

N O R T H S T A R JOURNAL

NEWS ON OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT HEALTHY FOR MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES

FALL/WINTER 2019
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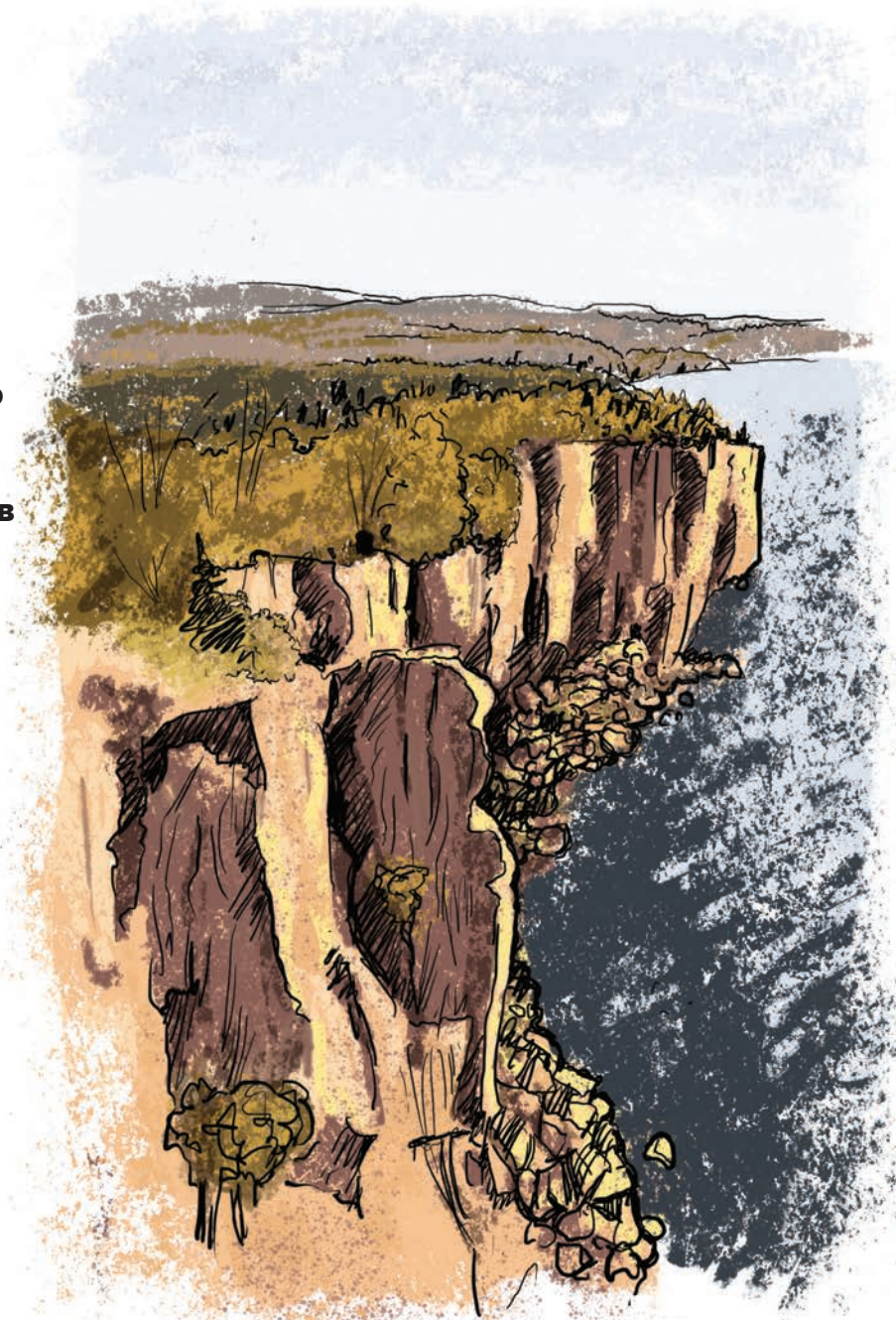


Illustration credit: Brian Bradshaw



SIERRA CLUB
NORTH STAR CHAPTER



Kamau Wilkins, Chair and Margaret Levin, State Director

This December concludes the 50th anniversary celebration of the Sierra Club in Minnesota. To mark this major milestone, we've spent the year collecting and sharing your stories — recognizing the past accomplishments of Minnesota Sierrans, and planning for a stronger and more inclusive future.

Our first 50 years saw us leading the fight to protect Minnesota's waters, lands, and wilderness, and to establish bedrock environmental safeguards to protect natural resources and public health. We've expanded our membership, and are deepening our commitment — to reflecting the environmental concerns of all communities who call Minnesota home.

Now, staring down the greatest environmental challenges ever faced, we ask: Can we build a movement powerful enough to protect our air, water, lands and climate in the next 50 years?

To succeed, we need bold action and commitment to confront the powerful interests who are fighting hard to preserve the status quo. Our plans include:

EXPANDING MEMBERS AND SUPPORTERS ACROSS THE STATE

Being successful at the State Capitol means strengthening our base in key districts. We know Minnesotans share common values of protecting clean water, our climate and future generations. We will expand on the Sierra Club's current presence, name recognition, and programming to recruit and activate new members and supporters in target communities throughout Minnesota.

BUILDING PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVANCE A MORE EQUITABLE FUTURE

Climate change will have the greatest and most immediate impact on communities with the least resources. Minnesota continues to become a more diverse state, welcoming new residents from across the world. Our chapter will strengthen existing relationships and seek out new partnerships to ensure that our work addresses the needs of all Minnesotans, and advancing environmental and climate justice within all that we do.

COMBINING GRASSROOTS STRENGTH AND PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT

We will continue to pair the grassroots power of our 80,000 supporters across Minnesota with the professional expertise of local and national staff. This combination makes us powerful, reliable, and strategic at the Capitol, with state agencies, and local government and stakeholders across the state.

As we look to the future, we are calling on all of you to be part of building for the next 50 years. We need our faithful supporters, and we need new energy and ideas to take our work in directions we can't yet predict. What we know is that it will take all of us working together.

Kamau Wilkins
Chair, Executive Committee
Sierra Club North Star Chapter

Margaret Levin
State Director
Sierra Club North Star Chapter



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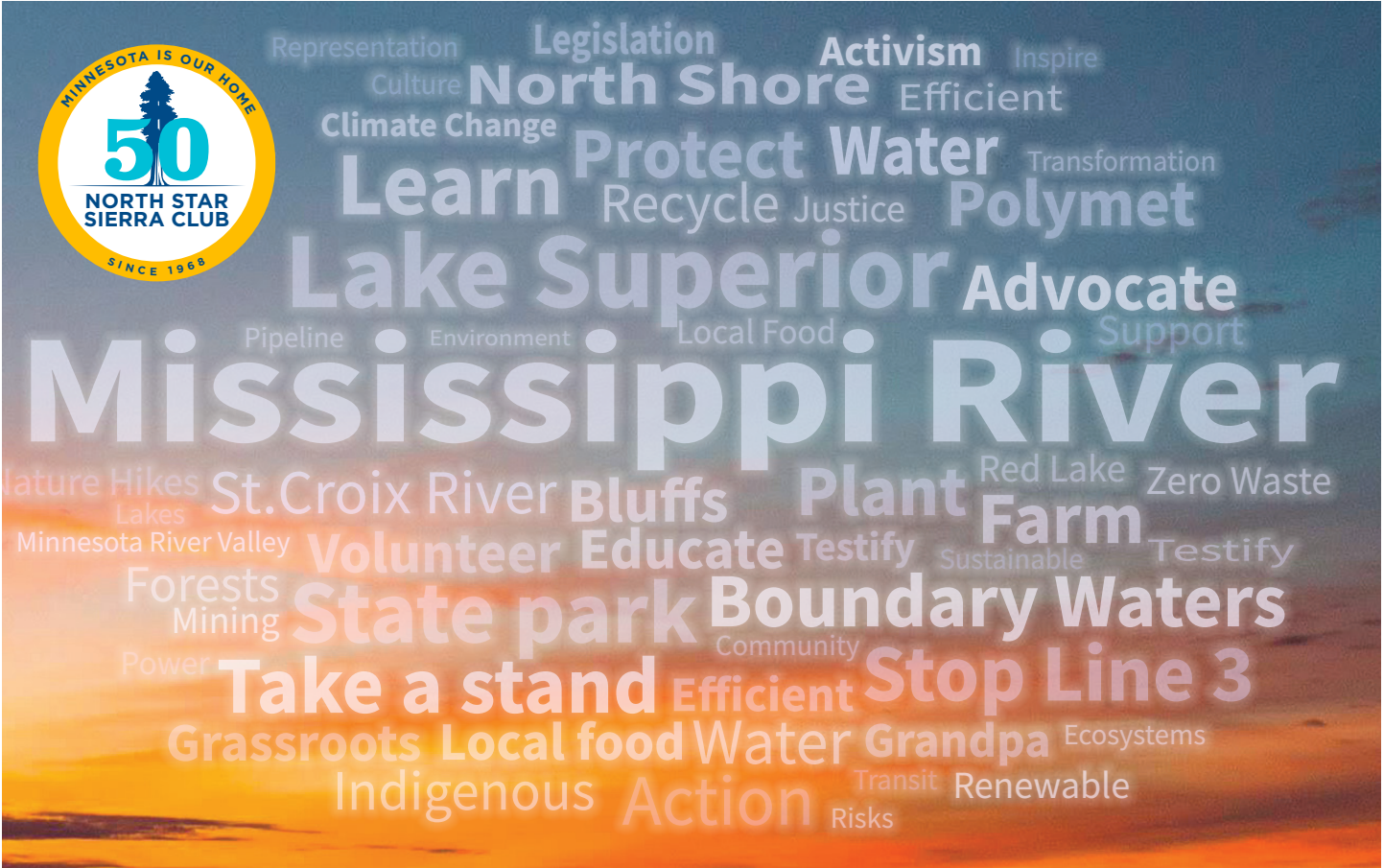
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This publication is available on the web www.sierraclub.org/minnesota

50 words for 50 years

All year for our 50th anniversary we have collected your stories about your favorite place in Minnesota, of your favorite Sierra Club memory, and your commitments to protect our state. Together, our words and stories have the power to change Minnesota and the world. Below is a word cloud compiled from these stories.



Join us to hear these stories and kick off the next 50 years at our Solstice Celebration, December 8th at the Theodore Wirth Chalet in Minneapolis.



YOUR SIERRA

Together we are 80,000 Minnesotans united to protect our air, water, lands, and climate. With your help, we did some incredible work in 2019. Here are just a few highlights.

31,725 emails and petitions were sent to decision makers.

These online actions add up to a lot of pressure on decision makers. We tackled local environmental justice issues, we made a statewide push for 100% clean energy, and we advocated for federal actions to defend our public lands.

1,032 dedicated volunteers mobilized across the state to organize in their cities for clean energy.

Rochester committed to net **100%** renewable energy by 2031.

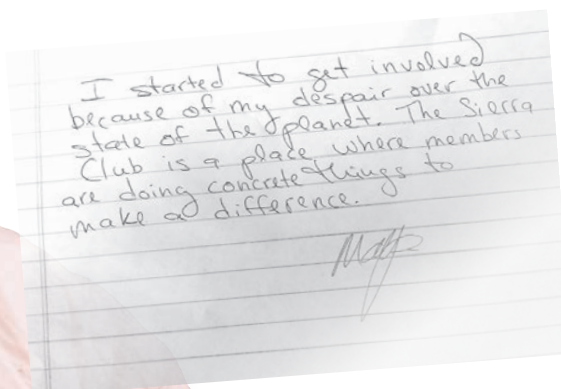
Rochester joined Duluth, Minneapolis and St. Paul in their quests for 100% renewable energy. Minnetonka also passed a plan to make climate action a priority. (See story on page 19.)

The Sierra Club led or partnered on **351** events - that's one for almost every day of the year.

Events range from small to large, including helping a new person connect with a park for the first time, meeting with a legislator to advocate for transit funding, or campaign planning at the office.

Volunteer newsletter was introduced.

Marya Hart, who started out with the Sierra Club as an office volunteer, took advantage of her front room seat to all the work we are doing together and created A Deeper Dive.



CLUB IN ACTION

DEMAND
CLIMATE
TRUTH ☒



our **opposition to Line 3** will not stop.

Enbridge's proposed Line 3 pipeline expansion continues to face delays and opposition. We've already delayed construction of this dirty tar sands pipeline a full year, are challenging permits in court, and continue pushing state agencies to stand up for Minnesota and deny this pipeline. (See more on page 11.)

In his work to stop Line 3, **Rocky Wagner** and his team are building as much pressure as possible and directing it toward high-profile leaders on this issue: Governor Walz, Lieutenant Governor Flanagan, and Minnesota Pollution Control Agency Commissioner Laura Bishop.

Minnesota will adopt **clean car standards.**

After months of work with the administration, we are applauding the recent announcement from Governor Walz that Minnesota will join the growing list of states adopting more stringent clean car standards.

But you have to keep going back to what this pipeline means, and that we have an opportunity here in Minnesota to stop it.

SierraAction team was created.

Julia Hobert is a volunteer leader with our new SierraAction team, works to harness our people power to build relationships that pave the path to better environmental policies.

We especially want freshman legislators and allies of the Sierra Club to know that we're there for them, and that we have high expectations for them.



ONE MINNESOTA — ACROSS THE ARROWHEAD & FOR OUR WATERS

Boundary Waters Canoe Area Wilderness. Photo Credit: Alec Olson

Deborah and Brian Madson

For the last few years, we have been active volunteer members of the Sierra Club's North Star Chapter. We strongly support the mission of the Sierra Club, which states in part, "to practice and promote the responsible use of the Earth's ecosystems and resources." We value the work the Sierra Club does to address issues of environmental concern in Minnesota.

For the past few years, the Sierra Club has opposed an existential threat to Minnesota's clean water. This threat is sulfide ore copper-nickel mine operations proposed for northern Minnesota. Our chapter's focus is on two proposals currently under regulatory review.

The sulfide mine planned by PolyMet near the towns of Hoyt Lakes and Babbitt could cause the potential leaching of heavy metals into the St. Louis River watershed, Lake Superior, and the communities -- like Duluth -- that depend on its water. The second mine, proposed by Twin Metals, would be positioned within a half-mile of the Boundary Waters and could have

potentially deadly runoff that would be a direct threat to this strictly protected, pristine wilderness area.

THE WATERSHEDS OF THE BOUNDARY WATERS AND LAKE SUPERIOR HOLD TEN PERCENT OF THE EARTH'S FRESH SURFACE WATER — AND NOW FACE POTENTIALLY IRREVERSIBLE DESTRUCTION.

The enormity of the threats from sulfide mines can't be overstated. The watersheds of the Boundary Waters and Lake Superior hold ten percent of the earth's freshwater -- and now face potentially irreversible destruction. We agree with the Sierra Club which, along with other environmental groups and Native American organizations, has taken a principled stand opposing the approval of sulfide mining. In this matter, where highly credible research shows that these mines would inevitably have a deleterious impact on the environment, uncompromising opposition is the only

responsible position to take.

That acknowledged, we also believe that we have a responsibility to address the

economic needs of our fellow Minnesotans living in the Arrowhead region. The more than 100-year tradition of iron mining in the past provided many well-paying jobs. This industry has, over time, undergone a significant reduction in the number of well-paying jobs available for a variety of reasons.

The decline has created a need for new economic growth strategies, which can avoid the "boom-and-bust" cycle that mining has historically undergone and provide economic growth and stability for the people of this region.



Our newly elected governor, Tim Walz, ran on the theme of “One Minnesota,” which, to us, implies that we should be doing everything possible to address both the environmental and economic needs of all Minnesotans. Those living in the Arrowhead region do not have sole claim to decision-making in regard to the resources of this area.

On the other hand, those of us with environmental concerns must also strongly push for a meaningful process to bring everyone to the table to discuss solutions that would effectively address all legitimate perspectives. We cannot be “One Minnesota” if we are unwilling or unable to come together to understand issues and forge solutions that meet the needs and concerns of us all.

We know there is a way to bring good, family-sustaining jobs to the Iron Range without threatening over ten percent of the Earth’s freshwater supply. Minnesota, let’s answer this call.

Deborah and Brian Madson are volunteers with the SierraAction and Communications Teams, along with serving on the Change & Equity Outreach Team. They come from big families, have children, and are deeply concerned about leaving a healthy planet for their children.

CONTINUING ADVOCACY FOR CLEAN WATER SOLUTIONS

The Sierra Club has hired a Duluth-based staff organizer who will work with the community to find clean water and climate solutions that are authentic to the Arrowhead region and Minnesota. The Sierra Club will support these efforts with the power of our activists, with continuing legal challenges and through legislative advocacy at the State Capitol.



Alex Burns, the author, catches frogs in the backyard wetland of his childhood home.

BUSES & FROGS:

HOW A SUBURBAN POND TURNED ME INTO A TRANSIT ADVOCATE



Alex Burns

I've had an affinity for nature for as long as I can remember. When I was five, my parents moved our family back to the Twin Cities. They chose to build a house in a new development in Woodbury. I loved frogs, so I was ecstatic when I learned that our new house had a forested wetland in the backyard.

Growing up, that little suburban pond was the best playground for kids who loved nature. My friends and I would spend summer days scooping nets along

the bank, fascinated by the diversity of macroinvertebrates, minnows, and tadpoles. On spring nights, I would open my windows to fall asleep to the sound of frogs singing.

Woodbury's population swelled as new single family developments replaced farmland and natural areas. I began to notice changes to the wetlands I loved and knew so well.

Plastic bags and bottles littered the banks. Fewer and fewer toadlets hopped through the garden each spring. Road

kill piled up on the repeatedly expanded county road that ran next to the pond. A mat of thick green algae with a foul smell covered the water by mid-July. Sprawl development, like the one I grew up in, was choking out my wetland.

This was my introduction to the impacts of urban sprawl - building houses and shopping centers on undeveloped land near a city. I began to think critically about the land use and transportation policy that enabled each wave of single-family houses and car-oriented sprawl,

the consequences of which stretched far beyond my little pond.

In an urbanizing world with increasing demands for food, water, housing, and electricity, we have to build differently. It simply isn't possible for everyone to have their own backyard pond and commute 30 minutes to work in a car alone.

Transportation is now the largest source of greenhouse house gas emissions in Minnesota. Obesity is on the rise in Minnesota – in part a result of more time in the car and less time being active. Vehicle emissions disproportionately impact air quality in communities of color; for example, I-94 predominantly runs through communities of color in Minneapolis and St. Paul.

Addressing these issues requires rethinking the current pattern of urban development. To me, the question of how to build differently is central to environmentalism in the 21st century. It's what propelled me to get involved with the North Star Chapter, where I now serve as chair the Land Use and Transportation Team.

Our team is working to create a Minnesota where people live close to their neighbors. A Minnesota with a vibrant transportation system with

abundant options for getting around, from bus to bike to feet, and sometimes car. A Minnesota where everyone can easily play in a neighborhood park or pond without contributing to the destruction of critical wildlife habitat.

To create this Minnesota, the Land Use & Transportation Team advocates for:

CLEAN, ELECTRIC VEHICLES. Through our partnership work with the Coalition for Clean Transportation, we are advocating for zero emission vehicles, including buses. This effort scored a big victory last December when Metro Transit released a plan stating a goal of electrifying its entire fleet by 2040. This past June, the state's first 100% electric Minnesota-made buses hit the road on Metro Transit's C Line.

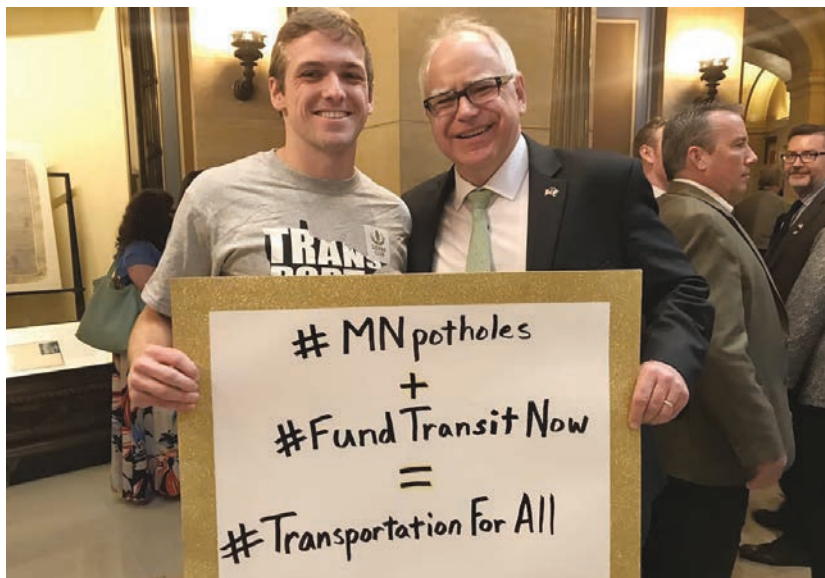
TRANSIT FUNDING. Another area our chapter has been working on is boosting state funding for mass transit, which has been consistently underfunded across the state. It's no accident that it's often faster and easier to get somewhere by car. We built this system for cars and we can build a different one. With significant, dedicated funding we can create fast, regular buses and trains that go where you want to go. By testifying in committees, writing and calling legislators, and lobbying at the

Capitol, our members advocate for transportation funding that prioritizes walking, biking, and transit. We are looking to the 2020 legislative session and will push for the inclusion of transit in any transportation bonding bill.

SUSTAINABLE CITIES. At the city level, we successfully organized neighbors and allies to hold Minneapolis to its climate commitments and not allow a new parking ramp on the downtown riverfront because the research is clear: parking ramps encourage driving. We supported the Minneapolis 2040 plan to allow for more density and continue to push for affordable housing policies to be enacted with this development. We advocated for the recently announced Ayd Mill bikeway and pedestrian path in St. Paul. In September, our annual bike tour showcased the proposed extension of the Midtown Greenway Trail across the Mississippi River into St. Paul. This was our biggest ride yet, and key elected officials joined us for the ride.

How we build and connect our communities matters. Past land use and transportation decisions laid the groundwork for the current environmental crisis. We are now tasked with creating a new status quo, one that centers on the well-being of people and the planet. One day, I hope to catch frogs with my children in a neighborhood pond. We might just have to bike a few blocks to get there.

Alex Burns is the Land Use & Transportation Team Chair and works as a Park Ranger along the Mississippi River in the Twin Cities.



Alex Burns, the author, with Governor Walz advocating for transit at the State Capitol.

LINE 3

What You Need To Know Now



Nearly 1,000 people gathered on the shores of Lake Superior at the Gichi-gami Gathering to Stop Line 3 in Duluth, Minnesota. Photo credit: Tom Thompson

Sarah Curtis and Scott Russell

If you're new to the Stop Line 3 Campaign, start here.

Enbridge Line 3 is a proposed 340-mile crude oil pipeline through northern Minnesota, connecting the tar sands in Alberta, Canada, to Superior, Wisconsin. Enbridge calls it a replacement project, but that's misleading. Enbridge wants to leave as much of the old pipeline buried in the ground as possible. Then, they want to build a new, larger pipeline and reroute a significant portion of it to avoid the Leech Lake Reservation.

The new route crosses the Mississippi River twice, including the headwaters region. It passes through wild rice beds, streams, wetlands, and forests. It violates treaty rights.

In addition to the risk of irreparable damage to Minnesota's clean water and natural habitats, Line 3 would lock us into using dirty fossil fuels for decades to come; tar sands are the dirtiest of the lot. The completed Line 3 would be among the largest pipelines ever, with a reported use of 760,000 barrels a day, but a potential capacity of more than 900,000 barrels a day. It would have the climate change impact of approving 50 new coal power plants.

The fight to Stop Line 3 is a complex effort involving lawsuits, state agencies, treaty rights, and on-the-ground advocacy. Here are three major updates from Scott Russell, Co-Chair of the Stop Line 3 Team:

1. Court challenges. We've had ups and downs in court during the last few months. In June, the Minnesota Court of Appeals granted a partial win to Line 3 opponents when it ruled that the project's environmental impact statement (EIS) failed to consider the impacts of

a potential crude oil spill in the Lake Superior watershed. That decision sends the issue back to the Minnesota Public Utilities Commission to resolve.

The Court of Appeals rejected other important criticisms of Line 3's environmental impact statement. Honor the Earth and several Anishinaabe bands appealed those issues to the Minnesota Supreme Court. Unfortunately, the Supreme Court declined to hear the case.

Line 3 opponents have two other major lawsuits pending before the Minnesota Court of Appeals: challenges to the Public Utilities Commission's decisions to approve (1) Line 3's Certificate of Need, and (2) its Route Permit. For example: One suit challenges the Public Utilities

“ONE OF MY FAVORITE PARTS WAS SINGING A SONG DURING THE MARCH WRITTEN SPECIFICALLY FOR THIS EVENT: “WE ARE THE RIVER/ WE ARE THE WATER/ WE FLOW TOGETHER/ AND WE’RE GROWING STRONGER.” SCOTT RUSSELL

Commission's refusal to consider Line 3's climate impacts in its decision.

2. Permit opposition. We're opposing a key state permit that Enbridge needs from the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency (MPCA) because of Line 3's significant threats to our state's clean waters. If Enbridge emerges from its current legal entanglements, it still needs several state and federal permits. A key one is an MPCA water crossing permit. (Technically, it's called a Section 401 Permit.) That requires a lot of work by the MPCA, as Line 3 would cross more than 200 streams and other water bodies as well as 78 miles of wetlands.

From the Good News Department: On Sept. 27, the MPCA announced it was denying Line 3's water crossing permit, allowing Enbridge to refile later. We

had been holding our breath on this announcement. We expect Enbridge to refile, once a new EIS statement is complete. But the MPCA's decision keeps the deciding power within Minnesota. This announcement was a great relief -- and reflects a lot of organizing pressure put on the MPCA.

3. Grassroots resistance. On September 28, Line 3 resisters from across Minnesota joined the Sierra Club and partner organizations for the Gichi-gami Gathering to Stop Line 3. The gathering took place lakeside on Gichi-gami (Lake Superior) in Duluth. We had gorgeous weather. Turnout exceeded projections, with more than 1,000 people coming together for a march, a rally, a celebration of all the progress our resistance has made, and calls for more

organizing and actions. Most importantly, it sent a clear message to Governor Walz, our state agencies, and elected officials that Minnesotans oppose this project and the threats it presents to the climate, our water resources, and our Native communities.

The Stop Line 3 Team meets on the third Wednesday of the month and leads online and in-person actions. We are calling on all members to join us in this work. Get involved: sc.org/mn

Sarah Curtis is a volunteer with the Communications Team, a writer, and a marketing professional by day. Scott Russell is the co-chair of the Stop Line 3 Campaign Team, a journalist, blogger, and owner of a dome home.

100% CAMPAIGN

100%

Building an Equitable, Clean Energy Economy for All Minnesotans

Nina Domingo

One of the harshest truths about climate change is that those who are most impacted are also often those who have contributed least to the problem. Therefore, a just solution to the climate crisis is not only one that focuses on a transition to safe and clean energy, but one that also uplifts people of all races, genders, classes, and backgrounds.

Co-founded by the Sierra Club North Star Chapter, the 100% Campaign seeks to organize a cross-sector, statewide, multiracial campaign to build an equitable clean energy economy for everyone in Minnesota.

PATH TO 100%

The 100% Campaign employs numerous strategies to promote climate action and is involved with the Sierra Club in many ways.

According to Satish Desai, a lead volunteer with the North Star Chapter's Clean Energy Team and active leader in the 100% Campaign, the campaign's efforts span from educational initiatives that seek to raise awareness to more direct efforts such as setting up in-district meetings or organizing rallies to build pressure for climate action among lawmakers.

"My own work has focused on getting a 100% clean electricity standard. Every person on the campaign must pick a few things to focus on, I chose the clean energy team because I like to focus on

solutions," Desai said. "It makes me feel more hopeful; and politically, it's the sort of thing that gets more traction."

In the most recent legislative session, the campaign was able to pass the 100% bill through the House of Representatives, which set renewable and carbon-free energy targets for Minnesota's utilities. Though the bill lacked the support to make it through the Senate, volunteers believe that building on the momentum gained in the last session can still lead to aggressive climate action.

ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

For many involved in the campaign, the focus on an equitable and just transition to clean energy is essential.

"Not everyone is affected [by climate change] equally. The people that have less means to adapt and are at greater exposure to its effects are always going to be the ones impacted the most," says Dr. Laalitha Surapaneni, an Assistant Professor at the University of Minnesota Medical School and a member of the 100% Campaign's Steering Committee. "For example, the MPCA (Minnesota Pollution Control Agency) has stated that a high percentage of low-income communities and people of color live in areas with poor air quality, so even though we're making improvements to clean air in Minnesota, not everyone enjoys the benefits of that."

As a physician, Dr. Surapaneni has provided her expert testimony at the

Minnesota State Capitol on the public health impacts of climate change. "I'm a physician and I have a vested interest in my patients' health. The solutions we're advocating for in terms of climate action also have a lot of health benefits for all of us — moving from fossil fuels to renewable energy will also give us clean air and water."

SIERRA CLUB'S ROLE

Members and supporters of the Sierra Club have made it clear that they demand 100% clean energy, accessible and electrified transportation, and reductions in emissions in all sectors of the economy through pathways that support all Minnesotans. By collaborating with the 100% Campaign, the Sierra Club is given the opportunity to contribute policy and technical expertise to push for greater climate action among lawmakers and learn more about the policy ideas, campaign strategies, and experiences of our partners.

The Sierra Club recognizes that to tackle a problem as complex and far-reaching as the climate crisis, we need to build a movement in Minnesota that includes everyone. And we can only do that if we work together.

Nina Domingo is a new volunteer on the Communications Team, and a PhD student at the University of Minnesota studying food systems and climate change.



The Zero Waste Team tours Tech Dump.

Lori Olinger

Do you have a pile of old electronic equipment in a closet or the basement? Stuff that you no longer use but you're not sure what to do with it? I had quite a pile in my basement - computers, monitors, cell phones, broken cameras and miscellaneous cords. If you have a similar collection, you'll be happy to hear that there are places that will take it all off your hands and give it a new life.

The Zero Waste Task Force recently toured Tech Dump, a recycling and refurbishing non-profit that accepts everything powered by a cord or battery, including the cords themselves. Often items are still in working condition or need minor repairs and can be fixed, refurbished and sold in their on-site store at very reasonable prices. Items

that can't be reused are broken down, sorted and recycled. They have stringent data security practices, so you can be confident that the data on your old computer or phone will be wiped clean.

Electronics are the fastest growing waste stream in the world and often contain scarce material like copper, precious metals and heavy metals.

In the US alone, 150 million cell phones are tossed every year, increasing the demand for raw materials and the environmental impact of processing them. E-waste recycling can make a difference. We can all help keep electronics out of the garbage.

Lori Olinger is the chair of the Zero Waste Team and she loves helping fellow Minnesotans reduce waste!

WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- Reduce the demand and purchase based on need, not want. Use it longer and buy used whenever possible.
- For old electronics that you no longer need, search for an e-waste recycling center and drop off your stuff.



THE POWER OF FRIENDSHIP ADVOCACY



ORGANIZING FOR A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE

Upper Left: Rick Morris and Mateo Trujillo, new friends building power at the Gichi-gami Gathering to Stop Line 3. Upper Right: Participants at the Gichi-gami Gathering create art together. Bottom photo: 1,000s gather at Lake Superior to say: Stop Line 3 Photo credit: Tom Thompson

Charles Frempong-Longdon

I am writing this article a year into my experience as an organizer at the North Star Chapter. It's been a year full of growth and time for reflection on the crazy path I took to get here in the first place. Since joining our chapter I have met an abundance of healers, teachers, allies, and activists that have inspired me to take on this work. I am truly thankful for the opportunity to be a part of a growing organism of change and for the chance to celebrate the friends I have made along the way!

For the majority of my life I fancied myself a self-taught activist—someone whose ideas about the work materialized from thin air and a reading hobby. But soon I began to realize it wasn't some immaculate phenomenon that gave me my perspective. It was the

“spongy” way in which I communicated. I had been a quiet kid and this allowed me the opportunity to really listen to what people were saying. The more I listened to my peers, the more I came to appreciate the unique and magical quality that someone's perspective can hold.

As I grew into my role as an organizer, I found that when placed in the flow of knowledge and community I was bound to soak up something. I was bound to hold that gift within and let it reconstruct my pores into something larger than I could have ever imagined in a previous form.

I didn't realize at the time that this spongy quality and admiration for my friends was actually an effective way of organizing. The way we treat a healthy friendship is a masterclass in

sustaining a healthy partnership at any level of engagement. In my friendships I was encouraged to communicate my thoughts as if they were a thesis and my companions valued them as such.

We treated each other affectionately and made it our duty to support one another as we grew as individuals, remembering at all times that we were stronger as a collective in achieving our goals. So how can we apply this idea of friendship to the way we do our work? The answer is to create something regenerative.

A regenerative relationship is a friendship. It is the type of partnership that seeks to eliminate transactional interactions through the support and appreciation of our most human qualities. In these partnerships we seek to go further at every possible point.

Instead of simply keeping in touch on a social level, we have meaningful conversations with each other about our feelings, goals, hesitations, and vision for the future.

In these partnerships we are less bound to the idea of a “job” and find community in a shared passion for the “work,” the intention behind movements and what we can do to facilitate the growth of all involved in the relationship. In these partnerships we fight in solidarity with one another but also equally value the acts of celebration and struggle.

In order to do this, we have prioritized what I like to call the “Power of Friendship Advocacy.”

This mode of work is a means and method to supporting a regenerative relationship. We embody it through our action plan which seeks to address internal and external ways we can evolve ourselves into a more inclusive space. In the past few months we have

accomplished a great deal.

We have had multiple movie nights, screening the films *Remigration* and *Rondo Beyond The Pavement*, sharing space with our partners at the Waite House and Augsburg University as we learn about local environmental

“I DIDN'T REALIZE AT THE TIME THAT THIS SPONGY QUALITY AND ADMIRATION FOR MY FRIENDSHIPS WAS ACTUALLY AN EFFECTIVE WAY OF ORGANIZING.”

justice issues and the power we have as a collective to fight these injustices. We have celebrated with our friends at Tamales y Bicicletas, taking brisk bike tours through the north and south sides of Minneapolis, and enjoying tamale cookouts in one of several community gardens led by local activists of color. We shared knowledge with the folks next door at CAIR (Center for American Islamic Relations) through a Muslim youth training workshop and through conversations with the bright young

people and staff that make up their program.

We now have partner events on our calendar every month for our volunteers. These events are a way for Sierra Club staff, volunteers, and members to immerse themselves in new experiences and conversations.

We are launching Partnership Grants which volunteer teams can use to support partnerships with communities of color. Through this we are strengthening our sense of community and working with our

new friends to shape our vision of an equitable future.

Charles Frempong-Longdon is a Chapter Organizer with the Sierra Club, poet and activist. On his off time he enjoys biking, cooking, and writing.



WHAT WILL YOUR
LEGACY BE?

Ensure your environmental legacy by naming Sierra Club or your favorite Sierra Club Chapter in your will or trust. These gifts cost you nothing now. You can hold on to your assets for as long as you need them and you can change your beneficiaries at any time.

If you have named Sierra Club or your Chapter as a beneficiary or would like to discuss doing so, please contact us today

LORI SULLIVAN *Director of Gift Planning*
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sierraclubplanning.org



TURNING A LOVE OF NATURE INTO OUTDOOR LEADERSHIP

Liz Dengate finds moose antlers during a weeklong trip in Isle Royale National Park as a part of a research project studying wolves and moose in the area.

Alec Olson

The number 1 rule in Liz Dengate's family is: "Camping is fun no matter what."

Liz, co-chair of the Sierra Club's Inspiring Connections Outdoors program, and her brother codified that rule for the family as children. The mantra is displayed in her Minneapolis apartment as a constant reminder of her relationship with the outdoors, which has been a positive force in her life for longer than she can remember.

She took her first backpacking trip at 8 years old, graduating from the weeklong family camping trips at Nordhouse Dunes Wilderness Area in Michigan.

Adventures like these stoked her interest and created positive experiences for her as a child, which ultimately led her to a career as an educator and volunteer focused on environmental and social justice issues.

"Environmental harms don't impact all populations equally. We live in a system and society with oppression and racism, and marginalized populations have been burdened with the negative impacts of environmental degradation and resource use, while also often being left out of the conversation," she said. "Protecting the environment is a public health matter and justice issue to make sure everybody has clean water, clean air, green spaces, and doesn't live in a toxic environment."

When it comes to protecting the environment, there are different ways to approach the challenges. One way is to help facilitate positive experiences for people. It's through positive experiences that people can see the value of nature and, in turn, want to protect it.

"That's part of why I think Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO) is really

awesome because we can provide experiences outdoors that are fun, safe and comfortable," she said.

Dengate has led the North Star Chapter's ICO program for the last 5 years to help others find a connection to nature and acquire valuable leadership skills in the process. But, her ties to the Sierra Club extend back much further.

Growing up in East Detroit, Dengate's father belonged to the local Sierra Club Chapter. She often sat in the back of meetings, and although she was young at the time, she listened and paid



attention.

"Seeing the work my parents and their friend did as part of the Sierra Club was my first taste of environmental activism and organizing," she said. "I definitely think it helped form me into an outdoor leader."

Dengate eventually pursued degrees in environmental sciences and conservation ecology, with her latest undertaking being licensure to teach high school in Minnesota.

Her passion has always been around environmental education. She taught community programs at the Minnesota Zoo, worked as a park ranger, currently teaches Irish Step Dance, and often leads outings with teenagers through ICO.

Dengate says getting involved in a program like ICO is a simple process. To get involved, start by reaching out. That could be an email, a phone call, or coming to a meeting. Then, sign up for an outing that works with your schedule. Come with a positive attitude and willingness to engage with others.

"ICO is all about giving people who have limited access to the outdoors that access," she said. "That can translate into a deeper connection to environmental justice in the Twin Cities and protecting wild spaces in the state of Minnesota."

The program needs people who love being outside and want to help others see the beauty and benefits of the natural world. If that sounds like you, learn more about ICO today: www.sierraclub.org/minnesota/inspiring-connections-outdoors

Alec Olson is a volunteer with ICO and the Communications Team. He is slated to become the next editor of the North Star Journal, so stay tuned for more great stories from Alec.

FIND ALL OUR OUTDOOR PROGRAMS ONLINE: SIERRACLUB.ORG/MINNESOTA/GET-OUTDOORS



The next generation of Stewards. Photo credit: Michelle Verzal

STEWARDS TEAM UPDATE

Protecting Butterflies, Moose, Me and You

Lindsay Starck

Did you know that monarch butterflies who frequent milkweed near highways are less likely to survive their migration to Mexico, since the high salt content of those plants makes them weaker?

Or, that earlier this year, the citizens of Toledo, Ohio were so concerned about the pollution in Lake Erie that they approved an ordinance that gives them the power to sue on the Great Lake's behalf?

What about the fact that every major city in the US is declining in canopy coverage except for Syracuse, New York, and that Syracuse is only increasing its canopy coverage because of buckthorn?

Issues like these are being addressed by the North Star Chapter's Steward teams: Waters and Wetlands and Forests and Wildlife. Members spend their time gathering facts, studying policy, and

advocating for change to address these and many other environmental problems that impact us all.

The Waters and Wetlands Stewards will focus their energy this fall and winter on a bill to reduce the use of road salt. They will also be looking into solutions to agricultural pollution, and diving into issues of water access and equity. Lastly, they'll continue to monitor issues with PolyMet and Twin Metals, as well as sulfate and mercury poisoning.

The current focus of the Forest and Wildlife Stewards is protecting our state wildlife areas. Currently, the Department of Natural Resources is planning to increase logging in State Forests and Wildlife Management Areas. This plan is opposed by twenty-three Wildlife Managers because of its potential impact on wildlife -- going against the express purpose of Wildlife Management Areas

as laid out in the founding statute. This over-harvesting will imperil old growth forests and the species that depend on them from moose to martins.

Steward team members are passionate about their work to protect Minnesota's forests, wildlife, and waters and are always looking for other volunteers who can help advocate for issues of importance to the Sierra Club. If you share this passion, drop in on a meeting or an outing to learn more. See the back page of the journal for details.

Lindsay Starck is the Communications Liaison for the Water and Wetlands Stewards, English Professor at Augsburg University, and fiction writer currently at work on her second novel.

MINNETONKA CAN'T WAIT

How They Organized For 100% Clean Energy

Jennifer Munt

Activism can cure hopelessness. That belief unites members of the Minnetonka Climate Initiative, an intergenerational team of activists who moved their city council from climate talk to climate action. Students led the charge and adults followed. The lessons they learned together are valuable.

Their victory came the week that students worldwide went on strike for climate justice. Just as the world followed famed teenage climate activist Greta Thunberg, Minnetonka has followed Lia, Skyler and Gabi. Tears tumble as these young women look adults in the eye and say they can't bring children into a world that's dying.

Saving our planet from extinction feels daunting as people young and old witness the climate crisis and climate change. The Amazon is burning. Sea levels are rising. Vicious storms bring flash floods. Minnesota fields are too wet for farmers to grow our food. Minnetonka docks are underwater and an aging infrastructure can't keep up with the rain. Denial is easier than confronting the terrifying truth.

Yet Minnetonka climate leaders are

Members of the Minnetonka Climate Initiative, an intergenerational team that moved their city council from climate talk to climate action.

courageous and persistent. Patty O'Keefe, an amazing Sierra Club organizer, taught them to work together. They meet every two weeks at St. Luke's. Seasoned leaders step back as new members step up. Everyone takes a task. There's an agenda setter, note taker, social media guru, researchers, presenters, strategists, and lobbyists. All volunteers who became friends.

They recognize that cities can get the job done. Volunteers worked with city staff for an entire year to recommend a path forward for Minnetonka. During that time, the city joined the Partners in Energy program and transitioned to solar power.

While those accomplishments are amazing, they are not enough. That's the urgent message sent by the team to elected officials who wanted to rest for a year. The mayor and city council said they lacked the staff and the budget to take more robust action in 2020. One year matters when we have only ten years left to save our planet. The team didn't give up. They asked the city to create a Sustainability Commission, adopt a Climate Action Plan, and hire an employee to implement that plan.

They built a movement by organizing neighbors and classmates in schools,

churches and synagogues. With 128 allies dressed in green, they packed city hall. They spoke truth to power and won. Minnetonka budgeted \$100,000 to make climate action a priority next year.

Now Minnetonka won't miss time-sensitive opportunities to shrink its carbon footprint. A Climate Plan can map last-mile connections to future light-rail stations. By starting now, infrastructure can be in place so neighbors can walk and bike to the train when it opens in 2023.

By shifting to clean energy, the city can save taxpayers money. It can renew infrastructure while creating green careers. It's all about protecting our air, water and soil for future generations.

Minnetonka's lesson: People in power need the power of the people to create a truly resilient city and a sustainable future. Students, parents, teachers, scientists, and volunteers from all walks of life stand ready to help.

Jennifer Munt is a volunteer with the Sierra Club and Minnetonka Climate Initiative. Her twitter profile says: 'Fierce advocate for workers, equity, transit & housing. Love my family, the arts, high heels & gardening.'



ROCHESTER LEGACY: THE CITY COMMITS TO 100% CLEAN ENERGY

Rick Morris

More than 155 years ago, a tornado of unprecedented proportions tore across southeastern Minnesota. In the small town of Rochester, the men and women of the Mayo family and the Sisters of St. Francis of Assisi joined together to form what would become the Mayo Clinic in order to care for the tornado's victims. The doctors' and Sisters' decision to take responsibility in response to this environmental disaster has shaped the history of our city.

This summer, Rochester took up our legacy once again when the city committed to 100% renewable energy by 2031. This decision will reduce Rochester's greenhouse gas emissions from electricity generation by 95%. This makes us just the 4th city in Minnesota and the 128th city in the US to make a 100% commitment.

This decision to act in the face of the ongoing climate crisis is the result of years of advocacy of our dedicated members and activists in Rochester. At the utility board, at city council, through marches and protests, in letters, and at forums, our members tirelessly pushed



Rochester Youth Climate Strike and UMR Sierra Student Coalition Leaders.
Photo Credit: Rick Morris.

the community to act on climate. Their efforts were strengthened by Sierra Students at the university studying our air quality, high school students declaring the urgency of the crisis through their climate strikes, and faith communities joining together to bear witness to the moral stakes of climate change.

In Rochester, we count this 100%

commitment as a huge victory, but we know that the fight is far from over. The city has yet to decide whether our electricity will be truly fossil-free, or whether remaining emissions will be offset by extra renewable energy production. Transportation, and heating and cooling account for the bulk of our remaining emissions, and will need to be drastically reduced in the years ahead.

Rochester's identity was forged when a few of its residents took action in the face of an environmental disaster. The climate crisis requires no less from us today. Anchored by their history, buoyed by the energy of our students, and driven by the urgent need for action, we will make sure that remains our legacy for the next 150 years.

Rick Morris is a Chapter Organizing Representative with the Sierra Club. When he isn't advocating for climate justice you can find him with his cat, Little Ricky, or exploring the many great sandwich shops of Rochester - his favorite: the Vegan Bahn Mi at Old Abe Coffee Co.

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SIERRA CLUB

NORTH STAR CHAPTER

We are 80,000 Minnesotans working
for our communities' well-being through
environmental protection.

TOGETHER WE:

- Work in partnership for environmental and racial justice
- Create change through grassroots political advocacy
- Pair volunteer leadership with professional expertise

OUR PRIORITIES:

- Move Minnesota to Clean Energy
- Protect Lands and Waters
- Promote Sustainable Communities and Transportation
- Connect Minnesotans to Nature

Thank you for being a part of the North
Star Team!



A PROUD MEMBER OF



The Sierra Club Foundation benefits from workplace contributions to the Minnesota Environmental Fund, which provides a payroll giving option to support local member organizations that protect, conserve and restore Minnesota's environment. To learn more about adding this giving option at your workplace, please contact Margaret Levin at 612-659-9124 or margaret.levin@sierraclub.org.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE CANDIDATES

The Executive Committee (ExCom) is the governing body of the North Star Chapter of the Sierra Club, with responsibility for overall activities, budgeting, and strategic planning.

There are fifteen members of the ExCom, elected by members of the Sierra Club in Minnesota for rotating three-year terms. Members reflect a diversity of backgrounds and talents, brought together by their common interest in environmental

protection, and a commitment to help the chapter thrive and grow in its work as the leading grassroots voice for Minnesota's environment.

Please take the time to read the statements and mark and return a ballot. Your vote is important regardless of your level of involvement in Chapter activities.



Luther Dale, Shoreview

It has been a real privilege to serve on the ExCom and to participate in the Chapter's policy and activist work in shaping a sustainable environmental future for Minnesota. I want

to continue to find new ways to support our amazing volunteers by strengthening our capacity and provide new avenues for volunteers to leverage their personal interests, strengths and passions. I also want to continue to support the Chapter as it increasingly works with diverse communities most affected by environmental injustices. Diversifying our membership will increase our effectiveness and build political power. My service includes three years as Chapter Chair, Nominations Committee, worked on strategic and organizational planning, fund raising, given public presentations, and been involved in various ways to fight sulfide mining. I also serve on several national Sierra Club teams that support capacity building for conservation initiatives and other chapters.

I would be honored to continue working in support of our collective efforts to protect the wonderful natural resources we have in Minnesota and to fight against big issues like climate change that threaten the future for next generations. This work has never been more important.



Kirsten M. Johnson, Minneapolis

I cut my teeth as an activist fighting for clean energy. I took those skills and began a career working alongside community members to create social justice and racial equity.

For the past decade I have had the privilege of collaborating with community members to address challenges from ending youth homelessness to closing the achievement gap to creating health equity. For the last four years, I have served as a volunteer with Sierra Club bringing together my passions for racial equity and climate justice. With fellow volunteers I helped to form the Chapter's Equity Change Team - supporting our work to become an anti-racist organization that partners with diverse communities and organizations to eradicate all forms of oppression. If chosen to serve on the Executive Committee, I will bring experience in effectively engaging diverse communities,

in building people's capacity to navigate cultural differences, and in applying a racial equity lens to policy and decision making. I will bring my passion and commitment - as a climate justice advocate, as a white woman committed to racial equity and as a mother who wants a better future for her children.



Lois Norrgard, Bloomington

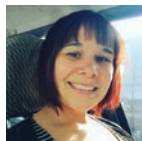
I have been involved in the Chapter for many years now as Executive Committee member, Forests and Wildlands

Chair and presently on the Forest and Wildlife Stewards team.

I became involved initially because of my love and interest in wildlands, wildlife and protecting biodiversity. I now understand that we must stand against exploitation of any kind - wildlife, wildlands, but also people, communities, and the Earth entire. We are facing a crisis for our climate, but also of biodiversity and environmental justice for all communities. Sierra Club understands the strength of empowered citizens and I am proud and amazed at the dedication and passion our membership shows for improving Minnesota's environment and working for a just world where all have a right to clean air and water, and live free of dangerous levels of toxic pollution.

I have been fortunate to strengthen and advocate for the grassroots voice. The best way to create the world we want is for all people to work together caring about those around us and our air, water, and wild lands.

And yes, I continue to be impressed by the vibrancy and optimism the North Star Chapter brings to the hard work of influencing environment policy!



Sammie Ardito Rivera, Stockholm

I am a member of the Leech Lake Band of Ojibwe with paternal ties to White Earth, but I was born and raised in Minneapolis. I've

had the privilege of working on issues of environmental and climate justice with the Indigenous Environmental Network, International Indian Treaty Council and Black Mesa Water Coalition. Currently I'm Operations and Project Director at Marnita's Table, a non-profit that brings together people across difference to find common ground on social and policy issues. We live in a globalized world and

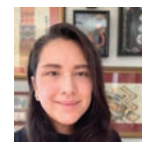
it's critical we learn how to work with one another to solve the challenges we face as a global community, the climate crisis being one that is at the forefront of my concerns. I hope to continue to bring my experience in that work to support the diversifying of the Sierra Club through my participation on the Change Team and through serving on the Executive Committee for another term. I recently moved to a farm in western Wisconsin but continue to be tied to community in the Twin Cities and my cultural homelands in Northern Minnesota.



Thomas Schmidt, Bemidji

I was inspired last year to re-join the Sierra Club following a long absence. I won't go into the reasons I left the Sierra Club, but I will tell you why I am

back. I moved to Bemidji last summer and immediately became involved with the movement to stop Line 3 and was proud to take part in the Sierra Club action in my hometown. I was impressed by the commitment I saw from Sierra Club volunteers, staff, and leadership and chose to renew my membership. In my two decades serving Unitarian Universalist churches around the country, I always found ways to extend my service beyond the walls of the church serving on Boards for a Planned Parenthood in West Texas, a Suicide Prevention Coalition, and others. I bring a wealth of experience working with nonprofit organizations as staff and as a volunteer and I hope to serve the Sierra Club and the larger environmental movement with that experience.



Hannah Smith, Minneapolis

We are at the apex of societal changes, environmental changes and as an agent of change, I think participating fully and authentically

in organizations I trust and support is necessary to create and maintain positive changes. One of the values deeply ingrained in my life is land stewardship; this value influences all of my decisions both large and small. I would like to continue to live my values and apply my time and energy to the Sierra Club Executive Committee. I currently work in philanthropy, with an organization that works towards equity in Minnesota. I strongly believe there cannot be social justice without environmental justice.

Growing up in the metro, spending a few years in both northwestern and northeastern Minnesota, I feel at home everywhere in this state. I like hiking, climbing, running, paddling, and enjoying the outdoors as much as possible in any season. I want future generations to have the ability to enjoy these same things, and today we can ensure that is an option for them.



Tom Thompson, Duluth

I am running for another term on the Executive Committee because critical environmental battles continue. Equity, clean air and water, climate change,

Polymet, Line 3 and habitat destruction remain on the forefront. I have worked with many people to move toward life where the environment is healthy, nature flourishes and our climate is stable. I have testified, marched, managed Face Book pages, and served on the SC Mining Committee and Clean Energy Team. At the national level I represent the Chapter on the Council of Club Leaders. Last year I was cited with 26 others for civil disobedience in Bemidji when protesting against Line 3. This year I worked with others to form the Duluth Political Committee, endorsing candidates for city council races.

Our challenges continue. Working together to meet these will be crucial if we are to succeed. The roadblocks presented by political and corporate leaders should not keep us from our vision. I would appreciate your vote for another term.



Alicia Uzarek, Minneapolis

I work to improve our environment and our collective well-being. I've done this work for various non-profits over the last 10 years in the areas of:

- Advocacy: I co-lead the first-ever Water Action Day at the State Capitol attended by over 1,000 people from across the state.

- Grassroots Organizing: I started a Mississippi River advocates program that grew to over 2,000 people in the first two years. I also lead a campaign to improve bicycle/pedestrian access between the heart of the North Minneapolis community and the River.

- Food Justice: I started the West Broadway Farmers Market to help address healthy food access, create another community space in a vacant parking lot, and incubate small, local businesses.

I continue this work today as a Strategic Communications and Community Engagement consultant working on projects involving wastewater, transportation, and green energy. I grew up in Minnesota playing in the woods behind my house, swimming in our lakes, and riding on great bike paths. As an Executive Committee member, I will work to make sure we all can have rich experiences in the great outdoors.

ELECTION BALLOT FOR NORTH STAR CHAPTER EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE 2019

Please vote for up to five candidates:

	MEMBERS VOTE HERE	JOINT MEMBERS VOTE HERE
Luther Dale	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Kirsten M. Johnson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Lois Norrgard	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Sammie Ardito Rivera	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Thomas Schmidt	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Hannah Smith	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Tom Thompson	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Alicia Uzarek	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
Write-ins:		
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>
_____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/> <input type="radio"/>

PLEASE VOTE FOR 5 EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEMBERS, DEADLINE FOR VOTING IS JANUARY 6, 2020.

VOTING INSTRUCTIONS:

To vote by mail:

1. Your member number is printed above your mailing address on the back of the ballot. This will be used to verify membership; however, your vote will be kept confidential.
2. Please read the candidate statements provided.
3. Vote for up to five candidates of your choice by clearly marking "X" in the box next to their names on the ballot, or by writing in a non-listed candidate's name on the line provided. Joint memberships are allowed two votes. Multiple votes for one candidate will disqualify the ballot (except, of course, for a joint membership in which each member votes for the same candidate).
4. Place your ballot in an envelope and mail it to be received by January 6, 2020 to:

**Elections Committee
Sierra Club North Star Chapter
2327 E Franklin Avenue #1
Minneapolis, MN 55406**

To vote by email:

1. Locate your 8-digit membership number which is printed above your mailing address on the back of the ballot. Your vote will be kept confidential, but this number is required to verify membership.
2. Please read the candidate statements provided.
3. Vote for up to five candidates of your choice by listing them on an email message to ballot@northstar.sierraclub.org. You may write in one non-listed candidate's name. Joint memberships are allowed two votes. Multiple votes for one candidate will disqualify the ballot (except, of course, for a joint membership in which each member votes for the same candidate).
4. Send your email message to ballot@northstar.sierraclub.org before January 6, 2020 at 5 p.m.
5. The chapter plans to send an electronic ballot to current member addresses within our system. If duplicate votes are received, the most recent vote will be considered valid.

Current members of the North Star Chapter ExCom:

TERM EXPIRES 2019	TERM EXPIRES 2020	TERM EXPIRES 2021
LUTHER DALE	KATE BRAUMAN	MARTY COBENAIS
LOIS NORRGARD	JOHN DOBERSTEIN	KATIE EUKEL
SAMMIE ARDITO RIVERA	FILSAN IBRAHIM	SAM MURPHY
TOM THOMPSON	LYZ JAAKOLA	SIRI SIMONS
	KAMAU WILKINS	SARAH WOVCHA



Sierra Club – North Star Chapter
2327 E Franklin Ave, Suite 1
Minneapolis, MN 55406

N O R T H S T A R JOURNAL

NEWS ON OUR EFFORTS TO KEEP THE ENVIRONMENT HEALTHY FOR MINNESOTA COMMUNITIES

NON PROFIT
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TWIN CITIES, MN
PERMIT NO. 361

or current resident



Illustration Credit: Mikaela Armstrong

Volunteers Wanted!

Contribute your time to protect the air, water, lands and climate we all depend on.

CAMPAIGN TEAMS: Lead grassroots advocacy campaigns on our most pressing issues

Stop Line 3, 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm
scott.russell@northstar.sierraclub.org
marcy.leussler@northstar.sierraclub.org

Land Use & Transportation, 1st Monday at 6:00 PM
alex.burns@northstar.sierraclub.org

Zero Waste, 1st Monday at 7:00 PM
lori.olinger@northstar.sierraclub.org

100% Clean Energy, 4th Tuesday at 6:30 PM
clean.energy@northstar.sierraclub.org

Stop Sulfide Mining, Monthly meeting date/time pending
margaret.levin@sierraclub.org

GEOGRAPHIC TEAMS: Organize in your city for 100% Clean Energy

Rochester, 2nd Monday at 6:30 PM
rick.morris@sierraclub.org

Duluth, 1st Thursday at 4:00 PM
jenna.yaekle@sierraclub.org

Minnetonka/Wayzata, meeting times vary
patty.okeefe@sierraclub.org

STEWARDS: Research, monitor and advocate for policies related to water, forests, and wildlife
2nd Monday at 7:00 PM
steve.ring@northstar.sierraclub.org; bob.graves@northstar.sierraclub.org

CAPACITY TEAMS: Share your talents and skills with us

SierraAction: Use our grassroots power to impact legislation
4th Wednesday, satish.desai@northstar.sierraclub.org;
joshua.davis@northstar.sierraclub.org

Communications: Hone your photography, design, and writing skills
Quarterly meetings, mary.blitzer@sierraclub.org

Equity Outreach: Spread the word about protecting our planet
Ongoing events, charles.frempong-longdon@sierraclub.org

Outings: Find new friends and explore Minnesota parks
Ongoing events, greg.allison@northstar.sierraclub.org

Inspiring Connections Outdoors: Plan and lead activities for youth new to the outdoors
Ongoing events, mnico@northstar.sierraclub.org

OWLS: A 55+ group of “Older, Wiser, Livelier Sierrans”
2nd Tuesday, at 10:30 am,
ellen.abbott@northstar.sierraclub.org; karen.alwin@northstar.sierraclub.org