Nichols. "States and nations are competing for the green jobs, economic security and cleaner environment that flow from increasing reliance on wind, solar and geothermal power. By coordinating our regulations California makes itself even more attractive to clean energy technology investors and builders."

"It is wonderful to see this coordination among state agencies on such an important issue," said CPUC President Michael R. Peevey. "Such a coordinated approach will help make achieving our clean energy goals easier and more transparent for consumers."

"Energy efficiency has been the bedrock of California's energy policy for more than three decades and the least expensive strategy for meeting climate change goals," said Karen Douglas, Chairman California Energy Commission. "California's Clean Energy Future underscores the need to continue investing in energy efficiency and clean technologies if California is to maintain its leadership role as the most energy efficient and forward-thinking state in the nation."

"This puts us a step ahead of the monumental effort required to attain California's renewable energy and other environmental objectives. The goal is to transform the industry - a goal that we can meet only if we work together urgently toward the same end, with transparency and accountability. The California ISO is a proud partner in this critically important alliance," said California ISO President and CEO Yakout Mansour.

A roadmap charts policy priorities, goals and milestones for the state's clean energy future and an implementation plan contains the details of more than 50 newly aligned activities between the five organizations.

The plan covers issues such as job training and retraining for the new clean energy economy, and planning for new electricity generation, developing enhanced transmission and new distribution requirements. It also looks at strategic and infrastructure opportunities that will accommodate the influx of plug-in hybrid and all-electric cars, and investment in research and development for new technologies related to generation and distribution.

On a more technical level, the documents elevate the PUC's long-term electricity procurement planning with the ISO's annual transmission planning efforts and the Energy Commission's regular forecasts of statewide energy demand. All the agencies plan to review and revise their individual recommended strategies and specific targets on a biennial basis following the energy commission's forecast updates of projected electricity demand.

The documents were inspired by the close working relationships developed among the agencies since 2006 while coordinating on electricity and energy-related measures for imple-

menting AB 32.

This was followed by an even more intensive period of collaboration following the Governor's Executive Order in September 2009 (S-21-09) requiring the state's utilities to increase the power they sell to be made up of at least 33 percent clean energy.

That collaboration produced the proposed regulation for a renewable electricity standard.

"California's Clean Energy Future" and related documents can be found at: www.climatechange.ca.gov/energy/index.html/.

Great Outdoors

continued from page 7

global warming pollution."

These recommendations are focal points of the Sierra Club's Resilient Habitats campaign, which aims to protect wildlife and wild places from the worst impacts of climate change.

For more information about the Resilient Habitats campaign, visit www.sierraclub.org/habitat/.

GMOs

continued from page 3

engineered produce as such.

Haysahi and Sons is the vendor of GE corn. Hayashi sells at the markets in Arroyo Grande (Wednesdays); Morro Bay (Thursdays); San Luis Obispo (Thursdays and Saturdays).

If you would like to see the SLO County Farmers Market Association bar the sale of genetically engineered produce such as Monsanto's Bt Corn at its markets, you can talk to the manager at each market and/or call the Association Manager at 544-9570.

The North County Farmers Market Association runs the following markets: Baywood/ Los Osos, Mondays; Paso Robles, Tuesdays, Atascadero, Wednesdays; and Templeton, Saturdays. The Templeton Market allows Hayashi and Sons to sell Monsanto Bt corn.

As of September 8, the North County Farmers Market Association had not banned genetically engineered produce from their markets.

If you think the North County Farmers Market Association should not allow genetically engineered produce such as Monsanto's Bt Corn at its markets you can Email Manager Sandra Dimond at Sandra@createabang.com/, call her at 748-1109 or talk to her at one of the markets.

SLO

The SLO Certified Farmers Market opened this spring and is owned and managed by Moaz Bensalem, the owner of Baba Foods. The market is



held on Sunday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the parking lot of Kennedy Club Fitness on Lang Street in San Luis Obispo.

Mr. Bensalem has not taken a position on genetic engineering. He explained that his contract with his vendors does not prohibit genetically engineered produce and he cannot change that until the current one-year contracts expire.

The views of consumers can make a difference here. If enough people tell Mr. Bensalem they want his market to adopt a policy of excluding genetically engineered produce, such as Monsanto's Bt Corn, from his market he might make that change.

You can contact Moay Bensalem at his market or email him at sloce@gmail.com/.

Cambria

Cambria Farmers Market has three or four vendors who sell organic or conventional corn. When manager Mike Broadhurst was asked to adopt a policy excluding GMO produce, he declined. Mr. Broadhurst is the owner of Dragon Spring Farm, a small farm that does not grow Monsanto Bt Corn, but apparently is in favor of genetic engineering of crops.

If you would like to see the Cambria Farmers Market adopt a policy barring the sale of genetically engineered produce such as Monsanto's Bt Corn at its market, you can contact Manager Mike Broadhurst at the market or at 924-1260. Call Jesse Arnold at 927-3096 to sign a petition to remove Bt Corn from the market.

Sierra Clubbers Turn the Tables on Off-Roaders

Starting with the White House Conference on the Great Outdoors on April 16 (see page 7), President Obama has launched a national dialogue about conservation in America from the ground-up to conserve farmland and open space for future generations, restore rivers and streams, protect areas for hiking and biking, preserve beaches and coastlines, conserve wildlife habitat for fishing and hunting, and restore the cultural and historic sites that tell America's story.

In fact, community-driven efforts to conserve America's land, water, and wildlife are a major reason why we are blessed with the parks, refuges, forests, and open spaces that we enjoy today.

Last August, the on-line publication *Sierra Club Insider* told subscribers how the Obama administration's Great Outdoors Initiative was collecting ideas for conserving outdoor spaces in an online forum that allowed people to "promote" and "demote" others' suggestions. When Nancy Dess, a psychology professor from Occidental College in Los Angeles, shared her idea about the health, cognitive, and social benefits of the outdoors, she found that it was quickly demoted because the forum was dominated by off-road enthusiasts who had obviously organized a response to push for more off-road access on public lands and limiting wilderness protections.

So she wrote about her experience in the *Sierra Club Trails* on line bulletin, urging people to vote on the site. After the *Insider* shared her story, the tide turned as thousands of you visited the Great Outdoors site and tipped the balance toward the pro-conservation side.

"I couldn't be more pleased," said Dess in a note to the Club. "Thank you!" And thanks to all of you who voted.

You can send your own comments on the Great Outdoors Initiative directly to the Department of Interior here: <http://ideas.usda.gov/ago/ideas.nsf/product>



Bureau of Land Management

Taking Issue

problematic environmental coverage & commentary in our local media

“Food safety bill hampered by delays in the Senate,” *New York Times*, reprinted in *The Tribune*, September 19, 2010.

Summary: Everybody loves the Food Safety Modernization Act -- how can you be opposed to safe food? -- but a small group of troublemakers are blocking its passage.

Internet rumors that flew around the Food Safety Bill -- 24-hour GPS tracking of farm animals! Warrantless entry to farms by government agents! -- were indeed untruths, and did not reflect the text of the bill. But that was not the problem. There is a world of difference between the claim by the *New York Times* that extremists are claiming the bill “would outlaw organic farming” and the real objection, summarized by the Farm-to-Consumer Legal Defense Fund: “The burdensome requirements the bill imposes on small farms and the intrusive federal control it creates over small farm operations threaten the future viability of sustainable agriculture and the local food movement.”

“No one would argue that improving the food safety standards in the U.S. is a negative move,” wrote Alexandra Gross in the March/April 2009 issue of *E Magazine*. “It’s the bill’s vague language that causes concern among supporters of organic and biodynamic farming-and sparks the doomsday scenarios reflected in commentaries on the bill.”

The blame lies with...an unusual coalition of left- and right-wing advocates for small farmers who have mounted a surprisingly effective Internet campaign warning, among other untruths, that the bill would outlaw organic farming.



The respected Organic Consumers Association (OCA) said: “Congress should pay attention to organic and local food advocates like the Northeast Organic Farming Association’s Leafy Greens Working Group and the Community Alliance with Family Farm’s Family Farm Food Safety Campaign. Congress should draw on their expertise in food safety systems that are scale-appropriate and compatible with organic system plans. We share the

concerns of the Farm-to-Consumer Legal Defense Fund, which opposes the bill because it could be interpreted to impose onerous regulations on small farms. We cannot support a ‘food safety’ bill unless it provides protection or exemptions for organic and farm-to-consumer producers and cracks down on the real corporate criminals who are tampering with and polluting our nation’s food supply.”

Our Favorite Watchdogs

Years of effort by the Nipomo Creek Dogs, familiar to regular readers of this publication (see “Caught in the Black Web,” March 2008; “Dogs Get It Done,” Feb. 2010, etc.), continue to pay off, and provide a sterling example of the way the activist/regulator interface should work.

After decades of watching their beloved Nipomo Creek suffer under an increasing load of ag waste, and years of shouting in the wilderness and banging their heads against bureaucratic walls, the Dogs came to the Sierra Club for guidance and support, and got it. In December 2009, the Regional Water Quality Control Board responded to the problem with a policy requiring “responsible parties” on Nipomo Creek to take action to prevent discharges of agricultural waste.

In May and June, Water Board and Department of Fish and Game staff visited a Nipomo Creek area known to have been previously impacted by irrigation tubing waste, issued letters to property owners on the creek’s Hermrick and Deleissigues tributaries requiring discharge prevention and remedial actions, and required the farm manager to describe and photo-document actions taken. Staff will conduct additional field work to check potential agricultural waste sites in Nipomo Creek.

Good dogs!



Upshot: If people make up bad things and attribute them to a piece of legislation that does not, in fact, contain those things, that does not cancel out the *real* list of bad effects the bill would have. And, per the Organic Consumers Association, “Certified organic farms and farms that sell directly to consumers are oases in a food system gone wrong. Unfortunately, the ‘food safety’ system as we know it has been created largely by the corporations it was supposed to regulate. That’s why it takes 9 months to locate and shut down a peanut factory that killed 9 people and sickened 22,500, but a raw milk producer can be raided and arrested without ever harming a soul.”

Comment Deadline for Morro Bay Cayucos Sewer Project is Nov. 4

The draft Environmental Impact Report on the Morro Bay–Cayucos Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade Project has been released. If you want to weigh in on the biggest and most fateful public works project in the history of these two communities, now’s the time.

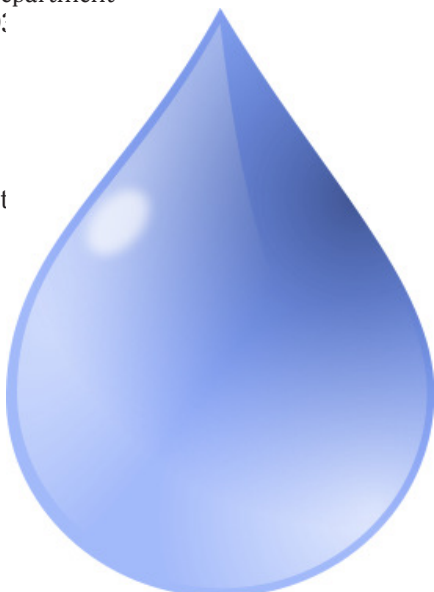
It has been posted to www.ceqapost.com/member/morro-bay/. The site contains the entire document, broken up by chapters for easier downloading. Hard copies are also located at the Morro Bay and Cayucos public libraries and the Public Services and Sanitary District Counters.

Comments on the Draft PEIR should be sent to Rob Livick, Public Services Director:

Rob Livick, PE/PLS
City of Morro Bay, Public Services Department
955 Shasta Avenue, Morro Bay, CA 9:
(805) 772-6268 Fax
rlivick@morro-bay.ca.us

Public meetings:
October 4, 6:00 P.M.
Morro Bay Planning Commission Meet
Veterans Memorial Hall
209 Surf St.
Morro Bay, CA

October 14, 6:00 P.M.
WWTP JPA Meeting
Veterans Hall
10 Cayucos Drive
Cayucos, CA



Carrizo Solar Project Comment Deadline Extended to Nov. 1

At the urging of the Sierra Club, Defenders of Wildlife, the Center for Biological Diversity and local residents, the County has extended the public comment period on the enormous – and enormously complex — Draft Environmental Impact Report for Sunpower’s proposed California Valley Solar Farm project on the Carrizo Plain.

The comment period, set to expire on October 12, 2010, will now extend to 5:00 p.m. on November 1.

Written comments on the Draft EIR should be submitted to:
San Luis Obispo County Planning Department
Attn: John McKenzie
976 Osos Street, Room 200
San Luis Obispo, CA 93408

A Planning Commission Study Session has been tentatively scheduled for December 9, 2010.



Radioactive BP

continued from page 3

questions than answers. However, we believe those questions will now be more informed and the process will be better for expertise provided to and from all stakeholders. We thank the NRC for this first step in repairing the trust that has been damaged. Now we ask you to take the next step.

Collaborate with local and state appointed agency representatives and experts to review PG&E's AB 1632 seismic studies and mapping. Our community was been given a chance to listen and question those who may be involved in the peer-review and/or an NRC or PG&E seismic review. Therefore there was a great deal of value in this NRC meeting if it is "Phase one" and the NRC commits to regaining its reputation over seismic oversight in California.

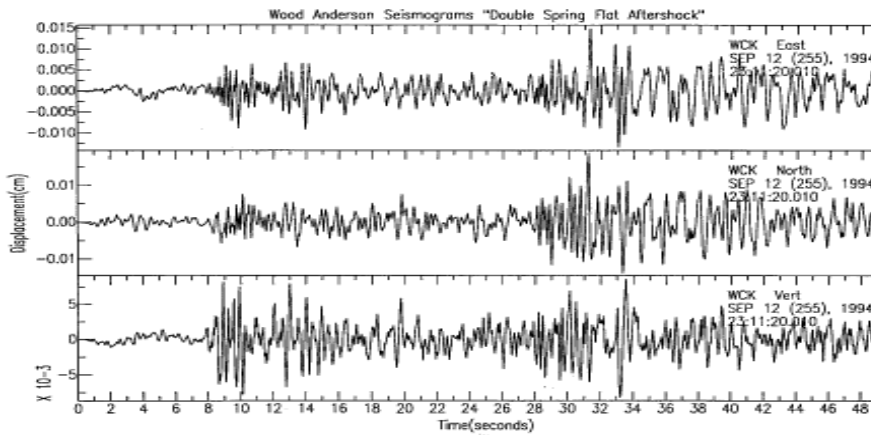
In the denial of our request for a stay, our proposal for the NRC to approach seismic issues differently and in collaboration with state agencies was not addressed. There is some confusion over the origin of this Seismic Information Workshop, but the sparse attendance of this local community was not a reflection of disinterest. The NRC did make an effort to include some jurisdictional agencies, but the outreach effort to local decision-makers was woefully inadequate. The NRC would have benefited in seeking input from either the Alliance or PG&E's advance team to better reach out and inform Californians. The Alliance offers to assist outreach in Phase 2.

The NRC's collaborative efforts to ensure AB 1632 and AB 42 seismic requirements are resolved would be in the best interest of all stakeholders. In his Opening Remarks at the NRC's workshop, our newly elected senator expressed appreciation for the workshop held in his community and expressed his willingness to work with the NRC to review PG&E's completed studies. California Energy Commission (CEC) vice-chairman James Boyd made the same offer in a letter submitted at Thursday's session, and the California Coastal Commission has already notified the NRC relicensing staff of the seismic requirements and studies needed to meet the state/federal consistency review. The Alliance encourages the NRC to accept these offers to collaborate with the state's peer-review panel once PG&E completes the seismic requirements needed to insure safe, reliable and cost effective future electric generation.

The Alliance views the willingness of the NRC to provide seismic experts in California as a valuable step towards beginning a collaborative process. At this

recent workshop, many stakeholders were able to meet for the first time. We also thank you for inviting the CEC to present an overview of the history and the status of California's seismic requirements. From the candid feedback among the audience, it appears that Ms. Byron's CEC presentation was probably the only presentation understood by everyone in the room.

There were some very valid frustrations with the meeting (which I hope you will review), but for a first attempt—and as a first step—it went well. Our state's local, and federal representatives were there in person and/or had staff in attendance. Interestingly enough, Both Edison and PG&E sat in the same



room, but no one who worked for or represented a utility had any questions of the experts (at least none they were going to ask in a public forum).

Chairman Jaczko, the NRC is asking a state—where Diablo Canyon was permitted on the belief that there were no known earthquake faults within 20 miles of the plant—to live with, invest in, and rely upon 2000 MW of generation from two controversially designed reactors. These reactors are perched above two known major active earthquake faults lying within three miles offshore. The Alliance is asking that the NRC to work with our state to avoid, as our senator reminded them, a radioactive BP on California's coast or a gas pipe break destroying a California community and killing four. We are asking that the NRC support California's new seismic studies and mapping before license renewal is adopted.

California has paid once for the cost of inadequate oversight and over-dependence on utility experts at Diablo Canyon. The NRC's reputation and the state's economy cannot afford a repeat of past mistakes. Now would be a good time to agree not to repeat them.

In Peace,

Rochelle Becker
Alliance for Nuclear Responsibility



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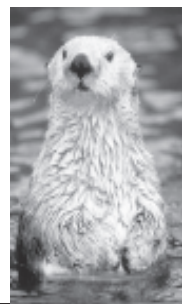
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Six-Lane Santa
continued from page 6

Santa Claus to bail out our unsustainable way of life?

I tried to contact Mr. Claus at the North Pole to get a quote, but was unable to establish contact. In fact, there seems to be open water and a trail of bubbles where his workshop used to stand, evidence of another victim of climate change caused, in part, by exhaust pipes along Highway 101.

I know that, if confirmed, this tragedy could challenge some people's belief systems, but perhaps it can be replaced by a belief in our own power to make the changes needed to deal with reality.



Otter Ballet

Six furry otters lay suspended on the glassy water some grey, some tan, rafting peacefully oblivious to their admirers setting up tripods and my chirrups of quiet delight

One pair slides away farther out into the bay twisting and tumbling over each other flippery tails splashing in a spirited dance of courtship climaxed by rocketing out of the water and diving back to its frisky playmate sleek and slinky catapulting me into rapture



- Kalila Volkov
September 2010

Classifieds

Next issue deadline is **October 15**. To get a rate sheet or submit your ad and payment, contact:
 Sierra Club - Santa Lucia Chapter
 P.O. Box 15755
 San Luis Obispo, CA 93406
sierraclub8@gmail.com



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join the Buffalo Field Campaign for an evening of storytelling and the music of Goodshield and Phoenix Afterbuffalo




info: 805-602-6411
megan.worthington@ccc.ca.gov



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Outings and Activities Calendar

Seller of travel registration information: CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

All our hikes and activities are open to all Club members and the general public. If you have any suggestions for hikes or outdoor activities, questions about the Chapter's outing policies, or would like to be an outings leader, call Outings Chair Joe Morris, 772-1875. For information on a specific outing, please call the outing leader.

Wednesday, October 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th, 5:30 p.m. Informal Hikes Around San Luis Obispo. 1 to 2 hour hike around San Luis Obispo. 5 - 6 mile hikes with elevation gain around 1200 feet. For more information or to sign up for Hikers List, send an e-mail to Gary Felsman at backpackingary1@gmail.com

Fri-Sun, Oct 1-3, Death Valley National Park Service Trip. Wilderness restoration work party in Butte Valley, a beautiful and remote area of the park in the southern Panamint Range. Meet Friday afternoon and drive to work site - high clearance vehicle required. May start work on Friday in time permits. Saturday will be a workday, followed by a potluck supper in the evening. Work half a day on Sunday. (Project and location may change.) Bring work gloves, camping equipment, and food and water for the weekend. Leader: Kate Allen, kj.allen@wildblue.net, 661-944-4056. CNRCC Desert Committee.

Sat., Oct. 2nd, 8:30 a.m. Santa Barbara Mountain Mystery Hike with a view. Come explore the Gaviota Coast on this 7 mile, 2300 foot elevation gain, round trip hike to a peak overlooking the Gaviota Coast. There is no poison oak along this route though it may be warm or potentially foggy when we reach the top. Bring lunch, water, not slip shoes and dress for the weather. Meet at the Halcyon Park'n Ride, in Arroyo Grande. SLO Residents who want to Carpool should meet at Santa Rosa Park and leave by 8:05 a.m. Details call Gary @ 805-473-3694. \$2 Fee per car for parking.

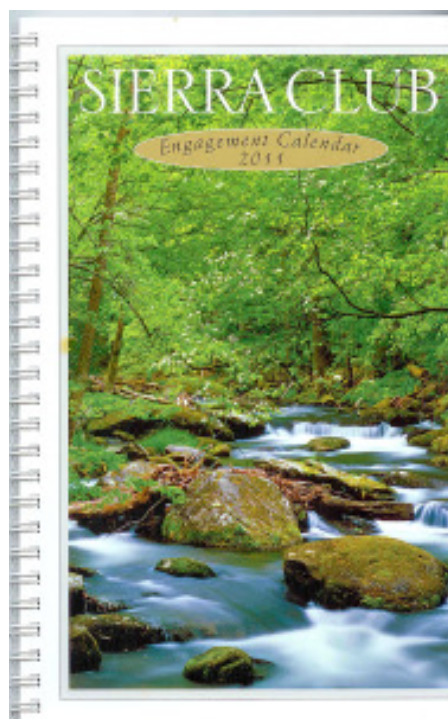
Thurs., Oct. 7, 10 a.m. City Walk of Victorian-Age SLO. A guided stroll past 18 century-old houses and churches in the "Old Town Historic District" of SLO. See the homes of the then mayor, newspaper editor, and founder of Cal Poly and learn about the lives of the newly rich who transformed the city. Duration about 1 1/2 hrs. Meet in front of Jack

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House, 536 Marsh St., SLO. Information: Joe Morris, 772-1875.

Sat-Wed, Oct 10-13, Death Valley Digital Photography Car Camp. Join retired photographer Graham Stafford on a photographic and exploratory journey into Death Valley. We will visit Eureka, Mesquite and Ibex Dunes. Beginners encouraged. Graham will spend individual time with each participant and his or her camera. He will cover basic and advanced areas of digital photography. 4WD high clearance encouraged, but 2WD vehicles with good tires okay. No low sport type vehicles. View some of his work on his website at www.grahamstafford.com. For more information contact leader Graham Stafford at graham@grahamstafford.com. CNRCC Wilderness Committee.

Sat-Sun, Oct 9-10, Rock Art in Eastern California. This outing, which was canceled last spring, is being rescheduled now. On Saturday, we visit three rock art sites in the southern Owens Valley area bordering the Coso Mountains. On Sunday we

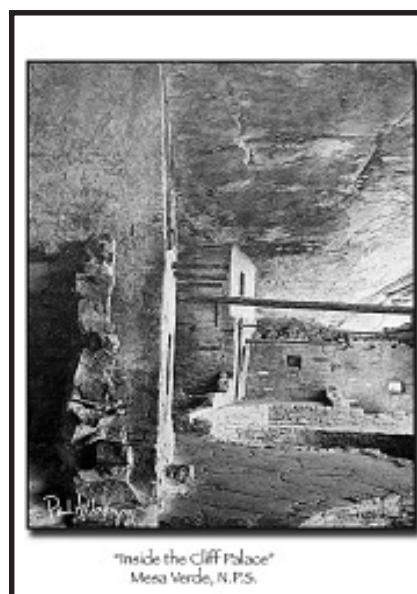
will be escorted to (the astonishing) Little Petroglyph Canyon on the China Lake Naval Weapons Station. As government restrictions apply here, all arrangements and confirmations must be completed by Sept. 15. High clearance 2WD sufficient, day hiking, Saturday evening potluck. Group limit, 14 participants. Contact leader Craig Deutsche, craig.deutsche@gmail.com, (310-477-6670). CNRCC Desert Committee.

Sat-Sun, Oct 30-31, Ghost Town Extravaganza. Spend Halloween weekend visiting the ghosts of California's colorful past. Join us at this spooky desert landscape near Death Valley. Camp at the historic ghost town of Ballarat (flush toilets & hot showers). On Saturday, do a challenging hike to ghost town Lookout City with




This is a partial listing of Outings offered by our chapter. Please check the web page www.santalucia.sierraclub.org for the most up-to-date listing of activities.

expert Hal Fowler who will regale us with eerie tales of this wild west town. Later we'll return to camp for Happy Hour and a special holiday potluck feast, followed by a midnight visit to the ghosts and goblins in Ballarat's graveyard. On Sunday, a quick visit to the infamous Riley townsite before heading home. Group size strictly limited. Send \$8 per person (Sierra Club), 2 large SASE, H&W phones, email, rideshare info to Leader: Lygeia Gerard, P.O. Box 294726, Phelan, CA 92329, (760) 868-2179. CNRCC Desert Committee.



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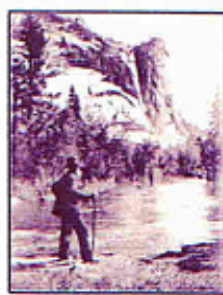
**The Sierra Club
Needs You!**

Become an Outings Leader

- Lead hikes and camping trips
- Introduce others to nature
- Explore the outdoors
- Make new friends
- Protect the environment
- Get healthy exercise

For further information contact:

Joe Morris, Outings Chair
Sierra Club, Santa Lucia Chapter
(805) 772-1875
dpj1942@earthlink.net



John Muir, founder of the Sierra Club, in Yosemite

Sponsored by other organizations:

Saturday, October 2nd, 9 a.m. to Noon. Creek Day 2010. Sponsored by The Land Conservancy of SLO County and the City of San Luis Obispo. Info at www.creekday.org