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explore,
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and protect
the planet

Sierra Club Lake Group

March-April 2022 Newsletter

Next Community Forum: Restoring Habitat with Native Plants

At **6PM on March 24** Lake Group is going to celebrate the beginning of spring by welcoming Cathy Koehler, Resident Director of the McLaughlin Reserve, who will join us to talk about restoration of serpentine meadows and the resulting wildflowers, and future plans for further restoration at the Reserve. UC Davis's McLaughlin Natural Reserve is located in far eastern Lake County, where Lake, Napa, and Yolo counties come together. Cathy Koehler and Paul Aigner have been at the McLaughlin Reserve for over 19 years, supporting research and instruction and conducting restoration projects.

Although the meeting is free and open to the public as always, registration is required: everyone who signs up will receive confirmation and Zoom connection details, and a followup email a day before the event. To RSVP, go to the Lake Group website, sierraclub.org/redwood/lake and click the link in the embedded calendar. We'll also stream on our Facebook page.

More Breaking News on Condor Ridge

As previously discussed, early in January Congressman John Garamendi introduced legislation to add approximately 4000 acres of Molok Luyuk ("Condor" Ridge, also known as Walker Ridge) to the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument. The bill, HR 6366, would also officially change its name and establish a precedent-setting provision for Tribal co-management. Co-sponsored by Representatives Mike Thompson and Jared Huffman, supported by the Lake County Board of Supervisors and Yocha Dehe Wintun nation, and with no perceptible opposition, chances for passage seemed good -- eventually.

As a coalition of environmental groups settled in to fashion a long term campaign plan we were delighted to learn that the House Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests, and Public Lands had already scheduled a hearing on the bill, which is very unusually prompt action. At the hearing, held on March 1, Yocha Dehe Tribal Chair Anthony Roberts provided testimony praising the legislation's unique provisions for "cooperative and collaborative tribal partnerships" and also recognizing an aspirational conservation goal: "Condors once flew over the ridge in abundance and, if successful in protecting this area, ongoing habitat restoration efforts could allow the condor to return." (con't)

(Condor Ridge, con't) Expansion of the monument has also been recognized as a priority by the Sierra Club California 30 x 30 team, and would mark an important step toward helping both the State of California and the Biden Administration meet their expressed critical goal of protecting 30 percent of U.S. lands and waters by the year 2030.

And here's some more good news: just a few days before the Congressional hearing the Ukiah Field Office of the BLM definitively rejected the latest in a series of ill-advised Molok Luyuk wind energy proposals, on the grounds that after more than two years of requests the developers had made no progress in providing the information about environmental impacts needed to complete their application.

The House subcommittee is accepting additional testimony from organizations and individuals for the next few weeks. To add your voice, please send an email to Garamendi staff member **Tigran Agdaian** (Tigran.Agdaian@mail.house.gov) with a note requesting that it be regarded as formal testimony on behalf of HR 6366 and included in the packet to be presented to the Natural Resources Committee.

Lake Group Executive Committee
Deb Sally (Chair, Outings Chair): 560-1166,
Ed Robey (Vice Chair) 994 8304,
JoAnn Saccato, (Secretary) 350-1719
Deb Sally, (Outings Chair) 995-2125,
Victoria Brandon (Treasurer, Conservation Chair,
Political Chair, newsletter editor, webmaster):
994-1931
Tricia Evans (Membership Chair)
Cheri Kessner, 263 5787
Sally Peterson, 533-3132

ExCom meetings are held at 5:30PM on the third Wednesday of the month, on the Zoom platform. All members are cordially invited to attend, but requested to contact the Chair first to confirm time and connection details

Let's Go Digital

Lake Group members are invited to help fight deforestation by receiving this bimonthly newsletter electronically rather than on paper. To get it as an email attachment in pdf format instead, send a request to join the "Lake Group Paper Free" list to vbrandon95457@gmail.com—not only does this save some trees, it also benefits the Group financially.



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Outings

Help Wanted: Outing Leaders. No experience needed, just a love for brisk exercise in the out-of-doors. There are many good reasons to become an Outing leader, including an opportunity for autocracy: as leader *you* get to choose where to go, and when. Interested? Get in touch with Outings Chair Deb Sally at 235-9011 or enviracat1@gmail.com

Rent This Space

Lake Group now accepting (in other words, selling) advertisements in this newsletter: a two-inch (business card size) ad like this costs \$25 per issue, or—Great Bargain—\$100 for a year (six issues) To submit an ad send an email to vbrandon95457@gmail.com or call Victoria at 994-1931.

Save the Date for the 2022 Weed Tour

After a two-year hiatus caused by the Covid 19 pandemic, the Lake County Weed Management Area is delighted to announce that its 17th annual “Invasive Weeds Tour” will be held this year on Wednesday May 25. As always the event is FREE and the public is welcome and encouraged to attend, with no reservations required.

Participants will gather in front of the Ranch House at Anderson Marsh State Historic Park (8400 State Highway 53 between Clearlake and Lower Lake) at 9AM, take a leisurely guided walk of about a mile to see the amazingly diverse array of invasive plants that flourish in the park and the effects of control mechanisms such as control burns, and return to the house for discussion of aquatic invasive weeds under the trees.

The tour is sponsored by the Lake County Department of Agriculture and the Lake County Resource Conservation District.

Redwood Chapter Spring Photo Contest 2022

Redwood Chapter’s annual photo contest is underway: please share your own original photographs demonstrating the remarkable beauty and diversity of the spectacular area where we are so lucky to live.

Contest rules:

- 1 submission per person
- Must be taken within our Chapter's region
- Caption must include location and photographer's name and contact information

Deadline for submission: June 1, 2022

E-mail photo submissions to
redwood.chapter@sierraclub.org

with the subject Line: Spring Photo Contest
Submission

KONOCTI POST

www.konoctipost.blogspot.com

a lake county naturalist's blog

TAKE A RAMBLE. IT'S FREE.



Sierra Club Lake Group
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