

# Redwood Needles



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

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Newsletter of the Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club

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## Vallejo Activists Cite Coal Transportation as New Threat from Orcem Project

By SHOSHANA HEBSHI,

REDWOOD CHAPTER COMMUNICATIONS COORDINATOR

Vallejo City Council does not seem to heed public opinion. While a loud majority of Vallejo residents have vocally opposed a proposal to build a “green” cement plant and deep water marine terminal in South Vallejo, the City Council has allowed the project to move forward.

Sierra Club Solano Group has been involved in the opposition for more than a year as part of a coalition fighting the project, which has been dubbed a blatant case of environmental injustice to the residents living on that side of town.

Opponents have remarked that the plant will be anything but “green,” as it will dramatically increase truck traffic, air pollution and noise pollution. They contend it is the wrong project for South Vallejo—or anywhere—in an age where we need to be combatting climate change rather than contributing to it.

During a June 26 press conference, opponents, led by Solano Group Chair Joe Feller, promulgated the idea that the marine terminal portion of the project will eventually allow coal to be shipped in and out of the port.

“Our attorneys said there were loopholes on the shipping of coal that you could drive a truck through,” he said. “The city of Vallejo is wide open. We are demanding of the city council that they pass restrictions banning the use of coal or coal byproducts in the city of Vallejo.”

Peter Brooks, president of Fresh Air Vallejo, which has been working closely with Solano Group on this issue, took to the podium to call on the City of Vallejo to become a “champion for justice and finally reject the dirty cement factory and port that an

overseas corporation is trying to shove into our community.”

“The City of Vallejo is not protected from coal and coal by-products,” he said. “It’s not too late for the city to step up, to do the right thing, to block the coal trains from rolling through our community.”

The press conference included speakers from outside Vallejo, as well, including Richmond City Councilmember Jovanka Beckles, and No Coal in Oakland Member Margaret Gordon, who said, “keep it in the ground!”

Solano County Supervisor Monica Brown sent a representative, Stephen Hallett, to share her opposition to the project. “This is a trojan horse,” he said. “They are going to put through this toxic cement factory and then they are going to try to bring in coal. We are not going to stand for that. The people have spoken and we do not want it.”

Askari Sowonde, a Vallejo resident of 30 years and an environmental justice activist, said it’s time for the city to listen to the community. “I along with hundreds of thousands of people in this community, say to you: Stop it, we don’t want this here. Listen to what we have to say. It affects all of our youth, our seniors, and it affects me and those who stand behind us.”

Another local activist, Joseph Mickelson, 87, a combat veteran from Korea, who said he’ll be fighting for the betterment of our community until his “days are over,” reminded the crowd that the power is in their votes and they can use that power to give the City Council a message.

Feller said: “All the councilmembers, once they realize the threat coal has on the city of Vallejo, they will respond appropriately.”

## Message from the Chair

By VICTORIA BRANDON, REDWOOD CHAPTER CHAIR

After 18 months of the Trump administration you might (like me) have found yourself slipping into the oddly comforting assumption that at least things couldn’t get any worse: wrong! As this Independence Day approaches we are still reeling from heartbreaking images of refugee families being torn apart at our nation’s southern border, and we now face the imminent threat of a restructured Supreme Court reversing 40 years of progress toward justice, equality and simple decency.

Please don’t give way to despair, because there’s still a great deal we can accomplish. To cite just one recent example, the California Natural Resources Agency, Air Resources Board, and CalFire are in the process of formulating a Climate Change Implementation Plan with the goals of decreasing energy use, and increasing carbon sequestration in forests and agricultural lands. Workshops were held all around the state in June to gather public comment; Redwood Chapter representatives participated in the Santa Rosa event, and Sierra Club California submitted thoughtful comments.

Every Group in our Chapter offers opportunities to make a difference locally, ranging from Solano Group’s effort to defeat a polluting cement plant proposed for the South Vallejo waterfront to Lake Group’s involvement in a 1,200-acre wetland restoration project, to Mendocino Group’s effort to prevent rare “Pygmy Forest” habitat from being obliterated by an Off-Highway Vehicle park. At the Chapter level, we are working on regional climate action, transportation and conservation issues.

Please check out what’s going on locally, and consider lending a hand. We will always welcome (visit <https://www.sierraclub.org/redwood/get-involved> to see current volunteer openings), and now is the time to get active and engaged with your Group or Chapter.

Above all, even if you’ve never been politically active before, think about taking an active part in the upcoming election season. Contests ranging from city council to the U.S. Senate will determine the course of our future for many years to come. Your vote is the best way to use our voice to stand up for the values we believe in and protecting our planet.

### People’s Climate Movement’s Rise for Climate, Jobs, & Justice Day of Action

#### September 8: Rise for Climate

On September 8th, we’re planning thousands of rallies in cities and towns around the world to demand our local leaders commit to building a fossil free world that works for all of us. No more stalling, no more delays: it’s time for 100% renewable energy for all.

This September, cities, states, businesses and civil society from around the world are gathering in California for the Global Climate Action Summit. The Summit has invited every mayor, governor, and business leader in the world to make a bold climate commitment to help the world reach the goals of the Paris Climate Agreement.

Plan or join an event on September 8. If your elected officials commit, your rally can be a celebration. If they fail to act, it’s a chance to hold them accountable. Events are still being planned. To check for events in your area visit: [https://actionnetwork.org/event\\_campaigns/rise-for-climate?source=tagged&referrer=group-sierra-club-4&source=shortlink](https://actionnetwork.org/event_campaigns/rise-for-climate?source=tagged&referrer=group-sierra-club-4&source=shortlink)

## Water and Wine with Rue

Summer is upon us, and as the hills in our region turn from the lush green of spring to tawny brown dotted with the dark green of oaks, pines and redwoods, we are confronted with the arid nature of our climate. We might collectively feel like water is more precious at this time of year, and our instinctive nature as Californians would incline us to take shorter showers, wash the car less and make sure we water only as much as needed.

While water availability and allocation has been an issue for decades across the state, the recent drought (of which much of the state suffers) it is more important than ever to know where our water comes from, the pressures our water system faces and what we can do to help ensure this natural resource remains in abundance for all our communities. After all, water is life.

Rue Furch, one of Redwood Chapter’s stalwart volunteers, is a member of the Groundwater Sustainability Agency for the Santa Rosa groundwater basin. The GSA was formed in 2017 to advise management of the local basin. It is one of many GSAs around California tasked with

developing, implementing, and enforcing a basin’s groundwater sustainability program.

Here, Furch answers some pertinent questions about water in our region and state, conservation and how we can be more cognizant and proactive with our water resources.

**REDWOOD CHAPTER:**

*In this present time, as we are moving into summer and fall and we start thinking more about water conservation, how does groundwater play into the conversation and why is thinking about it important?*

RUE FURCH: The State of California is the last state in the nation to regulate groundwater and has now recognized the interaction of surface and groundwater more formally. While the seasonal rains have provided more water than had been expected this year, we still require sustainable water supply for increasing uses.

Our region historically had fewer draws on groundwater. But as agriculture has shifted from dry-land farming to more reliance on irrigation, our population has increased, and our private wells

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The Russian River near Duncans Mills.

Photo by Mary Davison.

For more Redwood Chapter information: <http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood>

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/sonoma, /lake, /mendocino, or /solano

Redwood Chapter Facebook:  
[www.facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter/](http://www.facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter/)



# “Water and Wine with Rue” continued from page 1

have proliferated—our reliance on groundwater has increased.

While some groundwater is in aquifers that should be considered in geologic time as some hold sea water, most of our wells draw from aquifers that are fed by surface water, which percolates slowly into the soils recharging the natural underground storage areas. The greatest demand for water in our region is in the hotter late summer/early autumn season, long after the rains have supplied rivers and streams with flow or provided recharge to our groundwater basins.

In order to ensure adequate supply to maintain our streamflows to prevent stream drawdown (for human uses, fish and other habitat), and preserve our groundwater for autumn uses, year-round conservation is necessary EVERY year, not just in years when we perceive shortages. Using more than is replaced is not sustainable, and we are too often lulled by the appearance of our region's abundance.

**RC: Why do people who live in urban areas and are not on wells need to be aware of the groundwater situation?**

RF: Interaction between surface water and groundwater is established science. If an urban area is supplied by surface water (the Russian, Eel and Klamath Rivers, etc.), the water used affects and is affected by stored groundwater. Rivers and streams can be “de-watered” by too much pumping from connective aquifers (i.e. groundwater). Urban areas also rely on wells, some as back-up sources, or, in the case of Sebastopol, entirely on wells.

Urban areas also rely on our local farms for food, which primarily depend on wells for irrigation of their crops. Retaining surface water for fish and habitat can only be assured by conscious efforts to maintain flows by limiting extraction rates of both rivers and groundwater.

All of us must be protective of all our water sources in order to ensure sustainability for all uses, including what regulators term “beneficial uses,” which is pretty much everything and everyone, since water is essential to life.

**RC: What is the connection between groundwater and watersheds?**

RF: Geologic formations under the ground are immensely varied. Some strata allow storage of water from sources as old as when the seas filled the basins, and some are fed by rains, melting snow, streams or lakes that recharge the aquifers. A watershed is basically a basin where water flows from the hills into the bottom of the “bowl.” The ridges being the sides and lip of the bowl. Those waters are sometimes delivered by rivers or streams and sometimes by percolation through the rocks and soils into the aquifer. Gravity pulls the water downhill into the ground/aquifers in various ways and is supplied by the entire watershed.

**RC: As marijuana cultivation becomes more open and prevalent, water use issues, plus contamination issues and groundwater will become even more timely a topic. How do you see the pot industry affecting our local water issues?**

RF: Concern about the cumulative effects of cannabis and other water users is growing, both from the standpoints of water supply and degradation. Cannabis operations are very tightly regulated at this time. Unfortunately, not all cannabis operations are requesting permits - and that is a separate issue that will require greater funding for enforcement efforts.

The number of acres of cannabis is relatively

small at this time, so its impact will be felt—if at all—in adjacent localized areas.

Local jurisdictions, the Water Quality Control Board, California Fish and Wildlife and others are all involved in regulations and enforcements of cannabis operations in order to limit impacts of cultivation, processing, transportation and other functions of the cannabis industry.

As with most things, the majority of operators are trying to do the right thing, but we'll learn from the few “bad apples” what requirements need to be strengthened and how to limit impacts. Attention to the use and abuse of water may inform other water uses and provide guidance on necessary conditions. Much will depend on how many operations are approved, and where. Not unlike other groundwater uses, we'll need to protect against over concentration and use of toxic chemicals.

**RC: Post-fire, the loosening of regulations on building could be presenting a problem for water conservation and watershed health. What do you have to say about this?**

RF: Streamlining and “loosening” of conditions for development has been a result of the horrific fires and the increased need for housing statewide. Regulations may still require conservation measures on each new or replacement development. Impacts on watersheds may not fare as well since cumulative impacts are often not considered. Increases in development can affect not only watersheds, but traffic-sheds, light pollution, hazard areas and increase potential for future natural hazards.

Sonoma County (and other jurisdictions) have approved urban growth boundaries, designated open space areas, provided stream side protections and much more in order to concentrate and condition development to protect our shared resources, including agriculture, water, timber, and all the rest.

Housing is essential. We've seen too many years of too many people living without housing or with inadequate housing. Now we have another wave of people who have lost everything, not just their homes, who are in need of housing. Some businesses also lost everything. A wise and thoughtful development process does not mean we have to move at a snail's pace, but it does mean we urgently need considered progress.

**RC: How can we Sierra Clubbers work to build water awareness and move to curtail development that will tax our water system more than we understand it will?**

RF: Know your watershed (manmade or natural) and be involved. As the State is mandating sustainable water planning, we should know everything we can to affect our shared future. Be conscious of water use in your home, in your life, both by implementing conservation and by avoiding use of anything you wouldn't want in your water supply.

If you have the time and inclination, be involved in the policies made in your jurisdiction, and/or be part of a local group that maintains a nearby stream or adopt a stream that is not so nearby, but you love it.

If you are able to attend meetings about proposed development, do so. If not, write letters to the decision makers to educate them on the impact you see from something they are considering. Be informed, be vocal, be effective.

Knowledge is power. Use your power for good; in your home, your neighborhood, your region—at any scope that fits your passion.

# Napa's Measure C: The Aftermath

The vote was too close to call when polls closed June 5, but after two weeks, Measure C proponents conceded defeat on June 18. The Woodland Watershed and Oak Protection Initiative, known as Measure C, would have established protections for oak woodlands and streams located along Napa's hillsides by limiting how many acres can be cut for vineyards. It lost by just more than 600 votes (2 percentage points).

Sierra Club Napa Group's Chris Benz took some time to answer questions about what's next in the battle to curb vineyard development and protect what's left of Napa's precious open space.

**Measure C lost narrowly: what does that say?**

It says voters really do CARE and want to protect Napa County's trees and watersheds. The opposition spent three times as much money and tried to confuse voters into thinking a NO vote would protect trees and clouding the issue with a flurry of contrived (sometimes silly) consequences. We've talked with confused voters who said they want to protect trees, but didn't know which way to vote.

**Will the proponents of open space, clean water and woodland/watershed protection move forward from this?**

Absolutely! We will continue to educate, advocate, and hold our county supervisors responsible. We were supported by other elected officials, including a formal resolution by the City Council of St. Helena. Sensibility will continue for protection of municipal water sources originating in wooded watersheds.

**Was there anything the campaign could have done in your opinion that may have helped garner more support among Napa residents?**

One of the energizing aspects of this campaign was how many citizens got involved in the YES on C campaign. So many people wrote letters to the editor, put up yard signs, wrote postcards to voters, attended public forums, came to our rally, and helped canvass door to door. It was a true grassroots campaign.

**Where do you think the disconnect lies between people wanting to protect the environment where they live and allowing for more growth and expansion that directly impacts and harms the environment?**

Voters want to protect Napa's natural resources—we heard that over and over when we were going door-to-door. It's some of our elected officials who keep approving development in the hillsides without looking at the long-term environmental consequences. We think there has already been an energizing effect of Measure C which happened just days after when the Napa City Council, in front of a huge concerned audience rejected a developer's rezoning denial appeal to cut down many mature native trees on a rural hillside to build high priced mansions.

**How will Napa Group work to continue the protection of the pristine open space on the hills that is being threatened by development?**

Napa Group ExCom members were very active in the YES on C campaign, engaging in campaign strategy, public speaking, canvassing, outreach to Sierra Club members, and designing mailers and handouts. Napa Group is currently litigating against the Walt Ranch vineyard development in the county's eastern hillsides. We will continue to monitor and comment on other development projects as well as a pending climate action plan and needed general plan updates. We will also continue to work with other local organizations to protect our open spaces.

To get involved or learn more about Napa Group, please visit: <https://www.sierraclub.org/redwood/napa>

**If you wish your bequest to be used locally, be sure to specify “Sierra Club Redwood Chapter” or the name of your local Group in your bequest.**



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

## Create a Lasting Legacy

By creating a charitable bequest to benefit Sierra Club or your favorite Sierra Club Chapter, you remain in control of your assets during your lifetime and help protect the environment in years to come.

For more info and confidential assistance, contact:  
Sierra Club  
Gift Planning Program  
85 Second Street, Second Floor  
San Francisco, CA 94105  
giftplanning@sierraclub.org • (800) 932-4270



# Outings

## Sun. Aug. 12 – Sonoma Group. Salt Point State Park Hike.

We'll head up the coast for cool breezes while we walk through coastal forests and along ocean bluffs. Our approximately 6 mile route will take us up North Trail up to a pygmy forest, then follow Central Trail down to a picnic site

overlooking Gerstle Cove for lunch, then follow Salt Point Trail back to our cars. Bring lunch, water, good hiking shoes, layered clothes for coastal weather. No dogs. Class M-6-B. Car pool meets: 10 am, Coddington Parking Lot, near the Coddington Library. Leader Carl Inglin, 707 538-8271 or chinglin@sonic.net.

## Sun. Sept. 16 - North Group. Prairie Creek State Park Friendship Ridge Hike.

Loop includes old-growth forest, views, waterfalls, and likely elk. Some steep, rough, or soggy places. Bring food, water, and hiking

footwear. No dogs. Class M-8-A. Carpools 9 a.m. Valley West (Ray's) Shopping Center, 10:30 a.m. Fern Canyon trailhead (exit Hwy. 101 at Davison Rd.). Leader Ned (707)825-3652, nedforsyth48@gmail.com. Bad weather cancels.

### Instructions to Hikers

Outings will start not later than 15 minutes after scheduled meeting time. The leader is in charge of the trip and is responsible for your welfare and the good name of the Club. He/she must have your cooperation to make the trip safe, pleasant and rewarding. Never charge ahead of the leader and keep within sight or shouting distance of the person ahead of you so you do not miss an intersecting trail. Do not lag behind rear leader: if you need help, the rear leader will remain to assist you. Do not leave the group without the leader's permission. Be adequately equipped and prepared. You should carry lunch and liquids. Wear footwear appropriate for the outing. In most cases that would be hiking boots.

Guard against fire. Do not smoke on Sierra Club outings. Build fires only with the leader's permission, and extinguish them completely. Guns or radios are not to be brought on hikes.

The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Participants assume the risks associated with travel. Reimburse the carpool driver. Carpools are not part of the outing but a means of conserving natural resources.

All participants on Sierra Club outings are required to sign a standard liability waiver. If you would like to read the liability waiver please go to: <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/>, or contact the Outings Department at (415) 977-5528 for a printed version.

### Visitors are welcome

All Sierra Club trips are open to the public unless otherwise announced. You are free to bring all members of your family and guests. Children are usually welcome, but please call the leader to make sure it is an appropriate hike.

DIFFICULTY	MILEAGE	ELEVATION GAIN
E - Easy	Actual	A - Less than 1,000
M - Moderate	Mileage	B - 1,000 to 2,000
H - Hard		C - 2,000 to 3,000
S - Strenuous		D - over 3,000
V - Very Strenuous		

The actual mileage will be listed for each trip. Elevation gain will reflect the gain from the start of the hike to the highest point. If you need to know the cumulative gain, please contact the leader.

### To submit outings write-ups

Send all outings write-ups to: Louis Vas, Outings Chair, (lvas@sonic.net) by the 8th of the month. All leaders must coordinate their outings with their Group Outings Chair.

*CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.*

### Featured Outing:

## South Cow Mountain Recreation Area, Lake County

On a June 10 hike to Eightmile Valley in the Bureau of Land Management's South Cow Mountain Recreation Area Lake Group participants had the opportunity to learn about the ecology of meadows and their fragile, easily impacted attributes. Fourteen hikers met at the ORV staging area at the top of Mill Creek, east of Ukiah. We were oriented and then led by Larry Ray, an ecologist who has been working to restore the area with support from a collaborative partnership between the Scotts Valley Tribe of Pomo Indians, BLM, and Lake County Resource Conservation District. The project's objective is to reduce sediment transport to Clear Lake, stabilize and restore the stream and improve the meadow habitat and riparian ecosystem.

We entered a beautiful long valley, brimming with California poppies, and nestled between some moderate hillsides and riparian areas lined with oaks, willows, and ash. Larry explained that many years ago the rancher owning the property took action to drain the meadow so he could easily graze cattle year-round. To do this he cut drainage ways on the sides of the meadow. This led to erosion of

the soil and the eventual enlargement of the drainage cut areas, and the formation of more cuts. Gradually the erosion reached a dispersive type of soil beneath a clay layer. This dispersive layer holds phosphorous and easily erodes, hence the erosion increased greatly and the crevices became significantly deeper and fanned out in times of flooding as well. This increased the phosphorous carrying erosion passing into Scotts Creek and eventually into Clear Lake.

As we progressed, Ray pointed out many native species of plants, as well as some non-native species which took hold when areas opened up from the erosion. In addition, he guided us to patches of Goats Rue, a federally listed invasive weed that is toxic to livestock and wildlife, and described ongoing collaborative efforts between the RCD and BLM to eradicate this infestation. We bush-whacked out the valley floor and then trekked back via an access road to our starting point. The walkabout was an informative experience as well as a beautiful trek through diverse countryside.

—JULIE KREIS, OUTINGS LEADER

## Help Wanted: Redwood Chapter Seeks Chapter Director

Redwood Chapter is looking for a half-time Chapter Director to strengthen our conservation programs, fundraising, volunteer development and member services.

Working closely with volunteer leaders, this talented individual will identify chapter needs and recruit volunteers to fill them, train and oversee membership coordinators at the chapter and group level who can welcome new members and work with the Chapter Treasurer on fundraising strategy, including efforts to bring fundraising components to events and outreach efforts. Strong communications

and computer skills are essential, and a passion for protecting the planet.

This half-time job will be based in Sonoma County though some telecommuting may be possible, and is expected to last about six months, with an extension also possible.

A full job description and link to the application form is available on the Club Careers website, <https://www.sierraclub.org/careers>. Chapter Chair Victoria Brandon is also glad to answer questions: feel free to call her at 707 994 1931 or to send an email to vbrandon@lakelive.info.



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## Ratings for Outings Leaders: How fast or slow do you go?

Wonder if an outing leader walks fast or slow? Keep in mind that the leader's speed is but one part of hiking. How high up a mountain the hike starts, the total mileage and elevation gain (up hill) and loss (down hill) greatly affect the difficulty of a hike, regardless of how fast or slow you walk. If you have any doubts about being able to do a hike or have other questions, please call the leader to discuss your concerns. These ratings only serve as a guide and are not a substitute for you being in appropriate physical condition before participating in an outing.

Leaders are grouped according to how fast they normally hike. Please keep in mind that this info is to help you decide if a hike is right for you. The outing rating instructions to hikers is also important for participants to read. Look at the difficulty of the hike. If the rating is moderate with few or more frequent stops a fast pace hiker must hike slower to accommodate that rating.

**Varies, see hike description for details:** Jim Gannon Phil Kohlmetz Doug Tracey

**Moderate-pace with few stops:** Lorrie Lagasse Julie Kreis Paul Farley

**Moderate-pace with more frequent stops:** Carol Vellutini Yvonne Kramer Brian Collett

Jonah Freedman Steve Devoto Ned Forsyth Pete McGee

**Slower-pace:** Allison Bronkall Carl Inglin



# Member Spotlight: Felice Pace

Member Since: 2004

**Leadership Position:** North Group ExCom, Redwood Chapter Grazing Chair, North Group Water Chair

**Areas of Interest:** Reforming Public Land grazing practices, Implementing the Clean Water Act with respect to agricultural pollution, dealing with salmon-killing logging roads, Managing forests for wildfire as a natural process.

**Residence:** Klamath, Del Norte County.

**Q: How did you become involved with Sierra Club?**

A: I had worked with Suzie Van Kirk and other Club folks on national forest issues and during the Ancient Forest Campaign going back to the late 1980s. When I moved from Siskiyou County to the Coast in 2002 I decided to join SC and get involved locally.

**Q: How has your involvement with Sierra Club changed your life?**

A: The involvement led to me getting involved in toxic surface and groundwater issues adjacent to Smith River Estuary where, in order to grow Easter lily bulbs, growers use more toxic pesticides per acre per year as compared to anywhere else in California. This work is on behalf of the agricultural workers and those living in the area, as well as for the Coho salmon and Tidewater goby found in the Estuary. Also, I now attend more North Coast Water Board meetings.



**Q: What is one of your fondest memories participating in a Sierra Club event or activity?**

A: I really enjoy meeting other members on the outings. I also really like what the North Group does with children: sponsoring summer camp for some, giving prizes for science fair projects with environmental themes, etc.

**Q: What do you see as Sierra Club's fundamental role in your community?**

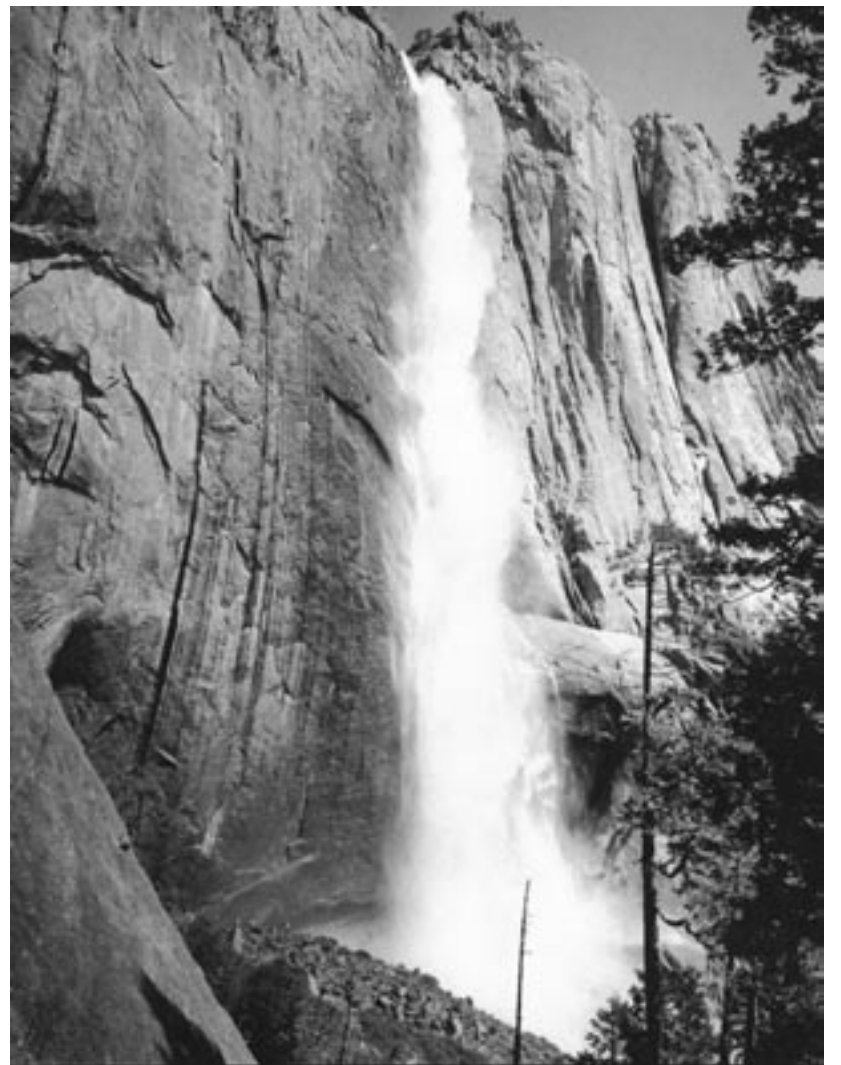
A: Our role is to raise the communities' awareness about environmental risks and problems that affect them, their neighbors and the places they value, e.g. our public lands, and to do what we can to address local environmental issues.

**Q: What is your favorite thing about living in Northern California?**

A: The Klamath Mountains. I moved to NW California in 1976 to live near the wilderness and since then I have wandered these mountains on and off trail, on foot and on skis. My favorite thing is to hike in the Klamath Mountains backcountry. I like to study nature, watch birds, learn and appreciate the wildflowers and enjoy the great diversity of trees and other plants.

**Q: Where in the outdoors would we most likely find you?**

A: Anywhere in the Klamath Mountains backcountry.



From the *Redwood Needles* archive: Nevada Falls, by Clark Nattkemper

## Non-Sierra Club Outings & Events

The following activities and events are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

**Sat. Sept. 15 – 31st Annual Russian River Cleanup.**

The 31st Annual Russian River Cleanup will be held on Saturday, Sept. 15. Organized by the Russian River Watershed Cleanup Committee and the Russian Riverkeeper. Join volunteers in canoe or walking the beaches cleaning up our river. For information and registration go to [www.russianrivercleanup.org/](http://www.russianrivercleanup.org/)

**Sonoma County Regional Parks trail work days.**

On the day of the project you can call 707-548-4424 for an update or if you get lost coming to the park. Your support and dedication to our County's trails really makes a big difference. To RSVP for any of these projects please call John at 707-565-3356. [ParksVolunteer@sonoma-county.org](mailto:ParksVolunteer@sonoma-county.org)

**Garden Volunteer Days: First Friday of the Month, 9am – noon.** Laguna Environmental Center, 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa. Enjoy our native plant garden! Volunteers are essential in beautifying our site. Share your expertise or learn new skills by getting involved today! [http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer\\_garden.html](http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer_garden.html)

**Laguna Stewardship Days: Once a month on a Saturday from 9am - noon.**

Details of the site location announced 2 weeks in advance of the workday (various sites along the Laguna) Help care for the Laguna and restore critical wildlife habitat! Joining the Laguna Stewards is a fun and meaningful way to volunteer while enjoying the outdoors.

[http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer\\_lagunastewards.html](http://lagunafoundation.org/volunteer_lagunastewards.html)

## Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park, 2018

**Aug. 19-21; Sept. 23-25; Oct. 21-23**

Join us for a 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard tour of the enchanting Channel Islands. Hike wild, windswept trails bordered with blazing wildflowers. Kayak rugged coastlines, marvel at pristine waters teeming with frolicking seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on unusual sea and land birds—and an occasional whale. Watch for the highly endangered island fox. Look for reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or, just relax at sea. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara. The cost, \$675, includes an assigned bunk and all meals, snacks, and beverages. A ranger/naturalist

assigned by the national park will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest and give evening programs. Kayaking will be overseen by our concessionaire; all hikes will be on trails, class 1 terrain. This trip is a fundraiser to support the Sierra Club political program in California. To reserve space send a \$100 deposit, written to **California Sierra Club PAC** to Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information contact leaders: Joan Jones Holtz: [jholtzhl@aol.com](mailto:jholtzhl@aol.com); 626-443-0706. Wayne Vollaire: [avollaire1@gmail.com](mailto:avollaire1@gmail.com); 909-327-6825.

## Silver Lake & Carson Pass

Come relax and enjoy the beauty. Fish, hike, or wander along the many lakeside and mountain trails abundant with wildflowers. After a hike, refresh in the cool water, lounge on our beach, or glide on the pristine Silver Lake waters, very peaceful and quiet. Then join us for a gourmet meal at our restaurant or spend the evening in your comfortable lakeside room or cottage, ending your day star-gazing from your deck or meeting others at the crackling campfire. We now offer some pet friendly cabins.

**Kit Carson Lodge**  
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Wolves are vitally important to maintaining nature's balance, culling out weak and sick animals to keep populations of elk and deer healthy and in check. The Sierra Club is working to defend wolf populations from continued threats from politicians.

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Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35	
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Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$ 35	

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# Lake Group Report

Lake Group has been busy lately!

First, as mentioned in the previous edition of the Redwood Needles, on May 18 we participated in the first of a series of Berryessa Snow Mountain Recreation, Volunteerism and Stewardship Workshops, a joint effort of the BLM and Forest Service to engage stakeholders in helping to shape the future of the National Monument and to encourage ongoing partnerships.

We are also attempting to influence the conclusions of the Sustainable Groundwater Management Program (SGMA) which in its current draft (out for comments until August 20) has rated an area just north of Clear Lake a “high priority” for reasons based entirely on unjustifiably high population growth projections—in an area where the population has actually fallen nearly 25 percent since the 2010 census. We are worried about serious consequences for local farmers, and also concerned that rankings based on faulty criteria rather than objective science could undermine the integrity of the whole effort to manage California’s groundwater sustainably, efforts which the Sierra Club strongly supports.

On July 18 we’re planning to attend a Central Valley Water Board update on the Clear Lake Nutrient Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL). At a similar meeting last year concerned local residents packed Lakeport city hall to share their views with Water Board staff, who wanted to extend the deadline for meeting the goals of TMDL goals for another ten or twenty years while they figured out which benchmarks were appropriate. Originally the TMDL was about “algae” (actually cyanobacteria) but shortly thereafter it morphed into “nutrients.” It might now be about to turn into a cyanobacteria TMDL again, perhaps with monitoring standards based on measurements of chlorophyll or phycocyanin. Whatever the benchmarks, for sure completion of the Middle Creek Wetland Restoration Project is crucial to improving Clear Lake water quality, as acknowledged by the Water Board along with just about everyone else.

To shift focus, For the eighth consecutive year Lake Group has awarded two \$1000 scholarships to local high school graduates. Alya Owaidat, who attends Konocti Educational Center and is a first-generation American who has experienced

many unconventional and sometimes difficult personal situations growing up and has still achieved honors every semester of her high school years. Alya has been accepted at San Francisco State University, where she plans to earn a degree in Biology/Genetics. Delaney Love, among other activities, is board member representative for the Upper Lake Union School District who has developed an interest and passion for local and community politics.

We’re also planning our annual midsummer potluck BBQ, to be held this year at Dancing Tree People farm in Upper Lake (home of Chair Denise Rushing) on Friday July 27, and also looking forward to our first-ever strategy session on climate and energy priorities. This all-day event will take place on August 6, and was inspired by Chapter Climate and Energy Chair Randy MacDonald’s efforts to catalog the different ways local activists were working to achieve a clean energy future and encourage carbon sequestration.

—VICTORIA BRANDON,  
LAKE GROUP CONSERVATION CHAIR

## Groundwater Recharge: New Threat to California Streams

As groundwater planning to comply with the 2014 Sustainable Groundwater Management Act gets underway in high and moderate priority basins across California, a new threat to stream ecosystems has emerged. Known as “Replenishment” water planners believe that declining groundwater levels and related land subsidence due to over-extraction of groundwater (mostly for irrigation) can be reversed by diverting high winter and springtime streamflow to groundwater storage. The State Water Resources Board has already funded projects ([https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water\\_issues/programs/applications/groundwater\\_recharge/](https://www.waterboards.ca.gov/waterrights/water_issues/programs/applications/groundwater_recharge/)) to divert high flows to replenish groundwater, including in a major Klamath River tributary, the Scott River Basin.



**The Scott River is now dewatered even in years of “average” precipitation as a result of unregulated groundwater extraction for irrigation.**

On its face the idea makes sense. Each year billions of gallons of storm and springtime high water flows through our streams to the sea. Diverting some of that water to groundwater storage makes sense and can be done without further damaging stream ecosystems. However, as clearly demonstrated in streams where high flows are blocked by dams, streams grow unhealthy when they are denied naturally high seasonal and storm flows. And so the question arises: how much of a stream’s flood and seasonally high (springtime) flows can safely be diverted to groundwater storage without damaging that streams ecosystem and Public Trust resources, including fisheries?

There is only one way to find out: Scientifically robust flow assessments can determinate how much water must remain in a streams during each month or season of the year. That amount of streamflow will also vary by water year type, including very dry to very wet water year types.

### Assessing year around streamflow needs

Beginning in 1982, the California Legislature has mandated that the California Department of Fish & Wildlife prepare flow assessments for California streams and transmit those assessments to the State Water Board for use in evaluating new proposals to divert streamflow for irrigation or storage, including groundwater storage (see the California Public Resource Code at this link: [https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes\\_displayText](https://leginfo.ca.gov/faces/codes_displayText)).

xhtml?lawCode=PRC&division=10.&title=&part=&chapter=&article=) However, so far Cal Fish & Wildlife has completed flow assessments (<https://www.wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Watersheds/Instream-Flow>) for only a handful of California streams.

Meanwhile, the Department of Water Resources is encouraging local agencies tasked with completing SGMA compliant groundwater management plans, the Groundwater Sustainable Agencies or GSAs, to consider replenishing groundwater by diverting high winter and spring flows to groundwater storage. Here’s the link to (<https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools/Files/Statewide-Reports/WAFR/Final/Water-Available-for-Replenishment---Final-Report.pdf>) DWR’s report on “Water Available for Replenishment” and here’s the link to (<https://water.ca.gov/-/media/DWR-Website/Web-Pages/Programs/Groundwater-Management/Data-and-Tools/Files/Statewide-Reports/WAFR/Final/Appendix-C-for-Water-Available-for-Replenishment---Final-Report.pdf>) that agency’s guidance for GSAs on how to determine the amount of high winter and spring flows that can be safely diverted for groundwater storage.

Surface flows are not the only water that can be used to recharge groundwater: Water conservation, recycled water, desalination water and transfers of water from one jurisdiction to another are also potential sources for groundwater recharge. High winter and spring streamflows, however, represent the largest potential source of “new” water for groundwater replenishment and it is those flows which water agency and GSAs will most likely target. A rush to appropriate storm and seasonally high streamflows for groundwater storage and subsequent irrigation is already underway and is likely to accelerate in coming years.

Unfortunately, while DWR discusses streamflow needs in its “Replenishment” white paper and in that paper’s guidance to GSAs, those documents do not even mention DFW’s flow assessments and do not clearly state that year-around flow needs must be determined prior to appropriating storm and seasonally high flows for groundwater storage. Furthermore, DWR’s admits in the white paper that its estimates of “Water Available for Replenishment”:

*“...may not fully capture competing needs associated with instream flows to support habitat, species (including endangered or threatened species), water quality, and recreation.”*

Because it ignores streamflow needs, DWR’s estimates of the amounts of water available for diversion to groundwater storage in each of California’s regions is clearly a gross overestimation. That should be of great concern to those who care about stream ecosystems. The graph to the right highlights that concern by comparing DFW’s estimates to those made independently by UC Davis scientists.

By creating unrealistically high estimates of the amount of surface water available to recharge groundwater, and by ignoring

DFW’s instream flow assessments, DWR has created the expectation that California’s declining groundwater can be reversed by appropriating seasonally high springtime and storm streamflow. As a result, stream advocates will likely face a flood of new water right applications that ignore or inadequately assess the need for seasonally high and storm flows in California’s streams. And that is one among several reasons Northcoast advocates for healthy streams should participate in groundwater management plans currently being developed for Eel River and Smith River estuary lands as well as for the Scott and Shasta Valleys. Only the direct involvement of stream advocates will assure that year-around flows, including high storm and springtime flows needed to maintain healthy stream ecosystems, are properly assessed and protected.

BY FELICE PACE, NORTH GROUP WATER CHAIR

### To learn more about California’s Groundwater Replenishment issue see these links:

<https://mavensnotebook.com/2017/03/29/sgma-implementation-briefing-on-the-water-available-for-replenishment-report/>

<http://waterinthewest.stanford.edu/news-events/news-insights/why-we-cant-just-suck-it-challenges-groundwater-recharge-california>

<http://iopscience.iop.org/article/10.1088/1748-9326/aa7b1b>

### To learn more about the Sustainable Groundwater Management Act and how you can participate effectively in local groundwater planning see these links:

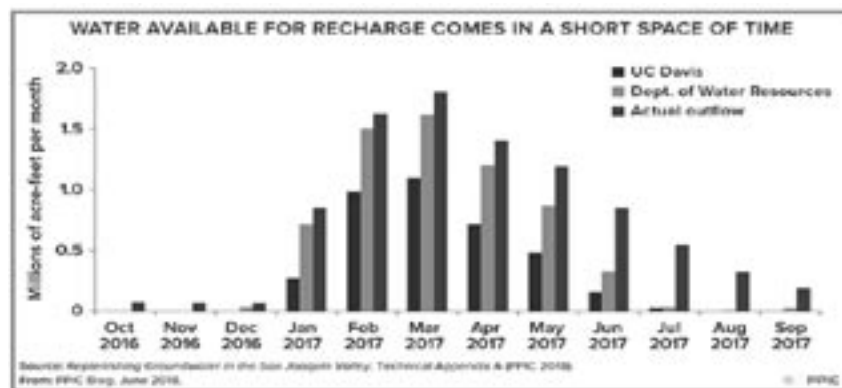
<https://www.ucsva.org/global-warming/ca-and-western-states/groundwater-toolkit#.W0eNkBgno0>

<https://mavensnotebook.com/2018/05/02/webinar-today-introduction-to-the-groundwater-resource-hub-and-tools-for-groundwater-dependent-ecosystems-gdes/>

<https://www.ucsva.org/sites/default/files/attach/2015/09/measuring-what-matters-california-sustainable-groundwater-report.pdf>

<https://www.scienceforconservation.org/assets/downloads/GDEsUnderSGMA.pdf>

<http://cagroundwater.org/>





## Sonoma Group Report

### Just, Equitable and Sustainable Fire Recovery

The Sierra Club Sonoma Group is supporting a comprehensive platform for a Just, Equitable, and Sustainable Recovery for the City of Santa Rosa and the County of Sonoma in response to the October 2017 fires that was released publicly on July 19. Steve Birdlebough and Tom Conlon made sure that key environmental and fire safety priorities were included in the multi-stakeholder initiative led by North Bay Jobs with Justice including: all electric ready and zero net energy new homes, rigorous fire safety standards for new and rebuilt housing in the highest fire-risk areas, and prioritizing low-water landscaping, rainwater catchment and greywater recycling. To receive a copy of the full platform, contact Teri Shore at [tshore@greenbelt.org](mailto:tshore@greenbelt.org)

### Public Fire Recovery Workshops

The Just Recovery platform will be important to share at the public workshops on fire recovery this summer being held by the new Sonoma County Office of Recovery and Resiliency. The Fire Recovery Plan includes sections on Natural Resources, Housing, Economy, Safety net, and Community Preparedness and Infrastructure. Please mark your calendars to speak up for fire-safe communities, greenbelt protection, healthy forests, affordable homes and zero energy building. Please also send your thoughts in writing to [recoveryinfo@sonoma-county.org](mailto:recoveryinfo@sonoma-county.org) Let your friends and neighbors know. Read more at [sonomacounty.ca.gov/Office-of-Recovery-and-Resiliency/](http://sonomacounty.ca.gov/Office-of-Recovery-and-Resiliency/)

All meetings will be from 6:00pm – 8:00pm.

July 25: Petaluma Community Center, 320 N. McDowell Blvd., Petaluma

August 2: Finley Community Center, 2060 W. College Ave., Santa Rosa

August 8: Veterans Building, 126 First St., Sonoma  
Santa Rosa Bike and Pedestrian Plan

The Santa Rosa Bike and Pedestrian Plan Update is being updated and support is needed for the East-West bikeway that goes through Jennings Ave and connects to the pedestrian bike bridge over 101 at Coddington. Tell the city planners where biking or walking is difficult or dangerous.

You can make comments and mark locations on the Interactive Map <https://altaprojects.net/santarosa/> Read more here: <https://srcity.org/2711/Bicycle-and-Pedestrian-Master-Plan> Attend the next public meeting at Rincon Valley Library, July 25 from 6-8pm

### New Student Representative

Sophia Porter recently joined the Executive Committee as the



**Sophia Porter, student representative to the Sonoma Group Executive Committee.**

student representative. She is Vice President of Sustainability at Santa Rosa Junior College's Student Life office. A dedicated environmentalist and naturalist, she volunteers at Pepperwood Preserve.

We will miss Adrienne Leihy very much. She helped us get up to speed with Facebook and other Social Media. Her leadership in sustainability has been a huge asset to the Sierra Club and the SRJC community. Thank you so much!!!

### Standing up for CA Environmental Law

Sierra Club leader Steve Birdlebough's letter to the editor defending the California Environmental Quality Act was published in Press Democrat on July 4. This bedrock of state environmental law is once again under attack and being wrongly blamed for the housing crisis. <http://www.pressdemocrat.com/.../wednesdays-letters-to-the-ed...>

### Put Winery Event Centers on Hold

Sierra Club Sonoma Group's ExCom sent a letter to the board of supervisors asking that new winery event centers be put on hold until new regulations are finalized. Sign the petition from Preserve Rural Sonoma County here <https://act.myngp.com/Forms/-2843394036665676800>

—TERI SHORE, SONOMA GROUP CO-CHAIR

## Napa Group Report

### June County Ballot: Wins and Losses

To our disappointment, Measure C, the Oak Woodland Protection Act, lost by a slim margin of under 700 votes with over 35,000 cast. The battle was hard-fought, with the opposition, funded by the vintner trade organizations, spending over one million dollars, three times the budget of the pro Measure C campaign.

Our significant accomplishment was to finally get the attention of our county supervisors, who have now pledged to discuss strengthening woodland protections. Supervisors Wagenknecht and Dillon have proposed bringing in a third-party facilitator to moderate a community-wide exploration of how the county might move forward on watershed policy.

This proposal should be greeted with some caution by environmentalists. Any community forum could easily be hijacked by wine industry heavy-hitters, burying environmental issues in years of discussion, with no discernible results. Such was the fate of Napa's APAC (Agricultural Protection Advisory Committee). Live and learn. As the classic song by The Who asserts, "We won't be fooled again."

The mouse has roared, and will keep roaring! Cio Perez, who supported Measure C and challenged Dillon for her seat on the board, managed to win 43% of the vote, despite a late start to his campaign, and low name recognition. Thanks to this strong showing, the incumbent supervisors realize that they are vulnerable. And for the first time, an organization rooted in the Hispanic community, Latinos Unidos, turned out for a Napa environmental campaign. We have further common ground with this group and other social justice activist groups. The most pressing issue which comes to mind is the lack of affordable workforce housing in Napa County. Lack of housing hurts working families, and it hurts the environment, as tens of thousands of employees pour greenhouse gas emissions into the air on their daily commutes from other counties to Napa jobs.

The Measure C campaign has enlarged and strengthened our environmental community. We are in this fight for the long haul. Our hope for the future requires that every person who supported Measure C stays engaged with county politics, constantly reminding the supervisors that we are not going away, that people power translates to votes.

Our good news is that Measure D, which bans private heliports in Napa County, roared to victory by a margin of nearly 61%. A peek into the No on D campaign finances revealed that they gained no traction beyond the Palmaz family and their business associates. Recall that Measure D was developed because of the Palmaz heliport project application. Napa voters do care about local quality of life, and do not believe that private property rights include the right to destroy our irreplaceable rural beauty and peace.

### Keep Informed on Napa Environmental Activities!

Get our monthly e-newsletter, by contacting us at [scnapapam@gmail.com](mailto:scnapapam@gmail.com), and follow Napa Group on Facebook.

—NANCY TAMARISK, NAPA GROUP VICE CHAIR

**Redwood Chapter and all local Groups have a variety of volunteer opportunities. Visit [www.sierraclub.org/redwood/get-involved](http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood/get-involved) for details or contact [vbrandon@lakelive.info](mailto:vbrandon@lakelive.info)**

## Solano Breeze Corner

Covering Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville and Vallejo  
[sierraclubsolanogroup@gmail.com](mailto:sierraclubsolanogroup@gmail.com) 707-319-6398

### Coastal Cleanup Day

Coastal Cleanup Day is Saturday, Sept. 15. Call your city's recycling coordinator for details. In Vallejo, call Ken Hawes/VALCORE Recycling @ 707 645-8258 .

### Join us for Solano Group Meetings

Please attend the Solano Group meetings, usually on the first Monday of each month. Our next date is August 6, 2018. And Sept 10. To confirm location, call Jane at 707-319- 6398

### VALCORE Recycling and Paper Shredding updates:

Solano Group helps out with paper shredding

every 3rd Saturday each month at 38 Sheridan Street, Vallejo from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is a charge of \$.50 per pound (CASH or CHECK ONLY) of paper shredded. (Maximum: 100 pounds)

**WEEKDAY SHREDDING** from 10 am to 4 pm, closed 1 pm to 2 pm for lunch (CREDIT OR DEBIT ONLY).

I need your help!! Call/text me. 707 319-6398.

Sierra Club volunteers help tend the money and direct traffic. Once a year is all we ask, and you only need work an hour or so. Volunteers get FREE shredding!

—CONTRIBUTOR: JANE BOGNER  
EDITOR: GREG PETERSON

## North Group Report

North Group Sierra Club wishes to thank everyone who took part in our June Member Meeting at Humboldt Bay Social Club. A warm evening and winds milder than expected graced us. A moment in Samoa, "... full of noises, sounds and sweet airs that give delight and hurt not."

20 people, 50 oysters. Friends of distinction, some old, some new. Our genial hosts built a small bonfire in a steel enclosure, and provided us with technical and moral support, and condiments, as regards the bivalves. The group decided that we could simply lay them directly on the steel screen, rather than fiddling with charcoal and so forth, waiting for the briquets etc., to good effect. An outdoor tribal experience.

Gregg's ensemble Tyger Byle regaled us with amplified acoustic tunes (love that banjo!), from the old truck barn, its wood floor fairly suitable for dancing, a short walk to the Bar.

We reveled in hours of indirect sunlight, reflected from arrayed layers of stratus in Samoa's Big Sky. A beautiful evening, ending with a short drive home, past the shuttered hulk of "Evergreen Pulp," standing its lonely vigil.

Just folks, brought together by a common interest in conservation, connecting in ways large and small. Do join us for our next in-town, or outdoor, adventure!

—NED FORSYTH, NORTH GROUP VICE CHAIR

Redwood Needles August 1, 2018 7

## Election Results, June 5, 2018

Sierra Club endorsed candidates did very well in the June 5, primary, both statewide and here in Redwood Chapter. Except for Jeff Bleich, who lost his bid for Lieutenant Governor, all our endorsed statewide candidates advanced to the general election, when most are strong favorites to prevail, and the results on both statewide propositions went our way. Here on the North Coast all three of our Congressional representatives finished first, as did both state legislators. Locally, two out of three supervisorial candidates won, and one of two ballot measures. In the list below, note that in the case of Congressional, statewide, and state legislative candidates "won" means "advanced to the November 6 general election."

CD02	Jared Huffman	WON
CD03	John Garamendi	WON
CD05	Mike Thompson	WON
Governor	Gavin Newsom	WON
Lt. Governor	Jeff Bleich	lost
Attorney General	Xavier Becerra	WON
Sec. of State	Alex Padilla	WON
State Controller	Betty Yee	WON
Ins. Commissioner	Ricardo Lara	WON
Sup. of Pub. Inst.	Tony Thurmond	WON
Senate Dist. 02	Mike McGuire	WON
Assembly Dist. 02	Jim Wood	WON
Prop 68 (water bond we supported)		WON
Prop 70 (scam GHG measure we opposed)		LOST
Humboldt County Supervisor, District 5	Steve Madrone	WON
Lake County Supervisor, District 2	Bruno Sabatier	WON
Napa County Measure C (oak woodland protection)		lost
Napa County Measure D (banning private heliports)		WON

## Meetings

Send all Meeting events by the 8th of the month to Carl Inglin: [chinglin@sonic.net](mailto:chinglin@sonic.net) Sierra Club meetings are open to all members. You are welcome to participate or observe as often as you wish. Visitors should call the committee chair to verify time and place. The Sonoma County Environmental Center is located at 55A Ridgway Avenue in Santa Rosa (West of Hwy 101, two blocks North of College and 1 1/2 blocks West off of Cleveland Ave, South of Coddington).

### Mon. Aug. 6 - Solano Group ExCom.

Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more people to help carry the load. Call Jane for information. (707)319-6398.

### Mon. Aug. 6 - Sonoma Group.

Conservation Committee 5:30 pm - 6:30 pm. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)  
Sonoma Group Executive Committee at 6:30 p.m. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

### Tues. Aug. 7 - North Group ExCom.

North Group Sierra Club is holding its monthly Executive Committee meeting. All are welcome to discuss local conservation issues between 7:45 and 8:45 p.m. or come for the business meeting starting at 6:45 p.m. Meet at the Adorni Center Conference Room on the Eureka Waterfront. For more information, contact Gregg at (707) 826-3740.

### Mon. Sept. 3 - Sonoma Group.

Conservation Committee at 5:30 pm - 6:30 p.m. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

Sonoma Group Executive Committee at 6:30 p.m. Info: Suzanne Doyle [carsort@gmail.com](mailto:carsort@gmail.com)

### Mon. Sept. 3 - Solano Group ExCom.

Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more people to help carry the load. Call Jane for information. (707)319-6398.

### Sat., Sept. 8 - Redwood Chapter ExCom. And ConsCom.

Location: Environmental Center in Santa Rosa, 55A Ridgway. Conservation Committee meets at 10 a.m., ExCom meets 1-3 p.m. Info: Victoria [vbrandon@lakelive.info](mailto:vbrandon@lakelive.info)

### Tues. Sept. 11 - North Group ExCom.

North Group Sierra Club is holding

its monthly Executive Committee meeting. All are welcome to discuss local conservation issues between 7:45 and 8:45 p.m. or come for the business meeting starting at 6:45 p.m. Meet at the Adorni Center Conference Room on the Eureka Waterfront. For more information, contact Gregg at (707) 826-3740.

### Tues. Sept. 18 - Napa Group ExCom.

7 p.m. Our location varies; it is generally at a member's home. Anyone wishing to attend the meeting should contact the chair, Nancy Tamarisk at [napaquail@gmail.com](mailto:napaquail@gmail.com)

### Thurs. Sept. 20 - Solano Group ExCom.

Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more people to help carry the load. Call Jane for information. (707)319-6398.

## Sonoma County May Once More Have Compost Facility

### Public Hearing on August 15

**Sonoma County Waste Management recently chose Renewable Sonoma as its top choice to develop a compost facility in Sonoma County.**

**Since 2015, after the compost yard at the county landfill was shut down over water quality concerns, Sonoma County has been trucking its green waste out of the county for processing. A local facility would be a welcome addition to the area's waste management process. SCWM will hold a public hearing on Aug. 15 about the proposal. If you are interested in attending the meeting or getting involved with the Zero Waste movement, contact Theresa Ryan.**

*Redwood Needles*

### October 2018 Deadline: Due Sept. 8th

Submit Articles/Reports/Ad Copy via e-mail to:

**[odavison@sonic.net](mailto:odavison@sonic.net)**

Send Outings to Louis Vas: [lvas@sonic.net](mailto:lvas@sonic.net)  
and Meetings to Carl Inglin: [chinglin@sonic.net](mailto:chinglin@sonic.net)

**Redwood Needles**

**Sierra Club**

Redwood Chapter  
P.O. Box 466, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

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