



**SIERRA
CLUB**
FOUNDED 1892

Shasta Group
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Shasta Group July Newsletter

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June Event Recaps!

Cedar Basin, Cliff Lakes and Terrace Lake Recap



Hike participants enjoying Cliff Lake! Photo by David Ledger



Common checkered-skipper on a Sierra Laurel (*Leucothoe davisiae*)
Photo by Katie Galen



Cliff Lake, Photo by David Ledger



Great blue heron! Photo by Mt. Shasta Audubon

The Sierra Club, Mt. Shasta Audubon and California Native Plant Society led a fun field trip to the beautiful Cedar Basin in the Klamath Mountains west of the town of Mt. Shasta. The field trip was co-led by Laura Bradley and David Ledger with Laura identifying primarily birds and butterflies and David identifying plants. We were also privileged to have Rebeca Ladron de Guevara, President of the Shasta Birding Society with us.

We did a very slow walk to Cedar Lake having fun identifying plants, butterflies, moths and birds. There are at least 12 conifers in Cedar Basin and we found 10 of them. This area is covered with huckleberry oak (*Quercus vaccinifolia*), which is a shrub which rarely grows taller than 4 feet. This is supposed to be the highest elevation the Port Orford cedar (*Chamaecyparis lawsoniana*) grows, and we found some right next to incense cedar making it easy to make the distinction.

Laura was not only identifying birds on the field trip, she also had a net and captured a few butterflies to identify and show us up close before letting them escape to pollinate the next flower. After a short lunch we walked up to beautiful Cliff Lake.

We had 11 people on this field trip which is a good-sized group and all were fun to be with and were eager to learn as well as share their knowledge. We hope to have future field trips with Mt. Shasta Audubon Chapter, thank you for collaborating on this outing!

Upcoming Events!

Thursday, July 9, 7pm

Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum

We Advocate Thorough Environmental Review along with the Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum will be offering a free showing of “**ELEMENTAL: REIMAGINE WILDFIRE**”. This documentary film includes the voices of climate experts, Indigenous people, and fire survivors, and asks us to reimagine our relationship with wildfire as we prepare for an increasingly hotter future (<https://www.elementalfilm.com/>).

Wildlife Biologist and writer Maya Khosla, who is featured in the film, will respond to questions afterward (<https://www.mayakhosla.com/>).

July 9, 7:00 pm at Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum, 1 North Old Stage Road, Mt. Shasta, CA. Donations to the Museum will be appreciated.



ELEMENTAL

REIMAGINE WILDFIRE

You don't have to live in a concrete ammo bunker to live with wildfire. Dr Jack Cohen

Thursday, July 9, 2026, 7:00 pm

Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum, 1 North Old Stage Road, Mt. Shasta CA

What are the best ways to protect our communities from wildfire?

Presented by Mt. Shasta Sisson Museum and W.A.T.E.R.

Free (donations to the Museum appreciated)

A FILM BY **TRIP JENNINGS** AND **BALANCE MEDIA**
NARRATED BY **DAVID OYELOWO** EXECUTIVE PRODUCER **RALPH BLOEMERS**
PRODUCER **SARA QUINN** SOUND TRACK **NICK JAINA**
SUPPORTED BY **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC, PATAGONIA**
TRT: 84 MINUTES

The Roadless Rule Informational and Action Meeting

Saturday, July 25, 5:30 pm

IOOF Hall 1445 Butte Street

The Roadless Rule was adopted in 2001, and it protects approximately 4.4 million acres of Inventoried Roadless Areas (IRAs) in California. The US Department of Agriculture is now working to dismantle the rule and will have a draft EIS issued anytime.

The Shasta Group of Sierra Club is having an informational meeting and action hour about the threat of eliminating or weakening this 25-year rule protecting important areas on Saturday, July 25 at, at the IOOF Hall at 1445 Butte Street. The meeting will feature Tom Wheeler, Executive Director of the Environmental Protection Information Center (EPIC) who has been working to protect old growth forests and protected species such as the Spotted Owl for many years. EPIC is also actively involved in organizing this event.

The meeting will start at 5:30 with a social meeting for 30 minutes with free pizza (while it lasts) and soft drinks. Tom will speak in person at 6 pm for 30 minutes and then answer questions. After that, we will have names of important legislators to contact with their emails, phone numbers, website addresses and postcards to email, phone or write to with several prepared scripts. I have been to a Sierra Club meeting in San Luis Obispo where I was able to leave about 5 voice messages plus another five or so emails and comment forms on legislators' websites. If I had gone home with a script, I may have never commented, putting it off until "later." Direct contact from individuals is much more effective than sign-on form letters although those are important too.

Among the organizations supporting this besides Sierra Club are EPIC, Mount Shasta Bioregional Ecology Center, North State Climate Action and Battle Creek Alliance, Northcoast Environmental Center, Safe Alternatives for Forest Environments (SAFE), Mount Shasta Area Audubon, Shasta Chapter, California Native Plant Society, We Advocate Thorough Environmental Review (W.A.T.E.R.), Defiance Canyon Raptor Rescue, Sustainable Obtainable Solutions and Citizens for Better Forestry (CBF) as supporters and expect to get many more.

See the attached flyer EPIC has designed for this event. Contact sierraclub.shasta@gmail.com for further information. If you are not able to attend, you can still send in a personalized comment at the link below.

To submit a comment on why we should keep the roadless rule in place, click [HERE](#).

!! ROADLESS RULE ACTION HOUR !!

Join us for an informative session on the Roadless Rule and what's at stake for our National Forests. We will have a breakdown of the Roadless Rule, followed by a Q&A and time to take action!

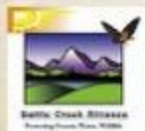
Saturday, July 25
6 – 7:30 pm

Odd Fellows Hall (IOOF Hall)
1435 Butte Street,
downtown Redding

Come early at 5:30 for pizza, available while supplies last!



SIERRA CLUB
MOTHER LODE CHAPTER
SHASTA GROUP



Conservation Brief Updates

By David Ledger

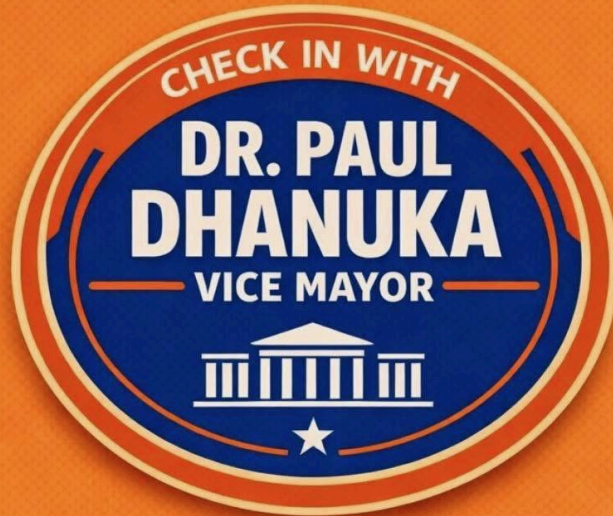
Vice May Paul Dhanuka to discuss proposed Correctional Facility on Eastside Road

Redding Vice Paul Dhanuka is holding one of his First Friday public meetings on Monday, July 6th, 5:30 pm at the Community Room at Redding City Hall next to the City Council Chambers with a discussion focusing on the proposed new correctional facility and day center on Eastside Road next to the River Ranch Road subdivision.

This is where the Redding City Council leased to Shasta County 90 acres of land, part of which is next to the Sacramento River, at no cost with an option to buy at \$1 if they build a correctional facility sometime in the future. The residents claim the City did not follow the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) and is suing the City of Redding. This should be a lively discussion.

Recently the Homeowners Association won a Superior Court decision to allow a biologist to survey the property for six hours to conduct a biological assessment. The City only wanted to allow the biologist to stay on the property for 2 hours. Even six hours is not enough time to do a biological assessment for a property that size.

FIRST MONDAYS



— NEXT GATHERING: —

MONDAY, JULY 6 • 5:30 PM

COMMUNITY ROOM AT REDDING CITY HALL

— **TOPIC:** —

**RIVER RANCH RD. NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
& PROPOSED DAY CENTER**

ALL ARE WELCOME

Join us for a monthly conversation
at different locations in Redding.

CONTACT: pauldhanukacor@gmail.com

Data Center in Mt. Shasta Rumors

By David Ledger

Recently there have been media stories in the Record Searchlight, Shasta Scout and KRCR-TV as well as on social media about a possible data center being placed on the former Crystal Geyser property just outside of Mt. Shasta City limits.

From what I have been able to gather from various sources is that a commercial real estate company contacted a Mt. Shasta City official with questions about locating a data center on the land formerly owned by Crystal Geyser (now owned by One Shasta). As word got out, many Mt. Shasta area residents became understandably concerned with a petition in opposition being started and a change.org online petition that has received over 13,000 signatures in opposition in a matter of days although many are from outside of Siskiyou County.

The former Crystal Geyser site which has a 145,000 square foot warehouse with an industrial scale well could be a suitable location for a data center as one of the big issues is they need a huge supply of water for cooling. The site also has a leach field for water disposal that is currently permitted by the Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board. However, the current building is quite small compared to the data centers that are now being established across the country and it is highly unlikely to ever go forward and if so, it would be unlikely to be approved.

Since this article was written, the Mount Shasta Police Department has reported the City Council has received threats of violence on this issue. Remember:

- 1) There is no project proposed, only an inquiry.
- 2) The property is outside the city limits and would be under the jurisdiction of Siskiyou County, not the City of Mount Shasta.
- 3) The City Council and staff is not in favor of a data center should one ever actually be proposed per the MSPD Facebook post.

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Clear Creek Gun Club and Erosion Controversy Article Correction



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

There has been a controversy over a property near Cloverdale Road and Clear Creek Road regarding some unpermitted grading and where the Clear Creek Gun Club is located which does not currently have a permit according to the Shasta County Planning Department.

In September 2025, Shasta County issued an administrative hearing decision and order finding that 14800 Modesta View LLC (location of the Clear Creek Gun Club), engaged in unpermitted grading beyond the scope of their 2019 permit.

In addition, the California Department of Fish and Wildlife filed 15 Fish and Game Code violations against the Clear Creek Gun Club owners alleging pollution of waterways and diversion or obstruction of a river or stream. A trial has not been held on the CDFW code violations and the next hearing is scheduled for July 27, 2026.

The property owners appealed the county's ruling on the grading issue and lost.

The Gun Club's property is west and above and upstream of the Horsetown Clear Creek Preserve and Clear Creek, where an important fisheries restoration project has been ongoing for more than 20 years.

CORRECTION: This article has been updated to remove a photo that was mistakenly placed with the original article in our previous newsletter. That photo was of a slump of a bank next to Clear Creek Road on Shasta County right of way; it was not on the property owned by the Clear Creek Gun Club, and we regret the error. There were several slumps of land below Clear Creek Road in the Shasta County right of way. A severe storm event in December apparently contributed to causing the sedimentation runoff from both the gun club and Shasta County property.

A reference to a rifle pointed to the Preserve property has also been removed, as the firearm in the picture mentioned in the previous version of this post was a shotgun and not a rifle.

Volunteers Needed!

As the reorganization of the Sierra Club gets moving, we need volunteers. Do you have a few hours you can volunteer each month? Fill out this [google form](#) or contact sierraclub.shasta@gmail.com if interested or have any questions.

Steering Committee: This committee meets monthly and recommends and approves projects for the Shasta Group.

Conservation Committee: This committee would meet as needed and largely virtually or through emails to discuss conservation issues the Shasta Group should address.

Programs: This position would involve recruiting public speakers for meetings.

Publicity: This position would involve notifying local media, local groups and individuals about Sierra Club Activities.

Executive Committee: This is the governing body of the Shasta Group. It involves attending a monthly meeting and making decisions on the direction and activities of the group. We want those dedicated to protecting our local environment.

Follow us on our social media pages!

Instagram: [@sierraclub.shastagroup](#)

Facebook: Sierra Club Shasta Group

Email: sieraclub.shasta@gmail.com

Website: www.sierraclub.org/mother-lode/shasta

