



**SIERRA CLUB**  
CALIFORNIA

# Sierra Club Shasta Group Newsletter

February 2026

**Upcoming Event on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm!**

**A Panel Presentation**  
*Sáttitla Highlands National Monument*  
**WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 6PM**  
**SHASTA COLLEGE, BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES BLDG,  
ROOM 1632**

Presented by the Shasta Group of Sierra Club and the Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center

Discover NorCal's newest monument!  
Representatives from the Pit River Nation and  
the Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center  
will share the story of the monument, its  
ecological and Indigenous cultural significance,  
and plans for the region's first co-stewardship  
agreement



### Meet the Speakers:

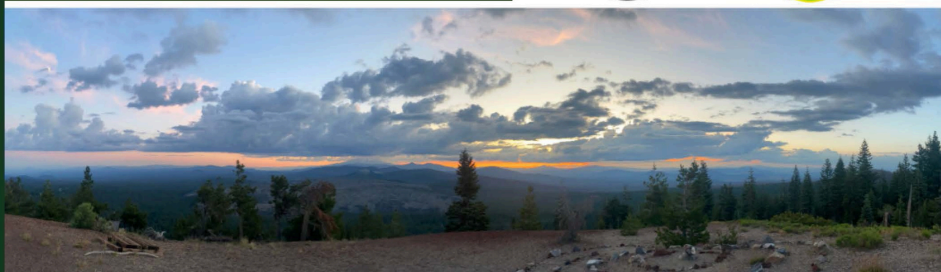
Brandy McDaniels  
Sáttitla Highlands National Monument Lead,  
Pit River Nation

Michelle Berditshevsky  
Director, Sáttitla/Medicine Lake Highlands  
and Aquifer Protection Project and Founder,  
Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center

Nick Joslin, Geologist  
Policy and Advocacy Director,  
Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center  
>Will talk about the geologic setting and the  
volcanic history of Medicine Lake Volcano.



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SHASTA GROUP



More Info:

[sierraclub.shasta@gmail.com](mailto:sierraclub.shasta@gmail.com)

<https://mountshastaecology.org>

# Upcoming Event on Feb. 4<sup>th</sup> at 6pm!

The Shasta Group of the Sierra Club is excited to bring you a presentation on S attitla Highlands National Monument, the newest National Monument in our area that was enacted by former President Joe Biden. The monument includes Medicine Lake and over 200,000 surrounding acres.

The program will be presented by the Mt. Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center (MSBEC) and will cover the history of the area and the struggle to get National Monument status as well as future management plans and how the public can become involved. This is an important biological area, source of pristine waters and ancestral land of the Pit River Tribe and important to other Native peoples. Speakers will include Nick Joslin, a geologist who will talk about the volcanic history and geology of the area, Michelle Berditshevsky, the founder of Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center who will talk about the long struggle to stop geothermal drilling to protect the Medicine Lake aquifer and obtain national monument status for the area, and Brandy McDaniels from the Pit River Nation who will give the background of her tribe's connection to the area and the long fight they led to protect the area. The speakers will also discuss the future of management plans for the area and how the public can become involved. There will be a question and answer session at the end.

This event will take place in the Shasta College Science Building Lecture Hall, Room 1632, on the north side of campus near the swimming pool. The Lecture Hall Entrance is on the east side of the building. Park in the north parking lots. Make sure to buy a \$2 parking pass at one of the yellow machines in the parking lot so you don't get a ticket. This event is free!

This should be a fascinating talk by those who are intimately knowledgeable about the area and the long battle to obtain National Monument status. Whether you are familiar with the area or not, this will be an important opportunity to learn the importance of protecting the area.



**Medicine Lake in S attitla  
Highlands National  
Monument**

# Recap of our 10 Bridges Field Trip!



**Hiking participants  
on the trip!  
Photo by John  
Sears**

**David Ledger  
talking about  
local plants  
along the trail.  
Photo by John  
Sears**



**Looking out over  
one of the bridges  
along the trail!  
Photo by John  
Sears**

## Recap of 10 Bridges Continued!

Clear weather and mild temperatures brought 20 participants to the 10 Bridges to the Salt Creek foot bridge field trip led by David Ledger on Sunday, January 24. For this field trip we concentrated on participants learning 10 common plants and birds found in the greater Redding area. Buckbrush, white-leaf manzanita, yerba santa, Mt. mahogany, blue oaks, interior live oak, knobcone pine, gray pine and ponderosa were found among others. Blooming plants included grand hound's tongue, gum weed, wild radish, and a few redbud.

The  $\frac{3}{4}$  mile to the Sacramento River trail is primarily oak woodland on a wide trail with a slightly steep climb on the return trip. The Salt Creek trail is in a riparian area and follows a shaded north face where we found considerable goldback fern, maidenhair fern and a few liverworts. Combining birding with identifying plants was difficult, but we did see California Towhee, Berwick's wren, Red-tailed Hawk, Anna's Hummingbird, Oak titmouse, Western Scrub Jay, Common Raven, Turkey Vulture, House Finch, Wren-tit, Ruby crowned Kinglet, Dark-eyed Junco and Western Bluebird. Thanks to George Horn for leading the birding and to John Sears for taking many photographs.

Everyone seemed to enjoy the field trip, the camaraderie and the scenic creek views. This would be an excellent trail to walk in mid to late March, which should be near peak bloom for the area. We saw many other plants just waiting for warmer weather to break out in bloom. Thank you to all the participants who joined us!

## Recap of MLK Day!



David Ledger and Amberly Clark at MLK booth.

We had a great time tabling at Sequoia Middle School for MLK day! Thank you to all who stopped by and said hi at our booth!

## **Upcoming Events!**

### **Trail 58 Field Trip**

**Saturday, February 7, 9 am.**

**Iron Mountain Road, Keswick**

**This trail follows an old 1850's gold mining water ditch from Iron Mountain Road to Old Shasta roughly following Middle Creek with one foot bridge across a seasonal stream. This is an easy to moderate difficulty 3 ½ mile hike of mostly level terrain, but there is a steep section that does require some balance. The area was burned in the Carr Fire, but is recovering nicely and we should see early blooming wildflowers. This will be an easy time to learn to identify arroyo willows in winter. Some sections of the water ditch trail may have water in it and we will just walk on the bank.**

**We will meet at the trailhead on Iron Mountain Road just 1/4 mile off of Highway 299 west of Redding. Wear boots, dress in layers, bring water and a snack. For more information, contact walk leader David Ledger at [dsledger49@gmail.com](mailto:dsledger49@gmail.com). We will have a list of plants on the trail for participants. CNPS is supporting this Sierra Club hike. All are welcome. Rain cancels, drizzle, bring umbrella.**

### **Shasta Birding Society Field Trip**

**Saturday, Feb. 14<sup>th</sup> 9am**

**Turtle Bay, Redding**

**This is Shasta Birding Society's monthly second Saturday walk at Turtle Bay which will be led by Dan Scollon. This short walk lasts about one hour, but for those wishing to they can continue on with others around the Turtle Bay loop trail. Meet near the Sundial Bridge and then walk on the Turtle Bay Trail. All are welcome to attend this field trip and they do have extra binoculars.**

## **Upcoming Events!**

### **Raptor Night!**

**Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> 6pm**

**Viva Downtown, Redding**

**100F Hall Upstairs**

**1492 California-Market Street**

**Marily Woodhouse is the director of Battle Creek Alliance and Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue in Manton. She will give us a PowerPoint presentation regarding her work, including rescuing and rehabilitating raptors and the threats to our local forests, in particular the Battle Creek watershed, due to cumulative impacts from the over-logging of industrial timberlands. This excellent presentation covers the rewards and tragedies of raptor rescue and rehabilitation and the myriad ways that humans have adversely affected raptors, from automobiles to fences to pesticides. Marily is one of the only licensed and permitted raptor rescue and rehabilitation experts in inland northern California. The meeting place will be in upstairs floor of the IOOF (Oddfellows) Building at 1492 Market Street, enter from the alley (California entrance) go up the stairs or take the elevator. To help us on ordering food, please RSVP, but not required. For more information, email [dsledger49@gmail.com](mailto:dsledger49@gmail.com).**

**Free Pizza and drinks, meet new and old friends.**



# Raptor Night!



**Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at 6 pm  
Viva Downtown Redding**

**Join us on Friday, Feb. 20<sup>th</sup> at Viva Downtown Redding at 6pm to hear a talk from Marily Woodhouse, director of Battle Creek Alliance and Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue in Manton. Learn all about raptors and the rehabilitation efforts to keep these birds safe and protected. Food will be provided!**

**Scan here for more info and to register!**



[www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/shasta](http://www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/shasta)

## **Swasey Recreation Area Trail**

**Monday, February 23, 9 am**

**For this field trip we will hike up a trail that leads to a pass that meets Whiskeytown NRA at the base of Mule Mountain. This is a moderate difficulty trail of about 5 miles with an elevation climb of 850 feet. Varied habitat which was burned moderately during the Carr Fire. This is a very beautiful trail with varied habitat the length of the trail. Creek levels will determine which trail we hike. This trail has uneven sections, so you might want to bring walking poles. Bring water, lunch, and dress in layers. Rain cancels, but intermittent sprinkles or drizzle, bring umbrella. For more information and exact meeting place, contact walk leader David Ledger at [dsledger49@gmail.com](mailto:dsledger49@gmail.com).**

## **Dye Creek Preserve Rim Trail**

**Weekend of March 28, 29 8 am**

**Near Los Molinos, CA**

**We have led field trips up the Dye Creek Canyon numerous times which is a remarkable place with unique geology and plants. This year the field trip will be on the Rim Trail above the canyon with views of the canyon and there should be many wildflowers on the walk.**

**This will be about a 4 mile hike, but the trail is undeveloped, so it does require people with good balance and ability to walk uneven terrain. Dye Creek is composed of 37,000 acres of wild land lightly grazed with cattle. The trip will be limited to 20 people, and these field trips are almost always filled up. Look for details in our March newsletter. For more information, email [dsledger49@gmail.com](mailto:dsledger49@gmail.com) and look for details in our March newsletter.**

## **Illegal Grading, Erosion for “Clear Creek Gun Club” Trials and Hearings**

**Shasta County Code enforcement has been fighting illegal grading on a parcel of about 20 acres in the Igo area for about a few years for what the owners claim is where an unpermitted new “Clear Creek Gun Club” is located. After numerous citations by Shasta County Code Enforcement, fines and penalties that are now up to about \$119,000 dollars with an appeal date on a court ruling set for February 27. Separately, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife has filed 15 criminal misdemeanor violations in Shasta County Superior Court with a settlement hearing date of February 17. The owners apparently do not live in the area.**

**There are no plans or permits on file with Shasta County for a shooting range or grading and the area is not zoned for that nor permitted according to code enforcement.**

**The illegal bulldozing has caused erosion into an intermittent stream during a heavy December storm as well as sedimentation coming from runoff from erosion on County property below Clear Creek Road all of which runs into Clear Creek at the Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve. The illegal grading can be seen from Clear Creek Road near Cloverdale Road. Restoration of the Clear Creek fishery below Whiskeytown Dam has been ongoing over a 20+ year project by many agencies with much of the work largely coordinated by the US Fish and Wildlife Service.**



**This photo of the unpermitted gun club property grading was taken by a hiker from the BLM property before the heavy December rain storm that caused area erosion.**

## Follow Us on Social Media!

We will be posting updates on Instagram and Facebook along with our website!



[@sierraclub.shastagroup](https://www.instagram.com/sierraclub.shastagroup)



[www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61585275718153](https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61585275718153)

<https://www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/shasta>

Thank you for reading! Check out our website for a calendar list of events, and if you want to become a regular volunteer or have ideas for types of outings you want to see happen, we would love to have your help! Email us at [sierraclub.shasta@gmail.com](mailto:sierraclub.shasta@gmail.com) and we will get back to you!



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