

Redwood Needles



Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Volume 54 Number 3

Newsletter of the Redwood Chapter of the Sierra Club

June/July 2013



Stornetta Waterfall by Bruce Jensen

Action Alert for California's Coast

One of Redwood Chapter's most special places needs your help. Located along Mendocino County's coast, the 1,132 acres of Stornetta Public Lands offer breathtaking scenic views, wind-sculpted cypress stands, wildflower meadows, shifting sand dunes, and the five-acre Sea Island Rocks. Not only is the area drop-dead gorgeous, it also contains important natural resources like coastal wetlands and habitat for otters, seals, and pelicans.

This area is owned by the federal Bureau of Land Management, which does not currently have resources to properly protect this special place. But

right now, we're working to get this place permanently protected as part of the California Coastal National Monument.

What You Can Do:

You can help by writing a letter the editor of your local paper, supporting permanent protection of this special place. To sign up and get more information, call Redwood Chapter Chair Victoria Brandon at 707-994-1931, or go to <http://action.sierraclub.org/StornettaLTE>, where you'll find talking points and support in writing your letter.

Sierra Club California Condemns Governor Brown's Out-of-Date Delta Policy

Sierra Club California, the advocacy arm of the largest and oldest environmental organization working on water policy in the state, called on Governor Jerry Brown to abandon his out-of-step position on the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta this week.

"You and your administration are relying too heavily on an old-fashioned approach to resolving California's water demand challenges at a time when more updated ideas and alternatives are needed," the organization said in a letter to the Governor delivered in May. "Your solution is to build something big before you leave office. Yet, building something big and old-fashioned isn't going to ensure—especially during a time of climate disruption—that the people of California and the environment will be guaranteed the reliable and essential water supply needed at a

time it is most critical."

The letter was signed by the group's director, Kathryn Phillips, on behalf of its more than 380,000 members and champions in the state. It culminates a month of controversy surrounding the Brown Administration's proposal to develop two giant tunnels, and massive accompanying infrastructure, to draw water from the Sacramento River before it arrives in the Delta.

Based on recently released chapters of the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDGP), the tunnel proposal "will be disastrous for the environment, the cultural resources and the economy in the Delta," the letter states. "Whereas the Delta Reform Act speaks to dual goals of ecosystem restoration and reliability of Delta supplies, in the context of programs for long-

"Club Condemns Delta Policy" cont. on page 3

Sierra Club Supports Path To Citizenship For Undocumented Immigrants

On April 25th, the Sierra Club announced its support for an equitable path to citizenship for undocumented immigrants.

The Sierra Club Board of Directors, made up of elected volunteer leaders, has unanimously adopted the position:

Currently at least 11 million people live in the U.S. in the shadows of our society. Many of them work in jobs that expose them to dangerous conditions, chemicals and pesticides, and many more of them live in areas with disproportionate levels of toxic air, water, and soil pollution. To protect clean air and water and prevent the disruption of our climate, we must ensure that those who are most disenfranchised and most threatened by pollution within our borders have the voice to fight polluters and advocate for climate solutions without fear.

The Sierra Club takes a position to support an equitable path to citizenship for residents of the United States who lack official documentation. America's undocumented population should be able to earn legalization and a timely pathway to citizenship, with all the rights to fully participate in our democracy, including influencing environmental and climate policies. The pathway to citizenship should be free of unreasonable barriers, and should facilitate keeping families together and reuniting those that are split whenever possible.

"By establishing an equitable path to citizenship for the 11 million undocumented immigrants living in America today, we can empower those in our society who are most vulnerable to toxic pollution to fully participate in our democracy, fight back against polluters and demand public health protections and clean energy solutions," said Allison Chin, Sierra Club president.

"The 20 million Americans with family members whose legal status is in limbo share the Sierra Club's concerns about climate and the environment," said Michael Brune, Sierra Club executive director. "Yet, this vital set of stakeholders and change agents has been denied civil rights. The Sierra Club is committed to partnering with all who share our urgent concerns about advancing our democracy and fighting the climate crisis."

For more information, visit: <http://sierraclub.typepad.com/michaelbrune/2013/04/immigration.html>

We're On Facebook!

Redwood Chapter is delighted to be able to announce that we have officially joined the digital age by inaugurating a Chapter Facebook page, with a Twitter feed planned for the near future. This innovation gives us the opportunity for flexible interaction with our members and other supporters on an ongoing basis, not only by posting announcements, action alerts, and photographs but also by giving you an opportunity to share your perspectives with us and with the whole Sierra Club community. Anyone can see the page (which contains lots of photographs already) by going to www.facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter, so we encourage you to check us out. Better yet, if you're a Facebook member and "like" us, regular updates will appear in your news feed and you'll have an opportunity to provide comments and to share postings with your own social network. We're looking forward to hearing from you soon!

Redwood Chapter Sierra Club Directory

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Redwood Needles

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\$6.00 per year. Send requests to: Redwood Needles Subscriptions, P.O. Box 466, Santa Rosa, CA 95402

The *Redwood Needles* is published six times a year on recycled paper using soy-based ink.

Circulation: 7,400
An additional 380 newsletters are distributed electronically

Printing: Healdsburg Printing, Inc.

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Issue	Deadline
June/July	May 8
Aug./Sept.	July 8
Oct./Nov.	Sept. 8

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The Office is staffed most weekday afternoons. Call ahead to confirm, 544-7651. The Office is also open during evening meetings (see listings on last page) and at other times when volunteers are present.

Redwood Chapter Online

Redwood Chapter Website: <http://www.redwood.sierraclub.org>
for Group Websites, add: /napa, /north, /sonoma, /lake, /mendocino, or /solano

Sequoia Paddlers: www.sequoiapc.org

Redwood-Sonoma-Alerts Listserve: Instructions at Sonoma Group Website

Chapter Chair Report

Over the past couple of months I've had the opportunity to do quite a bit of traveling on behalf of the Chapter (if I'm ever tempted to write a memoir on my experiences as an environmental activist it's going to be subtitled "Life in the Car").

For starters, on March 29 I had the privilege of attending an enthusiastic public gathering on the Mendocino headlands, hosted by Congressman Jared Huffman to announce his introduction of legislation adding the spectacular Stornetta Public Lands to the California Coastal National Monument. The bill would also tap into mitigation funding from the Gulf oils spill to acquire another key 400-acre coastal parcel and thereby provide the connectivity needed to create ten miles of trails along the bluffs, making it possible to hike all the way from Point Arena to the Lighthouse and on to Manchester State Park. See the article on page one for a call to action on the ways we can help make this great proposal a reality.

Then in April the Napa Group Executive Committee invited me to attend one of their meetings, where I learned a lot about the conservation issues facing them, some of which are very familiar and others unique to Napa's special circumstances. They were also busy making plans for Earth Day tabling, arranging a series of informative gatherings for Club members and the public, and revitalizing their Outings program. Go Napa! By the way, I'm hoping to schedule visits to Solano, Mendocino, and North Groups sometime in the next few months.

The last weekend in April Conservation Chair Diane Beck and I journeyed farther afield, clear up to the Klamath Basin Wildlife

Refuges. This interlocked collection of waterways provides crucial habitat for a vast number of migratory and resident birds: 353 bird species have been observed here, including the largest concentration of bald eagles south of Alaska and three of the few remaining breeding colonies of white pelicans left in the West. It is also home to several species of endangered fish. The watershed straddles two states and three Sierra Club Chapters, and so Oregon Chapter's local Rogue Group took the initiative to invite representatives from all three to tour the Refuges and hear about their dire condition first hand from the Refuge manager. We found low water levels and a prediction that the wetlands would dry up altogether by August, as they have during three of the past four summers. Last year more than 20,000 birds died from a cholera epidemic while crowded together in low water conditions, and the same risky conditions prevail this year too. The basic problem seems to be that more water has been allocated than is available in all but the wettest years, and that other users— primarily subsidized agriculture— take precedence over the fish and birds even on land like this that has been dedicated for habitat preservation

for more than 100 years. To see a sampling of photos from the visit, check out the Chapter's Facebook page at facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter— you don't have to belong to Facebook to look at the page.

The following weekend brought a complete change of pace, when I attended the first-ever Chapter Chairs Assembly at Sierra Club headquarters in San Francisco. More than fifty Chairs and Vice Chairs from all over the country met for two and a half days, learning a great deal about national conservation campaigns, hearing from Executive Director Michael Brune and (via webcam) Club President Allison Chin, meeting with staff both as a group and individually, and exchanging tips on the best ways to build our volunteer base and acquire the funding needed to strengthen our clout locally, regionally, and nationally. Best of all, we had the chance to meet each other and form the relationships that make the Club such a truly formidable advocate for the environment.

After churning out all those miles it would be great to stay home here in Lake County for a while and work in the garden, but next weekend I'm off again to the bi-annual California-Nevada Regional Conservation Committee meeting in San Luis Obispo, and then on May 22 will fly to Washington DC to lobby our Senators and Congressional representatives on behalf of the wonderful Berryessa Snow Mountain National Conservation Area proposal. Expect a report on all that in the next Redwood Needles!

—VICTORIA BRANDON, REDWOOD CHAPTER CHAIR

"Club Condemns Delta Policy" continued from page 1

term reliability statewide, the documentation released for the BDCP seems intent on maintaining or increasing high exports out of the Delta to benefit the State Water Project and Central Valley Project contractors at the expense of the environment."

The letter notes that giant water engineering projects developed decades ago "have helped delay development of a sustainable water policy in our current era. It is critical that the current debate about the Sacramento-San Joaquin River Delta system not lead us to

repeat history's mistakes."

Finally, the letter calls on the Governor to provide leadership on water policy that invests in commonsense conservation and infrastructure improvements that aren't driven by a few big water user agencies. "Rather than rushing to a tunnel solution, we urge you to reconsider your position on the Delta and explore alternative plans to lead California in a bolder, more enlightened and comprehensive direction on water supply policy."



Benson Hut winter outing. Photo by Pierson Bourquin.

Non-Sierra Club Outings

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.

Saturday Saunters for Santa Rosa Area.

Every Saturday. Meets 9 am and usually ends around 11:30. These walks are moderate. Fun way to exercise with friends. For info call Bob Martin 707-539-6300.

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 565-3356. ParksVolunteer@sonoma-county.org

Volunteer Days Riverkeeper Stewardship Park in Guerneville.

Every Wed 8:30-11:30 am, for all or part of the time. Park is located on the north bank of Russian River directly upstream Guerneville pedestrian bridge. Access entrance from the driveway in front of Sonoma Nesting Co. (16132 Main Street, just east of Armstrong Woods Rd. At bottom of driveway look for blue & white "Russian Riverkeeper Stewardship Park" sign. Bring drinking water & wear sturdy footwear. Light refreshments provided. Info Victoria Wikle 865-2474 VictoriaWikle@usa.net.



Built by Sierra Club members in 1934, this rustic, hostel-style lodge stands atop historic Donner Pass, just an hour and a half from Sacramento.

Clair Tappaan Lodge is the perfect summer base camp for anyone who enjoys the wide variety of activities offered by the Tahoe area. Explore wildflower gardens and expansive views while hiking the nearby Pacific Crest Trail. Short hikes to secluded mountain lakes begin at the Lodge and are perfect for introducing the family to the mountains. Donner Lake offers great kayaking, swimming, and fishing while Donner Summit has long been a destination for rock climbers and mountain bikers.

Guests enjoy excellent family style meals, a friendly staff and a casual and communal atmosphere.

See you on Donner Summit...



For more information about our special programs or to receive a full schedule and description of Clair Tappaan programs please visit our website at www.ctl.sierraclub.org or call (800) 679-6775.

Outings

Sat. June 1 - North Group Patrick's Point State Park Hike.

Join us in celebrating the Patrick's Point Native Plant Garden's 40th anniversary by visiting Park highlights including the Native Plant Garden, Sumege Village, Ceremonial Rock, Wedding Rock, Patrick's Point and Palmer's Point before looping back to the Visitor Center. Bring water and snacks. No dogs. Class M-3.5-A. Carpools: Meet 10:15 am McKinleyville Safeway parking lot. 10:45 am Patrick's Point Visitor Center. Leader Bill 707-839-5971. Rain cancels.

Sat. June 8 - Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve in Vallejo.

Our walk takes us along a historic road to the highest point on Mare Island with spectacular views towards the Carquinez Strait, San Pablo and San Francisco Bays. Baby ospreys might be starting to fledge and great blue herons and other raptors/wildlife are likely to be seen. There are also various historical features and wildflowers along the way. This walk is a fairly easy 3.5 mile r/t walk mostly along a gradually inclined paved road from 9:30-11:00. Class E-4-A. Take U.S. 101, I-80 or Hwy 29 to Highway 37 and take the Mare Island exit just west of Vallejo. Follow Walnut Ave. south to 'G' St. (1st stop sign) and turn left. Take the 2nd right at Nimitz and go to 15th S. stop sign and turn right. Go to Railroad Ave. and turn left. Follow Railroad through

the South Gate to the Park kiosk where there is ample parking space. Leader Brian Collett 530 220-3121 Participants are free to bring lunch and eat at the Preserve picnic tables and then explore other trails on Mare Island. There are also museums.

Sat.-Sun. June 8-9 - 1st Sat-Sun Benson Hut Work Party.

Benson Hut work party involves hiking 3 miles to the Benson Hut Saturday morning, hut maintenance Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, then hiking back Sunday afternoon. Maintenance involves stocking the

hut with wood, repairs, staining and cleanup. Good exercise, wonderful setting and great fun. Friday night stay at Clair Tappaan Lodge included with work party (Dinner Friday night and breakfast Saturday am). Contact leader Jim Gannon (707)-525-1052 jgannon99@sbcglobal.net for sign up or questions.

Sun. Jun. 9 - Lake Group Redbud Trail to Cache Creek Hike.

This is a moderate hike in the Cache Creek Wilderness with possible sightings of bald eagles or other raptors. Bring water, binoculars and

visitor parking lot. Take Branscomb Rd. west of Laytonville to 3 mi past (west) of tiny Branscomb, then right turn at unmarked, paved, and only road you will see on right, and drive about 4 miles to Reserve parking lot. Leader: Jonah Freedman. By reservation only. 4671877. jonahfreedman@sbcglobal.net Rain cancels.

Fri-Thurs. June 21-27 - Coyote Gulch Backpack.

This trip heads into some of the best of red rock in Utah, with sheer high-walled canyons and cathedral-like camping areas. Meet around noon at the Escalante visitor center where we will obtain our permits. Hike 4-5 miles a day, possible lay-over day. Most of hike is fairly easy, but requires wading back and forth across the creek. This is definitely the summer warm season, but I have generally found it quite pleasant in the canyon this time of year. Limit 12. David Hardy, 702 875-4826, hardyhikers@embarqmail.com. S. Nevada Group/CNRCC Desert Committee.

Fri.-Sun. June 21-23 - Napa/Sonoma Group. Bowman Lake Car Camp Exploratory Trip.

Car camping near Bowman Lake, north of I-80. Bring your boat and we'll go exploring. Group potluck Saturday night. Details are still being worked out. By RSVP only. Leaders: Isabelle Saint-Guily 707-253-2293 izstguily@gmail.com or Carl Inglin 707-538-8273 chinglin@sonic.net.

Tues-Fri. June 25-28 - Yolla Bolly Backpacking Trip.

We will set up a base camp after backpacking 5 miles into the Yolla Bolly Wilderness in the Mendocino National Forest, located east of Covelo. We will stay at the same site for 3 nights, using the 2 middle days to take day hikes, or hang around camp. There is a good water source and shady campsites with a variety of trails to explore. Bring all your own meals for 4 days and 3 nights, including lunch for the 1st and 4th days. Bear canister is optional as is rain gear. Must have a way to purify or filter your water, a stove, and good hiking boots. Must be an intermediate backpacker and have backpacked within the last 2 years. Class: M-5-B. Meet 8 AM Hwy. 101 intersection with Covelo Road, 10 miles north of Willits on Tues. June 25. Pullout is on east side of Hwy. 101. If needed, we will leave a car at the ranger station in Covelo. Limit 10. By reservation only. Leader Val Nordeman, 707 477-4199 nordeman@willitsonline.com

Sat. June 29 - North Group Fay Slough Wildlife Area Parent and Child Walk.

Bring your child(ren) to walk on the level CA Fish & Game wetlands trail only two miles outside of Eureka. Jogging strollers and friendly dogs OK. Optional loop on trail would add an extra half mile. After hike, we can ride the carousel nearby. Bring snacks and water for you and your child(ren) and sturdy shoes. Directions: Exit Hwy 101 at Harper Ford exit, make an immediate left onto gravel road into parking lot. Class E-1.5-A. Meet 10 am Fay Slough Wildlife Area trailhead. Leader Allison 707-268-8767. Rain cancels.

Sun. Jun. 30 - Lake Group Mt. Konocti from Gate Hike.

We will hike from the gate on Konocti Rd. Bring binoculars, lunch and water.

We will enjoy the spectacular views over Big Valley and Clear Lake. Class: M-6-B. Meet 9:30 am parking lot by gate. By reservation only. Leader Jacqueline Farley jfarley108@gmail.com

July 4-7, Thu.-Sun. - Independence Day Weekend in the Black Rock.

This will be a very busy weekend in the Black Rock. No specific activities planned at this writing but it's a shame to waste such a long weekend so it'll probably be a car-camp. Possible amateur radio class on Sunday! After 6/15, call David Book, 775/843-6443 for more info. Leader is very familiar w/ the area and can find plenty to do up there. Sorry, no RV's or Trailers. Dogs on leash, LNT. Great Basin Group/CNRCC Desert Committee

Wed. July 10 - North Group Six Rivers National Forest, Horse Mountain and Brush Mountain Lookout.

We'll use the day's cooler hours to walk informal paths through Cold Springs' west-facing high meadows and woodlands, with their frequent, scenic rock outcroppings. After lunch, we can drive on to Friday Ridge Road and walk the shaded Forest Service access road to Brush Mountain Lookout. Bring food, layered wear, and plenty of water. No dogs, please. Class M-6-A. Carpools: Meet 9 am Valley West parking lot, Carl's Jr. corner. 9:30 am at Berry Summit View Overlook. Leader Melinda 707-668-4275 or mgroomster@gmail.com Rain cancels.

Fri.-Sun. July 12-14 - Napa/Sonoma Group. Boat In Camp Out at Loon Lake.

Our annual outing to Loon Lake, in the Sierras northeast of Placerville. We'll canoe/kayak to a primitive camp on the east end of the lake. Bring your own boat. Group potluck on Saturday. Great area for artists and photographers. By RSVP. Leaders: Isabelle Saint-Guily 707-253-2293 izstguily@gmail.com or Carl Inglin 707-538-8273 chinglin@sonic.net.

Sat. July 13 - A Walk at Mare Island Shoreline Heritage Preserve in Vallejo.

Our walk takes us along a historic road to the highest point on Mare Island with spectacular views towards the Carquinez Strait, San Pablo and San Francisco Bays. Baby ospreys will be fledging and great blue herons and other raptors/wildlife are likely to be seen. There are also various historical features and wildflowers along the way. This walk is a fairly easy 3.5 mile r/t walk mostly along a gradually inclined paved road from 9:30-11:00. Class E-4-A. Take U.S. 101, I-80 or Hwy 29 to Highway 37 and take the Mare Island exit just west of Vallejo. Follow Walnut Ave. south to 'G' St. (1st stop sign) and turn left. Take the 2nd right at Nimitz and go to 15th S. stop sign and turn right. Go to Railroad Ave. and turn left. Follow Railroad through the South Gate to the Park kiosk where there is ample parking space. Leader Brian Collett 530 220-3121 Participants are free to bring lunch and eat at the Preserve picnic tables and then explore other trails on Mare Island.

Fri.-Mon. July 26-29 - Eastern Nevada Wilderness Service.

Once again, we partner with ranger John from BLM in Ely for a scintillating Wilderness service project in eastern Nevada. We've worked in the Mt.



Benson Hut winter outing. Photo by Pierson Bourquin.

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, pets, 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: Carol Vellutini, Outings Chair, (carolvrs@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.

snacks. Class: M-5-A. Meet: 9:30 am parking lot off Highway 20 just before the bridge over the North Fork of Cache Creek (eight miles to the east of Clear Lake Oaks). By reservation only. Leader Jacqueline Farley jfarley108@gmail.com

Sun. June 9 - North Group Prairie Creek State Park Friendship Ridge Hike.

Experience coastal views, old-growth, flowers, ferns galore, waterfalls, and probable elk along this loop starting at Fern Canyon. Some rough spots and soggy terrain likely. Bring food, water, and hiking footwear. No dogs. Class M-8-A. Carpools: Meet 9:am Arcata Safeway parking lot. 10 am Elk Meadows parking area (off Davison Rd.). Leader Melinda 707-668-4275 or mgroomster@gmail.com. Rain cancels.

Sat. June 15 - Mendo Group Angelo Coast Range Reserve Hike.

The ACRR is a historically interesting property originally purchased by The Nature Conservancy and then transferred to UC Berkeley, and which now serves as a UC Berkeley research facility set along the headwaters of the S. Fork of the Eel River. It is stunningly beautiful along the Eel River and Elder Creek with riparian, meadow, and oak, Douglas fir, and redwood habitats with tall coast range mountains overlooking all--a truly magnificent place that we will experience on our hike ending at one of the historic residences in the reserve. It will be mostly level hiking on the graveled path that bisects the Reserve but depending on water level in the Eel, we may hike a trail for part of the time. Bring lunch, snacks, adequate liquids, raingear, and wear layered clothing and sturdy boots. Class M-8-A. No dogs. Carpools: Meet 8:30 am Raley's parking lot, Ukiah or 10:15 am ACRR

Outings

Grafton Wilderness south of Ely, the Highland Ridge, just south of Great Basin National Park, and the Becky Peak Wilderness in the Schell Creek Range north of Ely. Where will it be this time? Sign up and find out. We do know – it will be useful, enjoyable, hard work for wilderness with pleasing camaraderie in a wild, scenic area. Central commissary offered for usual exorbitant fee, contact Vicky Hoover, 415-977-5527, or vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org.

Sat. July 27 - North Group Ma-le'l Dunes Cooperative Management Area, Ledik Trail to Du'k Loop Trail.

Come with your kids and explore this BLM and Fish & Wildlife Service Cooperative Management Area and experience a biologically diverse dune community, one of the most pristine in the Pacific Northwest. We will see a coastal forest, sand dunes and the beach. Wear sturdy shoes and bring liquids and lunch. No strollers. Class: E-1.5-A. Meet 10 am Ma-le'l Dunes South parking area, turning off Samoa Blvd (Hwy 255), onto Young Lane, make a left and follow sign to parking lot (park near restroom). Leader Allison 707-268-8767. Rain cancels.

Mon-Fri. July 29 - Aug. 2 - Mendo Group Backpack Yolla Bolly.

Let's hike a 30-35 mile loop into the heart of the Yolla Bolly averaging 7 miles each day and stopping each night at a different, beautiful spring. We can explore different trails, even change the route if the group chooses to. We may take a layover day on the third day to day hike or hang out in camp. Bring all your own food for 5 days and 4 nights. Must have water purification and backpacking stove. Bear canisters optional. Must carry 3 quarts of water. This is a dry area and a dry time of year. Need to be an intermediate backpacker and have backpacked within the last 2 years. Good boots are a must, walking sticks are helpful. Class: S-35-B. Meet 8 am Mon. July 29, Covelo turnoff from Highway 101, 10 miles north of Willits. We may leave a car at the Covelo ranger station and carpool to the trailhead. By reservation only.

Leader Val Nordeman cell phone 707 477-4199, nordeman@willitsonline.com Leader in training Brenda.

Sat.-Sun. Sept 7-8 - 2nd Benson Hut Work Party.

Benson Hut work party involves hiking 3 miles to the Benson Hut Saturday morning, hut maintenance Saturday afternoon and Sunday morning, then hiking back Sunday afternoon. Maintenance involves stocking the hut with wood, repairs, staining and cleanup. Good exercise, wonderful setting and great fun. Friday night stay at Clair Tappaan Lodge included with work party (Dinner Friday night and breakfast Saturday am). Contact leader Jim Gannon (707)-525-1052 jgannon99@sbcglobal.net for signup or questions.

Fri.-Sun. Sept 27-29 - Service and Hiking in the Carrizo Plains.

This is an opportunity to visit and to assist an outstanding and relatively unknown national monument. There will be an optional and scenic hike high in the Caliente Mountains on Friday. Others may join us for National Public Lands Day on Saturday when we will participate with other volunteers doing trail maintenance. On Sunday we will tour a number of the historic, prehistoric, and geologic sites in the Monument. Leader Craig Deutsche, craig.deutsche@gmail.com, 310-477-6670. CNRCC Desert Committee.

Mendocino Group Outings Leader Report

Lake Leonard Hike on April 7th

The Mendocino Group outing co-leaders for this hike were Jonah Freedman and Yvonne Kramer. Kristana Arp, a family member of the current owners of the property, was our guide.

We carpooled nine miles down Reeves Canyon Road through towering old growth redwoods in the mist of a spring morning. When we arrived at the 1895 farm house above Leonard Lake I felt transported out of inland Mendocino. 25 hikers followed a wonderful trail that circled the lake a perfect distance from the shore, providing a view of the lake below. We walked through old growth redwoods with calypso orchids and sprouting mushrooms, stopping at a meadow for lunch. After lunch we hiked through oak woodlands with majestic views of green hills to the south. Cormorants were floating in the lake. At the end of the hike we were in front of the farmhouse and heard Sandy, a family friend, tell about the history of the property. The Dakin family bought 400 acres around the house and lake in 1953. The property had never been logged. Continuing to add on to the original property they now have almost



Lake Leonard hike—co-leader Jonah Freedman and guide Kristana Arp.

4,000 acres and manage the land in a Conservancy. The farmhouse and a few surrounding houses are rented for special events. We felt grateful to walk the beautiful trails on the private property and thank Kristana Arp for her generosity in arranging our hike.

—YVONNE KRAMER,
MENDO GROUP OUTINGS LEADER

Interested in Becoming an Outings Leader?

Contact your Group Outings Chair (see page 2) or Carol Vellutini at 546-6308 or carolvsr@sonic.net for information.

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.

Fast-pace with few or no stops:

Jim Gannon Paul Bozzo Carol Magill

Moderate-pace with few stops:

Penny Proteau Don Anderson Steve Devoto Tiffany MacNeil
Isabelle Saint-Guily Lorrie Lagasse Boone Lodge Chip Bouril Paul Farley

Moderate-pace with more frequent stops:

Pete McGee Tim Bartice Bill Knight Melinda Groom Val Nordeman
Carol Vellutini Yvonne Kramer Martin Farber Brian Collett Jean Crossley
Carl Inglin Tom McFarling Nanette DeDonato Jonah Freedman

Slower-pace: Allison Bronkall

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Lake Group Report

Dismal spawning season for the Clear Lake Hitch

Lake Group continues to keep a close eye on fate of this iconic fish species, which is found in Clear Lake and nowhere else. As previously mentioned, the Center for Biological Diversity has petitioned to list the hitch (*Lavinia exilicauda chi*) under the Endangered Species Act, and in March the California Fish and Game Commission accepted it as a candidate species. A year-long status evaluation is now under way. Evidence suggests that the species is teetering on the edge of extinction, and Lake Group intends to submit comments strongly supportive of listing. In the meantime, the 2013 spawning season has come and gone, with very low water and diminished flow in the creeks, and very few sightings of migrating adults. Observers have subsequently seen substantial numbers of juvenile fish in the creeks that may be hitch (it is very difficult to distinguish them from Sacramento suckers at this stage of development), but rapidly falling water level may make it impossible for them to return to the lake.

Anderson Marsh partnership agreement signed

Late in April it was announced that the Anderson Marsh Interpretive Society and the California Department of Parks and Recreation have signed a partnership agreement to keep Anderson Marsh State Historic Park open for at least the next three years. The agreement will take advantage of a special "matching" fund established last year after the discovery of millions of dollars of unaccounted park money, and

calls for the Park to be available for public use throughout the week, with the parking lot open on weekends. Besides utilities and maintenance, AMIA funding will be used to restore the McVicar Trail, which has been closed some time due to unsafe conditions. State Parks will also assign a maintenance worker to the Park. Not only does AMSHP preserve Clear Lake's largest remaining wetland in a varied habitat that makes it a paradise for birders and other wildlife watchers, it also contains archeological sites of great antiquity and high significance. All these values would be vulnerable to neglect and probable vandalism if the gates were padlocked and no oversight provided. Lake Group, which has given both moral and financial support to the park during the years it has been intermittently threatened with closure, rejoices at this very good news, and looks forward to opportunities for collaboration in the future.

Lake Group again offers scholarships

For the second year in a row, the Lake County Sierra Club is offering \$1000 scholarships to two graduating seniors from local high schools who are planning careers that will support the Club's mission to "enjoy, explore, and protect" the planet, with emphasis on safe and healthy communities, strategies to combat global warming, and preserving America's wild places. At press time, applications were being evaluated by the Lake Group Executive Committee, with presentations planned during commencement ceremonies.

—VICTORIA BRANDON, LAKE GROUP

Sonoma Group Report

On May 15 we hosted University of California Extension Forest Advisor Greg Giusti, Chris Kelly from The Conservation Fund, Friends of the Gualala River President Chris Poehlman, and Fish Friendly Farming Executive Director Laurel Marcus to our "Bambi vs. the Bulldozer" panel at the Glaser Center in Santa Rosa. The discussion focused on watershed & forest protection in the face of the North Coast's ever-expanding vineyard monoculture. We organized this event in conjunction with the Redwood Chapter, Sonoma County Water Coalition, Forests Unlimited, and the Unitarian Universalist Advocates for Social Justice.

(Those who have an interest in this subject please note: We have openings on our Forest Protection Committee, and are seeking a Chair to lead that committee.)

We are meeting with policy makers to make clear the importance of implementing a seamless schedule of bus and other transit modes to connect with SMART train stops and keep transit users moving to their destinations without delays.

We also sent the County our comment that the landfill site operator's agreement should include an annual presentation and report to the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency on the status and results of the operator's various landfilling and diversion efforts, and for Republic (the operator being offered the contract) to be encouraged to pursue additional renewable energy opportunities.

Sonoma Group ExCom members Dan Kerbein and Shirley Johnson met with Supervisor Efrén Carrillo to share the above comments, and to update the areas where the Sierra Club and the Board of Supervisors will be able to support each others' objectives.

Steve Birdleough met with a 3-Chapter Committee on the MTC's 30-year Bay region

Transit Improvement Program (TIP). They sent a detailed letter expressing a concern that the TIP will not lead to reduced driving and will not reduce GHGs, since it calls for several hundred miles of new freeway lanes. Instead, the letter calls for improved support for transit operating funds.

The SRJC Alumni & Friends Association honored ExCom member Jessica Jones as the 2013 Floyd P. Bailey Award Winner for Outstanding Service to SRJC. Jessica is Associated Student President and is involved in several campus task forces and committees. In 2011 Jessica successfully campaigned for SRJC to sign on to the Talloires Declaration, an international sustainability commitment. Her efforts have also led to increasing awareness about alternative transportation, recycling in the Bertolini Student Center, campus kiosks serving fair trade coffee and yearly Earth Day events. The award was presented May 5 at the Day Under the Oaks.

We joined with 350.org in urging the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD) to adopt aggressive programs by July 2014 to reduce Bay Area greenhouse gas emissions to 80% below 1990 levels by 2050.

Steve Birdleough sent a message to Shirlee Zane, Sonoma County's representative to the BAAQMD, making clear our position. The federal Clean Air Act and the California Health & Safety Code give the BAAQMD broad authority to regulate non-mobile sources of air pollution, including GHGs, and to enact more stringent requirements than federal or State law. In our view, it is time for leadership and action.

The Sonoma Group endorsed Sonoma Clean Power as proposed by the Board of Supervisors on April 23, 2013 and urges all of the cities to join the Sonoma Clean Power JPA (Joint Powers Authority).

—DAN KERBEIN, SONOMA GROUP CHAIR

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.



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Whales, Wildflowers and Wildlife! 2013 cruises to Channel Islands National Park

June 2-4; July 21-23; Aug. 25-27; Sept. 15-17

Join us for a 3-island, 3-day cruise to California's Channel Islands—Galapagos, USA! 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. 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. A ranger/naturalist will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest and present evening programs. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara.

The cost, \$590, includes an assigned bunk, all meals, snacks, and beverages plus the services of the ranger/naturalist. To make a reservation, send a \$100 check, written to Sierra Club, to leader, Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information call or email leader: 626-443-0706; jholtzhln@aol.com

All cruises depart from Santa Barbara aboard the 68' twin diesel TRUTH. Each guest is assigned a bunk, with a reading light & privacy curtain. Delicious meals & snacks are served in the comfortable galley-lounge.

North Group Report

Science Projects Receive Awards

For the seventh year, North Group sponsored an award at the annual Humboldt County Science Fair held in mid-March. (The projects were so competitive in 2013 that a second prize of \$25 was awarded.) The \$50 first prize for the best project dealing with environmental issues went to "Do Bigger Watersheds Have Higher Coliform Concentration?" by Nigella Mahal Baur, a 6th grader at Sunny Brae Middle School. She hypothesized that bigger watersheds would have higher coliform concentrations. She tested five watersheds in Arcata and found that her hypothesis was not supported. She concluded that coliform levels might be more affected by population density, livestock numbers, or topography than simply watershed acreage. Nigella brought her project to our May ExCom meeting. Her project was selected to compete at the California State Science Fair held in April in Los Angeles.

Second prize went to "What's Keeping Me Cozy and Warm?" by Garfield Elementary School 4th grader Jaykah Adams. She examined what natural materials would best insulate a building or room, hypothesizing that cellulose would work best. She tested denim batting, cellulose, pine shavings, straw, sand, water, pea gravel, and concrete. Her results were that pine shavings heated up fastest, while cellulose and denim held in heat the longest. Jaykah noted that her project could be applied to the real world by informing people that they could use natural or recycled insulation in their homes.

Humboldt County General Plan Update

2013 is shaping up to be a critical year for

the long-delayed GPU. Since approval of the draft plan by the Planning Commission, the Board of Supervisors has been holding review sessions, taking comments, reports and recommendations from the public as well as from the "ad hoc working groups," appointed after several recently-elected supervisors expressed discontent with the complexities of the process. The Board has stated its ambition to conclude the GPU by the end of this year. Currently under consideration is the critical Land Use Element, with at least one evening hearing on the schedule. North Group Sierra Club is part of the Healthy Humboldt Coalition, a project of Northcoast Environmental Center's Sustainable Communities Program. See the County's GPU Web site at www.planupdate.org to read the draft Plan and EIR, view the current schedule or sign up for e-mail updates, or go to www.healthyhumboldt.org for more information.

Public Land Grazing Internship

The North Group would like to call readers' attention to an internship opportunity this summer with the Project to Reform Public Land Grazing in Northern California. The project is coordinated by North Group Water Chair Felice Pace and is sponsored by the Klamath Forest Alliance and EPIC. In the past, North Group provided a stipend for a summer student intern volunteering with this project. If you are interested or want more information call Felice at 707-954-6588.

—NED FORSYTH, NORTH GROUP VICE CHAIR

Volunteer Thanks

Thank you Earth Day volunteers: Tracy Chappelone, Joe Feller and Amy, Beverly Gains, Aaron Kofler and Adam Mangosing.

Thanks to Nancy McCoy, Brian Hoffman, Adam Mangosing, and Jane for staffing the March and April paper shredding at Valcore.

VALCORE Recycling and Confidential Paper Shredding 2013

Solano Group will be working every 3rd Saturday of the month at 38 Sheridan Street, Vallejo from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. (June 15, July 20, Aug 17, Sep. 21, Oct 19, Nov 16, and Dec 21). There is a charge of \$10 per twenty pounds of paper shredded. (maximum: 100 pounds). 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!

Solano Breeze Corner

Covering Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville and Vallejo
sierraclubsolanogroup@gmail.com 707-319-6398

Free Composting Classes

Vallejo: Saturday, June 22, 10 to noon @ Loma Vista Farm. 150 Rainier, Vallejo

Benicia: Saturday, June 22, 9 to 11, First Street Garden (Compost bins available for \$50)

VALCORE has \$40 **composting bins** for sale to Vallejo residents (\$75 for others). It's a great green gift. Call (707) 645-8258

Volunteers Needed

We continually work at Lori's Native Plant Garden located at 225 Amador St, Vallejo. We weed, plant, prune and mulch year-round. If you have an hour, call Jane and she'll work with

you to get you started. 707-319-6398

VALCORE Recycling Board Alternate: You may need to attend one meeting per year.

EXCOM: Come join us for our monthly meetings which rotate between Vallejo, Fairfield and Vacaville. We meet on the first Thursday of the month and are making a positive impact on our county and need a few more members to help carry the load. Call Jane (707) 319-6398 or Greg (707) 386-6411 for current meeting info.

Help pay for our LANDFILL LAWSUIT. (Our attorney's fees are 3000 cans per hour)

Please bring your CRV – CA Cash Refund containers down to VALCORE (38 Sheridan St. Vallejo, Mon - Sat, 10am to 1 pm and 2 pm to 4:30pm. OR Cash them in at your local recycle center and send us a check for the refund amount.

We recently received donations from Marion Conning, John Kolarik, and others.

–CONTRIBUTOR: JANE BOGNER

–EDITOR: GREG PETERSON

Mendocino Group Report

We want to thank all of those who spent many hours over the last few months reading and commenting on Mendocino Redwood Company's Habitat Conservation Plan/Natural Communities Conservation Plan. This is the voluminous and convoluted 80-year road map for the future for the 213,000 acres of MRC's forestland in Mendocino County. It was 12 years in the making. The 4 volumes covering some highly technical information are 3000 pages long. Plus maps. Impressive looking. What did the readers make of this behemoth?

There were about 30 individual comment letters submitted to the agencies— long, detailed, analytical— all written by people who had waded through big chunks of the proposal, all volunteering significant time from their busy lives. All found the size of the document and the short amount of time available for review daunting. Most were frustrated with vague proposals, omissions, and internal inconsistencies that had them continually flipping between different parts of the document asking, "Is this what is meant or that?" All of them questioned the curious idea that a permit, good for 80 years, could be locked into place despite obviously accelerating changes in the earth's climate that might render meaningless many of its assumptions. And, having worked down to the seeming substance of the proposal, the readers raised numerous objections.

A major concern for all is that this is an 80-year (multigenerational!) plan with no allowance for further public input. A huge deficiency is that it is more like a best management practices regimen for timber harvests than a geographically explicit system of habitat reserves for multiple species. It fails to evaluate and mitigate for herbicide use; or to consider the cumulative effects of Sudden Oak Death in relation to the "hack-and-squirt" of tens of thousands of acres of tanoaks. It doesn't propose an alternative that doesn't use herbicides. Nor does it explain why monitoring, which is the basis for adaptive

management strategies, is in some cases required, in some voluntary. Nor are plan measures sufficient to recover Water Quality standards or to meet anti-degradation standards of the Basin Plan. Independent scientific review that is required by law and that was obtained for the first draft only – 10 years ago – needs to be solicited again.

We are asking that the HCP be amended to address the issues raised and be reissued for public comment. The northern spotted owl – one of the central species addressed by the plan – is being considered right now for state listing by the Fish and Game Commission. If nothing else the plan needs to be delayed until that decision is made.

There is more. If you'd like to read some of the public comment it is found at http://calfire.ca.gov/resource_mgmt/resource_mgmt_EPRP_PTEIR_MendocinoRedwoodCo.php.

The development application for the proposed gravel processing facility on Outlet Creek has been withdrawn by those seeking the permit for a facility which would almost certainly have major impacts for coho and other listed and threatened species in Outlet Creek, among many other issues. We think an application will be resubmitted in future. The community response was organized and terrific. On the Willits Bypass front, there has been a delay due to CalTrans failure to adequately consult with a Native American tribe regarding protection of its cultural resources. This may involve another lawsuit. There is also a request to California Department of Fish and Wildlife for a stop work order because of violations of incidental take permit conditions. Want to learn more about the Willits Bypass? Check out this ABC news video at http://abclocal.go.com/kg/story?section=news/assignment_7&id=9097038

– LINDA PERKINS AND MARY WALSH, MENDOCINO GROUP

Napa Group Report

Grassroots Needs Local Activists

As Sierra Club members know, the strength of our grassroots organization relies on the underpinnings of local activists. Napa's environmental interests are voiced by volunteers who serve on the many community groups and committees. And in addition to protecting the outdoors, we Sierra Club members like to explore and enjoy it. Together, we bring alive the Sierra Club motto: Explore, Enjoy, and Protect the wild places of the earth.

For this, we need your help. You decide how much or little time you have to offer. Got an occasional two hours? Join us each month or so at Trancas Crossing to clear around native plants in this 33-acre open space park. Are you a natural leader and love the outdoors? We are looking for outings leadership. A bonus: Sierra Club offers training. Do you already serve on a local or regional committee and want to keep in contact with Sierra Club for support and ideas? Let us know about your efforts. Send me an e-mail: matalley1@comcast.net.

Upcoming events

Did you see us at the Earth Day celebration in downtown Napa? We'll again have a table at the Resource Conservation District's Salmon Run in Yountville on June 15. Stop by and say hello.

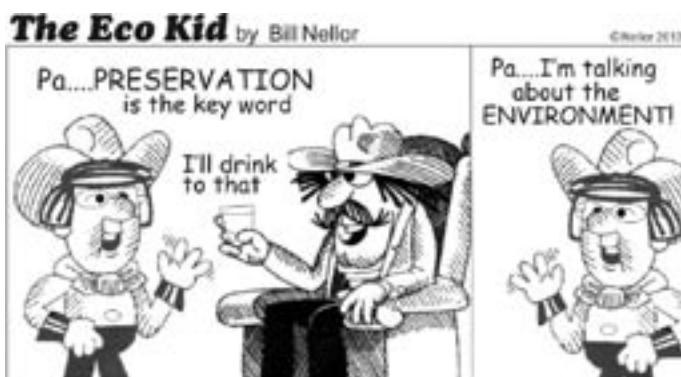
The nature of art: The Sierra Club is sponsoring Nature Poetry Reading to be led by Lenore Wilson, Napa's Poet Laureate. Put September 10, Napa City-County Library, on your calendar. See you there.

–MARILEE TALLEY, NAPA GROUP CHAIR



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Contributing	<input type="checkbox"/> \$150	<input type="checkbox"/> \$175
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Senior	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35
Student/Limited Income	<input type="checkbox"/> \$25	<input type="checkbox"/> \$35

Join today and receive a FREE Sierra Club Weekender Bag!

Contributions, gifts and dues to Sierra Club are not tax deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts. Your dues include \$7.50 for a subscription to Sierra magazine and \$1 for your Chapter newsletters.

Enclose a check and mail to Sierra Club, P.O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041 or visit our website www.sierraclub.org

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Redwood Needles

August Deadline: Due July 8

Submit Articles/Reports/Ad Copy via e-mail to:
odavison@comcast.net

Send Outings to Carol Vellutini via e-mail: carolvsr@sonic.net

Send Meetings to Carl Inglin via e-mail: chinglin@sonic.net



Benson Hut winter outing. Photo by Pierson Bourquin.

Check us out on Facebook!

www.facebook.com/SierraClubRedwoodChapter

For more details, see article on page one.

Redwood Needles
Sierra Club
Redwood Chapter
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Meetings

Send all Meeting events by the 8th of the month to Carl Inglin: chinglin@sonic.net Sierra Club meetings are open to all members. You are welcome to participate or observe as often as you wish. Meetings are located in Sonoma County unless otherwise noted. 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. June 3 - Sonoma Group.

Santa Rosa Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway is the site of three related meetings:

- The Climate & Energy Committee meets at 5:00 p.m. Info: contact Shirley, shirlgirl707@yahoo.com, 707-206-1138.

- Sonoma Group Conservation Committee at 5:30 p.m. Info: Dan Kerbein, dkerbein@sonic.net

- Sonoma Group Executive Committee at 6:30 p.m. Info: Info: Dan Kerbein, dkerbein@sonic.net

Thurs. June 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.

Tues., June 11, North Group ExCom.

The public is invited to attend the monthly meeting of the North Group Sierra Club's governing committee. Join us for a discussion of local conservation issues between 7:45 and 8:45 p.m., following the Executive Committee business meeting from 6:45-7:45 p.m. Meet at Adorni Center Conference Room on Eureka Waterfront. For more

information, call Gregg at 707-826-3740.

Tues. June 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 nancy@aya.yale.edu

Wed., June 19 - The Sonoma Group Water Committee.

7:00 PM at the Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway, Santa Rosa. Contact Len Holt: 707-527-7516 or lholt@sonic.net

Mon. July 1 - Sonoma Group.

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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.

Tues. July 9 - North Group ExCom.

Monthly North Group Sierra Club Executive Committee meeting. See June 11 for details.

Sat., July 13 - Redwood Chapter ExCom.

Location: Willits Environmental Center. Conservation Committee meets at 10 a.m., ExCom meets 1-3 p.m. Info: Victoria vbrandon@lakerlive.info

Wed., July 17 - The Sonoma Group Water Committee.

7:00 PM at the Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway, Santa Rosa. Contact Len Holt: 707-527-7516 or lholt@sonic.net

Wed., Aug. 21 - The Sonoma Group Water Committee.

7:00 PM at the Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway, Santa Rosa. Contact Len Holt: 707-527-7516 or lholt@sonic.net

Wed., Sept. 18 - The Sonoma Group Water Committee.

7:00 PM at the Environmental Center, 55A Ridgway, Santa Rosa. Contact Len Holt: 707-527-7516 or lholt@sonic.net

Reduce Your Carbon Footprint in 2013!

To receive future copies of the Redwood Needles via email send a message to: RedwoodNeedles@gmail.com with your name and address, and "newsletter by email" in the subject line; or to receive notification that the current newsletter is available online and a link to it, please specify: "Notification newsletter is online".

Sierra Club Volunteer/Activist Opportunities

Sonoma Group Hike Leaders: Sonoma Group outings leaders training. Always a need for more leaders for outings. If you would like a training, please email Carol carolvsr@sonic.net or call 546-6308 for info. People are requesting families with children, camping and easy hikes.

North Group Hike Leaders: North Group is desperately seeking hike leaders. Please contact Bill Knight, the Outings Chair, at bill.knight.email@gmail.com.

Meet with the Sonoma Group Water Committee! Your chance to make a difference. Come to our meetings at the Environmental Center at 7:00 PM on the third Wednesday of most months. The Water Committee is working on issues related to measures to conserve, save, and reuse this valuable resource. Our goal is to preserve and improve the natural water environment, the responsible use of water by people, and the safe reuse or disposal of our wastewaters. Help protect the quality of our water for people, wild life, fish and other aquatic life, promote water conservation and intelligent reuse. Check for our meeting dates in the Needles. To get on our Water Committee e-mail list, e-mail Len Holt at lholt@sonic.net. If you are not able to attend our meetings, you may e-mail Len Holt with your concerns and ideas.

Get CHARGED by attending the Climate & Energy Committee. Join us on the 1st month of May at 5:00-5:45 p.m. at the Environmental Center in Santa Rosa, learn about what is going on in our community to fight climate change through renewable energy programs. Contact Shirley Johnson-Foell Contact Shirley Johnson-Foell Climate & Energy Committee Forum-Chair. Email: Shirlgirl707@Yahoo.com, home 206-1138, or call office 433-7651.