

WORDS OF the WILD

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Newsletter of the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Wilderness Committee

You can help Protect our Public lands Fight Roadless Rule Repeal and misuse of the CRA

CRA chokes agency management and protection

-- by Mike Painter

There's a new tool in the Republicans' toolbox, which they are using to attack public lands across the country. It's called the **Congressional Review Act (CRA)**, and it is now being used to target places like Boundary Waters Canoe Wilderness in Minnesota and the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah.

The CRA is a relatively obscure law, passed in 1996, allowing Congress to nullify any "rule" adopted by an administrative agency. When a rule is finalized, it is transmitted to Congress, which, if it wishes, has 60 days to pass a "joint

resolution of disapproval." If both House and Senate pass a resolution, it's sent to the president for signing or a veto (which can



be overridden). If a rule is nullified, the result is as if it had never existed in the first place, and the agency is barred from developing a new rule that is substantially the same. Furthermore, a CRA resolution is not subject to judicial review. The CRA has been invoked infrequently over the years—it was used just once in the 20 years following its passage and then not again until the

-- continued p. 2 right

Comment on Roadless Rule

On June 23, 2025, Secretary of Agriculture Brooke Rollins announced that the USDA is rescinding the 2001 Roadless Rule. (See WOW, Aug 2025) Since then, the Administration held a comment period for preliminary scoping comments and now are preparing to put out an Environmental Impact Statement.

Our undeveloped national forests are the heart of our public land. But now one of the most important--and most underappreciated--forest conservation policies is on the verge of being cut by Trump. If the Roadless Area Conservation Rule is repealed, 45 million acres of pristine national forests across the country would be opened up for the first time in over 20 years to road building and the logging, mining, and extractive industries that come with that.

In 2001, the Roadless Area Conservation Rule was adopted with massive public support to protect 58.5 million acres of roadless national forest land in 39 states, and the comment period for the Rule set a record with 1.6 million public comments submitted. The rule protects 58.5 million acres of roadless forests from new road construction and prohibits logging of National Forest -- continued p. 2 left

Featured in this issue:

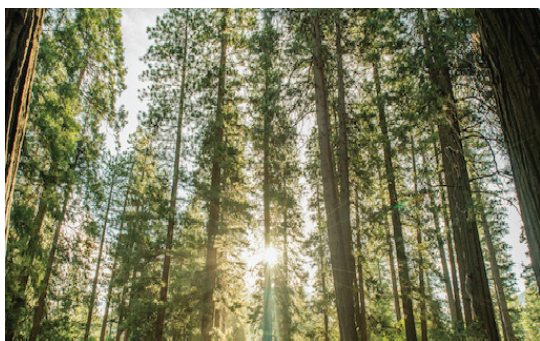
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System roadless areas.

In the 2025 initial commenting, more than 600,000 people voiced their support for this rule, but the Trump administration is steamrolling ahead and ignoring the American public. Our goal is to continue to demonstrate how popular this policy is and to raise more awareness about it, by submitting even more comments to the administration than last year.

Join your voice with thousands of others by submitting your comment today!

Note: The US Forest Service has not yet opened a comment period on this issue, but when they do, we expect them to take comments for only 14 days once the docket is open. To help show the broad support for the Roadless Rule, we are



Nature rules in roadless forests

collecting comments until the comment period opens and then will deliver those collected to the US Forest Service.

During the initial Roadless Rule comment period in 2000-2001, the Forest Service held nearly 600 public meetings throughout the nation. They're planning to hold 0 (zero) meetings this time around. So--Sierra Club is stepping up to fill this gap, As Sierra Club's national forest staffer Alex Craven states:

"We're working on an exciting tactic right now where we are hosting public meetings across the country in lieu of meetings being held by USFS." Stay tuned for more news about these meetings and how YOU can help.

In the meantime, send your comment to us at;

sc.org/roadlessrule 🌿

first Trump administration (when it was used 16 times!)

So how does this impact public lands? The Bureau of Land Management has never considered its resource management plans (RMPs) to be rules for purposes of the CRA. Nor has the Forest Service considered forest plans as rules. So those agencies have never notified Congress when their plans were finalized. The Secretary of the Interior has always notified Congress of mineral withdrawals as required by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA). Last year, GOP members of Congress began requesting opinions from the Government Accountability Office (GAO) as to whether RMPs were rules under the CRA. The GAO replied that they were, setting a dangerous precedent. The GAO also opined that a mineral withdrawal was a rule subject to the CRA. Several CRA resolutions have since passed. The use of the CRA is a blow to public participation and agency expertise and threatens to create chaos for public lands management. RMPs and forest plans take years to develop and involve the public, including Tribes, at numerous steps along the way. They rely on specialists in numerous fields within the agencies. To have Congress nullify all that input

for solely political reasons could well discourage thorough planning by the agencies and involvement by the public. It also wastes taxpayer money. Oil and gas leases, grazing permits, recreation decisions, and other authorizations under plans developed after 1996 are also at risk of being invalidated, creating uncertainty for a wide spectrum of businesses, large and small.

People should call their elected representatives and ask them to oppose the use of the CRA in land use planning at all levels. At present there are two resolutions pending: one that would disapprove a mineral withdrawal in Superior National Forest, allowing for the possibility of a giant copper mine adjacent to the Boundary Water Canoe Area Wilderness in Minnesota. The House has passed the resolution, but it has not yet been introduced in the Senate. A second resolution has been introduced in the Senate by Sen. Mike Lee (R-UT) and in the House by Rep. Celeste Maloy, (R-UT2) which would nullify the 2024 management plan for Grand Staircase Escalante National monument in Utah. Votes in both Senate and House are expected as early as April 15 or 16, after Congress return from recess. 🌿

The Next Program meeting of the California/Nevada Wilderness Committee will be May 20, 2026

Wilderness under Threat in California's Largest State Park

Brianna Fordem, Executive Director, Anza-Borrego Foundation

Anza-Borrego Desert State Park, California's largest state park with over 85 percent of the park designated state wilderness, faces two big threats: the San Diego County Decarbonization Framework, which targets sensitive desert habitat for industrial renewable energy development, and the proposed Golden Pacific Powerlink, a 500 kV transmission line that could be routed directly through the Park.

Brianna Fordem's presentation will cover the park's wilderness history and designation, the privately-held inholdings that remain unprotected, the wildlife corridors ABF has worked to create, and the regulatory battles now underway to defend what took generations to protect. Join us for an insider view of one of California's most urgent wilderness fights.

Email jo_clarke@att.net for the Zoom link.

Email us!



The Anza-Borrego Foundation is the official cooperating association and partner to Anza Borrego Desert State Park. Learn more at theabf.org

Data Centers versus Nature in Nevada

-- by Olivia Tanager

As Nevada becomes a hotspot for data center development, the Toiyabe Chapter is working at every level, from local city governments to the state legislature, to ensure that this rapid growth does not come at the expense of the Great Basin's fragile natural ecosystems.

Across northern Nevada, proposals for new data centers are accelerating. In Reno, the Chapter has actively challenged projects like the Webb Data Center, raising concerns about transparency, public input, and the unique

beyond urban areas and into the heart of the Great Basin. In Lyon County, proposals like the massive Monarch Data Center campus, spanning multiple facilities in Mason Valley, highlight a new frontier: industrial-scale data infrastructure encroaching on rural desert landscapes. These projects raise serious questions about siting, particularly when proposals begin to intersect with public lands and ecologically sensitive areas that define the region. Development in such places demolishes nature—just when a global

30x30 movement seeks to save more nature for critical habitat and to mitigate climate change effects.

Those who have spent time in Nevada know that the Great Basin is not an

empty landscape. It is a complex, beautiful, lively, and interconnected system of desert valleys, mountain ranges, sagebrush habitat, and often scarce water resources. Data centers threaten to strain these systems in multiple ways. Their massive energy demand already drives proposals for new fossil fuel infrastructure, potentially undermining Nevada's clean energy goals. Their water use, particularly in arid basins,

risks intensifying pressure on already limited groundwater supplies. And their physical footprint, often sprawling, industrial, and permanent, can fragment habitat and alter landscapes that have remained relatively undisturbed for generations.

In response, the Toiyabe Chapter has taken a comprehensive, multi-level approach.

Locally, the Chapter pushes for stronger ordinances and meaningful public engagement before projects are approved. The goal is simple: communities deserve a say in developments that will shape their environment and utility systems for decades.

At the state level, the Chapter engages with legislators leading up to the 2027 legislative session to advocate for guardrails that ensure data center growth does not shift costs onto rate-payers or degrade Nevada's natural resources. This includes policies around large load tariffs, water use transparency, and longterm coordinated planning for energy infrastructure.

And regionally, the Chapter sounds the alarm about what unchecked data center expansion could mean for the Great Basin itself. Once industrial development spreads into rural valleys and public lands, the impacts are not easily reversed.

The question facing Nevada is not whether data centers will come. It is how, where, and under what rules they will be built. 🌱

photo: screenshot from Channel 2 News, Nevada



Nevada volunteers stand with Chapter Director Olivia Tanager, fighting data center plans in a public forum

environmental impacts these facilities pose. Data centers are often treated like warehouses in local code, but as Sierra Club members have emphasized, they are fundamentally different, because of the ways they place enormous demands on electricity, scarce water, and land.

Development pressure is expanding

Wilderness Land Trust adds Central Coast land to Los Padres National Forest

Along California's Central Coast, the Pacific Ocean meets mountains in one of the nation's most significant biodiversity concentrations. Here, more than 35 endangered species inhabit the narrow canyons, chaparral, and old-growth forests. The Ventana Wilderness protects over 240,000 acres of this critical habitat in astonishingly wild and rugged country.

In 2020, a family wishing to see this landscape they love protected for future generations generously donated their 87-acre property to The Wilderness Land Trust. The Trust recently transferred the

property, known as Little Sur River, to public ownership to be added to Los Padres National Forest.

The Little Sur River property sits between the Ventana Wilderness to the south and, to the north, a section of Los Padres National Forest previously landlocked by private property. Its transfer to public ownership has not only connected those two sections of public lands, it has ensured public access on two trails running through the property.

This transfer has also protected a tributary to the South Fork of the Little Sur River, the Central Coast's most

important and pristine spawning grounds for the threatened South-Central Coast steelhead trout. Today, only an estimated 100 fish return to the Little Sur River each year to spawn, making every foot protected of its sheltered coldwater tributaries critical for their survival. The property is also home to an old-growth stand of coastal redwoods.

This is the seventh property protected by the Trust in and around the Ventana Wilderness, totaling over 830 acres. 🌱

(from Wilderness Land Trust) <https://wildernesslandtrust.org/>

Connectivity: A new Wildlife Crossing in northern California

The Wildlife Crossing Structure Project on U.S. 97 in Siskiyou County has built a new wildlife overcrossing bridge to improve wildlife

bridge at Post Mile 19.77. It also includes installation of approximately two miles of 8-foot high wildlife exclusion fencing on both

A state bill to help wildlife corridors

Highway wildlife overcrossings and undercrossings are but the most visible aspects of a complex network of wildlife corridors used regularly by many species of wildlife for migration and countless other movements. California, in part due to its policy of conserving 30 percent of our lands and waters by 2030 (30x30), to fight the biodiversity crisis and reduce species extinction, has taken steps to protect wildlife movements. For example, there is now a bill in the California State Legislature that would protect California wildlife corridors and help the effort to assure wildlife connectivity. It is SB 1250, by State Senator Dave Cortese, District 15, Santa Clara County, introduced in February 2026.

Many species in California are increasingly isolated by highways, a concern underscored by the February 2026 California Endangered Species Act (CESA) listing of Southern California and Central Coast mountain lions, which cited habitat fragmentation and genetic isolation as key threats. At the same time, road fragmentation leads to tens of thousands

photo: facebook post from CalTrans District 2



Drone photo shows the newly completed highway overcrossing in Siskiyou County

connectivity and reduce vehicle-animal collisions. The project is located near Grass Lake, from approximately 1.4 miles north of Deer Mountain Road to 0.6 mile north of the Grass Lake Rest Area

The new overcrossing will reduce the frequency of wildlife-vehicle collisions and restore landscape connectivity for terrestrial species, particularly deer and elk. The project area has the highest recorded wildlife-vehicle conflict rate in CalTrans District 2, with more than 50 deer and 16 elk fatalities recorded between 2015 and 2020. The new structure will allow safe passage for wildlife across the highway, improving driver safety and ecological resilience.

This project, with a \$15.1 million construction capital cost, features construction of a single-span, approximately 100-foot long by 140-foot wide wildlife overcrossing

sides of the highway to lead animals to the structure, jump-outs every half mile to allow wildlife to escape the roadway corridor, cattle guards at private road access points, and a reinforced concrete box culvert to enhance wildlife undercrossing opportunities.

Construction began early in 2025 and lasted about 100 working days, with traffic control required on 40 of those days. By late September CalTrans was putting on the “finishing touches” and issued a drone photo showing the project.

A Facebook post from radio station KRRC called this “a win for safety, a win for conservation and a sign of progress along one of the Northstate’s most important corridors.” 🦋

(information mainly from CalTrans) <https://dot.ca.gov/caltrans-near-me/district-2/d2-projects/d2-wildlife-crossing>

of wildlife-vehicle collisions each year, costing Californians well over \$200 million annually and posing serious risks to drivers. SB 1250 provides a practical, systems-based solution by ensuring wildlife connectivity is considered in transportation planning, so that crossings and their associated infrastructure can be integrated directly into scheduled State Highway System upgrades—saving money, saving lives, and improving movement for wildlife. This bill builds on Caltrans’ existing Wildlife Connectivity Program and aligns transportation planning with California’s biodiversity and climate goals.

SB 1250 will:

1. Establish wildlife connectivity as a formal performance objective in Caltrans’ asset management system.
2. Require measurable connectivity targets in the state’s Transportation Asset Management Program.
3. Strengthen collaboration and transparency through a clear process for public input and agency coordination.

Sierra Club California has signed on to a letter of support for SB 1250 from the Power in Nature Coalition--the organization of all the many groups in California who work to promote the state’s 30x30 goals. 🦋

Where Did Their Love Go?

-- by Christopher Arthur

Editor's note: I recently came across a copy of this keynote speech given at the May 2000 California Wilderness Conference in Sacramento: 26 years ago! It seemed to me still fresh and relevant, and I thought many of our readers might enjoy it now. Former environmental aide for the late Congressman Maurice Hinchey (NY26), Chris Arthur received a standing ovation after his Sacramento keynote.

My function today, it seems, is to move us from the sublime that Gary Snyder shared with us to the ridiculous--politics. As a Washington representative, I'll offer a different perspective on what we've been discussing all weekend.

Last September marked the 35th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. It stands today as it did then as one of the great monuments of environmental legislation. But while the arguments for and against the law, and the lists of its institutional supporters and opponents have changed remarkably little since 1964, the degree of controversy over wilderness and over wilderness designations has changed dramatically. The numbers tell the story. Back then, the bill passed the Senate by a vote of 73 to 12. Most western Senators voted for it, including both Senators from Alaska, both from Montana, and both from California. But the Senate vote was close next to the House vote: the House approved it 374 to 1. By contrast, today we can't get the House or Senate to approve even modest new wilderness designations. If the Wilderness Act were introduced today, it would certainly be scuttled in committee. If it did come to the floor, it might pass the House in drastically amended form but have almost no chance in the Senate.

When the vote finally came in 1964, the bill hardly even seemed controversial any more in Congress and enjoyed broad if not deep support from the public. What has happened since then? To paraphrase that popular '60s song: Baby, baby, where did their love go?

Some of you will say there is an easy answer to that question. The political process has become corrupted, and Congress no longer represents the "people". Not true. But even if you want to believe that, you can't ignore Congress. Like it or not, Congress will always control public land management, and only Congress can designate wilderness. So it is important for all of us to understand how politics works, and what really moves it--and where its love has gone.

Unless you've been spending the last year in a wilderness area, you've probably heard the simple explanation of the thing that changed in politics in the past 35 years: money. Everyone, even the most upright and principled, is hopelessly compromised by the need to raise vast sums of money to pay for campaigns. In terms of our issue, you may have heard it said, --I know I have--that if the wilderness act could not pass today, it is because of the way money controls policy.

Well, there's no question that money influences policy today and that campaigns eat up more money each year. Whole suburbs of Washington have been built just to house the hordes of people who make their living--often a very good living--from the influence industry. But does it really control policy, specifically wilderness policy?

There is no simple yes or no answer to that question, but I think it is fair to say that the changes money has made in the political process are not as overwhelming as they are often portrayed. Money has been talking for a long, long time. Back in 1964, donations to political campaigns were much smaller, true. But there were no limits and no effective system of disclosure. It was not only legal, but quite common, for members to have outside employment that allowed them to receive large sums from corporations, in effect contributions, for their personal use. You can go all the way back to the beginning. If you've ever visited the homes of the Founding Fathers, you've probably noticed that they lived pretty well. That's not a coincidence. Money equals power--and it always has.

One place where there has been an enormous change since 1964 in politics and in our society is in communications methods--and money does play a key role in communications that it didn't then. Back in 1964, people got most of their information about politics and policy from the daily newspaper and from their family and friends. Today they get a sizable amount from paid communications, advertising, direct mail, [and now Internet]

and very little from friends and neighbors. Good public relations does change public opinion, and that costs money--plenty of it.

But the power of money doesn't always work against wilderness. There's money on our side too, more than there was 35 years ago. Most of the screeds I see from openly anti-environmental groups complain bitterly about the "well-funded environmental lobby," and there's more than a grain of truth in what they say. The Sierra Club, for example, had 25,000 dues-paying members in 1964. Today it has 600,000, and its members tend to have above-average incomes. Its public relations machine is impressive by any standard. The same is true of other environmental groups as well. One ironic twist that I like to mention tells part of the money-and-influence story. Back in 1964, the biggest contributor to right-wing Republican causes in the country was a Philadelphia oil tycoon named Joseph Pew. After he died, his family's money went to the Pew Foundation, which supported the Heritage Forest campaign last year, and just funded a new wilderness center.

In short, it would be too simple to say the love of wilderness that Congress demonstrated in 1964 has simply been sold to the highest bidder, or seduced by corporate cash. After all, the same high rollers that generally oppose Wilderness today--the Chamber of Commerce, the American Mining Congress, the oil industry, the Farm Bureau, the National Association of Manufacturers--all vocally opposed the law in 1964. They had more power then than they do now, but no one listened to them. Environmental groups had less power and less money then, but they won anyway. How could that be?

To really understand politics and how our laws are made, you can't just follow the money. That's part of the story, true, but only part of it. It's the lazy part, the one that's easiest to quantify, and easiest to use as an excuse or a way of shifting blame. In politics, the real story is with the voters, the people.

Hard though it may be to believe, Congress truly is *(continued p. 6)*

Where Did Their Love Go? --from page 5



a representative body. Members of Congress pay attention to the voting public. If you don't vote, or if your member will never need your vote, he can safely ignore you. But he needs at least half the votes at every election, and to get those, he has to know the people and what they want. People who succeed in politics know the people they represent much better than most people think.

So when I raise the question, "Where did their love go?", I'm not just talking about the love of the 73 Senators and 374 Representatives who voted for the Wilderness Act, or their successors. I'm talking about the people. We don't have enough of them on our side today. What changed? How did we lose them?

Part of the answer to that question comes from the obvious observation that our world has changed drastically since 1964; changes in public attitudes toward wilderness represent only a tiny portion of those changes. Let me take you back for a few moments to 1964, "that wonderful year," for some of those changes.

That was the year that California became the nation's most populous state, with 18 million people. The big news in California politics was the Republican presidential primary, where the hard-nosed Western conservative Barry Goldwater beat the Eastern liberal Nelson Rockefeller--by 51 to 49. Until then, California had been regarded as a stronghold of moderate Republicanism. San Jose was celebrated in one of the popular songs of the era as an easygoing sort of place, where "you can really breathe," where life is slow. That was when they grew apricots there, not Apples.

Of course, there was no Microsoft in 1964. No hard disks. No Internet. No E-mail. No cell phones. There were computers, but they were huge things kept in refrigerated rooms that cost millions of dollars and that did less than a cheap mail order package from Dell does now. Transistors were the technological innovation: they put them in radios that you could actually carry around with you and didn't have to plug in!

When you turned on those cutting-edge transistor radios, you would probably listen to the newest cultural import: the Beatles. In those days, the Fab Four were singing, "I wanna hold your hand," and they were wearing narrow

neckties. They hadn't discovered LSD yet, and neither had the rest of us. Bob Dylan, Joan Baez, and Motown were just beginning to come on the scene in 1964. Perry Como and Tony Bennett were just starting to leave.

The Wilderness Act was not the big legislative news of 1964. There were three big stories that year. Our involvement in Vietnam was growing, and Congress gave it the green light with the Gulf of Tonkin resolution--even though by the end of the year more than 200 Americans had died there. On the home front, the president [Lyndon Johnson] suffered a defeat when his grandiose plan for socialized medicine, part of his War on Poverty, was blocked by the influence of big insurance companies. But that plan was approved a year later--that crazy experiment we now call Medicare.

The biggest legislative story of the year was passage of the Civil Rights Act, which Congress was essentially shamed into approving. It is hard to believe now that until then it was legal--in many places expected--for hotels and restaurants to refuse black guests, and for employers to discriminate openly on the basis of race, sex, ethnicity, and religion. The Civil Rights Act profoundly changed our society, and the issues it raised are hardly settled--but its basic principles are taken for granted, and there is no question it would pass if it were put before Congress today.

Not so with the Wilderness Act--it hasn't profoundly changed America, and it hasn't reached the point where it is beyond challenge. One reason for the difference: the Civil Rights Act is about people. The Wilderness Act isn't.

What did 1964 feel like? Despite the sadness and shock we all felt over President Kennedy's assassination, 1964 was a time of optimism, a time without irony. General Electric's corporate slogan--"Progress is our most important product"--typified the era. The theme song at the company's pavilion at the World's Fair that year was "There's a Great Big Beautiful Tomorrow"--and everyone believed it. The "beautiful tomorrow" the industrial world promised us had bigger cars, better appliances, and--wonder of wonders--color television. Washington promised to bring everyone out of poverty--and had started building

wonderful new limited-access highways, known as "the interstates", so we could get where we were going faster. We Americans were strong. We were richer. We were happy. It was the law.

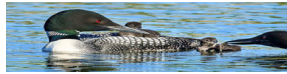
What does all this have to do with the Wilderness Act? Was this a time of environmental activism as well? Actually, there were no "environmental activists" because the term hadn't been coined. There were some very active individuals, of course, like David Brower, Howard Zahniser, and the Wayburns, but they did not loom large in public consciousness.

The government did not have an environmental policy. You can check the almanacs and reference books of the time: there are no listings under "environment." Not even the dictionary had an environmental policy: "environment" was defined simply as surroundings or circumstances. There was no entry for the word "environmentalist", to say nothing of "biodiversity."

In some ways, it seemed like the worst climate for the Wilderness Act. Back at the World's Fair, the star attraction was nuclear power--it would be too cheap to meter, they said. The promise of tomorrow at the General Motors pavilion, the most popular one at the fair, was a proposed huge machine (I am not making this up, I was there and I saw it) that, GM promised, would be able to level the Amazon rainforest by cutting the trees with lasers, then pulping them and tossing the pulp in the back of the rig, and finally leaving a paved road behind it, all in one continuous operation. It would make the jungle productive. What a beautiful tomorrow that would be! That was popular fantasy, but back in reality, the tallest dam in America--Oroville--was nearing completion and almost everyone applauded. There was no Clean Air Act, no Clean Water Act, and they were not on anyone's agenda. Why wilderness?

The idea of the Wilderness Act had been around for some time but had never gotten very far. It succeeded politically then, because President Kennedy had made it part of his legislative program, and in 1964 Congress considered his legislative program as almost a sacred mandate. Interestingly, his message to Congress endorsing it also endorsed aggressive dam construction and a new initiative to make the national forests "more productive." The *(continued p. 7)*

Where Did Their Love Go? -- from page 5, 6



Wilderness Act was not President Kennedy's homage to untrammelled nature. He endorsed it to set aside more land for recreation.

Physical recreation was a very important part of the Kennedy agenda. Few people today seem to remember that a watchword of his Administration was "vigor"--which meant youth, energy, progress, optimism, and physical strength. It was no accident that the Wilderness Act became law when "Climb Every Mountain" was one of the most popular songs. Nearly everyone loved Vigor. Wilderness was the image, the icon of Vigor, so they loved wilderness too, even though they had no intention of visiting it, and not much sense of what it was all about. The idea of "vigor"--or, as President Kennedy was parodied then--"the idear of vigah"--captivated them, and the idea of "vigor" helped give us the Wilderness Act.

Our culture has changed since then, hasn't it? We'd laugh at vigor today. In fact, within a few years of the Wilderness Act's passage, we had lost our faith in "progress" and gained a sense of the fragility of our world. But we still has a lot of good old American confidence in ourselves. If progress and development had damaged the earth--we were now calling it "the environment"--we could fix that with our love and our knowledge. So in 1970 we created the EPA, passed the Clean Water Act, the Clean Air Act, and--again with near unanimity in Congress--saved wildlife with one great snap of the fingers with the Endangered Species Act. The love was still there. In fact, it was growing. Amendments and improvements to those laws kept passing overwhelmingly and enjoying huge public support through most of the '70s. In fact, the environment was one of the few areas where the two parties seemed to agree.

Then I came to Washington in 1977, and the halcyon days for the environment were over. True, we passed ANILCA [Alaska National Interest Lands Conservation Act] in 1980, but it was a tough fight, not like previous lopsided votes.

Where did their love go in such a short time?

It wasn't really my fault that things fell apart just then. The Reagan Era changed the terms of the debate.

California led the way, as it has so often, but this time it led with proposition 13. Compassion was out. So was simplicity. We heard "it was morning again in America," and in essence what that meant was we were strong again, we were rich again, and we didn't have to care. We could burn fuel. We could have fun. It was a new kind of vigor, vigor with attitude, vigor with selfishness, vigor with tailfins instead of backpacks. People loved it. But that attitude isn't very good for the earth, and it doesn't require wilderness as an icon. It requires a fat wallet and a big car.

It's not that people didn't love the environment anymore, or that they hated wilderness. They just lost interest. There have been so many new distractions in the last 20 years. Computers. CDs. Dot coms. The Internet. Hip-hop. Mary Lou Retton. Brad Pitt. Frequent flier miles. The stock market. Crime. Violence. Roseanne. OJ. Nuclear Freeze. Star Wars. Indiana Jones.

Some of these distractions represent the real power of money and the way it has changed American values. It's not so much that it has bought elections: it has bought our time and our spirit and our souls. Disney World is far more popular today than any natural attraction, and people care more about electronic gadgets than about peace and justice. We're too busy to spend much time thinking about the ancient forests, the heritage forests, the middle aged forests, the redwood forests, the gulfstream waters.

Still, distracted though we may be, nearly everyone in Congress and more than three-quarters of the American people claim to be environmentalists. But what office holders know is that when people are asked what they care about most, what they base their votes on, it isn't the environment. In fact, the environment is often in last place. Some other new distractions have risen in the past 20 years that I didn't mention before. The cost of health care. Of aging. AIDS. Alzheimers. Education. Children. All these things matter immensely to people. People care about what is most immediate to them--jobs, health care, education, their children--and about what they read about in the media--crime, drugs, waste, corruption.

Wilderness? Sure, I love it. I love Paris in the springtime too. So what? I'm not going to Paris, and spring will

happen again next year, whether I love it or not. Who cares?

Well, all of you care about wilderness. So what can you do about it? Diana Ross didn't ask, "Where did their love go?" or "Where did your love go?" the question was, "Baby, where did our love go?" She recognized there was failing on both sides. Could we be doing something wrong?

Just recently, an old friend of mine who used to work on the Hill told me that his former boss, a retired member who was known as an environmental champion, had told him he was glad to be retired since he didn't have to deal with nasty people any more. He said environmentalists were among the nastiest. And last month, the Forest Service representative at a conference on ORVs in Washington noted that he had to talk with both sides when resolving ORV issues. "The ORV people come in," he said, "and they're always pleasant and friendly even when you give them bad news. The enviros are always mean." And this is from our friends.

Well, I don't think enviros are always mean. Most of my friends are enviros, and I know they're not mean. But perception is everything in politics and policy. So when we ask, where did their love go?, we'd better ask, "Could I be the problem?" Because that could be part of the answer. We're not all that popular with the average voter. Or with their elected representatives.

What makes us unpopular? First, we hear that environmentalists are never satisfied. And never say thank you. When the Forest Service announced a major change in policy a few years ago, protecting several wild areas that had been slated for logging, attacks from environmentalists followed in an hour. "Not enough!" I've heard one of the strongest champions of wilderness Congress has ever seen denounced as a "puppet of the timber industry." And I'm old enough to remember when Mo Udall was denounced as a sellout for supporting ANILCA in 1980. "Go for a stronger bill next year," they shouted. Well, next year Jim Watt was running the Interior Department.

Next, we hear that environmentalists are fear mongers. Predictions of doom are our stock in trade. Pesticides that would kill us all, population growth that would starve us all, toxic wastes that would turn children into idiots. Maybe that one had some truth in it. The problem is not that *(continued p. 8)*

Where Did Their Love Go? -- from pages 5-7

people think the earth is in no danger. Almost everyone acknowledges there are dangers. The problem is that environmentalists are thought of as the boy who cried wolf. Some of their prophecies of doom may come true--but many won't. Who among the general public can tell the difference? Who wants to have lunch with these people who are always talking about doom?

I should say here that I have personally checked through the Wilderness Act, and I can assure you: humor is not prohibited in wilderness.

Finally, we hear that environmentalists are elitists. It is the supporters of wilderness who fall most readily into that particular pit. After all, clear air and clean water and toxics in food affect everyone. Wilderness doesn't. Are these wilderness advocates saying the land belongs only to the young and strong? We've heard that song before, and we didn't like it. Are they saying it should be kept pure for people with time and money? Thumb through the publications of pro-wilderness organizations: they are full of ads for expensive toys and expensive trips. To a neutral average American, wilderness advocates can look and sound like spoiled brats.

One of the worst statements I ever heard from a wilderness advocate was addressed to people in a logging town in the Rockies. He told them their economy would do just fine if the forest was declared a wilderness: they could become waiters and chambermaids and serve the big-spending tourists. That is, people like himself, with his high-priced SUV and his Patagonia duds. Well, there's a way to make friends. The ultimate criticism of environmentalists, certainly the one most damning in the politics of a democracy, is that they don't much like people.

Perhaps it is our love that has gone, not theirs. Our love, first of all, for people. Sometimes I think that our love for the land has slipped a bit too. Some of us seem to prefer equipment, new gear. Some of us seem to love nothing more than contention among ourselves. When these things happen, other people notice. And they lose interest in what we have to say.

Most of you aren't like that, I know. But, as I said, in politics perception is

everything. And environmentalists have done little to change those perceptions.

Well, that's where some people's love went. But the more important question for us, again to borrow from the Supremes, is: how do we get them back in our arms again? Because we need them. If we are going to protect wilderness on public lands, we need the public, and we need their representatives. We need the people who love Disney World. We need the couch potatoes. We need the people who check their portfolios every day. We need people whose only portfolio is poverty and sorrow. We cannot exclude anyone.

Yes, some people, Don Young and his friends, [Mike Lee] for example, will exclude themselves. That's their privilege. But we cannot exclude.

I'm not going to lay out a campaign here....But I have a fairly simple answer about what we must do to get people back. The answer is to focus on them, not on yourselves. Whatever your concerns about wilderness may be--biodiversity, solitude, good hiking terrain, whatever-- set it off to the side. Take time to listen to the people who don't care. Think about what wilderness can do for them or can mean to them. Focus on people.

If you listen, and if you respond--if you show you respect others who don't share your commitment to wilderness--you can start winning their love back. This isn't easy for many people, and especially for those who pride themselves on purity and single-minded devotion to the cause. But democracy requires reaching out, and it requires coalitions. When I was on Capitol Hill, I found that my effectiveness as an advocate of wilderness depended on my ability to speak the language of people who put it at the bottom of their agenda, and on my ability to look and sound completely unlike what some of my Hill friends called "clueless granola types."

I've been asked who my environmental heroes are. People usually expect me to say Thoreau, because of my literary background. In truth, I often find him humorless and self-righteous, exactly the wrong model. Most of my heroes are still alive. Near the top of my list are two people most of you in California know, Ed and Peggy Wayburn, they accomplished more to protect precious lands in our country than almost anyone. [Honorary Sierra Club president Ed Wayburn

died in 2010, age 103.] They did not do it by standing on a rock and saying they possessed the truth. They didn't do it by attacking people. Instead, they spent decades wooing and courting those who could help their cause, crafting compromises, listening, persuading. Their work is a model for us all. In Congress I think of Mo Udall and Bruce Vento, men who have been criticized as compromisers and sellouts, men far more famous for their mildness and good humor than for their righteous fury.

I think of Don Edwards. For years he carried the effort for the California Desert, for Mono Lake, and for the wildlife refuges of the Bay Area, even though he didn't even serve on the environmental committees. He is one of the kindest and gentlest ex-FBI agents you could ever hope to meet. And he isn't best remembered for his considerable environmental efforts, but rather for giving us the Fair Housing Act. These are the ones who kept their finger in the dike and protected our lands through some pretty bleak years. If Thoreau had been in charge, there'd be drilling in the refuge in Alaska today, I guarantee.

Our successes have always been built on persuading the broad public. Back in 1964, people were persuaded with the idea of vigor. It meant optimism and beauty, the beauty of "purple mountain majesties." It meant adventure. We have acquired a tragic sense since then, with irony. But the broader idea of wilderness has never lost its tremendous power. Its power lies in its timelessness, in the fact that it is not like us, that it is greater than us. The key to the idea is in its distance from ourselves, its ability to lift us out of the daily drudgery we all experience in some way.

That, of course, is also the key to the power of love; lifting up those who are outside ourselves. If we ask, "where did our love go," the answer is usually that we got wrapped up in ourselves and lost sight of the other. The answer to "getting them back in our arms again" is to care about them, to think of them, to listen to them. We are not trying to save the wilderness for ourselves. We're trying to do it for others, even for those who don't yet know they care about it. Most Americans, after all, will never have a wilderness experience: *(continued p. 9, bottom)*

Grabbing Gold While the Going's Good

-- by Lynn Boulton

The Sierra Club in the Eastern Sierra has been pushing back on a barrage of gold exploration projects that are a result of the exceptionally high price of gold. Trump's Executive Order 14241, "Immediate Measures to Increase American Mineral Production, March 20, 2025" lists gold as a critical mineral. Because of this, the larger gold exploration projects are now listed on the FAST-41 Transparency Projects List to make them more visible and to ensure they are following the recent changes in the NEPA process that shorten public and Tribal input.

Although the Trump administration has thrown the doors wide open to gold mining companies, inviting them to *Come on in and dig*, gold is not on the USGS critical mineral list for 2025 and rightly so. Nevada produces plenty of gold for the country: 70 percent of global production. Only about seven percent of U.S. gold is used for electronics, medical, and industrial purposes, 45 percent for jewelry, 19 percent goes into physical bars, seven percent to medals and coins, and 21 percent goes into investments, vaults, and banks¹.

We mine microscopic gold so people can hoard it out of fear or to feel rich. Gold is produced domestically, and we have a more than adequate supply of gold--which is why the USGS hasn't added gold to their critical mineral list. Last October and November, gold was the top export from the U.S.² The U.S. has the world's largest official gold reserve in Fort Knox, West Point, and Denver. Mining companies don't even pay royalties to the U.S. government for extracting gold on our public lands.

On top of this, the Trump Admin-

istration has eliminated most of the Council of Environmental Quality (CEQ) rules that provided for public input on projects. This has been severely limited. We will not be allowed to comment on projects that are exempted from an environmental review and cannot challenge them. We will have only ten days to respond to an environmental assessment report (an EA) for a project and only 20 days to respond to an environmental impact statement (EIS).

So, how does this affect us in the Eastern Sierra? We now have six gold exploration projects underway on public lands. Three are underway on the Nevada side of the Bodie Hills (Lodestar, Polaris, and Bald Peak) with a fourth one, (Burnt Rock), expected to be released on April 1. Another notice is to be released on April 1 for a gold exploration project in Long Valley outside of Mammoth Lakes, above Hot Creek across from the Hot Creek Fly Fishing Ranch. KORE Mining is back. And we are waiting for a record of decision for the Phase II project at Conglomerate Mesa before they can begin drilling.

With gold exploration, vegetation is removed and the ground is leveled for each drill pad. A temporary road is bulldozed to it. There will be vehicle traffic, noise and lights from the drilling day and night, and there will be movement of hundreds of pipes to/from each drill site. All this commotion will

force wildlife away and destroy the homes of those animals that live in the ground. Drilling through hard rock or at depth requires a diamond core drill that uses water for lubrication and cooling of the bit. Water for one drill might use 4,000-7,000 gallons per day (gpd). The Burnt Rock project will have five drill rigs going for an estimated 35,000 gpd. The Burnt Rock project can



It's beautiful, undisturbed habitat land where they want to mine for gold

photo: Lynn Boulton

pump groundwater as well, which will affect nearby springs. Is this how we want to use our precious water in the Eastern Sierra? Certainly, gold exploration isn't as harmful as an actual gold mine. But two of the projects in the Bodie Hills are big enough to create a model of the underground deposit, which is a pre-requisite to moving forward with a mine. The Polaris exploration project will drill at up to 250 locations. The Burnt Rock exploration project plans to drill at up to 600 locations.

Both projects are on the FAST-41 Transparency project list because of the EO 14241 that added gold to the list of critical minerals. When the Burnt Rock environmental assessment (EA) is released, we will have only 10 days to comment. The Long Valley/Hot Creek exploration project might be released in April as well, as either a categorical exclusion (CE) where there will be no public input or as an environmental assessment (EA).

We don't need more gold and certainly not at the expense of our beautiful public lands. Tell your congressman and senators that you don't want to see gold exploration or more gold mines in the Eastern Sierra. For the Bodie Hills projects just over the state line in Nevada, contact Congressman Horsford and Senators Cortez Masto and Rosen. Please fight to keep our public lands for nature and recreation! 🌿

¹ <https://pubs.usgs.gov/periodicals/mcs2025/mcs2025.pdf#page=86>

² <https://www.forbes.com/sites/kenroberts/2026/01/30/not-good-news-gold-wastop-us-export-an-unprecedented-second-month/>

Where Did Their Love Go? -- from page 5- 8

some wouldn't want it, some couldn't afford it, some simply couldn't endure it. But those strangers to wilderness can be our best advocates; many of our most reliable supporters in Congress represent people for whom wilderness is only a dream. We need to remind those people that they do care about wilderness in their heart. It's hard work, but we can't do it without them. 🌿

(As environmental aide to the late Congressman Maurice Hinchey, Chris Arthur orchestrated Mr. Hinchey's sponsorship of the Utah wilderness bill, America's Redrock Wilderness Act, for many years. Wilderness activists all knew him, and he knew us. Later, until his retirement, he was on staff with The Wilderness Society. He spoke at several wilderness conferences, inspiring many.)



Outings



Support Wilderness the Sierra Club way: From Outings to Advocacy

Gold Butte National Monument trip, Feb. 23-26, 2026

-- by Elaine Gorman

After the annual Desert Committee Meeting in Shoshone, near Death Valley, several of us departed for the CA/NV Wilderness Committee outing to Gold Butte National Monument in southeast Nevada. We went there to celebrate the 10th anniversary of the Monument. The group of ten met leader Anne Henny and commissary adjutant Vicky Hoover at a parking area next to the Virgin River bridge, then convoyed some 20 miles into the national monument to Whitney Pockets campsite. I gave a loud cry of exasperation as we passed the Bundy Ranch.

Many of us are “repeat participants” of Wilderness Committee events and were happy to be joined by

Chapter. On our first evening, Michele and Mitch from Friends of Gold Butte, the Mesquite-based volunteers who monitor the ecosystem in Gold Butte to help the managing agency the Bureau of Land Management, introduced us to the Monument by taking us around Whitney Pockets to admire blooming



photo: JoAnne Clarke

Through the “keyhole” to see Falling Man

Joshua trees and old CCC projects.

On Tuesday, we split into two groups; I went with a group to view the 21 Goats petroglyph panel. We walked up a wash for a short distance and as we got closer to the panel, we noticed that, of course, they are not goats but bighorn sheep, and surely more than 21 of the images. There are many more symbols pecked into the rock, and we admired the rock

art while we ate lunch. Several of us also viewed a small dam, built by a local rancher, with its collected water (thanks to recent rains).

We then drove to a stunningly beautiful redrock area, known for the unique Falling Man image. Clambering over rocks and through a “key hole”, we saw more amazing petroglyphs including Falling Man. As we walked, we pondered how this area has changed through eons of time, and how the original inhabitants and more recent settlers and visitors have altered it.

On Wednesday, we all drove the 15-mile, 90-minute rough dirt road to Mud Wash, for a two-hour walk to check

Carrizo Plain Spring Visit

-- by Jennifer Bauer

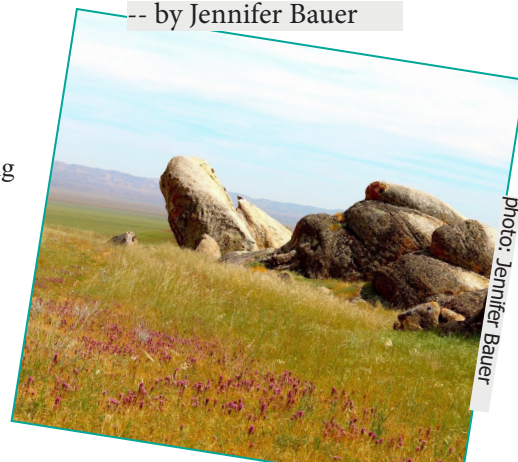


photo: Jennifer Bauer

Santa Lucia Chapter 30x30 Task Force members Jennifer Bauer and Lindi Doud are touring our Chapter’s 30x30 priority sites to get a hands-on perspective of these vital spaces. In March, they visited the Carrizo Plain National Monument. Often called “California’s Serengeti,” the monument is the state’s largest remaining native grassland. As home to sacred Native American cultural sites and a biodiversity stronghold, it is a key conservation area of California’s 30x30 initiative. 🌿

photo: JoAnne Clarke



Our Group enters Gold Butte National Monument

Alyssa Chamberlain and Brian Lozano from the Utah

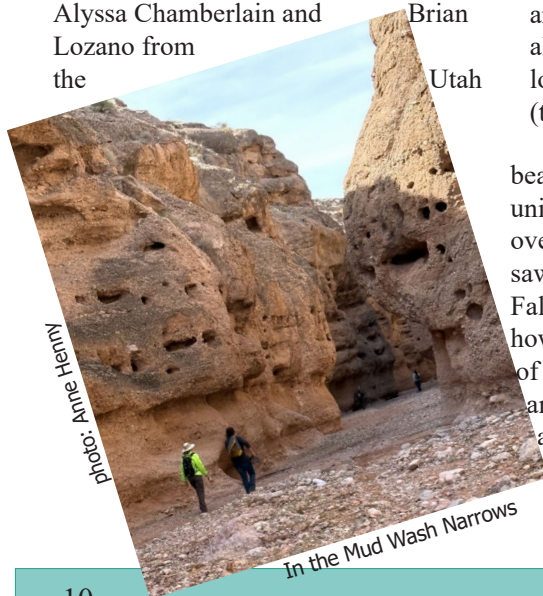


photo: Anne Henny

In the Mud Wash Narrows



photo: Anne Henny

At the “21 Goats” panel

out the Mud Wash Narrows. Sadly, many people have ignored the “No motorized vehicles” signs. On the return trip to camp, we stopped for a hike to Little Finland, a fascinating area of bizarre rock formations.

Back at camp, we enjoyed the camaraderie of the group and Vicky’s satisfying meal. We all pitched in to make this a memorable outing to an incredible place, and we thank all for efforts to preserve public lands. 🌿

(Elaine Gorman is a longtime volunteer leader with the Yokuts Group/Motherlode Chapter)

Another outing--next page!

-- Another outing:
from sister organization

Ventana Wilderness Alliance trip

May 14-17 Thurs-- Sun

Ventana Wilderness Alliance Trail Work

Trip: Backpacking Three Nights, Bear Basin Trail from Pine Valley. Join VWA trail crew leader Betsy MacGowan for a good introduction to backpacking and trailwork. There is work for all abilities--beginner to expert.

MEET: China Camp on Tassajara Road, at the trailhead, not in the campground, 8:00 A.M. Hike 6 miles from Pine Ridge Trailhead at China Camp to Pine Valley on the Carmel River Trail. We will camp at Pine Valley, working up the Bear Basin Trail to the Bear Basin Connector. We'll focus on brushing but also to clear a couple of fallen trees. We will hike up to 2 miles to work locations.

We'll use hand tools to clear brush, and crosscut saws to clear fallen trees from the trail. Clear ceanothus, manzanita, and yerba santa from the brushy sections of the trail. Touch up tread. Tools and instruction provided. The work location has some poison oak; with care you can avoid it.

IMPORTANT: Meetup directions may not be the best. In your mapping program, search for: China Camp Campground, Tassajara Rd, Greenfield, CA 93927.

If your mapping program says turn on Cachagua Road from Carmel Valley Road, DON'T. This way takes much longer. Continue on Carmel Valley Road to just past the 23.2 mile marker, then turn right on Tassajara Road. Drive ~1.5 miles, turn left to stay on Tassajara Road. <http://forecast.weather.gov/MapClick.php?lat=36.211186929941974&>

FOR QUESTIONS OR MORE

DETAILS: Contact Betsy MacGowan using the Meetup messaging feature. Bring your personal gear for a backpack trip: sleeping bag, cooking system, utensil(s), ALL food for 4 days/3 nights, clothing including layers and rain gear. Sturdy work clothes with long sleeved shirts and long pants; sturdy footwear. A daypack to carry your water and lunches for each day. Bring enough containers to carry a minimum of 3 liters. There is water near our camp area but not at the work locations. Consider a headnet for bugs. WATER filtering is recommended. Your favorite work gloves, safety glasses, loppers, hand saw and hard hat if you have them; otherwise tools and hardhats will be provided. ☞

Book review:

The Enduring Wild: A Journey into California's Public Lands

-- reviewed by Mike Painter

The Enduring Wild: A Journey into California's Public Lands by **Josh Jackson** is an exploration of the lands in California managed by the Bureau of Land Management.

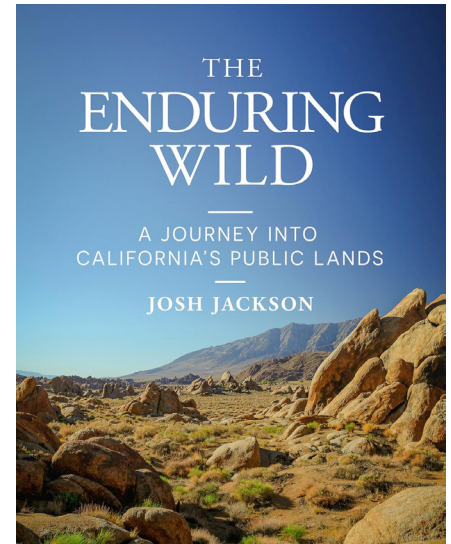
This book had its genesis when Josh Jackson, the author, went looking for a place to take his kids to camp and found that all the campgrounds he looked at were booked solid. A friend suggested going to BLM land, where you don't need reservations. So they loaded up and headed out to the Trona Pinnacles for the weekend.

He was astounded by the beauty of the unheralded desert landscape they found and the fact that relatively few people seemed to know about these places, at least judging by visitation. Thus began the "Forgotten Land Project," a quest to investigate the varied lands in California managed by the BLM—the least known of the federal land management agencies among the general public. The book is one of the outcomes of that quest.

But *The Enduring Wild* is not a traditional guidebook, though Jackson does write about the places themselves—but he doesn't give too much away. Rather it is a record of the personal journey that has taken him to these places, told by evoking the landscape, the history, Indigenous peoples, wildlife, native plants, and more. His goal is to have his readers realize there's a huge landscape for them to explore, and he encourages them to do so themselves. At the same time the book links information about conservation and the need for advocacy, but without being preachy. And to top it off, the writing is eloquent!

The book begins with an introduction, followed by seven chapters, each dealing with visits to a different area, scattered around the state:

Mojave Desert
Carrizo Plain
Chemehuevi Mountains
Eastern Sierra
Berryessa
King Range
Elkhorn Ridge



It then concludes with an epilogue, a guide for exploration, and a comprehensive bibliography of wilderness, nature, and conservation writing.

The book itself is beautiful. It is illustrated with stunning photos taken by Jackson himself and eye-catching maps and illustrations. It's also hardcover and printed on nice-weight paper—almost too nice to take out into the wild. So maybe the solution is to consider buying three copies: one to take with you exploring, another for the coffee table, and a third to give away as a gift.

In short, *The Enduring Wild* is a wonderful introduction to our public lands for people not familiar with them, or familiar only with the better-known national parks. And for people who do know BLM lands, it's a reminder of why we have worked so hard to protect them.

Jackson writes regular "dispatches" from BLM lands in California and the Great Basin (which will be the subject of his next book). He posts them on his website at <https://www.forgottenlandsproject.com>. They are also available via his Substack at <https://forgottenlands.substack.com>.

You can order *The Enduring Wild* at the Forgotten Lands Project website given above, from Heyday Books, from your local bookseller, or from Amazon. (approx. \$35.) ☞

Proposed Diablo Range Reservoir Ignores Threats to Wildlife, Creek, and Canyon

-- from a blog by Save Mt Diablo, authored by Steven dePaschalis (savemountdiablo.org/blog/save-mount-diablo-uncovers-major-flaws-in-ridiculous-del-puerto-reservoir-environmental-review/)

Over the holidays in December 2025, the Del Puerto Water District in California's Central Valley quietly released environmental reports for a massive reservoir that would flood the first five miles of Stanislaus County's Del Puerto Canyon, one of the most biologically rich landscapes in the Diablo Range of central California.

Beautiful Del Puerto Canyon is an irreplaceable biodiversity hotspot. Rare and imperiled species rely on Del Puerto Creek, which would be severely impacted by the proposed dam. Still, the Del Puerto Water District wants to dam the canyon, claiming the dam's impact would require little to no mitigation. How can this be?

Save Mount Diablo sent an expert biologist to survey the canyon, and what he found completely upends the Water District's claims. The biologist found 60 different vertebrate species, 13 of which he determined were "special status" species. These included wildlife such as northern harrier, Nuttall's woodpecker, and double-crested cormorant.

After his site visit to the downstream portions of Del Puerto Creek, Shawn Smallwood, Save Mount Diablo's contracted wildlife biologist, found the Water District reports:

- *dramatically underestimated wildlife presence,
- *ignored cascading ecological damage, and
- *failed to explain how a living creek corridor could survive with just a fraction of its water flowing because of project impacts.

Smallwood's survey documented dozens of species including rare and imperiled wildlife and actively nesting raptors, whereas the water district report suggested little concern or ignored these facts.

The Diablo Range, including Del Puerto Canyon, has the largest population of nesting golden eagles in the world. The project would inundate Native American cultural resources; completely alter Del Puerto Creek; and destroy critical habitat for species like mountain lions, tule



photo: Scott Hein

Along Del Puerto Creek

elk, and golden eagles.

The project costs have also skyrocketed from \$400-\$500 million dollars in 2019 to \$1.2 billion dollars today, not even accounting for what will be an overly expensive road relocation project. All this combined with no meaningful biological mitigation has resulted in a project with disastrous implications for the public and the environment.

[Sierra Club California's 30x30 task force, co-led by Anne Henny and Vicky Hoover, is working closely with Save Mount Diablo to achieve their visionary longterm goal of conserving the entire Diablo Range, the inner Coastal Range of California stretching southward from Mt Diablo in the outer Bay Area almost as far as the Carrizo Plain, encompassing more than four million acres with some of the state's largest and most rugged stretches of wild, undeveloped and unprotected land. (See WOW, Aug 2025, April 2024)]

The Sierra Club's California/Nevada Wilderness Committee, an issue committee of the CA/NV Regional Conservation Committee, advocates for preservation of unroaded, undeveloped public lands in a wild state, through legislation and appropriate management, and sponsors stewardship and wilderness study outings.

Chair: JoAnne Clarke, chair: Tehipite Chapter: jo_clarke@att.net
Teri Shore, vice chair; Redwood Chapter coordinator: terishore@gmail.com
Judy Anderson: wilderness management: andersonjudithann@gmail.com
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Cindy Buxton: San Diego Chapter coordinator. cindy.buxton@
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Kristine Green: Eastern Sierra coordinator: krgr14@gmx.com
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Pam Nelson: San Gorgonio Chapter coord. pamela05n@yahoo.com
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Joan Taylor: CA Desert areas: palmcanyon@mac.com
OPEN--San Francisco Bay, Kern Kaweah, Santa Lucia Chapter coord.

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photo: Anne Henny

In Gold Butte National Monument, Nevada, see p. 10.

