

Redwood Needles



Fall 2021

Sierra Club Redwood Chapter

Volume 63, No. 4



**We Would Be Nothing Without
Our Volunteers!**

On the Path

a note from
Chapter Director Jeff Morris

This issue of the *Redwood Needles* is dedicated to highlighting several of the key volunteers who keep the projects, issues and advocacy for the Redwood Chapter moving forward.

As an environmental organization operating within the framework of a capitalist society, funding and finance is a key part (some would say necessary evil) of our process. Without our key donors and funding sources, we would not be able to do what we do.



In the Redwood Chapter, we are extremely fortunate to have a key volunteer who keeps our finances on track, bank accounts balanced and helps our overall strategy in myriad contexts. Financial health supports our work as we move forward on projects, working with staff, navigating the often challenging processes of our national organization and keeping a war chest handy to ensure we can take or join legal action, as needed.

Jana Selph holds the usually unheralded, but crucial, position of Redwood Chapter Treasurer. Week to week, month to month and year to year, Jana has been helping us keep our fiscal house in line, and over the last few years, along with others on the Redwood Chapter team, she has helped to guide us toward a solid financial foundation, even as we have hired additional staff and allocated dollars to key projects across our wide region.

It takes a variety of talents and interests to keep a chapter going, especially one as vast as ours (covering parts of nine Northern California counties) in a region that faces challenges on nearly every environmental front from urban planning and gas station moratoriums to coastal issues, agriculture and water demands to federal public land planning and wildfire.

Through it all, Jana is a steady hand (with a great, subtle sense of humor). She continues to keep our books in shape and our financial outlook on the bright side. Her diligent work on behalf of the organization deserves more than just a mention in my small part of this issue of the *Redwood Needles*.

Big thanks to Jana and all of our volunteers across the region. I'm humbled to be a part of this team and honored to work with all of you.

Steady on,



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Sonoma County leaders take major steps toward ban on new gas stations

By Woody Hastings & Jenny Blaker
Sonoma Group & CONGAS

On Sept. 13, the Sonoma County Regional Climate Protection Authority Board, consisting of representatives of Sonoma County and its nine cities, unanimously passed a resolution that “recommends ceasing acceptance of all applications for new gas stations or expansion of existing gas station infrastructure.”

The board committed RCPA staff to facilitating a meeting with planning staff from all the jurisdictions to discuss a coordinated approach and opportunities for resource sharing. This is a milestone in our efforts to stop the construction of new gas stations in Sonoma County.

On Sept. 6, the Sierra Club Sonoma Group voted to support a ban of new construction or expansion of gasoline infrastructure at existing stations. On Sept. 25, a similar resolution was on the agenda of the Club’s California Conservation Committee, brought forward by the Redwood Chapter.

On the same day as the RCPA vote, we learned that an application for a new gas station at 874 North Wright Rd. in Santa Rosa, which has been pending an appeal by the Coalition Opposing New Gas Stations (CONGAS) since December 2019, has been withdrawn. This leaves us with three active proposals for new gas stations in the midst of unprecedented climate-related catastrophe occurring on a daily basis.

One is in Santa Rosa, and two are in unincorporated parts of the county. To find out more about these proposals, visit: <http://con-gas.org/take-action/>

In order to avoid the need to battle these ill-advised proposals, several cities in the county are already taking steps to move things along on the new gas station ban.

In Santa Rosa, the Climate Action Subcommittee, made up of the mayor and two city council members, asked city staff to draft an ordinance. It is expected to come first to that committee, then to the Planning Commission, then to the full City Council. If you live in Santa Rosa, join with others

to help spur them on. Updates and information can be found here when available: <https://srcity.org/3107/Climate-Action-Subcommittee>

Cotati staff is drafting an ordinance, and it seems that passage of a strong prohibition is likely.

Sebastopol is on a similar track. The Sebastopol Climate Action Committee has reviewed the matter and forwarded a recommendation to the City Council to pursue a prohibition.

Action is underway at most other cities, including Rohnert Park, Windsor, Healdsburg and the City of Sonoma. That leaves only Cloverdale.

Calling on you Cloverdale Sierra Club members, to step up and ask your council members about it!

Sonoma County has again achieved a national first on the struggle to address the climate crisis. Its action will inspire other cities and counties across the country to do the same.

Outside of Sonoma County, the Redwood Chapter city of American

Canyon in Napa County imposed a moratorium on the processing of new gas station applications, pending a long-term decision.

In areas near the Redwood Chapter region, and in part as a result of the influence of activities in Sonoma County, we have the following updates:

In Novato, northern Marin County, the City Council approved an application for a mega 28-pump Costco gas station. Costco is expanding its gas stations nationwide and undercutting local station’s prices in order to increase its membership. The Novato application is currently tied up in a citizens’ CEQA lawsuit against Costco. See www.nonewgasnovato.com for information.

In August, the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter went on record in support of a new gas station ban in San Francisco.

To stay up-to-date and see how you can help, please visit www.con-gas.org

Calif. Recall Defeat a Win for the Environment

On Sept. 14 California voters decisively rejected the effort to recall Gov. Gavin Newsom.

The results can be interpreted in several ways. First, we can all stop worrying about the possibility that the governor’s office and high-level agency positions will be taken over by unqualified extremists. Second, the vote was a sound rebuke of regressive political elements and the anti-climate, anti-social justice and anti-science principles they espouse.

Sierra Club California opposed the recall election from day one calling it a direct assault on our community values, our state’s leadership in the fight against climate change, and the good work done to fight pollution, invest in resilient water supplies, and ensure protection of and access to our wildlands and open spaces. Now that this expensive distraction is behind us, “we’re ready to continue the important work of advocating for the environment and

California communities,” says Sierra Club California Director Brandon Dawson.

This would also be a good time to examine the recall process itself. Although an invaluable tool against abuse of power, in California the bar is set so low that every governor since 1960 has been under threat of recall at some point. Mere political expedience is sufficient—it’s not necessary to demonstrate incapacity to serve or commission of a serious offense. By increasing the number of signatures required to get on the ballot, by requiring allegations of high crimes and misdemeanors, and by replacing a recalled governor with the lieutenant governor rather than allowing a fringe candidate to be chosen by a tiny minority of votes, we could fix a broken system.

— Victoria Brandon,
Redwood Chapter Chair

Redwood Chapter Executive Committee

The executive committee is the governing body of the chapter, with one (1) member delegated by each of six (6) regional groups and six (6) members elected at large. Each group elects its own executive committee. The chapter ExCom meets every-other month in either Santa Rosa or Willits. The meetings are being held over Zoom during the Covid-19 pandemic.

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* Signifies voting member of the ExCom

TALKIN' TRASH

Polystyrene, single-use plastic ban adopted in Sonoma County

By Theresa Ryan

Sonoma Group Zero Waste Chair

The Ordinance to Prohibit Use and Sale of Disposable Food Service Ware and Other Products Containing Polystyrene Foam has been passed by all Sonoma County jurisdictions, except for Rohnert Park. The ban includes limiting the use of non-recyclable or non-compostable disposable foodware and the use of products containing PFAS.

The Sonoma County Board of Supervisors signaled its support for the ban at its Aug. 24 meeting by adopting a zero waste ordinance and was set to cast a final vote to ban single use polystyrene at its Sept. 28 meeting. At press time, the result was unknown.

More than 120 California jurisdictions, including Yountville, Arcata, Fort Bragg, Mendocino County and Ukiah, all in Redwood Chapter, have passed similar ordinances, which will help the state meet its 75 percent waste-reduction goal. Not only do alternatives for polystyrene exist, but it is a known toxin that contaminates watersheds and wild-life. Breakdown products of it are affecting human health as well.

The ban requires food establishments and vendors to cease distributing any products with polystyrene foam. That includes the foam peanuts for packaging and coolers. In addition, all disposable food containers that replace polystyrene must be compostable and recyclable. If customers want single-use straws, lids and utensils, they must request them.

One important amendment to the ordinance is the ban on any containers that have Per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) in them. This highly toxic fluorinated compound is part of a coating on container linings to make them heat and grease proof. PFAS or "forever chemicals" are linked to various health problems including reproductive health disruption. (<https://theintercept.com/collections/bad-chemistry/>)

The ordinance removed any mention of biodegradable containers, since that term has been used often as a means for greenwashing. Instead, the ordinance calls for compostable containers, which includes fiber-based materials that are acceptable at compost facilities. Some products say compostable, but they are not accepted at compost facilities because they contain PLA (polylactic acid, a manufactured plastic polymer). Organic agriculture farmers who use the compost cannot use these synthetic materials.

To promote the transition to reusable foodware, Zero Waste Sonoma is offering a \$250 grant for businesses that are re-tooling in compliance with the ban. In addition, plasticfreerestaurants.org offers reimbursements to restaurants changing to reusables. Zero Waste Sonoma has multiple visual representations on its website of acceptable compostable containers as well as companies that consumers can access to obtain compostable containers.

Consumers can fill out a form posted on the ZWS website if they find a business that is not complying with the ban. ZWS will reach out to the business to provide education but will not be enforcing penalties at this time.

There are also exemption forms business owners can utilize to delay implementation if the ban imposes a hardship. The non compliance form on Zero Waste Website says that when they get the report they will be reaching out to educate and not enforcing any penalties at this time.

Any questions regarding the new ban can be addressed at zws-foodware@Sonoma-county.org or call 707-565-3375.

Exposed ‘secretive’ coal train proposal in North Coast draws ire from all directions

By Jacob Klein
Regional Coal Organizer

Thanks to reporting from the *Lost Coast Outpost* and other outlets, news came to light about a shadowy corporation from outside the state attempting to take over the North Coast Railroad Authority’s line in order to transport coal from the San Francisco Bay Area to Humboldt Bay.

The Wyoming-based company, North Coast Railroad Co (NCRCo), claims it has the funds and precedent to rebuild the abandoned line that runs through the geologically and ecologically sensitive Eel River Canyon, among other places, in order to ship the coal out of the Port of Humboldt Bay.

Coal companies in the West have been vying to get their coal out even as the coal economy continues to decline. Burning coal for energy is a well-documented high contributor to climate change, and beyond that, coal dust contains Particulate Matter 2.5, which can cause respiratory illnesses, cardiac disease, fetal development disorders, and has been co-indicated with COVID-19 mortality.

Trains moving from San Francisco Bay to Humboldt Bay would release coal dust along the corridor, poisoning communities and potentially contaminating the drinking waters of the Eel River and the Russian River watersheds.

Claims that the trains would be covered and deemed “clean coal” are hard to believe, considering this is a practice that is barely used.

On top of the environmental and environmental concerns about coal trains, the Eel River Canyon is geologically unstable.

Between the necessary work to repair the railroads, build a connection to a port, and then build a bulk cargo terminal for the coal to be exported through, the project would be incredibly costly—money that could instead be invested in communities that have been dependent on coal as their primary source of economy.

Rep. Jared Huffman and State Sen. Mike McGuire have already announced their opposition to this



A secretive deal that would ship coal via rail from San Francisco Bay to Humboldt Bay has been outed, and opponents are lining up to fight the effort that would run on abandoned rail lines that go through ecologically sensitive areas. Even while the energy economy shifts to cleaner sources, coal companies are trying to get their coal out and are looking to make deals that slide under the radar:

proposal, especially McGuire who aims to convert the 320-mile long old rail line into the Great Redwood Trail through SB 69, which passed through the legislature and awaits the governor’s signature or veto at the time of publishing.

In fact, McGuire called the coal train proposal “one of the largest environmental threats to hit the North Coast in decades.”

In the *Lost Coast Outpost* article published Sept. 2, McGuire said “The people behind this toxic coal train have been operating in secret, meeting with local officials here on the North Coast. They’ve been operating anonymously through the LLC in Wyoming, and they are intentionally hiding behind these corporate laws that hide individuals behind these types of toxic operations.”

Redwood Chapter is unequivocally opposed to this proposal, as confirmed by a unanimous vote of the chapter executive committee on Sept. 14. This position has also been taken by other groups including Humboldt Baykeeper, the Friends of Eel River

and the Environmental Protection Information Center.

Elsewhere in California, Sierra Club has been heavily involved in campaigns to stop coal from coming through communities and sensitive habitat.

In Oakland, the community has successfully prevented the Oakland Army Base from becoming a coal export terminal for years. And in Richmond, the city council passed an ordinance last year phasing out the storage and handling of coal in that city, citing the health impacts that coal dust has on its residents, particularly communities of color that bear the brunt of environmental racism.

Redwood Chapter leaders look forward to working with our allies and officials to determine the swiftest and most effective response to this threat and protect the air, water, and land we breathe, drink, and reside on.

If you’d like to be involved in stopping coal coming through Humboldt, contact organizer Jacob Klein at jacob.klein@sierraclub.org.

What it is to be a

VOLUN

Sierra Club has had an ongoing focus since its inception in 1892 to conserve wild land and open spaces for future generations. What began as a modest incarnation led by outdoorsmen, such as founder John Muir, has grown into a behemoth volunteer-led organization with a strong national policy focus and tendrils that spill out into each locality across the nation.

Sierra Club's volunteer corps is its backbone. Volunteer activists at the local level are the ones getting county supervisors to support measures against urban sprawl, city councils to engage in climate action policy to curb greenhouse gas emissions and state representatives to set forth clean air and water bills.

Volunteers also work with local groups and organizations to use the Sierra Club's prestige to advocate against clear-cutting forests, banning coal shipments across regions and developing plans for creating affordable and infill housing in urban areas.

Redwood Chapter is incredibly fortunate to have smart, driven and hard-working volunteers on its executive committee and in its six groups throughout the region. In this issue of the *Redwood Needles*, we wanted to introduce you to several of our key volunteers. They each come to Redwood Chapter with a different story, different passions and different skills, but they all share the same yearning to see our natural world, our shared resources and our outdoor recreational spaces preserved and maintained for all to enjoy for decades to come.

Their hard work has led to amazing accomplishments, including deep conversations about water and agriculture/viticulture in Napa Valley, environmental justice in Solano County and gas station bans in Sonoma County.

Thank you for your ongoing dedication and hard work.

— Shoshana Hebshi
Redwood Needles Editor



Chris Benz (she/her)
Residence: City of Napa,
Napa County
Member of Napa Group
ExCom (held since 2013)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Climate change.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? My interest in the outdoors, and a friend who asked me to join the ExCom.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? I'm interested in getting others involved in Sierra Club issues, and I really appreciate and benefit by the expertise of Sierra Club volunteers.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? Being able to provide funding to local projects e.g. the Town of Yountville's outreach for the gas-powered leaf blower ban and the City of American Canyon's Wetlands Ecocenter.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? High on a mountain side.



TEER

for Redwood Chapter



Victoria Brandon (she/her)
Residence: Lower Lake,
Lake County
Lake Group ExCom
(since 2003)
Redwood Chapter ExCom
(since 2006)
Redwood Chapter political
chair (since 2006)
Redwood Chapter chair (since
2013)

California political co-chair (since 2016)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? My particular passion is the protection of our public lands, both by working to ensure that special places are appropriately designated and by engaging in efforts to plan their management.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? Twenty years or so ago when I was a comparatively new member I started writing letters to decision-makers as instructed by a (long since defunct) Club publication called The Planet. One of them was to Sen. Barbara Boxer, encouraging her to introduce legislation designating a number of roadless areas around the state as federal Wilderness.

When she did indeed introduce such a bill not long thereafter I felt a totally unjustified sense of personal triumph, and was hooked.

Lake Group was founded about the same time, and I started attending the local meetings, was recruited to run for the excom, then elected to the chapter excom more or less by accident a couple of years later.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? I don't think there's a better opportunity out there to play a truly effective role in promoting environmental protection and fending off climate disruption. Lots of other organizations offer volunteer opportunities, but the Sierra Club is unique in providing a path for volunteer leadership.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? Looking back, I think that participation in the coalition that achieved the designation of the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument in 2015 has to rank as my #1 accomplishment.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? When I'm not at my desk, I'm probably out working in the garden.



Jana Selph (she/her)
Residence: Sebastopol,
Sonoma County
Chapter Treasurer and
Finance Chair
(held since 2017)
Sonoma Group
Treasurer (since 2004)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? I have always loved the outdoors – since childhood when my family loaded up the station wagon and went camping every summer. Later, I became very concerned about climate change and the great effort it would take to mitigate it and wanted to be part of the effort.

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'Lots of other organizations offer volunteer opportunities, but the

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What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? I started volunteering at Sierra Club in 2004, when I saw that Sonoma Group needed a new treasurer. I am not an accountant, but had taken some bookkeeping classes, and as it turned out, I was more than qualified to be treasurer for the Group and later for Redwood Chapter when that treasurer retired and moved away from the area.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? I served as an Executive Committee member for Sonoma Group for four years, but ultimately decided that my talents were more focused on the financial realm. Though I am not a front-line activist, my work supports and helps the very excellent people in the organization who are. Working in the background like this suits my personality best, and I feel I am making a difference in this role.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? Over the years I have seen our Chapter continue to grow and be effective in many ways. By steering the financial side, I can help the activists with their campaigns, giving them guidance on what we can afford to do and how best to do it, given our financial resources.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? I love the Sonoma County Regional Parks, and like to hike in them whenever I can. At home, my desk overlooks a redwood grove, and it gives me great peace to gaze out at the giants as I do my work.



Jeanne Wetzel Chinn
Residence: Ukiah,
Mendocino Co..
& Sebastopol, Sonoma Co.
Chair, Chapter No. Calif.
Forest Committee
(held since 2020)
Member Statewide Utility
Wildfire Prevention
Taskforce (since 2020)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Deforestation: causing natural resource and wildlife depletion, affecting climate change/ global warming/ carbon sequestration loss, adding to air pollution both from loss of forests and from wildfires.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? Forty years ago I took info received from Sierra Club and wrote activist letters that I gave to friends to send in supporting environmental protection measures, and I was a Sierra Club volunteer whitewater rafting guide for inner city (SF) and deaf teens to have a wilderness experience.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? To support forest resiliency, create positive change, and provide a purpose for people to be involved in their higher good by persistent efforts for buoyancy, equipoise, stability, and movement forward in the face of opposition as stepping stones to success.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? Our Northern California Forest Committee's Thinning Concepts and Strategies Document for Resilient Forests and Community Protection.

Where in the outdoors would you most likely be found? Redwood forests, ocean, streams, mountains, deserts—I love it all.

Nick Cheranich (he/ him)
Residence: Napa,
Napa County
Chair, Napa Group
Chair, Political Committee
Director of
Communications
(since Nov. 2019)



What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? "It's the Climate stupid!" This to me is the one major issue from which all other environmental issues stem. So, we must put all our energy and focus on combating the climate crisis at the local, state, and federal levels, as well as lowering our own carbon footprints.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? Once I retired from being a teacher, I had several requests from people to join this Board or that Group. I knew that I wanted to do something regarding the environment. Chris Benz invited me to attend a Sierra Club Napa Group Executive Committee meeting. At the meeting she asked if I would like to fill one of the open seats. Since I had been a Sierra Club member for decades, I was honored to be asked, even though I knew very little about local environmental issues and how to maneuver through the local governmental agencies.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? The work that Redwood Chapter and other Groups do at the local level is never-ending. The more time I give to the group's efforts to fight for environmental causes, the more I realize that there's so much more to learn and to do. Essentially, I'm doing this work because I know that I must do what I can to help my and other people's grandchildren to have a world in which they can live full, safe, and happy lives. This will not happen unless we all continue to work hard at it.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work?

Sierra Club is unique in providing a path for volunteer leadership.’

Currently, I am the chair of our Group’s Excom. Whether it’s preparing and leading the meetings in a timely and efficient manner or representing the Group well at various political meetings, I take pride in the continuous effort of trying to learn and understand how I can better help bring success to the issues that our Group pursues. Above all, I am proud to be part of an amazing team of dedicated volunteers.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found?
I’ve always enjoyed being in the Sierra Nevadas. I’m drawn to the beauty of the High Sierra lakes, and the mighty granite peaks. Then there’s the sea. I’m always being drawn to the “Mother of us all,” by hiking or just sitting by the rocks along the Sonoma Coast, contemplating the vastness of the Pacific. I also love being amongst the red rocks of Sedona, constantly finding new and adventurous hikes to take. And, having been raised in Phoenix, I loved hiking recently within the Sonora Dessert, taking in the majestic beauty of the Saguaros. And finally, there’s my backyard. About 10 years ago, I began collecting succulents that come from all over the world. I deeply enjoy creating mixed pots of euphorbia, aloes, agaves, and cacti. I spend a lot of time just gazing at the contrasting geometric shapes, colors, and sizes of these plants.

Roland Dumas (he/him)
Residence: Napa,
Napa County
Chair, Conservation
Committee, Napa Group
(held since 2020)



What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Globally: atmospheric carbon.

Locally: Water sustainability.

Napa’s water planning insufficiently measures and manages the increasing draw on surface and ground water. We are facing a protracted water emergency all while new major developments are approved and existing businesses increase water mining of the sub-basin. We need better planning for sustainability that we are getting from our Groundwater Sustainability Agency.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? I retired to Napa six years ago and made it a point to become involved in environmental issues of local concern. I had a difficult experience with a local environmental group and was eventually recruited to participate in the Sierra Club conservation activities.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? There is the possibility of a positive influence.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? One of the wildlife preserves, with camera in hand.

Richard Sachen (he/him)
Petaluma, Sonoma County
Sonoma Group, Excom
Chair (held since 2020)



What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning?
Climate Change and the transition to EVs

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer?
I became active over EV adoption and how to make the transition as green as possible.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? To protect and preserve our air, water, and forests.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work?
The recent adoption of Climate Emergency Resolutions in Sonoma County. A close second would be the new gas station ban in Petaluma.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found?
My favorite spots are along the coast. Anywhere along Highway 1: Bodega Bay, Pt. Reyes, and Salt Point are my favorites.



Tom Roth (he/him)
Residence: Cazadero,
Sonoma County
Conservation
Committee Chair,
Chapter ExCom
(held since 2015)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Climate change.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? As a legislative staffer with an environmental policy portfolio, I had a good working relationship with Sierra Club volunteers and staff.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? A need to contribute to resolving environmental problems.

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'Local climate action is the best medicine for managing my own climate'

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What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work?
Being instrumental in passing a CCL resolution giving forest preservation and reforestation a major role in fighting climate change.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? On the trails of Salt Point State Park



Ned Forsyth (he/him)
Residence: Arcata,
Humboldt County
North Group Vice Chair
(since 2004)
North Group Political Chair
(since 2001) North Group
Chapter Delegate

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Native Plants. Invasive Species. Mass Extinction(s). Natural history and geology.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer?
Reading late Chapter Conservation Chair Diane Beck's reports on the Trinity Alps 1999 Megram Fire, in *Redwood Needles*, which brought me to a North Group meeting.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? Leaders and members of Sierra Club and Redwood Chapter are doing important work.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work?
Becoming a local Outings Leader and leading public hikes.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? On a mountaintop with map and compass, and/or GPS.

Tom Conlon (he/they)
Residence: Sonoma Valley,
unincorporated
Sonoma County
Sonoma Group ExCom
(since 2017)
CCC Climate & Energy
Committee (since 2019)
Sonoma Political
Committee Chair (since 2020)



What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Demand-side climate change mitigation, espe-

cially fuel-switching to 100% clean All-Electric and reducing Vehicle Miles Traveled.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer?
Watching our county's new Climate Action Plan take shape I became concerned. Everyone seemed to think it was terrific, but as an experienced program analyst, I realized that it was mostly aspirational, and its mitigation measures were only vaguely defined and unenforceable. I joined the Sierra Club to get help to make it better.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter?
Local climate action is the best medicine I have found for managing my own climate grief; plus all the dedicated smart people I've met are just awesome!

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work?
Early groundwork that led to Santa Rosa passing one of the state's first All-Electric Reach Codes. That we never endorsed Dominic Foppoli (creepy former Mayor of Windsor).

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found?
Probably my vegetable garden; I'm its biggest pest, but we're symbiotic.

Robin Rachael Leler (she/her)
Residence: Willits,
Mendocino County
Secretary & Outings Chair for
Mendocino Group
(held since 2018)



What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? The Wild and Scenic Eel River, watersheds, salmon, redwood forests, logging to infinity, soil health, oak woodlands, creeks running dry...finding new places I've never been.

What originally brought you to the Sierra Club as a volunteer? I worked with Ecology Action, learning and teaching organic gardening and mini-farming. My kids went through 5th grade with a marvelous teacher who arranged field trips and campouts to lakes, fish hatcheries and geysers, cathedral-like redwood groves, waterfalls and wilderness reserves. At the same time I took college classes from a linguist/botanist steeped in the language and stories of the local Pomo-speaking people. She taught us how to prepare acorns and I actually lived on acorn enchiladas and vegetables from my garden one summer when I had no income. Since then I sought out hikers and biologists, foresters and herbalists, Native storytellers and outdoor educators, anyone who could add to my fascination with ecological systems. I thought Sierra Club would be the place to connect with like-minded friends. I was right.

Why do you continue to volunteer for the Redwood Chapter?

I meet the best people...passionate and adventurous activists, fearless and innovative in shaping politics to favor these beautiful and threatened places where we live.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work?

I am a retired high school teacher, employed as a substitute teacher. No matter what classroom I'm assigned to, I weave in stories connecting students to our immediate environment and the rich complexity and history they may never have noticed. Instead of learning about tornadoes in Kansas or the Amazonian rainforest, we visit the creek behind the high school where salmon used to spawn until just a few years ago. Or we look to the log decks next door and try to figure out where these 20-foot piles of trees are coming from and going to.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found?

Collecting acorns, swimming in the Eel River, Main Stem, North Fork, South Fork and Middle Fork, or wandering vast redwood forests hundreds of years old.

Theresa Ryan

Residence: Healdsburg,
Sonoma County
Sonoma Group ExCom
member (held since 2014)



What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Extraction industry and its existential threat to all ecosystems.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? I wanted to contribute to efforts to conserve the natural world.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? I learn a lot about what levers are most effective in fighting climate change and destructive land use practices. Also it is supportive to work with people who are really knowledgeable about protecting water, air and land. It helps to be part of an organization that is taking action to prevent more damage to the environment and in the process help people whose homes and lives are being ruined by Big Oil and corporate America. In order to create systemic change you need to be part of a group or organization to have a bigger voice.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? Organizing the "Story of Plastic" event to educate people about plastic waste and its connection to fossil fuels.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? At the ocean.

Current Volunteer Opportunities

MEMBERSHIP ENGAGEMENT CHAIR

Be the friendly face that introduces new members and volunteers to Redwood Chapter. This is a key position within the chapter to help it grow and maintain an engaged and active member and volunteer base.

Responsibilities include: creating a calendar for member engagement activities, carrying out social events for members and volunteers, recruiting and leading a member engagement team to help plan activities, welcoming new members, recruiting and tracking new members.

Estimated Time Commitment: 10 hours a month.

WATER CHAIR

The Water Chair will oversee all chapter activity dealing with water issues. This is a position for someone who has a passion and knowledge about water issues in Northern California.

Responsibilities include: maintaining communication with chapter leaders on water issues affecting the chapter's region, coordinating with other organizations to stand up to threats to clean water and healthy waterways, recruiting and leading a water committee, providing leadership and direction on all Sierra Club issues and communications regarding water.

Estimated Time Commitment: 5 hours a month.

OUTINGS CHAIR

Provide leadership, direction and oversight to the chapter and group outings programs. Work to make outdoor activities an integrated and vital element of chapter efforts.

Responsibilities include ensuring all chapter and group outings follow Club policies and procedures, managing and minimizing the risks of local outings programs, maintaining training and First-Aid certification requirements for outings leaders, and ensuring active leaders meet these requirements.

Estimated Time Commitment: 10-15 hours a month.

Redwood Chapter welcomes volunteers who are passionate about local environmental issues and want to help. If you're interested in getting more involved but don't see a volunteer position that calls to you and your skill set, please reach out. There are lots of ways for you to plug in, and we would love to have you! E-mail jeff.morris@sierraclub.org

For a fuller explanation of volunteer positions, please visit www.sierraclub.org/redwood/get-involved

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'In order to create systemic change you need to be part of a group...to have a bigger voice.'



Myrna Hayes (she/her)

Residence: Vallejo,
Solano County
Sea-Level Rise Committee
Education Sub Committee
(since 2020)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning?

The Sky! Yes. We live in this sacred land. So precious. The air, the sky, the fog and clouds envelope and inspire us. Yet, our air is deceptively and subtly affecting our health and quality of life.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? I was recruited by our Solano Group Chair.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? I've gotten to meet dedicated volunteers within the Chapter leadership and throughout the Chapter who have really inspired and nourished me. Volunteer work is very lonely sometimes. Knowing that there's someone out there rooting for and championing your efforts is wonderful.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? Contributing my expertise and professional skills and knowledge of my corner of the San Francisco Bay Estuary's "north shore" the northern San Pablo Bay and Carquinez Strait region.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? The oak and eucalyptus forests and grasslands/savannah of Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve and the Mare Island San Pablo Bay Trail or even guiding Napa River/Mare Island Strait boat trips.



Joe Feller (he/him)
Vallejo, Solano Co.
Chair Solano
Group, Chapter
Excom member
(held since 2017)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Urban sprawl in all of its ramifications.

What originally brought you to the Sierra Club as a volunteer? I was invited by Jane Bogner. I was active and successful in fighting Wal-Mart supercenters throughout Northern California, which was coming to an end. I joined Sierra Club to

continue fighting irrational development in our city.

Why do you continue to volunteer for the Redwood Chapter? I am involved with protecting an Urban Park on Mare Island called the Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? The defeat of the proposed Orcem cement factory in a residential neighborhood.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? Most likely on the Preserve.



Shirley Johnson (she/her)
Rohnert Park,
Sonoma County
Member Sonoma Group
ExCom (held since 2010)

What is the environmental issue that gets you out of bed in the morning? Climate and Energy. If I can help with educating and doing what I can to decrease GHG emissions, it's a good day.

What originally brought you to Sierra Club as a volunteer? In 2004, I interned with Steve Birdleough as a Friend of SMART. Sierra Club Sonoma Group was supporting the SMART campaign, and during meetings I met devoted people that I wanted to be around. I realized that I was at the hub of the movers and shakers in our community.

Why do you continue to volunteer for Redwood Chapter? We have much work to do, and the people are good. Environmental work is all encompassing, and we are all involved in our areas. I enjoy seeing the different aspects of the club's mission in action: To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; To practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; To educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives.

What is one thing you are proud of in your Sierra Club work? When I am tabling and folks come up to tell me how long they've been members. Their sense of pride is contagious and makes my heart happy.

Where in the outdoors would you be most likely to be found? That is easy! Since I am in a wheelchair, the best way to clump around on the ground is by horseback. Being outside, on my trusted pony, paying attention to the surroundings is therapeutic. I ride every week, it is my medicine. No matter what happens while riding I am happier for it.

Sierra Club Group & Chapter Elections

Ballots must be received by Dec. 31, 2021

It's that time of year again. Sierra Club's elections for members of the chapter and local group executive committees are here.

In the following pages you will find candidate statements for many of those seeking open seats. In addition to our paper ballot located on the back page of this newsletter, we are offering an online voting system through the Sierra Club website.

Voting began Oct. 1, and all votes must be in by Dec. 31.

To vote online, please visit <https://www.sierraclub.org/redwood/redwood-chapter-and-group-elections>

CHAPTER EXCOM

Victoria Brandon: Redwood Chapter faces our share of challenges these days, with water supplies at risk throughout the region, climate disruption threatening San Francisco Bay and coastal communities, and dubious development ideas proliferating, including a horrible recent proposal to run coal trains through the fragile Eel River Canyon. And of course we are still trying to come to terms with the wildfires that have caused varying levels of devastation in every one of the chapter's nine counties. Recovery will be an ongoing task for years to come, and Redwood Chapter has every intention of active and positive participation.

We're also looking ahead to making Congressman Jared Huffman's Mountains and Rivers wilderness proposal a reality, adding Walker Ridge to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, playing a dynamic role in National Forest planning, and getting PG&E to stop trying to blame trees for wildfires caused by its own antiquated infrastructure. At the same time we're trying to modernize and expand our communications strategies and seizing every opportunity to connect with you, our members.

I'm currently attempting to guide Redwood Chapter through

these tricky times as chapter chair -- and asking for your vote for what will be my final two-year term on the executive committee. Please feel free to contact me at any time with questions, suggestions, concerns.

Randy MacDonald: I am a climate activist and business owner residing in Comptche, a small rural community in the Mendocino Coast range which was named by and known well by the native American Pomo people for many generations. I was appointed to the Redwood Chapter Executive Committee in 2018 and had the privilege of being elected to the Committee for a two-year term in 2019. I chair our Chapter's Climate and Energy Committee and helped lead the effort to establish our Climate Protectors program at the Chapter level. I'm also a member of the Mendocino Group's Executive Committee.

It's been a privilege to serve in this position and I am willing to continue my service if you reelect me. I am also willing to step aside and support a new leader who has more time, energy and skill than I have to fill this important role. In the spirit of full disclosure, I am currently spending nearly all my waking hours running my company, which leaves me far too little time for volunteer work. The urgency of our climate crisis demands more than this, so I am hoping new leaders like you will step up to the challenge by getting involved in our Climate Protectors program. We need your help! Visit our website to learn more at: climateprotectors.net.

LAKE GROUP

Victoria Brandon: These are crucial times for the environment in Lake County: dubious development proposals threaten wildlife habitat and water supplies, chronic drought is becoming a way of life, and strengthening the resilience of our communities in the face of wildfire is vital.

At the same time, we have a unique opportunity to work for the long term health of Clear Lake and its watershed by bringing the Middle Creek Wetlands

Restoration Project to fruition. In the short term, we have another special opportunity to work for the passage of Congressman John Garamendi's legislation adding Walker Ridge to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, and to collaborate with regional environmental partners to ensure the survival of salmon and steelhead in the Eel River. Decisions made in the next few years will determine our future for a long time to come.

Please give me the opportunity to continue working for conservation in our community by electing me to another two-year term on the Lake Group executive committee.

Sally Peterson: I have been a Sierra Club member for the last 4-5 years and have always cared about environmental issues. Until recently, I served my Tribe, Middletown Rancheria, for the last 16 consecutive years as an elected official of Tribal Council, which included involvement with our Environmental Department. During my tenure, I also served as the Tribe's Tribal Historic Preservation Officer where I was much involved in the protection of our cultural resources. I'm "semi-retired" as I work on various volunteer projects, including several committees for the Tribe, the Executive Board for the South Lake Fire Safe Council, and Lake County's Community Visioning Forum. I also served as President of Middletown Area Town Hall in 2018 and Vice-President in 2019, and I remain involved with the group.

My most recent passion has been the impacts of Climate Change. My interest first started with the continuous wildfires we have endured and now the extreme weather events. I'm currently working on organizing a Lake County group for Climate Action, called Lake Co. CAN!, to address the impacts of climate change and what concerned citizens of Lake County can do locally.

I have common interests with the members of our Sierra Club and, if allowed, I feel I can be a contributing member of the Executive Committee. I would greatly appreciate the opportunity to serve.

Deb Sally: There are more good reasons to serve as Sierra Club Executive Committee Member than ever. I have served in this role and as our groups representative to the Redwood Chapter for the past few years and am committed to continue to improve my effectiveness. Having local advocates for nature and sustainable clean energy and farming practices is essential in influencing not only local policy but state, national, and world practices. Lake County is quickly being turned into vineyards and cannabis farms. I am working to urge growers, organizations, and governments to provide for wildlife corridors which have become more essential in the severe drought we are experiencing. Working with local government to promote small scale energy projects and roof top solar will also be a priority for me. I also want to see best practices in fire fuel reduction and post fire recovery followed in our area and will continue educate myself and others about this issue. I will also work to promote outings in Lake and surrounding counties as we, hopefully, emerge from the pandemic.

MENDOCINO GROUP

Mary Walsh: I am a candidate for the Executive Committee of the Mendocino Group. I have been a member of the Executive Committee for over 25 years. I have served as the Chair for the past several years. I have been a resident of Mendocino County for over 40 years.

I live in Albion and have for over 20 years. I am willing to serve another term on the ExCom because there's a great group serving alongside me. I cannot walk and spend my waking hours in a wheelchair. I am very grateful for the new technologies that make getting to meetings possible.

I am a mother and a grandmother. I have identified as an environmental activist for 50 years. I am very proud that my children and grandchildren are active in such efforts as the campaign to save Jackson

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Sierra Club Group & Chapter Elections

Ballots must be received by Dec. 31, 2021

Demonstration State Forest and Beach Cleanup Days and finding alternatives to plastics. They are my teachers and my inspiration. That is why I volunteer for the Sierra Club, to make a better world for them and those of their generation.

Mendocino Group Ex Com is always looking for new members so if you have an interest please reach out. bella@mcn.org or 937-0572

NAPA GROUP

Chris Benz: I have served on the Napa Group Executive Committee since 2014 and currently serve as Secretary and Treasurer for the Group.

This past year the Napa Group began looking at local policies to protect our water security from increasing drought pressures. We have also worked to bring funding to the county to support the Town of Yountville's ban on gasoline powered leaf blowers and to initiate development of the American Canyon Wetlands Eco Center. I am very involved in climate action on the state and local level through my work with Napa Climate NOW!, a 350 Bay Area Group, and my position on the Board of Napa Green, a non-profit sustainability certifier for Napa's vineyards and wineries.

I am interested in continuing to serve on the Napa Group Executive Committee to push this work forward and help reduce the climate impacts from our region and increase climate resilience for all our residents.

Nick Cheranich: I am a recently retired educator, having taught math, science, and drama at a local, highly diverse Middle School in the City of Napa.

I have been a Sierra Club member since I was a teenager, attending dozens of SC outdoor family and trail maintenance trips. I have been with the Sierra Club Napa Group's Executive Committee (Excom) for almost two years. I am currently the Chair of the Excom. In such a capacity, I have spoken for the Club on many environmental issues at dozens of local political committee meetings.

I have been actively involved

with two sub-committees within our Group. One is focused on lowering carbon emissions within the wine industry. The other is to find ways to lobby our Ground Water Sustainability Advisory Committee to adopt stronger measures to ensure our county's water security for all our people and wildlife.

I am the Group's Communications Director as well, creating our newsletter and maintaining our website. I am also Chair of the Political Committee.

I also volunteer as an advisor for a youth climate action group called Napa Schools for Climate Action. We are currently working on a lobbying campaign with local government groups, calling for a "Fossil Free Future." This includes halting the development of new gas stations and preserving our magnificent oak trees from being cut down.

Please vote for me so that I may continue to work within the Excom to fight for the important environmental issues within our county. Thank you.

NORTH GROUP

Ned Forsyth: I have served on the North Group Executive Committee since 2001, because I believe strongly in the Sierra Club's mission to "Explore, Enjoy, and Protect" our planet. North Group continues to advocate for wild things and smart growth and to engage and support our political allies.

In the North, the fate of Humboldt Bay, industrial forest practices, and closely-aligned issues of river and stream health merit our continuing attention. We can use your help to influence decisions made on the public's behalf, as well as to inspire other actors to help with their time, money, and rhetorical gifts.

For North Group, I have been serving as Vice Chair, as representative to Redwood Chapter ExCom, and, since 2014, as an outings leader. These duties are ways for me to help experienced activists and newcomers alike to take advantage of Sierra Club's institutional resources. Sierra Club's democratic ideals and national reach give us, the members, political strength and courage to take

actions that benefit not only our natural treasures, but the future of humanity as well, as we seek pathways to climate resiliency and responsible public policy.

Gregg J. Gold: I am running for the chair position of the North Group Sierra Club. This is a volunteer position I have held for the last 15 years. I will state at the outset that due to the recent direction the National Sierra Club has been going, I am running reluctantly. I am deeply unhappy with the pervasive "cancel culture" that seems to have been embraced by National, the disrespect (and outright hostility) shown by National regarding the incredible contributions, sacrifices, and millions of hours donated by thousands of volunteers over the years, and the seeming inability of National to recognize that clean air, water, and a sustainable planet is good for everyone no matter what their race, gender, national origin, or religion. I am running because I believe that our local North Group has in the past, will continue to make a positive difference on local issues, and to leave now would be a blow to those efforts. I would welcome your vote.

Robin Gray-Stewart: I have been the Marine Chair of the Sierra Club's North Group of the Redwood Chapter since 2019. As the Marine Chair I follow any issues that affect the coast of Northern California and Humboldt Bay. I'm researching the proposed north coast offshore wind farm, the Nordic Aquafarms proposed fish farm, the cleanup of the old pulp mill site where Nordic Aquafarms plans to establish their fish farm, and the storage of atomic waste next to Humboldt Bay. I attend Harbor Commission meetings, stakeholder meetings, offshore wind webinars, Nordic Aquafarm webinars, and California Tribe webinars. I also belong to Humboldt Baykeepers and have been working with 350 Humboldt. I've been involved in letter writing and public speaking on behalf of the North Group.

I graduated from the University of California at San Diego with a BA in communications, a minor in wilderness studies, and a minor in art. I'm a retired elementary

school teacher and instructional coach. In college I was a leader in the University of California's wilderness course where I taught rock climbing and survival skills. I also lived aboard a sailboat for 10 years and sailed to Mexico, the South Pacific, Hawaii, and multiple other ports up and down the coast of California. My husband and I now live in Eureka, California where we own a small second growth redwood forest in a gully behind our home. I also enjoy Mt. Etna, where we own land near the Russian Wilderness.

Felice Pace: I am a candidate for the North Group Executive Committee because I think the North Group can continue to make a critical, positive contribution on North Coast environmental issues if it has a strong and active Executive Committee and membership. I want to help with that essential work, lending my 35 years of experience as an environmental activist and environmental professional to the North Group and to the issues our members think are important.

My environmental work includes 15 years as conservation director and executive director of the Klamath Forest Alliance and 10 years as conservation chair of Marble Mountain Audubon. I was very active in the Ancient Forest Campaign – including helping to create the Jobs-in-the-Woods program to put loggers to work restoring forests. During that period I also coordinated several legislative campaigns for American Lands designed to secure funding for forest and watershed restoration.

I was one of the organizers and the first chair of the Klamath Basin Coalition – conservation and fishing groups working to protect and restore the Klamath River Basin. Currently I work to reform grazing in Klamath Mountains national forests as Redwood Chapter Grazing Chair and as coordinator of the Grazing Reform Project. I also continue to work professionally as a contract employee for environmental non-profit organizations.

I've served on the North Group Executive Committee since 2008 and I would like to continue serving our members, our streams and our earth.

Please mark your choices for Redwood Chapter and your local group executive committee on the ballot below and mail to:

Redwood Chapter Sierra Club, PO Box 466, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

Or save paper and postage by casting your ballot electronically at:

<https://www.sierraclub.org/redwood/redwood-chapter-and-group-elections>

SONOMA

Vote for two

- Ellen Hathaway
- Dan Mayhew

NORTH

Vote for four

- Ned Forsyth
- Gregg J. Gold
- Robin Gray-Stewart
- Felice Pace

MENDOCINO

Vote for one

- Mary Walsh

LAKE

Vote for four

- Victoria Brandon
- Tricia Evans
- Sally Peterson
- Deb Sally

NAPA

Vote for two

- Chris Benz
- Nick Cheranich

SOLANO

Vote for three

- Jane Bogner
- Quinton Crawford
- Amy Hartman

REDWOOD CHAPTER

Vote for three

- Victoria Brandon
- Roland Dumas
- Randy MacDonald

SOLANO GROUP

Jane Bogner: I have been a member of Solano Group since 1988.

As a member of EXCOM, I have maintained our membership in VALCORE Recycling, the only nonprofit recycling center in California. I would like to continue this as well as my position as treasurer.

Quinton Crawford: I Quinton Crawford am writing this letter to you to tell you that I have decided to be nominated again to be a part of the Ex-Com of 2022. I am sure you have expected this to come up this year and know I have been navigating between some health issues, college, being an executive director of the Climate Protectors Excom of the Redwood Chapter and marketing the books I have authored, and now in a fulltime teaching position.

I am capable of handling his position with dedication and believe I can directly help build stronger relations between our group, the healthcare industry, school districts, green businesses and smaller organizations. Because

it is the environment, I have and may always do any task requesting attention without hesitation. I believe we should begin to communicate better and borrow activities or work in sync with our neighboring chapter groups such as Napa, Sonoma, and others.

SONOMA GROUP

Ellen Hathaway: I have lived with my family in Sonoma County for over 20 years. I moved to CA 37 years ago from Connecticut and prior to moving to Petaluma, I lived in San Francisco for 15 years.

My professional career has spanned being a business analyst, leading public relations for technology companies and over the past 18 years I have been the owner and partner of a boutique executive recruiting firm, Envision Search, we are focused on placing senior executives at global technology companies.

As a lifelong environmentalist, outdoor enthusiast, and volunteer with several local and national nonprofits (COTS, Petaluma People Services, Rebuilding Together, MoveOn, etc.), I thrive on being a committed community member, helping where I'm able

to in making a difference for all of our lives.

We are all experiencing first-hand how commercial and residential development, transportation, consumption, and lack of conservation are all accelerating climate change, impacting us locally, nationally and globally. I am still hopeful that our work individually and collectively can and does make a difference!

I'd be honored to be considered as a member of the Sonoma Group Executive Committee Member / Sierra Club Redwood Chapter if my skills, experience and enthusiasm can contribute to the Sierra Club's mission and goals.

Dan Mayhew: As a relatively recent resident of Sonoma County, I am pleased for this opportunity to serve as a nominee to the Sonoma Group Ex Com.

As a candidate, I have been fortunate to experience a broad range of participation and activism as a Sierra Club volunteer, primarily with the Utah Chapter and various Grassroots Network teams. I served as the UT Chapter Chair for three years, Vice-Chair for two years, Chapter Conservation Chair for 8 years

and Ex Com member for 10 years. I currently serve as Chair of the Glen Canyon Group based in Moab and represent the Group on the Chapter Ex Com, term expiring 2021.

I've been fortunate to have worked on a broad range of conservation issues. Recently, with the Environmental Law Program to prevent development of a rail extension to increase crude oil production and to defeat an unnecessary 86,000 ac-ft diversion of diminishing Colorado River water, which was recently granted approval for appeal.

We currently face an incredible array of critical conservation and political issues directly related to climate change that must be addressed as do the inherent elements of social, environmental and political injustice that are often present.

Volunteering with the Sierra Club offers many rewards, but perhaps best of all is the opportunity to meet and collaborate with like-minded, passionate volunteers and staff and to learn from their knowledge and experience. I look forward to the opportunity to do so as a member of the Sonoma Group and Redwood Chapter.

Redwood Needles

Sierra Club

Redwood Chapter

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Help Us Hold PG&E Accountable for its Negligence

We are so close to meeting our signature goal to show state leaders that their constituents care about this issue and do not want to see PG&E continue to devastate healthy trees, impose on private landowners and neglect to quickly update its antiquated infrastructure as we face another fire season. Please add your name and join us to demand accountability for PG&E's faulty behavior and ongoing misdirection of efforts.

Sign the petition here:

[https://addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/
hold-pge-accountable-for-infrastructure-failure-in-wildfires](https://addup.sierraclub.org/campaigns/hold-pge-accountable-for-infrastructure-failure-in-wildfires)

Test Your Wilderness Knowledge!

Take the Wilderness Quiz in celebration of the 57th birthday of the Wilderness Act signed by Lyndon Johnson in 1964.

Visit our website to take the quiz: www.sierraclub.org/redwood

www.sierraclub.org/redwood

Sonoma • Napa • Solano • Lake • Mendocino • Humboldt • Del Norte • Trinity • Western Siskiyou