



Butte, Glenn, Lassen, Plumas & Tehama Counties

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Yahi Spring 2012 Outings and Events

Coordinated by Alan Mendoza

<http://www.motherlode.sierraclub.org/yahi/outing.htm>

Yahi Donates Videos to Butte County Library

By Suzette Welch

Sierra Club Yahi Group used part of its conservation funds this past year to purchase a collection of video documentaries which were then donated to the Butte county Library. The donation was made with the intention of educating the public about important current environmental issues. The videos are listed by title in the catalogue and are available for free check out at all Butte County Library locations. The videos in the collection are:

- Tapped How big business is working to privatize water throughout the world. Corporations put water in plastic bottles and sell it back to the people who should have access to it as a basic human right.
- Flow More on the water industry and how corporations want to gain control of the earth's fresh water.
- The Eleventh Hour Created, produced and narrated by Leonardo DiCaprio. Examines the state of the natural environment especially in relation to global warming.
- Powerful What a sustainable energy-powered future may look like.
- GASLAND The far reaching consequences to the environment and peoples lives made by the practice of fracking developed by Halliburton to retrieve natural gas.
- Mother Caring for 7 Billion Why population growth still matters and what is hindering action to reduce it.

For information, visit <http://www.buttecounty.net/bclibrary> .

The Conservation Forum

Occupy our Forests: “Forests for the 99%, Not clearcutting for the 1%”

Ever wonder what happened to all the forests? Or asked yourself where have all the spotted owls gone?

California's forests sustain thousands of jobs in the recreation and sustainable logging industries- but not if they are clearcut. For many years, private lands logging has been in the news and more people have become aware of the environmental impact of clearcutting. Sometimes the impacts are beneficial for instance; when fire and fuels are reduced or replenishment is necessary, yet sometimes private lands logging leads to mudslides, flooding, property damage, increased fire risk and loss of wildlife habitat.

Want to know how you can be involved in curtailing some of the abuses of clearcutting?

Become a Timber Harvest Plan Tracker! Learn to use resources to find out where Timber Harvest Plans (THPs) are planned near your neighborhood. Learn about THPs and where to go, to visit private lands logging operations, so you can gather photos and help monitor impacts of clearcutting.

BEC and the Yahi Group of the Sierra Club are co-sponsoring a full day training with EPIC Industrial Forestry Reform Advocate, Rob DiPerna from Arcata on formal Timber Harvest Plan comments.

Please contact Skye @ skyeli.peace.justice@gmail.com if you are interested in joining fellow advocates in saving our forests!

We will announce a date and time once we have a full class. Class is FREE and open to the public however, donations are being accepted for trainer's meals and bus fare.

For more about clearcutting please visit www.stopclearcuttingcalifornia.org and for more information on becoming a Timber Harvest Tracker you can visit <http://www.thptrackingcenter.org/>

Watershed Management Workshops

Beginning in May, 2012, SRWP will present series of Watershed Management Workshops across the state. There will be three integrated two-day workshops in each of seven regions:

1. Workshop Series One: **Watershed Management - Principles, Planning and Implementation**
2. Workshop Series Two: **Watershed Restoration- Restoration Techniques and Environmental Compliance and Permitting**
3. Workshop Series Three: **Monitoring and Adaptive Management** - Designing and conducting a Watershed Monitoring Program

Registration is \$35 per person, which covers instruction, materials and lunch.

Here is a link to more information about the event: <http://wholeearthandwatershedfestival.org/>

Redding (May 16-17, 2012)

(other locations across California are also available.)

For more information, contact:

Dennis Bowker

dennisbowker@volcano.net

707-253-8295

<http://sacriver.org/ourwork/conferences/watershed-management-workshop-principles-planning-and-implementation>

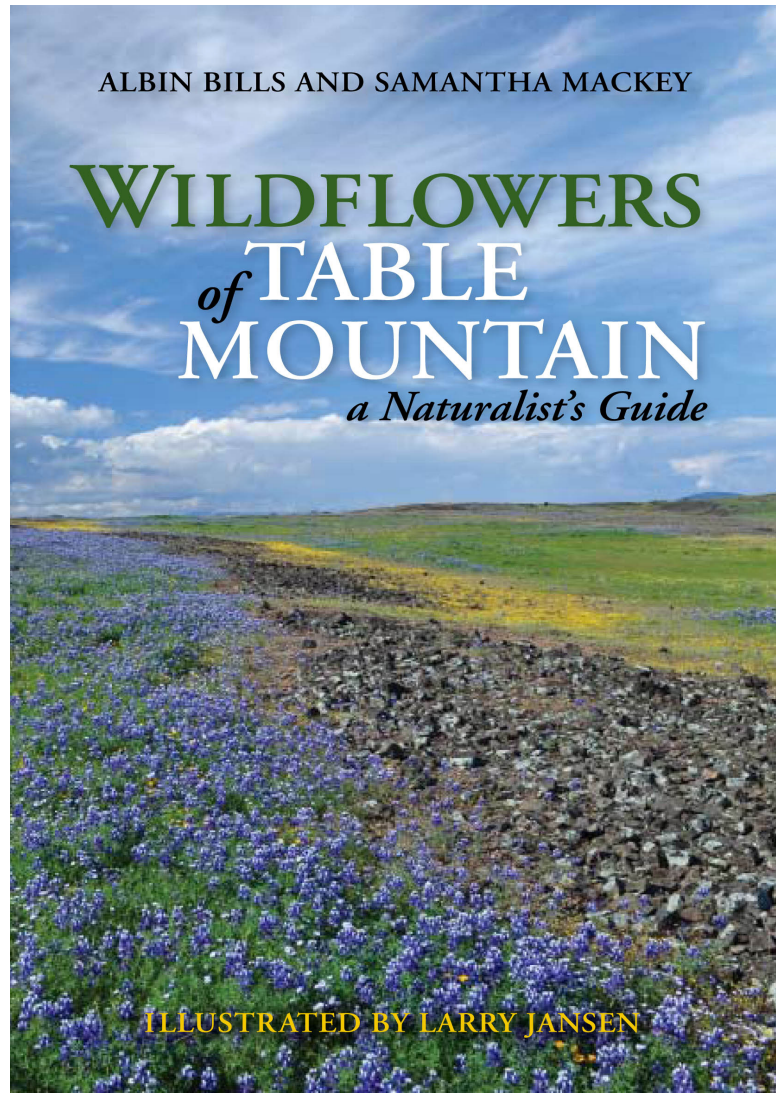
The Conservation Forum

The Wildflowers of Table Mountain: A Naturalists Guide

By Geri Bills

Oroville's Table Mountain is one of the premier wildflower locations in all of California. Each spring thousands of nature enthusiasts make the pilgrimage to this unique mesa to experience its dazzling array of flowers, rare vernal pools, and plunging waterfalls.

Have you ever wondered how Table Mountain was formed, or why it has such spectacular wildflower displays? Would you like to learn more about its hidden canyons and beautiful waterfalls? Are you still having trouble telling the difference between owl's clover and cow bag clover? Then you should know that co-authors, Albin Bills and Samantha Mackey, and illustrator Larry Jansen, have just finished their completely revised and expanded version of *Wildflowers of Table Mountain, A Naturalist's View*, which is now in full color.



Now Available for purchase at Lyon Books in Chico or through The Herbarium at Chico State University— <http://www.CSUChico.edu/herbarium>

Yahi Club News

Yahi Group Programs to Resume

David McKinney, Yahi Group Chair.

The Yahi Group is happy to announce that we will resume programs again starting April 5th. As one might imagine, organizing these events is indeed laborious and would not be possible without the dedicated work of many of our members. We are hoping that they will be well attended. We will be focusing on environmentally relevant issues that affect the state and especially our region.

We are especially happy to have an excellent speaker lined up for our first program, Barbara Vlamis. Barbara will be speaking on the diverse issues of water conservation in the north state. As I am sure we are all aware, this is a complex and politically charged topic.

Her experience as Executive Director of Aqualliance and previously at Butte Environmental Counsel for 17 years makes her the most qualified water and vernal pool advocate north of Sacramento. Statewide she is one of a few advocates with the ability to successfully stop water grabs by large corporate agribusinesses that would threaten the native and endangered species in northern California, including the salmon migration that is much a part of the ecology of the Sacramento River. She is currently taking on these giants who could kill local family farms and the north state economy. In this, an election year, it is very important to have a good understanding of these issues since right now decisions are being made that will greatly affect the future of our region.

We will meet at the Chico Branch of Butte County Library 1108 Sherman Ave, at the corner of East 1st Ave. and Sherman on Thursday April 5th from 7-9:00 pm. From the front entrance, the meeting room is on the right side, west end of the building. The program is, of course, free of charge and I encourage our members to bring their friends. In the fall, we will be presenting a program on the controversial topic of Fracking. Hope to see you all there.



YAH! Club News

25 and 50 year Members

By Gerda Lydon

We are very proud and happy to honor our 25 year members, as follows: Bill Babb, Chico, Charles Bird, Chico, Fred Brooks, Chico, Marjorie Burnham, Paradise, Richard Campbell, Chico, Mr. & Mrs. David Dalton, Chico, Delores Dean and Ron Braziel, Chico, Dan Efseaff, Chico, Patty Haley, Chico, Amy Huberland, Chico, Helen Kramer, Biggs, Jane Coleman/David McKinney, Chico, Roland McNutt, Chico, Steve Miller/Betty Volker, Chico, Norma O'Dell, Chico, Mary Lou and B.Gayle Reynolds, Chico, Jodee Smith, Chico, Frank and Cindy Thompson, Chico, Barbara Vlamis, Chico Jean Wagoner, Gerber, Retta Wilmarth, Oroville.

Our 50 year member is Stephen Harding, Graeagle.

Thank you very much for supporting Sierra Club.

Gerda Lydon, Membership Chair

Grace Notes: Yahi Local Conservation News

By Grace Maria Marvin, Yahi Conservation Chair

In conjunction with the Yahi Executive Committee and other Yahi Group members, we are considering just what our priorities regarding conservation objectives and conservation activities should be. At our February "Ex.Com." meeting, we discussed the following ideas, which we hope to "prioritize" at the next meeting. If you want to weigh in on these and volunteer as well, please contact one or more Yahi Group leaders.

Address Water Issues in California

1-Water is one of the biggest issues we Californians must confront this year. Particularly important are the efforts to divert water from the Yahi region and elsewhere in northern California to southern California. Thus we will support activists' travel expenses incurred while attending essential water conferences and presenting our positions at important regional water meetings. If we have the means to do so, we also will help with legal expenses that may be required.

Fight Hydro-fracking

2-Fighting hydro-fracking is becoming an ever more important issue to the Yahi as fracking rears its polluting head in our region. Again, we may need to meet activists' related travel and publicity expenses.

Fight Climate Change

3- Fighting climate change and environmental degradation are environmental issues of global import. We would like to reduce both in our region, of course. One idea would be to invite Yahi members to support the efforts of *350.org* of which the Sierra Club is a member.

Their nationwide plan involves publicizing the financial support that fossil fuel based energy interests may contribute to our politicians. *350.org* would help educate us local volunteers, so that we would ask politicians “uncomfortable” questions about energy positions they hold and related financial support they obtain at campaign and other meetings.

Reduce Clearcutting and Excessive Thinning of Forests

We would also continue supporting the efforts to reduce clear-cutting and excessive timber thinning in our forests, while contributing our efforts and, possibly, some financial resources in the ongoing efforts to stop the Dyer Mt. (4 season) Development not far from Lake Almanor in Lassen County. This is a project that violates CEQA for a huge number of reasons, including the impacts of housing, traffic, violations of areas treasured by Native Americans, and dwindling amounts of snow on a beautiful meadow, lake, and mountain area.

Strengthen Our Environmental Community

4-We are also considering if we can help contribute to a stronger environmental community by joining with other environmental organizations in educational and advocacy efforts. For example, we could join with a dozen other environmental organizations to host a *Chat and Chew* picnic just as we did several years ago. Each organization’s leader would be asked to discuss his/her group's conservation efforts at a picnic table full of invited members of the public (accompanied by a scrumptious salad and bread). After twenty and after forty minutes, the picnickers would join another organization's picnic table. Then, attendees can use knowledge they gain to support joint goals in the larger community. (We would need volunteers to help organize this event!)

Support Local Events

5-We will continue to become involved in numerous local events where our group does tabling such as at the the Endangered Species Fair, the Snow Goose Festival, John Muir's birthday, and Chico State's Wellness Conference and its Sustainability Conference. We will also participate at local governmental and organizational meetings that bear on our environment – as much as our volunteer time allows.

Develop a Phone Tree

6- We may develop a phone tree to elicit support of environmental action that is needed, and to generate political support for political candidates that meet Sierra club criteria and approval processes.

As you can imagine, achieving our goals requires volunteer effort. If you or someone you know can help with any of these activities, please let us know. Please also consider that several of these ideas could be implemented by you and your friends throughout our five county Yahi region -- as truly local events. *Explore, enjoy, and protect our planet!*

Sierra Club Activists



MOTHERLODE ACTION ALERTS

There are 13 Sierra Club Chapters in California. The Yahi Group is a member of the Motherlode Chapter. The Motherlode Chapter is geographically the largest chapter in California, with eleven groups in 24 counties.

If you would like to be more involved in conservation activities in Northern California, join our email alerts lists to receive notices when we need your letters, phone calls or emails when important environmental issues are at stake.

*The Motherlode Chapter of the Sierra Club:
11 Groups in 24 counties*

Mother Lode Chapter Alerts

To join go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/SCRIPTS/WA.Exe?A0=motherlode-alerts>
Have a problem with the link? Send an email to info@mlc.sierraclub.org

Motherlode-News:

This is the list we use for members who want to go entirely paperless. To join go to <http://lists.sierraclub.org/SCRIPTS/WA.Exe?A0=motherlode-news> or send an email to info@mlc.sierraclub.org

Legislative Alerts:

From Sierra Club California, when your legislator or the governor needs to hear from you.
To join go to https://secure2.convio.net/sierra/site/SPageNavigator/chp_ca_allactions

Local Alerts:

Every member belongs to one of our eleven local Sierra Club groups. Your local group may have an email alerts list for issues that your City Council, Board of Supervisors or a local commission is considering. Just click the GROUPS/SECTIONS button at left.

National Sierra Club News

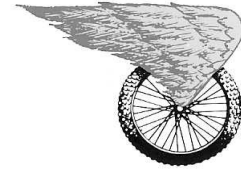
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<http://www.sierraclub.org/>

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YAH! Club Information

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Board Member: Carla Moreno, carlaruby80@gmail.com

Board Member: Lorna Cunkle, 877-7895 or lornacunkle@comcast.net

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Newsletter Information

SIERRA CLUB YAH! GROUP NEWSLETTER is published three times a year, in March, July, and November, by the Yahi Group of the Sierra Club, Post Office Box 2012, Chico, CA 95927 or 5590 Feather River Place, Paradise, CA 95969, Attn: Louise Casey.

For submissions, comments and inquiries, please write to Sierra Club, Post Office Box 2012, Chico, CA 95927 or contact Susan Sears at 532-0149.

For advertising in the Newsletter, please call John Woods (530-899-8607). For changes in membership address (which also affects the address for receiving the newsletter by mail) please write to Sierra Club Member Services, Post Office Box 42041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-6417; sending a mailing label for the old address will speed the process.

Submission Guidelines:

Please include name, phone, and address with each submittal. Short, single topic articles are preferred. Deadlines for proposed articles and letters to the editor: February 1, June 1, October 1. A one week extension is available if the submission is sent by e-mail and advance advisory has been provided that the article is forthcoming. Submissions will be returned if specifically requested and accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope.

The right is reserved to edit all submissions for reasons of space, clarity and potential libel. The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Yahi Group.