

Utah Chapter, Sierra Club
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The Yellowstone grizzly bear is an irreplaceable part of America's natural heritage, a symbol of the independence that defines the American character and an icon of all that is wild and free. The Bush administration set forth a proposal that would remove federal protection for the Yellowstone grizzly bear. Since it was first listed as "threatened" under the Endangered Species Act in 1975, the grizzly bear has made a strong recovery, but there is still more work to be done. Help Sierra Club protect our forest friends; they prefer the woods than being on display.

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Utah Sierran



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

utah.sierraclub.org

Spring 2014 Vol. 47 No. 2

This Issue

The new Wasatch Back Network provides a forum for Sierra Club members and supporters in Summit & Wasatch Counties to meet and work on issues. Get the scoop on p. 5

A medical waste incinerator has been polluting the Salt Lake Valley with a variety of chemicals including mercury for years. Find out more on p. 5.

Wild flowers, fresh air and maybe even baby animals! Hit the trail with one of our groups' outings, and make the most of spring. Check out the choices on p. 6.

LikeUs on Facebook for the latest!

BlueGreen Alliance Questions Pipeline Safety— OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT FLOURISHES ON PRISTINE UTAH PUBLIC LANDS

by Dan Mayhew



Drill pads impact public lands across eastern and southern Utah.



75% of the length of this pipeline will be above ground and vulnerable.

Members of the BlueGreen Alliance have recently expressed grave public safety and environmental concerns related to the Big Flat/Paradox Basin natural gas and oil production field just two miles north of Canyonlands National Park and 0.3 miles from Deadhorse Point State Park, currently under construction by Fidelity Exploration and Production Company. Following purchase of existing production wells in 2007, some of which began operation as long ago as the 1960s, Fidelity has been ramping up production with dramatic long-term plans to create a major oil and gas development field in an area previously designated as an Area of Critical Environmental Concern (ACEC) and Special Recreation Area. Fidelity is currently operating 17 wells with 12 to 14 additional new wells planned in 2014 alone.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet.

DAN MAYHEW

OurLand

BlueGreen Alliance Questions Pipeline Safety CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Dedicated to “Good Jobs, Clean Environment, Green Economy,” the Alliance and its member organizations, which includes the Sierra Club, have been working to ensure that construction of the pipeline fully meets code while ensuring public safety. The above ground portion of this pipeline will pass immediately adjacent to the BLM Horsethief Campground, visited by thousands of tourists annually.

Oil and gas exploration on Big Flat and the subsequent BLM approval of a 24 mile, twelve-inch transmission pipeline, 18.6 miles of which will be above ground, has been disputed by those who value preservation of one of America’s most treasured landscapes and who recognize the value of tourism and recreation to the local economy vs. those whose only motivations are profit and royalty payments regardless of the irreparable damage to these priceless public lands.

While the Alliance continues to monitor and report what they believe are EA and safety violations related to the Big Flat pipeline, the Sierra Club and our environmental organization partners are working overtime to ensure our voice is heard and that, ultimately, common sense prevails. And, as most readers of this newsletter are aware, what’s happening in Moab is just one small piece of the Utah dirty energy puzzle.

The State of Utah is engaged in its own version of Manifest Destiny: Strip federal government ownership of all lands within the state and proceed with development and extraction of every available molecule of oil and gas. Public lands preservation—least of all wilderness—are not on their agenda.

Dreams of a nuclear power plant on the Green River live on. As do dreams of the first new oil refinery to be built in the US in nearly 40 years, also to be located near Green

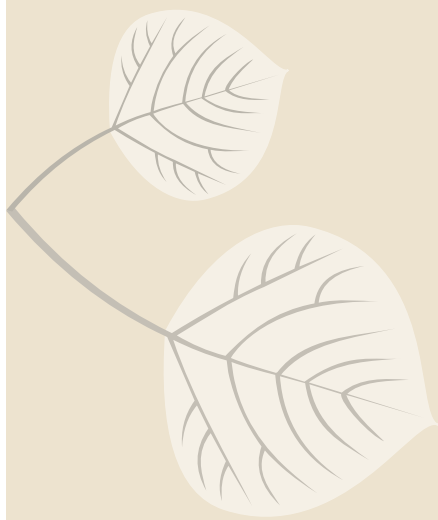
River. Plans to pave and expand the Book Cliffs highway to facilitate delivery of Uinta Basin crude continue, as do the expansion of refineries in Salt Lake City and yet another pipeline to help get it there.

The BLM has approved plans for potash development in Labyrinth Canyon on the Green River adjacent to Canyonlands National Park. But perhaps the most damaging of all is Utah’s quest to develop oil shale and tar sands. Estimated at more than 70 billion tons of CO₂, oil shale production in the Green River Basin of Utah, Colorado and Wyoming has the potential to release more carbon into the atmosphere than any other fossil fuel extraction site in the United States.

We live in a state that would rather use taxpayer dollars to lobby for the prevention of Sage Grouse listing as an endangered species, than work to protect the species from extinction. That places profit above preservation for future generations.

Make no mistake that Big Gas and Big Oil have every intention of developing Utah public lands to their full advantage, and they have political might and unlimited resources on their side. For our part, we believe that now is the time to preserve public lands for the future, to leave dirty energy in the ground, work to reverse climate change and develop clean, renewable energy, and we will be forever vigilant in this pursuit.

Explore the Sierra Club’s commitment to workers’ rights and the environment at <http://www.bluegreenalliance.org/members/sierra-club>.



UtahSierran

Spring 2014 Vol. 47 No. 2

EDITOR: Mark Clemens

DESIGN: Cecily Sakrison, Peridot Design

Utah Sierran © Copyright 2014, The Utah Chapter Sierra Club (USPS 5375). The Utah Sierran is published quarterly (February, May, August, November) by the Sierra Club’s Utah Chapter, 423 West 800 South, Suite A103, Salt Lake City UT 84101.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to Utah Sierran, Sierra Club, 423 West 800 South, Suite A103, Salt Lake City UT 84101.

Annual dues for the Sierra Club are \$39, of which \$1 is for a subscription to Utah Sierran. Non-member subscriptions are available for \$10 per year from the Utah Chapter office.

Submit all articles, artwork, photographs, letters and comments to utah.chapter@sierraclub.org. Phone: 801-467-9297. The Utah Sierran reaches more than 5,000 members and friends of the Sierra Club in Utah. Display advertising is accepted. For a current ad rate card, contact Mark Clemens, utah.chapter@sierraclub.org or 801-467-9297. We reserve the right to refuse advertising that we feel conflicts with the goals and purposes of the Club.

Bylined articles represent the research and opinions of the author and not necessarily those of the Sierra Club or the Utah Chapter.

Sierra Club’s sexual harassment policy can be found online at mitchell.sierraclub.org/leaders/policies/sexual-harassment.asp or by contacting the Salt Lake City office.

OurMission

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club is a grassroots volunteer organization dedicated to:

Protect and promote Utah’s outdoors and natural landscapes;

Educate and advocate for the responsible preservation of clean air, water and habitats; &

Support the development of sustainable renewable energy;

For the benefit of present and future generations.

Lend a Hand



POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Volunteers on the chapter’s political committee work to preserve the environment through bipartisan political action, to elect environmentally supportive candidates, and to advance the Sierra Club’s legislative program. Frequently we have a lot of fun along the way.

The chapter’s political committee is responsible for identifying and supporting candidates for public office who best represent the goals of the Sierra Club on environmental issues and legislation. The chair and political compliance officer (position already filled) are jointly responsible for ensuring compliance with Sierra Club electoral policy and compliance with state and federal election laws.

The committee assembles information on candidates through review of legislative records, questionnaires, interviews, past Sierra Club contact, assessment of the campaign, and information of members. The committee makes recommendations and may serve as one of the official voting bodies of the chapter required to review and vote on proposed endorsements or other political action short of endorsement.

The chair and committee are responsible for preparing materials on state level endorsements, and presenting them to the chapter executive committee for approval. The chair is responsible for ensuring that group political committee chairs and volunteer members receive information on compliance with election laws.

The committee sets priorities for chapter effort on endorsed campaigns and assists in training volunteers to participate effectively and coordinate with campaigns, and in all aspects of political action such as fund raising, door-to-door, press releases, and so forth. Chapter Manager Mark Clemens is happy to be a mentor and also serves as liaison with the club’s national political committee. Contact him at utah.chapter@sierraclub.org or 801/467-9294 x102.

Join Us!

SIERRA CLUB BOOK CLUB

Keep current on environmental issues and meet new friends with the Sierra Club book club. Check out the forthcoming roster below. The location is the Barnes & Noble in Sugarhouse (1104 East 2100 South Salt Lake City, UT 84106) in the Starbucks on the first floor. **Everyone is welcome.**

April 24, 2014 (Thu) 6:30pm

Evolved: Chronicles of a Pleistocene Mind
by Maximilian Werner
Max will talk about his new book examining “elements of everyday behavior through the eye-opening lens of evolutionary theory in this memoir-infused nonfiction.”

For the most current information about the book club and other activities, check out the chapter’s activity tool, <http://www.utah.sierraclub.org/activities.asp>.



OurMembers

What Makes Sierra Club Unique?

by Marion Klaus

When we think about what makes Sierra Club special, different from the other green groups, most often I hear this, “Sierra Club is the largest and oldest conservation organization”. Indeed this is true.

Sierra Club’s 2.1 million members and supporters make Sierra Club the largest of the green groups. Our members live and work in communities across the country that rely on wild places and natural systems for clean air, clean water, recreation, local economies, and peace of mind. Our activists are the eyes and ears of these communities – often the first to witness and hear about potential threats to the lands they love. And, they are the local voices, amplified through Sierra Club’s national reach, calling on our leaders to protect wildlife, wildlands, and public health.

Our membership make up Sierra Club’s grassroots, and it is unlike anything else on the planet. Sierra Club puts the strength of our grassroots organizing to work, leveraging every dollar of staff time and program into 20 times that amount in volunteer work, pro-bono legal work, public service advertising, and enhanced capacity for environmental justice groups and partners through direct training support. It is often Sierra Club activists who retain the local issue knowledge and key relationships that sustain the life of campaigns such as Greater Canyonlands National Monument Proposal and give victories real staying power.

Sierra Club has 63 Chapters covering every portion of the United States and Puerto Rico, and a sister organization, Sierra Club Canada. This means the potential for our grassroots activism around issues and elections extends to every place in the country. Because Sierra Club is established at both local and national levels, local activism around issues can be coordinated with lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C. Sierra Club was recently chosen by the

National Journal Group as one of the Top 15 “Best Brands” in Washington D.C. for influencing policy.

Sierra Club also has a formidable in-house legal team that coordinates with us on litigation, administrative appeals and other legal challenges to add teeth to our policy advocacy. We have one of the most effective law programs in the country, filing hundreds of actions every year on behalf of communities to protect wild lands and the health of communities that are under siege by the oil, gas, and coal industries as well as climate disruption impacts. And, our media team generates more press than any other environmental organization. The Sierra Club is also distinguished from other organizations by its democratic organization and leadership. Sierra Club truly is a grassroots organization where members have input to determine policy. The Board of Directors is made up of Sierra Club activist volunteers and is not based on the ability to provide significant financial donations, unlike other green groups. Anyone can become a leader at all levels within Sierra Club, including being elected to the Board of Directors. Sierra Club engages volunteers actively and provides opportunities to move up the leadership ladder with increasing levels of leadership and strategy development.

John Muir founded Sierra Club on May 28, 1892 to protect the area around what is now Yosemite National Park in California. In 1893, the Sierra Club Bulletin, the forerunner for Sierra magazine, was published. In 1901, Sierra Club held its first outings. Sierra Club now runs local, national and international outings as well as outings focused on children, inner city outings, military veterans and their families, as well as our general membership. Muir thought if people went outside, they would learn to love and appreciate nature and would consequently work to

protect it. Between 1895 and 1916, Sierra Club members worked to protect the coastal Redwood trees and establish the National Park Service, Yosemite National Park, Mt. Rainer National Park, Glacier National Park, and Grand Canyon National Park.

Sierra Club has an impressive history of keeping rivers running wild and free. In 1920, the Sierra Club successfully opposed building a dam in Yellowstone National Park. Between 1953 and 1956 Sierra Club continued this legacy by successfully opposing the dam in Dinosaur National Monument. In 1963, Sierra Club launched the campaign to prevent the Bureau of Reclamation from damming the Colorado River in Grand Canyon National Park. In 1966, Sierra Club ran full page ads against this dam that caused uproar in Congress, who prompted the Internal Revenue Service to suspend Sierra Club’s 501(c) (3) tax deductible status. They hoped to destroy the Sierra Club by preventing donations from being tax deductible. In anticipation of Congressional backlash to its “Save the Grand Canyon” campaign, the Sierra Club Board had already established the Sierra Club Foundation as a 501(c)(3) organization for receiving tax deductible donations.

Today, the Sierra Club is still a 501(c) (4) non-profit organization, which means donations are not tax deductible and the Sierra Club Foundation is the 501(c) (3) organization that accepts tax deductible contributions for Sierra Club work. This also makes Sierra Club unique because as a 501(c)(4) organization, Sierra Club can be and is directly politically active; engaging its membership in active lobbying, elections, ballot issues, political endorsements, and raising money for both state and national PACs. This makes it possible for Sierra Club members to affect serious change. Other green groups cannot engage in these crucial political activities.

In Their Own Voices:

GRAND COUNTY RESIDENTS TAKE A STAND FOR PUBLIC LANDS PROTECTION

by Marc Thomas

In an impressive show of local support for wilderness and public lands protection this past January, residents of Grand County flooded their county council with heartfelt letters advocating for lots more of it. The council had invited public input in order to develop its own recommendations for Utah Representative Rob Bishop’s public lands bill initiative. Ostensibly, any legislation coming out of this process is to be based on consensus reached by interested stakeholders in eastern and southern Utah on how to designate public lands for conservation and development, thereby giving certainty to the way the lands are managed and used. It just so happens that two-thirds of all proposed Bureau of Land Management (BLM) wilderness in Utah lie inside the six counties involved in this process.

The original deadline for public comment was mid-January, but at the urging of the Glen Canyon Group of the Sierra Club, the three members of the council’s public lands subcommittee were willing to encourage more public participation by extending the deadline to the end of the month. The longer comment period enabled residents and business owners in the Moab area to submit 175 letters, of which approximately 90% asked for widespread protection of federal BLM and Forest Service wild lands

in the county. In the end, one out of every five letters received by the council came from members of the Club’s Glen Canyon Group.

Information relevant to the process is on the county’s home page (<http://www.grandcountyutah.net/>), including all public comment letters received. The council subcommittee is currently reviewing all comments that were submitted to help it prepare an array of alternative land designation scenarios for presentation to residents at a public meeting taking place in Moab sometime in March (date not known as we went to press).

There will be an additional time period after the public meeting for written comments from county residents on the alternatives drafted by the council subcommittee. The final phase will consist of the county council’s review of the public comments and the alternatives suggested by the subcommittee. The county council will then vote during an open, public meeting on a preferred alternative to submit to Representative Bishop for consideration in his proposed legislation. The Representative has set a target date of Fall 2014 to complete the proposal for Congress to review.

Due to space restrictions, only one edited sample of the public comment is provided below. However all the excerpts from letters submitted by local Sierra Club members to the county council are posted on the chapter website, <https://utah.sierraclub.org/grand-county-residents-speak-out-wilderness>. In their own words, they testify that nothing anywhere else matches the beauty, solitude, wildness, biological diversity, and accessibility of the public lands that surround Moab. While blessed to call these canyons, mesa tops, and mountains home, they still express a deep-rooted responsibility to retain these incredible assets for future generations of Americans. Check out all the comments on the website; you’ll be glad you did.

WAYNE HOSKISSON

Conservation means protecting our land as it is today. This means not increasing the significant imprint of humans across all portions of this county and the nation. This means managing the lands so that native plants and animals continue into the future in their natural abundance and distribution. In Grand County we are fortunate to live in a place where much of the land retains these kinds of characteristics. We have a

responsibility to retain this naturalness for future generations of Americans.

I have hiked in or visited most of the wilderness units proposed by the Sierra Club and the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance. I would like to see all proposed wilderness in Utah designated as Wilderness. When the BLM completed a re-inventory of proposed wilderness in 1999 they largely agreed with the inventory of conservation groups supporting America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act.

I would like to see Rep. Bishop and Rep. Chaffetz succeed. I would like to see them walk away with a prize no one else has been able to claim. I want them to achieve a comprehensive package of legislation to deal with the largest chunks of wilderness in Utah. Two thirds of all proposed BLM wilderness in Utah lie within the six counties involved in this process.

[However], if this process fails then America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act and the possibility of a new national monument remain. If Rep. Bishop does not pass reasonable legislation then America’s Red Rock Wilderness Act will continue being introduced in Congress. The president may yet designate a monument to overcome an inadequate attempt at protective measures.

OurAir

Clean Air: The Long War

by Mark Clemens



January 25th Clean Air Rally's big crowd.



National Sierra Club Staffer Tim Wagner.

JEFF CLAY / CLAYHAUS.NET

Neither house of the state legislature nor the governor can get away any longer with the old platitudes about how things are gradually improving or that we can't do anything about pollution because we live in a bowl.

You turned out in unprecedented numbers for the Clean Air, No Excuses Rally on January 25th, and it caught the attention of legislators. Thank you. Neither house of the state legislature nor the governor can get away any longer with the old platitudes about how things are gradually improving or that we can't do anything about pollution because we live in a bowl.

As this newsletter was going to press, several bills that would improve air quality, such as Rep Patrice Arent's bills (HB 61 & HB 154) that would create a loan fund to replace polluting equipment and reduce wood burning, and similar bills from Rep Becky Edwards (HB 121) and Sen Gene Davis (SB 164) that would allow Utah to adopt more stringent pollution safeguards

than the federal government, were surfing along on a surprising wave of bi-partisan support. We're optimistic that several of these measures will become law.

The Sierra Club has been fighting for clean air in Utah for decades: supporting regulatory change, boosting good legislation at the state level, and when all else fails, taking the state and polluters to court. This last track sometimes fails to make headlines, but the impacts can be momentous.

UNCONVENTIONAL FOSSIL FUELS

Oil shale and tar sands schemes bubbled up every few years in the past as the price of oil spiked, but the current boom in interest poses a greater threat because of improved extraction technologies and a sustained high oil price. It's still the same menace to air quality and climate that it's always been however. The Sierra Club challenged the framework under which the Bush Administration opened nearly two million acres of public lands for oil shale leasing as one of its last initiatives. Later, the Obama Administration reduced the total acreage made available—at least in part because of litigation by Sierra Club and other plaintiffs.

We've also worked to prevent individual dirty fuels projects from going forward. A Sierra Club suit prevented a tar sands project at Antelope Creek. We appealed the initial permit for a tar sands strip mine at PR Springs. And in January 2014 we joined a request for agency action against the oil shale strip mine proposed by Red Leaf Resources on approximately 1,500 acres in Uintah County.

In addition to pollution emitted to air, water and ground at the mine site, most of these proposals would rely on shipping thick, waxy substances like bitumen and kerogen via tanker truck to refineries on Refinery Row on the Salt Lake/Davis County border. Air pollution and climate change are inherent in their production cycle at the mine site, in transport, at the refinery and at their final point of consumption.

REFINERY EXPANSION

Both the Tesoro Refinery in Salt Lake City and the Holly Refinery in Woods Cross have ambitious expansion plans. These plans are intended in part to accommodate increased production of unconventional crude sources from the Uinta Basin, Tavaputs Plateau and Book Cliffs such as black and yellow wax crude and bitumen from tar sands. The Utah Chapter submitted substantive and critical comments in 2012 concerning the proposed Tesoro Refinery expansion, but the state's Division of Air Quality (DAQ) issued a permit notwithstanding. In June 2013 we appealed the DAQ's permit in court.

The Holly/Frontier Corporation has defended its proposed 109% refinery expansion with a numbers blitz that can charitably be described as abusive. Despite planning to increase production from roughly 30,000 barrels a day to 65,000, Holly claims its future emissions will be lower.

But Holly is counting reductions in emissions they were compelled to make to their existing operations as though they somehow would come about as a result

of the expansion. Sierra Club submitted comments on this proposed expansion and will follow it carefully in the regulatory process to make sure it complies with the law.

COAL BURNING & REGIONAL HAZE

Even experienced desert rats can be surprised when smog clouds the vistas in places like Boulder, Bluff or Moab, Utah. But the compounds such as sulfur dioxide, oxides of nitrogen and fine particulates that compose the smoggy haze can cross state lines and travel long distances from the pollution source. The chapter participated in a consultative process in the 1990s called the Western Regional Air Partnership (WRAP) one of whose goals was to reduce regional haze and restore natural visibility at iconic places like Grand Canyon National Park, Canyonlands National Park and the Glen Canyon National Recreation Area.

New Mexico, Utah and Wyoming were granted flexibility by EPA in implementing regulations to reduce regional haze in part because of the *greater* need for more extensive or unexpected solutions to protect scenic vistas; instead these states drafted inadequate plans that would have grandfathered sulfur dioxide emissions from eight regional coal-fired power plants more or less in perpetuity. The Sierra Club and other plaintiffs filed suit against EPA in January 2013 for allowing this foot dragging citing not only the failure to reduce regional haze but also the substantial public health problems caused by continuing these emissions.

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club extends a very special thanks to the
George B. and Oma E. Wilcox and Gibbs M. and Catherine W. Smith Charitable Foundation
 for its continuing generous support of the Chapter's programs. The Foundation
 challenges you to increase your support for the Utah Chapter in 2013.

Stericycle: Burning Issues

by Cindy King

Stericycle's North Salt Lake medical incinerator facility has been the subject of two different studies; one in 2003 and the other in 2014. The 2003 study was for dispersion models of dioxins and furans. The methodological assumptions were dismissed because the study used different meteorology and topographical data, different than what surrounds the Foxboro community. The assumption was that dioxins and furans are chlorine compounds; granted this is one of the most common forms, but there are also sulfur, fluorine, and bromine dioxins and furans. All of the various dioxin and furan compounds are toxic in the parts per trillion range. For comparison of concentration, parts per trillion is much less than one grain of sugar dissolved in a gallon of water or a cubic meter of air.

The most recent study also has questionable methodological assumptions; it only looked at cancers. Generally speaking, most cancers are considered to have latency effects. One of the biggest problems is that the community of Foxboro was not considered because it has not been in existence for long enough for this to be applicable. Another methodological problem with the study is that it did not look at more direct health effects, such as neurological problems.

Currently, environmental and health studies are the least of Stericycle's problems; of more immediate concern is compliance with their environmental permits, mostly from the Division of Air Quality. In May 2013 the Division of Air Quality served Stericycle with a Notice of Violation on exceedance of their allowable emissions and possibly falsifying data. The latter charge is now being investigated by the Department of Justice. As of May 2013 Stericycle has had numerous incidents of black smoke coming out of their bypass stack, including a possible fire in their main stack. There have been several citizen demonstrations at their facility. Now Stericycle is looking to move to Tooele County. What does all this have to do with the current environmental permits that are up for renewal?

In 2009, the approved air quality permit for Stericycle was challenged in an administrative appeal to Region 8 EPA. To date there has been no ruling on the appeal.

The appeal questioned why the public was not allowed to review Stericycle's Startup, Shutdown and Malfunction Plan, as required in an adjudicated decision a month earlier. In August of 2013 Stericycle submitted their air quality renewal request to the Division of Air Quality; that was 180 days prior to the permit expiring. Now that the 180 days is closing in, this does not mean that Stericycle will not be allowed to process. Since Stericycle complied in a timely manner they are allowed to continue to process using their 2009 approved air quality permit for as long as the Division of Air Quality takes to review Stericycle's renewal. One problem the Division of Air Quality might be having is that the investigation being conducted by the Department of Justice is limiting what the staff can and cannot say to the public, and possibly limiting when the administrative hearing that Stericycle requested, regarding their Notice of Violation in May, will occur. Another possible problem, now that Stericycle is considering moving, might question the permit renewal process. Stericycle would not be able to use their current permit renewal process in any other physical location; ergo a new permit would be required, with different regulatory requirements. Stericycle would also need to submit a post closure plan to Division of Air Quality to close their current facility. Notwithstanding, Stericycle's permit from the Division of Solid and Hazardous Waste is currently up for renewal.

Another issue that might be giving Stericycle heartburn is the reduction of waste sent by the University of Utah Hospital and Clinics that are looking at non-incineration treatment and disposal methods for their waste. One non-incineration technology is currently operating in Blanding, by using a chemical process. What are left are small plastic pieces that are being used in some parts of the country to make public benches. Another process uses ozone and just received national awards. Granted, these are only two non-incineration facilities but there are many more.

Cindy King is an activist and long-time Sierra Club member.

Utah Chapter Launches Wasatch Back Network

by Amy Mills

The Utah Chapter has added to its three local Groups (Glen Canyon, Ogden and Salt Lake) a new Network for Sierra Club members and supporters in Summit and Wasatch Counties. A Network is similar to a Group, but is less structured and operates on a more casual basis. The Utah Chapter Executive Committee appointed Marion Klaus as the Network leader. Marion comes to the Network with many years of leadership and hands-on experience in the Utah Chapter, as well as on national Sierra Club environmental campaigns.

There are currently 1,145 Sierra Club members and supporters in Summit and Wasatch Counties, locally known as the "Wasatch Back." With this impressive number, and the range of environmental issues accompanying population growth in the area, our hopes are high for raising local issue awareness, promoting environmental involvement, and building a Sierra Club presence through the Wasatch Back Network (WBN). The Network will also have representation in the Utah Chapter, and benefit from Chapter support for local issues, campaigns, outings, and social activities.

The WBN held its initial organizational meeting on June 24, 2013. We discussed various local issues, such as the proposed SkiLink gondola between Canyons and Solitude resorts, increased tanker truck traffic on SR-40 and I-80 generated by the increase in oil and gas development in the Uinta Basin, as well as other issues in Utah such as the Greater Canyonlands National Monument proposal. An initial survey of members' interests in future WBN activity showed strongest interest in air quality, climate change, wilderness, wildlife, and water conservation and quality.

Three WBN-sponsored presentations have followed: On November 12, we hosted speaker Mary Closser of the Climate Reality Project who provided an update on climate disruption, and Matt Abbott of Park City Municipal Corp. who briefed us on the "Low Carbon Diet" and what we as citizens can do to reduce our carbon footprints. On January 8, 2014, Marion Klaus addressed the Newcomers' Club of greater Park City with a presentation on Sierra Club activities in Utah and the intermountain west, with an emphasis on the new national Our Wild America campaign. Then, on February 11, 2014, we sponsored a presentation by local nutritionist Teri Underwood, who spoke about the interrelationships among US eating patterns, agriculture, and the environment.

Future presentation topics may include water conservation and impacts of oil development. Check the Utah Chapter web site (Utah.sierraclub.org) events listing and local media (*Park Record*, KPCW.org calendar) for announcements. Our listserv provides email notices of meetings and other local environmental activities to our members. To be added to our listserv, contact mark.clemens@sierraclub.org, or follow the directions below. As the WBN grows and members volunteer, we hope to branch out and provide more opportunities for education, involvement, and hands-on projects.

To add yourself as a new subscriber, send an e-mail with LISTSERV@LISTS.SIERRACLUB.ORG in the To: field; leave the subject line blank; and put ADD_WASATCH-BACK-NETWORK_jane.doe@yahoo.com [Jane Doe] in the body. Jane Doe is simply an example; please substitute your e-mail address and name as indicated.

NATIONAL SIERRA CLUB ELECTIONS ARE UNDER WAY - VOTE!

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now under way. Those eligible to vote in the national Sierra Club election will receive in the mail (or by Internet if you chose the electronic delivery option) your national Sierra Club ballot in early March. This will include information on the candidates and where you can find additional information on the Club's web site.

The Sierra Club is a democratically structured organization at all levels. The Club requires the regular flow of views on policy and priorities from its grassroots membership in order to function well. Yearly participation in elections at all Club levels is a major membership obligation.

Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. Visit the Club's election web site: <http://www.sierraclub.org/bod/2014election/default.aspx>

This site provides links to additional information about candidates and their views on a variety of issues facing the Club and the environment.

You should use your own judgment by taking several minutes to read the ballot statement of each candidate. Then make your choice and cast your vote. Even if you receive your election materials in the mail, please go to the user-friendly Internet voting site to save time and postage. If necessary, you will find the ballot is quite straightforward and easy to mark and mail.

Ballots must be received by no later than election day, April 16, 2014.



Utah Chapter Outings

EXPLORE WITH US! MARCH-JULY 2014

Abbreviations in capital letters signify the group planning the outing. [E] = educational content, [C] = conservation focus, [S] = service activities. All members and nonmembers are welcome on any of the chapter or group activities listed. Radios, firearms and dogs are not welcome on Sierra Club outings. Interested participants are strongly encouraged to contact the outing leader in advance and inquire as to updates, degree of difficulty, and other outing details. Participants should be prepared for various seasonal weather conditions, temperature changes that occur due to rapid increases/decreases in altitude, and bring enough food, water, and appropriate clothing for the given outing. Outing leaders reserve the right to turn away anyone who appears unprepared for scheduled outings.

ONLINE OUTINGS TOOL!

All the outings, book club meetings and socials for the chapter and all three groups are now found in one place, www.utah.sierraclub.org/activities.asp. You can sort by event type or use a built-in mapping function. www.utah.sierraclub.org/email_list.asp

THEY'RE BACK!



TUESDAY NIGHT HIKES

March

OG Saturday March 15, Walk along Weber River. Following the path towards Ft Buenaventura, and the King Fisher Wetlands, we'll have a look at the area where Weber County wants to build a shooting range. Meet at 10:30 am at Riverdale police dept. Dress for the weather, we will walk along path for about an hour then return to pd. Well behaved dog on a leash OK, bring water. Call for more details, Joanie at 801-399-0034.

OG Saturday, March 22 "Gourmet Snow Shoe & Ski Tour". Venue will either at Snowbasin or North Fork Park, conditions permitting. Bring delicacies to pass around and a poem. Meet at Rainbow Gardens 9:30am. Jock Glidden 801 394 0457.

OG March 29, 2014: SENTRY PEAK TRAIL ON ANTELOPE ISLAND: 6.5 miles round-trip, moderate, approximately 800 feet elevation gain. The trailhead is located at Garr Ranch. You must sign in and out at the ranch information center. From the ranch parking lot, take the dirt road south approximately one-half mile. You will reach a sign pointing to the west (your right). Follow the trail until you reach the spine of the island (Daddy Stump Ridge). At this point, you will turn to your right (north) and follow the trail markers around Sentry Peak. You will soon rejoin the trail on which you made your ascent for the return to the ranch. This trail has great views of the island's west side. You should also note the beautiful rock formations. Call Larry at 801-690-4335.

April

GCG Sat 4/5 Island in the Sky. We park at the Upheaval Dome lot in I-Sky and hike west across domes in beautiful and rarely visited terrain. Approx 8-9 miles, 5 hours. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 9:00 AM. Leader: Albey M Reiner 435-260-8708.

GCG Sat 4/19 Lathrop Trail, Island in the Sky. Planned as both an easy and a strenuous hike. Across the meadow to the rim for views is perhaps 6 miles roundtrip and a couple of hundred feet elevation change at most. Roundtrip to the White Rim is 13.6 miles with 1600 feet of elevation change. (From the White Rim to the river is another 500 feet of elevation and 7 or 8 miles roundtrip. Not an option for this outing.) Excellent views. I have always enjoyed how the Kayenta connects ways down in the Navajo above and the Wingate below. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Thomas J Messenger 435-259-1756 messengertj@citlink.net.

OG Apr. 19, 2014: Elephant Head at Antelope Island. Moderate, 9 miles round trip, approx. 900 ft. elevation gain, and about 4 hrs. This offers great views of the

Elephant Head and Split Rock Bay. Bison are often seen. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for details.

OG April 20th 2014 – Road Bike ride to Snowbasin Ski Resort, weather depending. Join Dan for a Sunday morning bike ride starting at the Mt Green Sinclair station, going up Trappers Loop to Snowbasin, and back down to Mt Green. The climb is slow and steady for 1 1/2 hours to Snowbasin. Refresh on the grass, and then head back down at a safe speed. It is OK to plan on several stops along the way up. Good springtime warm up for longer summer rides. HELMETS ARE REQUIRED, bring at least two liters of water and a snack. Call Dan S at 720-936-0599 for more details

SLG Tues 4/22/14 Alexander Creek. 6:30 PM. Leader: Debi Barker (435) 830-9021, dddaries4@yahoo.com, Spring-fed Alexander Creek borders Mountain Dell golf course and runs east into a hidden canyon designated a county preserve as part of the 2002 Olympics. Beaver ponds and dens are one of the special rewards of this hike. Meet at the Parley's Way Walmart parking lot, 2705 Parleys Way, west of the Bombay House Restaurant in SLC.

GCG Fri 4/25-Sun 4/27 Hovenweep campout and day hiking. Two nights of camping at the first come-first served campground near the visitor center. 30 sites available with tent pads, fire grills, picnic tables, & bathrooms with running water. Short hikes at the Square Tower & four outlier units that contain ancestral Puebloan structures. Also adjacent to Canyons of the Ancients National Monument. High clearance vehicles needed to reach outlier unit trailheads. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Jock Hovey 435-260-0239 jockhovey@gmail.com.

SLG Tues 4/29/14 Big Mountain. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Connie 801-835-6304 or preferably modrowsky@gmail.com, Let's hike up along the Great Western Trail toward Big Mountain. Meet at the parking lot at the intersection of Crestview Drive and Sunnyside Ave., directly east of Hogle Zoo by the eagle monument. From there we will drive up Emigration Canyon to East Canyon road, then drive an additional 9 miles up to Big Mountain Pass summit. We will hike up a few switchbacks through mountain mahogany and along the scenic ridgeline to the saddle and beyond, passing through lovely meadows and aspen groves.

May

GCG Sat 5/3 Little-Gold Bar Loop. Hike around the mesa high above the Colorado River. Begin going up Little Canyon on the old horse trail to above the pour off and then do a clockwise loop around the mesa. Part of the horse trail is steep with a little

scrambling. Assistance and spotting will be provided at the step in the stock trail. After the scrambling the hike is mostly easy. Beautiful views on this seldom hiked and seen area. A couple of surprising sights await the hikers. About 5.5 miles. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 9:00 AM. Leader: Michael Stringham 435-259-8579 mikechrista@earthlink.net.

SLG Tues 5/6/14 The Living Room. 6:30 PM, Leader: Dee Husebye (801) 718-1970 or dee648@live.com, This hike in the Red Butte foothills is a perennial favorite for great sunset views of the Salt Lake Valley from your own rocky recliner in the Living Room. Meet at 6:30 pm above Research Park on Colorow Road, midway between Wakara Way and Tabby Lane.

OG May 9, 2014: Friday night lights. We'll hike up Beus Canyon and follow the Bonneville Shoreline trail past Strong, Waterfall, and Taylor Canyons. We will end the evening trek at the Twenty-first Street trailhead. The night lights are stunning. It will be 2.5 hrs. and 4.5 miles. Call Larry at 801-690-4335.

OG May 11 Sunday Skull Crack trail, near Causey Reservoir. Skull Crack Trail on the North shore of Causey reservoir is a beautiful hiking trail winding its way from the North parking area to the furthestmost reaches of the Eastern arm of the lake. The trail rises gently to about 700 feet above the lake then returns to lake level. About 5 mile Round trip, Bring water, and a snack. Call joanie 801-399-0034 for details.

GCG Sat 5/17 Rainbow Rim. From a spur to the Dubinky Well road, explore the colorfully banded Entrada cliff edge for a view of "Redwall Mesa" to the west. Climb some slickrock knobs just north of Tombstone Butte. Remains of manganese mining. About five miles with a few hundred feet of elevation gain. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Thomas J Messenger 435-259-1756 messengertj@citlink.net.

SLG Tues 5/13/14 Jacks Mtn. 6:30 PM, Leader: Colleen Mahaffey, colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com, (801) 484-4105 or (801) 554-7153, This foothills hike offers a great workout climbing up five successive hills to a splendid overlook of the valley. Wildflowers at this time of year will be delightful. Meet at the Parley's Way Walmart parking lot, west of the Bombay House Restaurant, 2705 Parleys Way.

OG Sunday May 18 Dyer's Wood Eradication. Protect our native plants by pulling these noxious weeds in Ogden's foothills. We'll start at 9 am and finish by noon. Call leader Dan Schroeder, 801-393-4603, for meeting location and to confirm the date which may change depending on conditions.



SLG Tues 5/20/14 Mt. Olympus

Loop. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Rebecca Wallace (801) 557-5261, rebeccawallace38@msn.com, Now that the Bonneville Shoreline Trail is partially completed on Mt. Olympus, we can make this a loop hike! Our goal will be the creek as a turnaround, about a two hour vigorous hike. The wildflowers will be fantastic and the views of the city spectacular. Meet at the Skyline High School parking lot, which is east of the school, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.).



SLG Tues 5/27/14 Twin Peaks.

Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Jim Paull (801) 580-9079, jimpaul@sisna.com, Little Twin Peaks (aka Avenues Twin Peaks) is a great hike close to the city and offers views of the Salt Lake Valley to the south and the City Creek drainage to the north. The trailhead and meeting place is located at the upper end of Terrace Hills Drive (890 East). Terrace Hills Drive is accessed from 11th Avenue near the west corner of the SLC cemetery. Drive up to the cul-de-sac at the upper end of Terrace Hills Drive.

GCG Sat 5/31 Dead Horse Point western trails. One possibility is the western hiking trail from the campground. At the north end is a very entertaining pot-holed point with fine views of Shafer Canyon. Another possibility is following the rim at the head of the East Fork of Shafer Canyon on the Whiptail and Twisted Tree bike paths. In either case about five miles with only a couple of hundred feet of elevation gain. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Thomas J Messenger 435-259-1756 messengertj@citlink.net.

June



SLG Tues 6/3/14 Terraces/Elbow

Fork. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Colleen Mahaffey colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com, (801) 484-4105 or (801) 554-7153, We'll leave a car at the Terraces parking area and begin the hike at Elbow Fork. Then hike from Elbow Fork back to the Terraces. So there will be a moderate ascent from Elbow and gradual descent from the ridge and back down to the Terraces. A very cool hike literally and figuratively. A special invitation to those holding passes to US Forest Service recreation areas. Meeting place is the Skyline High School parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.).

OG Sunday June 8 strenuous all-day mountain bike ride out of Mantua. Contact Dan S 801-393-4603 for more information.



SLG Tues 6/10/14 Desolation Trail /

Salt Lake Overlook. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Aaron Jones 801-467-3532 or ajonesmvp@msn.com, The hike begins at the Desolation trailhead in Millcreek Canyon. The trail winds through dense pine and quaking aspen stands and leads to a magnificent view of the Salt Lake Valley.

The slope is moderately steep but expect a relaxed pace to enjoy the ambiance of the forest. Millcreek Canyon is a fee area so bring \$1-2 to share the user fee with the designated driver. Meeting place is the Skyline High parking lot (north end), 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.).

GCG Sat 6/14 Day Canyon key exchange. From UT-279 hike up Day Canyon (actually lower Bull Canyon to start) about five miles to a stock trail at the head. Take the trail up to the rim. Elevation gain is about 1800'. Slickrock creek bed in lower part. Views. Petrified wood. Perhaps wildflowers. Big pouroff and pool in Bull is a possible side trip. If it's necessary to park on the Long Canyon Road, that would add about a mile with little elevation gain. Key exchange with loafers coming down from the top. Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Thomas J Messenger 435-259-1756 messengertj@citlink.net.

June 14th 2014: Lewis Peak. This will be a strenuous hike covering ten miles round-trip and a 2,300 feet elevation gain. It will take about six hours. We'll start at the North Ogden Divide trail head and hike to tremendous views of Pineview, Mt. Ogden, Ben Lomond, and the Great Salt Lake. Lewis Peak is the highest point between Willard peak and Mt. Ogden. Call Larry @ 801-690-4335 for meeting time and place

SLG Sat 6/14/14 Lookout Peak. Time: 9:00 A.M., Leader: Fred Swanson (801) 588-0361, fbswan32@msn.com, Reaching nearly 9,000 feet at the head of Emigration Canyon, Lookout Peak offers expansive ridgetop views over flower-filled mountain slopes. Beginning at the Killyons Canyon trailhead, we'll hike four miles each way, climbing 3,000 feet for our reward. Bring sunscreen, rain gear, lunch, 2-3 liters of water and sturdy hiking footwear. Call Fred for 9:00 a.m. meeting place (parking at the trailhead is limited, so we will carpool from town).

SLG Tues 6/17/14 Brighton Lakes. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Rebecca Wallace (801) 557-5261, rebeccawallace38@msn.com, The summer would not be complete without a drive up Big Cottonwood Canyon and a hike around the Brighton Lakes near the ski area. The mountain is high but the path is relatively easy, and the views of the surrounding peaks are stunning. Meeting place is the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. in SLC (note: this is the lot above the I-215 freeway exit, not the canyon mouth).

SLG Fri 6/20 – Sun 6/22/14 Fremont Indian State Park Car Camp and Summer Solstice Celebration. Leader: Aaron Jones 801-467-3532 or ajonesmvp@msn.com, The park has a great museum and number of easy trails displaying an abundance of ancient petroglyphs. Especially interesting is the Canyon of Life panel displaying a celestial calendar that marks the solstice with a dagger of light. We will camp at the nearby Castle Rock campground. Early reservations are highly recommended and can be made at www.reserveamerica.com. If you are interested, contact leader.

SLG Tues 6/24/14 Killyons Canyon. Time: 6:30 P.M., Leader: Fred Swanson (801) 588-0361, fbswan32@msn.com, This shady trail in upper Emigration Canyon follows a gurgling creek frequented by song birds. Several interesting tree carvings tell of the sheepherding days. Meet at the parking lot east of Hogle Zoo at Crestview Dr. and Sunnyside Ave., by the eagle statue.

GCG Sat 6/28 Trans La Sal Trail, Warner Lake to Geyser Pass Road. From Warner it's about a mile and a 600' descent to Oowah Lake. From Oowah Lake it's about a mile and a 600' up to Boren Mesa. From there it's a couple of miles and a 400' descent to the Geyser Pass Road at the hairpin. Less than five miles total. Fine views from Boren

Mesa. Car shuttle or key exchange. (Those starting from the hairpin would have a 400' and a 600' climb and a 600' descent.) Meet at: MIC, Main and Center Sts, Moab, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Jock Hovey 435-260-0239 jockhovey@gmail.com.

OG Saturday June 28th, Jardine Juniper in Sardine Canyon. "This pleasant hike takes you to one of the most popular landmarks of the Logan Canyon area, an ancient, still living, juniper tree. The age of the tree is estimated at about 1500 years old,... [making it] the oldest known Rocky Mountain juniper.... The trail is quite delightful with meadows, fir and aspen groves, unique wildflowers. At the ridge you will climb "for about a mile to a junction sign with 'Scenic Route' to the right [overlooking Logan Canyon] and 'Shady Route' to the left [overlooking Cottonwood Canyon]." Approximately 11 miles round trip, this will be an all day hike. Bring at least two liters of water and a lunch call joanie, 801-399-0034.

July

SLG Tues 7/1/14 Catherine's Pass from Little Cottonwood Canyon. 6:30 P.M., Leader: Jim Paull (801) 580-9079, From the high elevation trailhead at Albion Basin, hikers will ascend to Catherine's Pass. If time allows, we will continue on past tree line to Sunset Peak which offers views of the Uinta Mountains to the east as well as alpine lakes below. Meet at the Little Cottonwood Canyon Park and Ride parking lot, north side of the road at the mouth of Little Cottonwood Canyon (4323 E. Little Cottonwood Canyon Rd.).

SLG Tues 7/8/14 Circle All Peak. Time: 6:30 PM, Leaders: Don and Colleen Mahaffey colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com, (801) 484-4105 or (801) 554-7153, Cool meandering streams, tall pine stands, and a well maintained trail beckon the hiker to sample the ambiance of Big Cottonwood Canyon. The trail travels up the Butler Fork drainage, where it is not unusual to meet moose browsing the streamside vegetation. Meeting place is the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. in SLC (the lot above the I-215 freeway exit, not the canyon mouth).

OG Saturday July 12 Full moon hike on old snow basin road. From art Nordic trail head hike to snowbasin and back again Meet at 8:00pm Rainbow Gardens, bring water, Call joanie for details 801-399-0034

SLG Sun 7/13/14 Big Cottonwood Canyon. Time: 10:00 AM, Leader: Fred Swanson (801) 588-0361, fbswan32@msn.com, We'll escape the heat on a trail of the leader's choice in Big Cottonwood Canyon. If weather allows we'll head for a peak, otherwise follow a drainage such as Days Fork. Expect a 6- to 8-mile round trip with considerable elevation gain. Bring usual mountain gear including 2-3 liters water, sun and rain protection, and sturdy hiking footwear. Meet at the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. in SLC (above the I-215 freeway exit, not at the canyon mouth).

SLG Tues 7/15/14 White Fir Pass. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Aaron Jones 801-467-3532 or ajonesmvp@msn.com, White Fir Pass is accessed via the Elbow Fork trail in Millcreek Canyon. The trail offers a cool and refreshing hike through lush undergrowth and tall conifers. Meet at the Skyline High School parking lot (north end), 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.).

SLG, Tues 7/22/14 Silver Lake/ Lake Solitude. Time: 6:30 PM, Leader: Rebecca Wallace (801) 557-5261, rebeccawallace38@msn.com, The Silver Lake/Lake Solitude loop is a pleasant hike between two pristine lakes. The trail begins at the Nordic Center and follows a boardwalk around Silver Lake before continuing up into the forest to Lake Solitude, then loops back via a different trail.

Moose are common in the Silver Lake area. Meeting place is the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. in SLC (above the I-215 freeway exit, not at the canyon mouth).

SLG, Weds, 7/23 – 7/27/14, Rocky Mountain National Park. Leaders: Jim Paull (801) 580-9079, jimpaul@sisna.com and Richard Passoth (801) 364-3387 (in Denver), repassoth@gmail.com, With nearly 200 craggy peaks within its 415 square miles, Colorado's Rocky Mountain National Park is one of the gems of the entire National Park system. Enjoy the solitude of park's splendid backcountry, cool dense forests, rushing streams, glacier-gouged lakes and alpine meadows. One is likely to see elk, mule deer, and bighorn sheep. This 5-day, 4-night trip will permit 3 days of hiking of varying lengths and elevation gains. There will be a pre-trip meeting the week of July 7 to determine car-pooling, camping, food planning and other arrangements. A deposit of \$50.00 is requested to secure your spot and reserve camp sites. Please mail by check to Jim Paull, 5244 S. Alvera Circle, Holladay, UT 84117-7171. If you decided not to go and cancel after July 1, and expenses are not covered,

you could lose your deposit. An accounting will be provided to all participants.

July 26th 2014: Packard Lake. This hike is located in the Naturalist Basin in the High Uintas. The hike is strenuous covering about eight and one-half miles round trip, with an average elevation above 10,000 feet. Flat Landers be warned! We will view Mount Agassiz, the East Fork of the Duchesne, and several high mountain lakes as well as mountain meadows. Call Larry @ 801-690-4335 for time and location.

SLG Tues 7/29/14 Lambs Canyon/ Elbow Fork Cross-Over. Time: 6:00 PM, Leader: Connie 801-835-6304 or preferably modrowsky@gmail.com, This cross-over hike was great fun the previous two summers. Hikers will divide into two groups; one will carpool up Millcreek Canyon to the trailhead at Elbow Fork, the other to the trailhead at Lambs Canyon via Parleys. We meet at the ridgeline. Both sides are exquisitely beautiful mountainsides with abundant wildflowers and deep woods. Car key exchange will be pre-arranged. Meet at 6:00 PM (note earlier time) at the Skyline High School parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S). Bring headlamps.

The Sierra Club does not have insurance for carpooling arrangements and assumes no liability for them. Carpooling, ridesharing or anything similar is strictly a private arrangement among the participants. Participants assume the risks associated with this travel. If you choose to carpool to the trailhead, it is only fair for fees charged by the US Forest Service to be shared by all participants. Text of the outings liability waiver may be found at <http://www.sierraclub.org/outings/chapter/forms/signinwaiver.PDF>. CST 2087766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute approval by the State of California.

UtahChapterDirectory

Chapter ExCom (Terms Expire 12/31/2014)

Jeff Clay jclay@clayhaus.net, (801) 898-0639
 Marion Klaus marionklaus@comcast.net
 Dan Mayhew, chair drmayhew@comcast.net, (801) 712-5353
 Steve Thiese sthiese@yahoo.com, (801) 466-2893
 Terms Expire 12/31/2015

Jim Catlin jim@wildutahproject.org, (801) 363-5887
 Kim Crumbo kim@grandcanyonwildlands.org, (801) 317-4745
 Wayne Hoskisson wyh@xmission.com, (435) 260-9045
 Leslie Hugo coyotespaw@yahoo.com

Group Delegates

Marc Thomas, Glen Canyon Group marc_judi@frontiernet.net, (435) 259-2208
 Bob Becker, Ogden Group flatlander@gmail.com

Issue & Committee Chairs

Leslie Hugo, secretary coyotespaw@yahoo.com
 Tim Fellow, treasurer timfellow@gmail.com, (801) 787-1129
 Haley Sousa, legal chair haleysousa@gmail.com
 Steve Thiese, fundraising chair sthiese@yahoo.com, (801) 466-2893
 Jeff Clay, communications chair jclay@clayhaus.net, (801) 582-3740
 Rebecca Wallace, outings chair rebeccawallace38@msn.com
 Amy Mills, SkiLink amills3912@yahoo.com
 Marion Klaus, sage grouse, nat'l monuments marionklaus@comcast.net
 Sarah Fields, nuclear waste sarahmfields@earthlink.net
 Leslie Hugo, CCL delegate coyotespaw@yahoo.com
 Wayne Hoskisson, wilderness/UWC delegate wyh@xmission.com, (435) 260-9045
 Jeff Clay, web master jclay@clayhaus.net, (801) 582-3740
 Jeff Clay, Wilderness 50 jclay@clayhaus.net, (801) 582-3740
 Katie Cumming, pol compliance officer katherine.cummings1@gmail.com
 Dan Schroeder, ORV impacts dvs1444@gmail.com, (801) 393-4603

Group Chairs

Kay McLean, Glen Canyon Group mclean777@gmail.com
 Bob Becker, Ogden Group flatlander@gmail.com

Outings Chairs

Rebecca Wallace, Utah Chapter rebeccawallace38@msn.com
 Tom Messenger, Glen Canyon Group messengertj@citlink.net, (435) 259-1756
 Joanie Aponte, Ogden Group aponte_83@hotmail.com
 Fred Swanson, Salt Lake Group fbswan32@msn.com, (801) 588-0361

Utah Chapter Staff

Mark Clemens, chapter manager mark.Clemens@sierraclub.org, (801) 467-9294

National Organizing Staff

Tim Wagner, Our Wild America tim.wagner@sierraclub.org, (801) 467-9294

Volunteers Serving on Sierra Club National Committees

Jeff Clay	Wilderness 50 Committee
Kim Crumbo	Our Wild America Local Delivery Team
Wayne Hoskisson	Grazing, National Utah Wilderness, Wild Lands and Wilderness, & Our Wild America Local Delivery Teams
Marion Klaus	Our Wild America leadership team, Liaison to the Greater Grand Canyon—Colorado Ecoregion
Dan Mayhew	National Utah Wilderness and Our Wild America Local Delivery Teams, and Wild Lands and Wilderness BLM Sub Team

Dear Friend of Utah's Environment,

Last year, our state government attacked Utah's environment on an extraordinary scale. In 2014, our legislature and the executive branch are at it again at the expense of Utah's iconic landscapes, clean water, and air quality! All they want is "drill baby drill!"

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club is on the front lines protecting our environment right here in Utah. But to be successful we need your continued financial support. What will 2014 bring? More attacks from well-financed special interests and their friends, more battles with Utah lawmakers—bent on stripping environmental protections and awarding giveaways to dirty energy and corporate polluters—and even more threats to overturn hard-fought victories that have preserved Utah's pristine forests, deserts, mountains, and wildlife.

Sadly, our enemies are making an impact:

- Utah's air quality has plummeted and continues to worsen. The Governor's proposed clean-up plan is deemed 'too easy on corporate polluters' by the EPA.
- Clean water, which means life itself in our arid state, is becoming a rare commodity. Snowpack is well below normal for the third year in a row.
- Corporate polluters get away with numerous "accidental discharges", and there is little incentive for businesses to update their pollution control equipment.
- Tourism and outdoor recreation, which add billions to Utah's economy, are being sacrificed in favor of Big Oil, Big Coal and Big Development.
- Irresponsible off-road-vehicle usage continues to threaten fragile landscapes, wildlife habitats, and antiquity sites.

With your past support, we've acted on a number of important environmental issues. Many of these have carried-over to 2014, including:

- Fight to restore air quality and hold major polluters accountable
- Halt the expansion of Salt Lake oil refineries
- Promote development of clean and renewable energy solutions
- Work for sensible transportation alternatives
- Stop the Blue Castle-Green River Nuclear Power Plant boondoggle
- Re-write the Grand Staircase-Escalante NM Grazing Plan
- Preserve and restore Sage Grouse habitats
- Halt construction of the Lake Powell-St. George Pipeline
- Establish the Greater Canyonlands National Monument
- Stop open warfare on Gray Wolves
- Halt the expansion of the Alton Coal Strip Mine
- Curtail fracking, the toxic scheme used to boost natural gas production

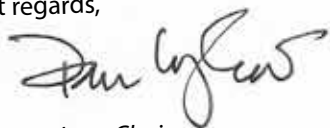
Thanks to your help, our Chapter achieved many significant successes in 2013, and placed us in an excellent position to face the challenges of 2014:

- BLM Utah Director Juan Palma pulled 57 parcels in and around Utah's scenic San Rafael Swell from an oil and gas lease sale, thanks to the UCSC and a coalition of environmental groups
- At the urging of UCSC and other environmental and agricultural businesses, a Nevada judge denied Las Vegas' rights to water under several area valleys, including Utah's Snake Valley
- We welcomed over 700 new members to the Utah Chapter last year
- Some 983 Utahns participated in 128 Chapter-sponsored outings and socials in 2013
- We've better utilized social media to broaden the UCSC messaging reach. Check out our new FaceBook page, facebook.com/utahsierran, which already has over 600 'likes'.
- The Chapter's modern, vibrant new website (utah.sierraclub.org) presents a daily snapshot of Chapter news. Visit it often to stay up on UCSC activities and information.

With your support of \$50 or more in 2014, we can continue to build on the successes that we've achieved over the past year.

Let's be clear: Utah's pristine landscapes and natural wonders are more in jeopardy now than ever before! The continuing battles to protect Utah's clean air, public lands, clean water, and a host of other environmental concerns will play out in the courts and in Utah's political arena. And the Utah Chapter Sierra Club will be there, fiercely defending every facet of Utah's environment, every step of the way. But we need your continued support to have the resources necessary to maintain this crucial work in 2014. Help the Utah Chapter protect the state's environment with a gift of \$50 or more.

Best regards,

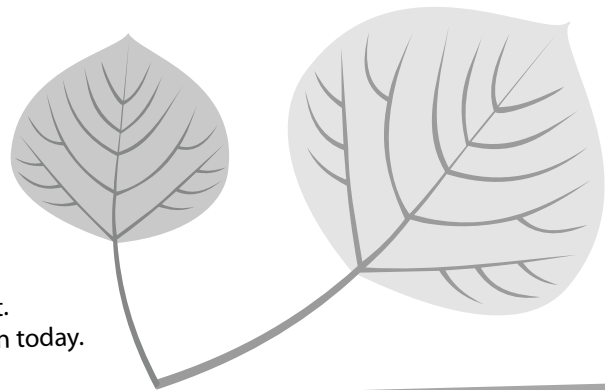


Dan Mayhew, Chair
Utah Chapter Sierra Club

P.S. Every dollar you give stays in Utah and helps preserve Utah's pristine environment. Please use the convenient response form to send your check or credit card information today.



The chapter is working to rein in rampant fossil fuel development (top) and protect roadless areas such as the Deep Creek Mountains from unchecked ORV use (above).



YES! I want to support the Sierra Club's local work in Utah!

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Surprise us! \$_____

Please make checks out to: Sierra Club Utah Chapter or donate online: www.utah.sierraclub.org

Please select a payment method: MasterCard Visa Discover

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Signature: _____

Expiration Date (mm/yy): _____

Email (help us continue to save paper): _____

Send me information so I can include Sierra Club in my estate plans.

Contributions and gifts to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible; they support our effective, citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts.