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UtahSierran

utah.sierraclub.org

Spring 2015 Vol. 48 No. 1



This Issue

Please welcome **Lindsay Beebe**, our new Beyond Coal Campaign representative. Get to know her role better on page 3.

More renewable energy in Utah would mean less pollution. Guess who is the biggest source of air pollution in the state. And in the whole West? Get the whole picture on page 5.

The Salt Lake Group's Tuesday Night Hikes start up again on April 21st! Read about all the forthcoming outings statewide on page 6.

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Utah Chapter a Key Player in Utah Public Lands Initiative

by Wayne Y. Hoskisson and Amy Mills

The Sierra Club and our conservation partners, the Southern Utah Wilderness Alliance, Natural Resources Defense Council, Grand Canyon Trust (GCT) and The Wilderness Society (TWS) have worked diligently for wilderness designation in the Public Lands Initiative (PLI) created by Rep. Rob Bishop and the rest of the Utah Congressional delegation. On Feb. 13, 2013, Rep. Bishop wrote in a letter to the Sierra Club, "In order to strike an appropriate balance between conservation and responsible development, and to create greater certainty for the citizens of Utah, I am pleased to announce that I am initiating a process to develop legislation that seeks to address many of the issues that have plagued public land management in eastern Utah." The Sierra Club took Rep. Bishop seriously. We engaged with his staff, went on field trips with multiple stakeholders in many counties, and participated in county discussions to the extent possible. Some counties did not want or accept our participation and some engaged with the Sierra Club and our conservation partners. We saw the process as a chance to have wilderness designated, settle RS 2477 litigation, settle some oil and gas leasing problems and allow the counties to solve problems or gain benefits from some comprehensive legislation. Our purpose for engaging in the process was to resolve many long standing conflicts over public lands management in eastern Utah.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 3



Fisher Towers is one of the Grand County gems needing protection through the Public Lands Initiative.

JEFF CLAY / CLAYHAUS.NET

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If you support the chapter's efforts,
PLEASE JOIN!



Bear in mind the consequences.

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 recover, but there is still more work to be done. Help Sierra Club protect our forest friends; they prefer the woods than being on display.

Get grizzly and JOIN Sierra Club.

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Endorse a check and mail to Sierra Club P.O. Box
421041 Palm Coast, FL 32162-1041 or visit our
website www.sierraclub.org





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Spring 2015 Vol. 48 No. 1

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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.

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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.

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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
Lawson LeGate	Leadership & Capacity Building team member
Dan Mayhew	National Utah Wilderness Team, and Wild Lands and Wilderness BLM Sub Team

AUGUST 14-16

Great Basin Car Camp SLC & OGDEN JOINT CAMPING FUN



This car camp trip is scheduled on a new moon phase so we can enjoy the star scapes. The area boasts some of the darkest night skies left in the United States. Low humidity and minimal light pollution, combined with high elevation, create a unique window to the universe. If you have star knowledge and a telescope please bring We will also be hiking to an ancient Bristle Cone pine forest, some trees to be dated over 4,846 years. And for the adventuresome folks a hike to Wheeler Peak the second tallest peak in Nevada can be added. During 'down time' we shall be practicing survival skills; bring what you have and share your knowledge

The Park does not charge an entrance fee however, there are fees associated with Lehman Cave tours and camping.

If you are planning to join us please RSVP no later than May 1st so reservations can be made for the cave tours (ten dollars for the Grand Palace Tour will be charged by the park.)

Camp site is limited to twenty humans (no dogs), so call early to reserve your spot. Campground details will be provided when you reserve. Call Joanie at 801-399-0034 or Rebecca 801-557-5261.

National Sierra Club Elections are Underway— VOTE!

A DEMOCRATIC SIERRA CLUB DEMANDS GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION

The annual election for the Club's Board of Directors is now underway.

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.

Your participation is critical for a Strong Sierra Club.

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.

In a typical year less than 10% of eligible members vote in the Board elections. A minimum of 5% is required for the elections to be valid. Our grassroots structure is strengthened when our participation is high. Therefore your participation is needed in the voting process.

How can I learn about the candidates? Members frequently state that they don't know the candidates and find it difficult to vote without learning more. Each candidate provides a statement about themselves and their views on the issues on the official election ballot. You can learn more by asking questions of your group and chapter leadership and other experienced members you know. You can also visit the Club's election web site for additional information about candidates:

<http://www.sierraclub.org/board/election>

Then make your choice and cast your vote!

Voting Online is Quick and Easy.

Even if you receive your election materials in the mail, we encourage you to use the user-friendly Internet voting site to save time and postage. If sending via ground mail, please note your ballots must be received by no later than election day, April 29, 2015.

OurAir

Welcome Lindsay Beebe—Utah's New Coal Fighter

Greetings Sierra Club! My name is Lindsay Beebe, and I am the new Organizing Representative with Sierra Club's Beyond Coal Campaign. It will be my job to initiate and progress the goals of the Beyond Coal Campaign here in Utah. It is with great excitement that I endeavor to transition Utah away from dirty coal power and towards a cleaner renewable energy future. As one of the most heavily coal-dependent states in the nation, Utah offers a unique set of barriers that make transitioning our electrical power infrastructure particularly challenging -- from the prevailing political climate to entrenched corporate and special interests. However, in contrast to these factors, Utah also provides a wealth of renewable energy development potential. I am confident that Utah's pioneering spirit will win out, and propel the state to take advantage of all that innovation and technology tell us are the future of energy policy.

I come to the Sierra Club after having spent two and a half years working on these same issues at HEAL Utah, another scrappy environmental organization some of you may be familiar with. I worked as an Intern and later as the outreach coordinator on many of the same campaigns that I now look to expand upon in my new position at the Sierra Club. I cherished my time at HEAL and value the perspective and experience I gained working for the underdog in the Wild West that is Utah energy development politics. When the opportunity arose, I could not pass up the chance to get another dog in the fight.

The Sierra Club is the largest grassroots environmental organization working to retire coal-fired power plants in the country, and I am so pleased that the national Beyond Coal Campaign has rightfully recognized Utah as a worthy

target for their considerable resources. The Beyond Coal Campaign has already won many victories across the country by shutting down coal-fired power plant units and promoting renewable energy development. Utah is ripe for these changes.

We lag behind all of our Western neighbors when it comes to renewable energy production per capita, ranking 13th out of the thirteen most western states. In addition, Utah leads the pack in percentage of power produced by coal, at roughly 80% -- twice the national average. To add insult to injury, Utah's largest utility, Rocky Mountain Power, has no plans to pursue large scale renewable energy development, according to their own Integrated Resource Plan projections. In fact, the share of energy Utah receives from renewable sources is forecasted to decrease by 2022, according to the same plan. We've certainly got our work cut out for us -- so let's get started!

If you would like to help bring about the change you would like to see in the world, please do not hesitate to contact me at lindsay.beebe@sierraclub.org. I look forward to hearing your ideas and working with you to build the movement. It is a great privilege to be able to unite my passions and my job together into one. I am so grateful for the opportunity to play a role. I hope you can join me, as we begin to envision Utah through the lens of this landmark campaign, confident that the Sierra Club and our allies are fighting for the absolute best future for our beautiful state.



Lindsay Beebe

Utah Chapter a Key Player in Utah Public Lands Initiative

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

On Oct. 22, 2014 Rep. Bishop, Gov. Herbert, Daggett County Commissioner Steglich, SUWA, Sierra Club, TWS, GCT, Trout Unlimited, and Utah Shared Access Alliance announced that they had reached a historic consensus for legislation about public lands in Daggett County. The county would receive lands for community purposes such as a shooting range and power substation, and a land trade that would facilitate a year-round resort in mountains south of Dutch John. About 80,000 acres of wilderness would be designated on National Forest and Bureau of Land Management lands. A National Conservation Area would be designated along the Green River. Utah State Institutional and Trust Lands (SITLA) would be traded to benefit schools and communities. We expect that Rep. Bishop will include this agreement in proposed legislation to Congress.

In the last weeks of February we still struggled with reaching consensus in Uintah, Carbon, Emery, Grand, and San Juan Counties. Our coalition continues to work towards agreement with these counties, but the counties are all different and our success varies widely.

Summit County came late to the process but may have gotten further than other counties. We have hopes that Summit County will submit a reasonable proposal to Rep. Bishop for an expansion to the High Uintas Wilderness Area. The proposal could add over 20,000 acres to Utah's largest wilderness area. This would create a more manageable boundary contiguous with proposed wilderness in Daggett County. So far Summit County has worked in a much more collaborative manner than most counties.

We continue to work with Grand County for the best possible outcome. Grand County should be submitting a final proposal sometime in March. We continue to work with Uintah County, but the short time frame may make it difficult to reach agreement.



A Public Lands Initiative field trip on November 11, 2014, in Summit County.

The legislative language should include any negotiated agreements with counties. Other possible legislative language could include some problems for the Sierra Club and our partners. It is possible there will be other, non-negotiated provisions including an attempt to eliminate or limit the use of the Antiquities Act in Utah. Congress gave the president the authority to create national monuments in 1906. Since then sixteen presidents have used the Antiquities Act to designate National Monuments. Four of the five National Parks in Utah began as National Monuments. The Antiquities Act can be a useful tool to overcome gridlock within Congress.

At this point we hope that Rep. Bishop intends to follow through on the idealism he expressed in his Feb. 13, 2013, invitation: "Conservation and multiple-use can coexist. They each have an important role in making Utah a healthy, inviting, and thriving state. The long term success of Utah depends on both balanced conservation and responsible development."

We will not know how close we have come to this ideal until late in March when Rep. Bishop's legislation will be proposed to Congress. Check the Utah Chapter's web site or future e-newsletters in April for the legislative status.

On Feb. 4, 2015, the entire Utah congressional delegation sent out a letter to all involved in the Public Lands Initiative announcing, "We're pleased to report that our goals are still very much attainable and we are on track to move forward in the near future." They plan to have a draft map of new wilderness designations, SITLA and other land exchanges, and proposed legislative language released to the public by March 27, 2015. In a meeting with Uintah County, Sierra Club, SUWA, TWS, GCT, and the Pew Charitable Trust, Casey Snider from Rep. Bishop's staff announced they would begin writing the legislation on March 1.

OurLand



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The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club extends a very special thanks to the

**George B. and Oma E. Wilcox and
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for its continuing generous support of the Chapter's programs. The Foundation challenges you to increase your support for the Utah Chapter in 2015.

Mountain Accord

GET ON THIS TRAIN OR STOP IT IN ITS TRACKS?

by Jeff Clay

Growth has been impacting the Wasatch since the mining days. Not usually for the better as first the extractive industries and then the ski industry had the major say in what was built, when and how. And naturally those businesses are interested first in exploiting rather than preserving the natural landscape.

The last twenty years have seen major pressures from urban population growth, suburban creep, increased visitors-per-days (with increased vehicular traffic), water needs, real estate booms, ski resort and heli-ski area expansions, and the threat of multi-resort inter-connects and the creation of summertime amusement-park like rides.

In an effort to plan for the future, 20 organizations and 200 stakeholders have come together to try and develop a blueprint for growth. The Mountain Accord blueprint is now available for review. The premise of the plan is that environmental concerns need to be balanced with economic drivers, transportation needs, and the recreation industry. The plan includes some public-private land swaps that may be desirable as they could concentrate development rather than encourage more mountain sprawl. It also includes some trail inter-connects that might be nice. It does not include any new wilderness and the big-ticket item of the blueprint is the creation of a rail system that in its fullest manifestation would bore through the Catherine's Pass area to connect Little Cottonwood Canyon with Big Cottonwood and the latter with Park City by yet another

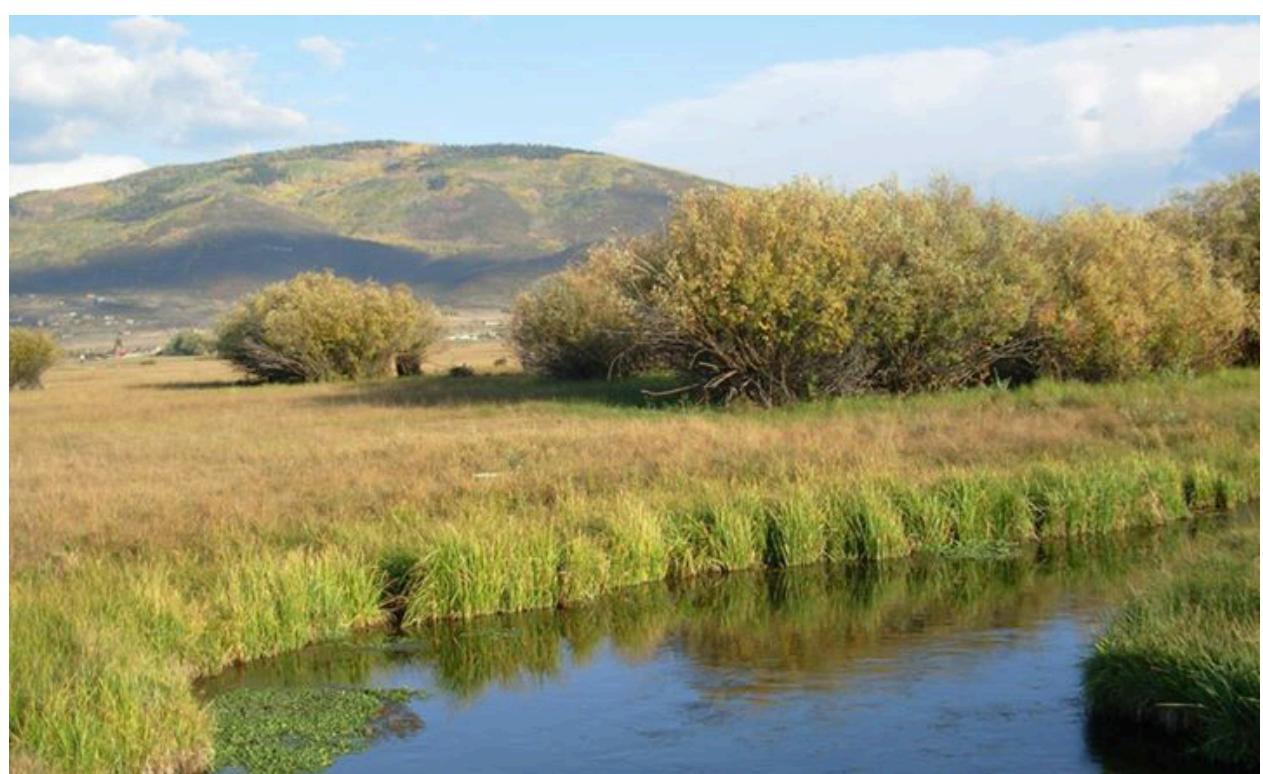
Read the blueprint with a discerning eye and then read Save Our Canyons comments as they are the primary environmental organization involved in the process.

tunnel. The result: millions and millions of dollars, years and years of construction and, we fear, a greatly changed central Wasatch.

Read the blueprint with a discerning eye and then read Save Our Canyons comments as they are the primary environmental organization involved in the process. The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club is still developing a public stance on this extremely important Wasatch plan. Our focus will be on whether the plan would preserve the mountains' natural beauty, wildlife, air and water quality, and the water supply for the Salt Lake Valley. Regardless of your opinion, Mountain Accord needs to hear from you and the public comment period is open until March 16th.

Uinta Express Pipeline on Hold

by Amy Mills



Tesoro Oil Company has temporarily suspended plans for the Uinta Express Pipeline, a proposed 135-mile heated pipeline that would transport waxy crude oil from Duchesne, Utah, to an oil refinery in Salt Lake City. Tesoro announced that it is putting plans on hold until April. Because the pipeline would pass through US Forest Service land, the Forest Service had begun an Environmental Impact Statement. The EIS is also on hold until April.

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club has been concerned about the potential environmental effects of the proposed pipeline. In addition to the land disturbance caused by installing and maintaining the pipeline, the pipeline would pose a threat to water quality in the event of a leak. The pipeline would cross the Kamas Valley, the Provo and

Weber Rivers, the Wasatch, and several communities. Further, the project would bring additional fuel to oil refineries, increasing air pollution in the Salt Lake valley.

The chapter's Wasatch Back Network recently raised public awareness in the Park City area and alerted the public to opportunities to provide comments to Tesoro and the USFS. We are pleased to learn of the suspension of plans for the pipeline and would like to see the project seriously reconsidered.

Coincidentally, a Tesoro fuel line break in Salt Lake City fouled an area near Rosewood Park with 4200 gallons of diesel fuel on January 30. This event underscores the danger of fuel pipelines, despite regulations and the plans and promises given to the public.

OnEnergy

Why Utah Needs a Renewable Energy Standard

by Ian Wade

2014 was the warmest year since NOAA started keeping records in the late 19th century. Now in 2015 we are six weeks early in the arrival of summer and missing half of our snowpack. So the predictions of those scientists who have been warning of catastrophic change for decades are demonstrably coming true.

Despite strong support from Utahns and record low prices for installed solar and wind power, less than 3% of our power derives from non-polluting, renewable sources.

Nowhere close to the aspirational goal of 20% set seven years ago.

A Stanford University survey in January this year found that 83% of Americans, including 61% of Republicans and 86% of independents, say that if nothing is done to reduce emissions, global warming will be a very or somewhat serious problem in the future. Some of our legislators are starting to acknowledge the problem with Senator Hatch going on record in a Senate vote saying humans are contributing to climate change. More recently Congressman Jason Chaffetz switched from climate change denial to saying he is committed to find and support the best solutions.

So what is the biggest source of emissions in Utah that we might try to reduce? Top of the list of polluters, not just in Utah but in the eleven western states, is Rocky Mountain Power. Fifty million tons of carbon pollution comes from our power plants each year, according to the National Resource

Defense Council. Only 3% of our power generated in Utah comes from renewable sources, and the rest is from coal and natural gas.

In fairness to Rocky Mountain Power they have sufficient generating capacity for the next decade and no incentive to do anything than supply us with the most economical power, which means not spending money on new capital projects involving renewable energy. Hence Utah will continue to rank last of the eleven western states in solar and wind energy despite it being the most preferred way people would like their power to be generated.

Changing this sad state of affairs will involve creating a mandatory standard for a certain amount of power to be generated from renewable sources. Again Utah is lagging as one of three western states without a mandatory standard.

In 2008, the Utah Legislature established a vision to promote clean energy jobs, improve air quality and protect Utahns from dangerous climate change with a clean energy goal of 20% of electricity to come from renewable sources by 2025. Senate Bill 202 passed both houses without a single no vote.

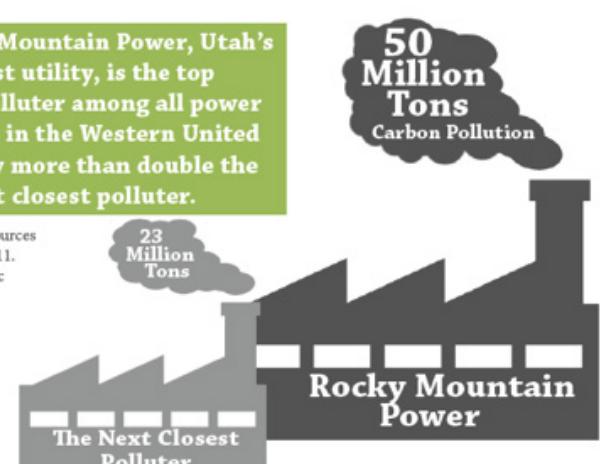
However despite strong support from Utahns and record low prices for installed solar and wind power, less than 3% of our power derives from non-polluting, renewable sources. Nowhere close to the aspirational goal of 20% set seven years ago.

Along with other Activists for Clean Energy (ACE) such as HEAL, Utah Clean Energy, Utah Physicians for a Clean Environment, Utah Citizens Advocating for Renewable Energy, Citizens Climate Lobby and others the Sierra Club is gathering petition signatures to have a mandatory standard of 20% by 2025. Please check this out at the link below and get your friends and colleagues to sign it too.

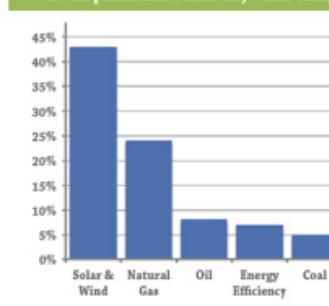
Ian Wade is the clean energy and climate stabilization spokesperson for the Utah Chapter.

7 **Rocky Mountain Power, Utah's largest utility, is the top air polluter among all power providers in the Western United States, by more than double the next closest polluter.**

Source: Natural Resources Defense Council, 2011.
<http://bit.ly/15MpUic>



1 **Utahns want to encourage Solar & Wind power development more than any other energy source.**



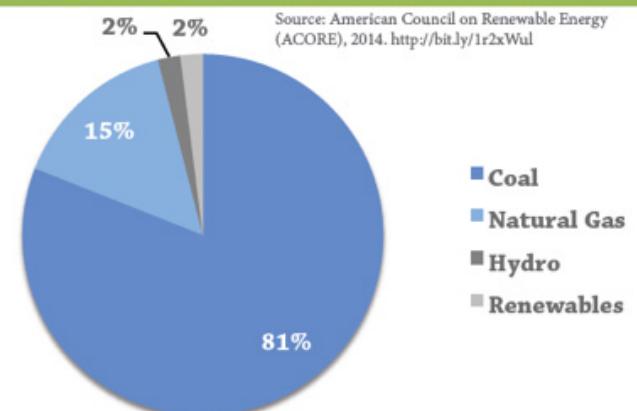
Source: 2013 Western States Survey, Colorado College
<http://bit.ly/1C9fUic>



Source: National Renewable Energy Laboratory, 2011
<http://bit.ly/15MpUic>

2 **Utah ranks last in renewable energy installations per capita among ALL WESTERN STATES.**

6 **Over 95% of the power generated in Utah is made with fossil fuels, more than double the national average.**



Source: American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE), 2014. <http://bit.ly/1r2xWul>

Take Action: Utah needs a guaranteed clean energy standard.
20% Renewable Energy by 2025
Sign the petition: <http://bit.ly/18pkcUD>

Volunteers Build Support for Renewable Energy

by Mark Clemens

Saturday, January 31st, was sunny and only slightly hazy for Utah's second annual clean air rally. Our Utah Needs Clean Energy Petition volunteers arrived about a half hour early to get kitted with aqua t-shirts, pens, clipboards, petitions and flyers.

The rally attracted several thousand people to the capitol. Volunteer Elise Lazar reports, "With Utah being dead last in the number of renewables out of eleven western states, it was not hard to press people to sign. In fact, as people heard the facts, a line started to form. People were eager to be part of our effort." Stan Holmes signed up the better part of an entire class from Park City High School that attended the rally.

Thanks to our twelve volunteers for helping add another 1,000 signatures to our petition to give Utah a guaranteed renewable energy standard. If you haven't signed the petition yet, http://petitions.moveon.org/sign/utah-needs-clean-energy?source=c.em.mt&r_by=12194261, what are you waiting for?



PERFECT LIGHT STUDIOS

Utah Chapter Outings

EXPLORE WITH US! MARCH–AUGUST 2015

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

March

SLG, Sun 3/22, Guardsman Pass

Snowshoe. Join Pete and Rebecca for a snowshoe hike to the ridgeline, where the views of the surrounding mountain peaks and valleys are amazing. We park at the winter snow gate on Guardsman Road up Big Cottonwood Canyon, and proceed up along the ridgeline. (Our trail starts right next to the road.) Total trip time will be 3 to 4 hours, expect about 1500 feet of elevation gain. Meet at 10:00 AM at the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 South Wasatch Blvd. (1 mi north of the canyon mouth). Please call or email organizers if winter conditions are threatening, as this may require us to modify or cancel the trip. Leaders: Rebecca Wallace, 801 557-5261, rebeccawallace38@msn.com or Pete Mimmack, pmimmack@gmail.com.

GCG, Sat 3/28, Herdina Park via Willow Spring Wash.

We hike into Herdina Park from Willow Springs Road from near the Arches N.P. western boundary and explore a variety of routes. Approx. 8 miles, 5 hours. MODERATE. Some moments of discomfort possible for some people uncomfortable with heights. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 9:00 AM. Leader: Albey M Reiner 435-260-8708.

April

GCG, Sat 4/11, Lone Mesa From Tusher Canyon.

From the head of Tusher Canyon, scramble up to the Moab Member (biscuit rocks) bench on Lone Mesa. Contour on the bench to a break in the biscuit rocks and scramble up to the top of Lone Mesa. Sweeping views in all directions. At least high clearance vehicle required to reach the trailhead. Steep climbs on talus and through boulders. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Michael Stringham 435-259-8579 mikechrista@earthlink.net.

OG, Sat 4/18, Beus Canyon Hike.

Join Dan as he walks up Beus Canyon for an hour, The lower portion of the trail is an easy climb, towards the fern valley, Call Dan @ 720-936-0599 for meeting time and place, be sure to take water.

SLG, Tues 4/21, Mt. Van Cott.

Mt. Van Cott is located to the east and above the University of Utah hospital, between Dry Gulch and Red Butte. This foothill hike is a steady uphill walk along a wide trail which climbs up to the ridge below the peak, where we will have a great wide view. The rocky limestone that outcrops contains visible fossils. We will turn around about 7:30 to be back to the parking lot before dark. Bring a headlamp and water just in case. Meet at 6:15 pm (for 6:30 departure)

at the small parking area above the Jeanne Wagner Jewish Community Center, 2 N. Medical Dr. (do not part in the JCC's main parking lot). This is a small parking area immediately below the power substation. Do not block driveways into the substation, and if that parking area is full, park just to the south but just as high on the hill. Leader: Connie (801-835-6304, modrowsky@gmail.com).

GCG, Sat 4/25, Northern Rainbow Rim.

Explore the biscuit rocks and colorful Entrada sandstone west of the Dubinky Well road. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Thomas J Messenger 435-259-1756 messengert35@gmail.com.

OG, Sat, 4/25, Indian Trail The Indian Trail

is a moderate hike that ascends through lush evergreen forest and past interesting geology. It climbs steeply into Ogden Canyon, winds in and out of Warm Water Canyon, climbs to Nevada Viewpoint on the ridge between Warm Water Canyon and Cold Water Canyon, and then descends to into Cold Water Canyon near the Cold Water Canyon Trailhead. For more information call Larry at 801 690 4335.

OG, Sat 4/25, Ogden River Clean Up.

Contact Ranee at 801-540-1458 for meeting time and place

OG, Sun 4/26 , Ogden Pond & beyond-

Urban hiking. Join me in a stroll on the Ogden River parkway, we'll start at the 21st pond and walk west towards a new section of path. This is good for kids, well behaved dog on a leash are ok- Call Joanie @ 801-399-0034 for more information

SLG, Tues 4/28, Alexander Creek.

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

May

GCG, Fri 5/1-Mon 5/4, San Rafael Swell

Campout and Day Hike. Either camp together or set a meeting time and place for possible day hikes. Possibilities at present: past the petroglyphs in Black Dragon Canyon to crest with big views to the north ~8 miles round trip; Chute and Crack Canyons from behind the reef, 11 miles, 4WD needed; Hidden Splendor Wayne's Wriggle (short), Mud Canyon

(full day), or Chimney Canyon (full day). Details later as plans mature. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 5:00 PM. Leader: Jock Hovey 435-260-0239 jockhovey@gmail.com.

OG, Sun 5/3, Invasive Weed-pulling.

Dan S will need some help in the annual DYERS WOAD eradication, Join him this Sunday morning to get rid of weeds near the Bonneville Shoreline Trail call Dan S at 801-393-4603. [S]

OG, Sun 5/3, 2 hours up the Beus Trail.

If you enjoyed the first walk of the Beus canyon series join-Dan Spark for a two hour walk up this beautiful canyon, flowers should be out and ferns in bloom. Contact Dan @ 720-936-0599 for meeting time and place, be sure to bring water

SLG, Tues 5/5, Avenues Twin Peaks.

Little Twin Peaks (aka Avenues Twin Peaks) offers great views of the Salt Lake Valley to the south and the City Creek drainage to the north. The trailhead is located at the upper end of Terrace Hills Drive (890 East), which is accessed from 11th Avenue near the west corner of the Salt Lake cemetery. Meet at 6:30 pm at the cul-de-sac at the upper end of Terrace Hills Drive. Leader: Doug Johnson, 801-521-0704 or doug.johnson@hsc.utah.edu.

OG, Fri 5/8, 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 5 miles. Call Larry at 801-690-4335.

OG, Sun 5/10, FAUST VALLEY LOOP:

SWINGS AND GONGS. 30 mile bike tour west of Tremonton through peaceful farm country and one big hill. We will stop for lunch at an unusual park featuring imaginative percussion instruments and swings. [See Ogden Area Outings Guide, p. 98] This takes all day. Bring lunch. Meet 0830 Rainbow Gardens. Jock Glidden 8013940457

SLG, Tues 5/12, Rattlesnake Gulch.

This trail climbs up to the Pipeline Trail not far from the entry gate to Millcreek Canyon. The hike is relatively easy, a great way to unwind and enjoy nature after a hard day's work. Meeting place is the Skyline High School parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.) at 6:30 pm. Call Aaron Jones at 801-467-3532 or email ajonesmvp@msn.com for more information.

OG, Sun 5/17, Middle Fork Trail-Eden.

We will follow the Middle Fork stream for about an hour then head up towards the

road, wild flowers should be out at this time. Meet at Rainbow Gardens at 7:30 or trailhead at 8. Joanie 801-399-0034

SLG, Sun 5/17, Grandeur Peak Cross-Over.

This is another of the epic hikes in the Wasatch! We park a shuttle car or two at the western trailhead on Wasatch Blvd., then drive up Millcreek Canyon to start our hike at the Church Fork trailhead. A 2600 foot ascent and 3000 foot descent down the west side completes this six-mile-long hike, which takes about 5 to 6 hours. Bring lunch plus snacks, at least 2 liters of water, hiking boots, hat, layers of clothing and optional trekking poles. Meet at 10:00 am at the Skyline High School east parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S). For further information, contact Rebecca Wallace (rebeccawallace38@msn.com or 801-557-5261) or Bruce Hamilton (801-819-9435 or bhami@pobox.com) for more information.

SLG, Tues 5/19, The Living Room.

The Living Room is an outcropping of rocks carved partly by nature, mostly by human hands into comfortable living room furniture overlooking the Salt Lake Valley and the Great Salt Lake. From trailhead to destination is about 2 miles of moderately steep hiking but well worth the effort. Meet at 6:30 pm on Colorow Rd. in the University of Utah Research Park, midway between Wakara Way and Tabby Lane. This is south of the entrance to Red Butte Gardens. Leader: Nancy Ivy 801-478-1283 or nancyivy@hotmail.com.

GCG, Sat 5/23, Duma Point.

Visit an Entrada Slick Rock bowl and perhaps explore the upper reaches of Red Canyon. About 20 miles from US-191 on the Blue Hills and Duma Point/Ten Mile Point graded roads. Access from the Duma Point road formerly a spur to a stock tank is now a single track route that we'll walk. Easy slickrock walking in the bowl. The La Sals, Rainbow Rim and Lost World Butte visible in the distance. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Thomas J Messenger 435-259-1756 messengert35@gmail.com.

SLG, Tues 5/26, Jack's Mtn.

Jack's Mountain rises above Salt Lake's East Bench and offers great city views. We'll climb a fairly steep ridgeline trail above the "H" Rock to one or more high points on the ridge. Sturdy footwear and a headlamp are highly recommended. Meet at the new Parley's Way Walmart parking lot, 2705 Parleys Way, west of the Bombay House Restaurant in SLC at 6:30 pm. Please contact Colleen at (801) 484-4105 or (801) 554-7153 or email at colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com for questions or more details.

June**SLG, Tues 6/2, Mt Olympus/Bonneville**

Shoreline Trail. Check out one of the newest sections of the Bonneville Shoreline Trail! It starts from the new trailhead off Thousand Oaks Drive in Olympus Cove and ascends to the new Bonneville Shoreline Trail on the north flank of Mount Olympus. We will wind our way through ancient oak groves and wildflowers and enjoy amazing views of the city below. Meet at the Skyline High School east parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.) at 6:30 pm. Contact Jim Paull at 801-580-9079 or jimpaul@sina.com for details.

SLG, Tues 6/9, Terraces-Elbow Fork Loop.

Beginning at the Terraces picnic area near the winter gate in Millcreek Canyon, we will climb to a ridgeline above Bowman Fork, then descend steeply to the canyon road opposite Elbow Fork. This loop finishes with a saunter down the main Millcreek canyon road, which is closed to car traffic. The trail distance covers about 3 miles through a quiet forest which shelters hikers from the nearby urban environs and heat of the sun. Meeting place is the Skyline High School east parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.) at 6:30 pm. Please contact Colleen at (801) 484-4105 or (801) 554-7153 or email at colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com for questions or more details.

SLG, Thurs 6/11, Big Mountain.

Help us inaugurate a series of Thursday afternoon hikes which will leave at 4:30 pm. We'll follow the Great Western Trail from Big Mountain Pass above Little Dell Reservoir to 8470' high Big Mountain and its encompassing views. The hike switchbacks up to a scenic ridgeline and continues through lovely aspen groves to the summit. This is a five-mile round trip with 1,000 feet of elevation gain. Be sure to bring rain gear, proper footwear, snacks, and water. Meet promptly at 4:30 pm at the recycling drop-off parking lot at the intersection of Crestview Drive and Sunnyside Ave., directly east of Hogle Zoo. This is on the south side of Sunnyside Ave. where you turn off for the dog park. A stone monument with an eagle on top marks the spot. For info call or email Fred Swanson, (801) 588-0361, fbswan32@msn.com.

GCG, Sat 6/13, Piebald Terraces.

Drive up Kane Springs Canyon to the bottom of the grade up to Hurrah Pass. Explore the Cutler terraces that climb gently toward the high canyon-rim saddle of Hurrah Pass. There are strange white inclusions in the predominately dark red sandstone. Hike on the ascending terraces at various levels detouring around drainages. Many interesting erosional shapes. Return to the start. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Jock Hovey 435-260-0239 jockhovey@gmail.com.

OG, Sat 6/13, Snow Basin area.

We will hike from the Maples trailhead to the Wheeler Creek trailhead. This is a downhill trial passing through maple, oak, and evergreen trees. It has become a favorite trail for bikers, runners, and hikers because of the easy terrain and beautiful scenery. Many interesting rock formations are seen in Wheeler Canyon as you follow the creek to the trailhead. Call Larry at 801-690-4335 for time and location.

SLG, Tues 6/16, Mill B North.

Climbing above the "S" curve in Big Cottonwood Canyon, the Mill B trail begins

along a cool stream and switchbacks up to a stunning overlook across the canyon to the high peaks of the Wasatch. Meet at the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. (1 mi north of the canyon mouth) at 6:30. Leader: Jim Paull, (801) 580-9079, jimpaul@sina.com.

OG, Sun 6/21, Hidden Valley Hike.

We will start at the 22nd street trail head at 7:00 am, and head up to the hidden valley. Beautiful views but a steep trail, bring at least two liters of water, call -Joanie @ 801-399-0034 for more information

SLG, Tues 6/23, Salt Lake Overlook.

Join us on this much loved vantage point to view the sunset, after a spectacular wooded hike up to a rocky outpost near the ridgeline. Meet promptly at 6:30 pm at the Skyline High School east parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.). Call Aaron Jones at 801-467-3532 or email ajonesmvp@msn.com for more information.

SLG, Thurs 6/25, Red Pine Lake.

This favorite Little Cottonwood Canyon hike starts at the White Pine trailhead, crosses the stream, and climbs steadily through aspen groves to Lower Red Pine Lake. Enroute there are outstanding canyon views down the U-shaped, glacier-carved Little Cottonwood Canyon. The six-mile round trip involves 1940 feet of elevation gain. Meet at 4:30 pm at the Little Cottonwood Canyon Park and Ride lot, 4323 E. Little Cottonwood Canyon Rd. (mouth of the canyon on the north side). We plan to return to the trailhead about 9:30. Leader: Jim Paull, (801-580-9079, jimpaul@sina.com).

GCG, Sat 6/27, Delta Pool+.

From near the Halfway Stage Station and the recently excavated dinosaur trackway north of Moab, we will circle around the mesa between Mill Canyon and Courthouse Rock, and then ascend the mesa to see some interesting features. EASY. Approx. 6 miles, 3 1/2 hours. Optional hike extensions for those so inclined. Meet at: Parking lot, former Red Rock Elementary School, at 8:00 AM. Leader: Alvey M Reiner 435-260-8708.

SLG, Tues 6/30, Little Mountain.

This five-mile round-trip follows the ridge at the head of Emigration Canyon to 7000-foot-high Little Mtn. The nearly full moon will help light our return, but bring headlamps as well. Meet promptly at 6:30 pm at the parking lot east of Hogle Zoo at Crestview Dr. and Sunnyside Ave. The lot is marked by a large eagle statue. Leaders: Fred Swanson (801) 588-0361, fbswan32@msn.com and Debi Barker (435) 830-9021, dddarries4@yahoo.com.

July**SLG, Thurs 7/2, Sunset Peak.**

From Brighton at the head of Big Cottonwood Canyon we will ascend to Catherine Pass and continue on past tree line to Sunset Peak, which offers fine views of the Uinta Mountains to the east as well as the alpine lakes below. Meet at 4:30 pm at the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. (1 mi north of the canyon mouth). We plan to return to the trailhead about 9:30. For further information please contact Bruce Hamilton (801-819-9435 or bhami@pobox.com) or Jim Paull (801-580-9079, jimpaul@sina.com).

OG, Sat 7/4, Mollen Hollow.

Our 13th annual 5-mile family holiday hike atop this rolling plateau in the Monte Cristo range. Expansive views and spectacular wildflowers guaranteed!

Call Dan Schroeder at 801-393-4603 for details.

SLG, Tues 7/7, Broads Fork.

The Broads Fork trail in Big Cottonwood Canyon leads along a rushing stream through aspen groves and pines into the canyon cliffs of the upper reaches. Meet at the 6200 South Park and Ride lot, 6450 S. Wasatch Blvd. (1 mi north of the canyon mouth) at 6:30 pm. Leader: Bruce Hamilton, 801-819-9435 or bhami@pobox.com.

SLG, Tues 7/14, White Fir Pass.

This pleasant wooded trail begins at the Terraces picnic ground in Millcreek Canyon and takes us along a shady stream to the pass, where we are greeted with mountain vistas and giant white firs. The trail offers a cool and refreshing hike through lush undergrowth and tall conifers. Meet at 6:30 pm at the Skyline High School east parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.). Call Aaron Jones at 801-467-3532 or email ajonesmvp@msn.com for more information.

OG, Sat 7/18, Notch Mountain Trail in the High Uintas. 6 to 7 miles in length.

Moderate to strenuous due to the 10,000 ft. elevation, 4 hrs. hiking time. The trail skirts the west side of Bald Mountain. The trail goes through high alpine meadows and evergreen forests. We will pass Clegg Lake, Dean Lake, Notch Lake, and Bench Lake. Just beyond Bench Lake we will stop for lunch and return from that point. Call Larry at 801-690-4335

OG, Sun 7/19, White Pine Lake Hike.

We will start at Tony Grove in Logan Canyon and hike about 7 miles out and back to White Pine Lake. Hoping to catch some wildflowers, sunshine, and exercise. Easy hike for families. Contact Joanie @ 801-399-0034 for more information

SLG, Tues 7/21, Circle All Peak.

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. (1 mi north of the canyon mouth) at 6:30 pm. Please contact Colleen at (801) 484-4105 or (801) 554-7153 or email at colleen.mahaffey@gmail.com for questions or more details.

OG, 7/22-27, Claire Tappan Lodge –

Truckee California, hiking and dining. Dale & Debra Davis at 801-430-1209 for complete details

SLG, Thurs 7/23, Thaynes Canyon-

Desolation Trail Loop. One of Millcreek Canyon's longer and steeper hikes, this heavily shaded 4-1/2 mile loop is perfect for a hot summer afternoon. We climb more than 2000 feet to the junction with the Desolation Trail, then follow this route, which is brushy in places, down to the Salt Lake Overlook for a rest. Easy downhill switchbacks lead from here to the trailhead. Long pants are recommended; bring a snack, sweater, raingear, plenty of water and a good headlamp. Meet at 4:30 pm at the Skyline High School east parking lot, 3251 E. Upland Drive (3760 S.). Call or email Fred Swanson for details, 801-588-0361 or fbswan32@msn.com.

SLG, Tues 7/28, Greens Basin.

The Greens Basin trail leads up through lush aspen and conifer stands, ending in a broad, shady meadow. Headlamps recommended. Meet promptly at 6:30 pm at the 6200 South

Park and Ride lot, 6450 South Wasatch Blvd. (1 mi north of the mouth of Big Cottonwood Canyon). Call or email Fred Swanson for details, 801-588-0361 or fbswan32@msn.com.

SLG, Fri 7/31-Sun 8/2, On Beyond Awesome Albion Basin Blue Moon Car Camp.

We have two campsites reserved for a perfect weekend in Little Cottonwood Canyon. Friday evening we will walk through splendid fields of wildflowers to view not only a full moon but, a blue moon or the second full moon of a month. Saturday and Sunday we can choose from a wide array of hikes including Cecret Lake, Grizzly Gulch, and the beautiful Maybird Lakes area. Expect ample time for relaxing and socializing. A deposit of \$25.00 is requested by July 1 to defray expenses. Call Aaron Jones at 801-467-3532 or email ajonesmvp@msn.com for more information.

August**OG, 8/14-16, Great Basin Car Camp –SLC**

& Ogden Joint Camping Fun. This car camp trip is scheduled on a new moon phase so we can enjoy the star scapes. The area boasts some of the darkest night skies left in the United States. Low humidity and minimal light pollution, combined with high elevation, create a unique window to the universe. If you have star knowledge and a telescope please bring We will also be hiking to an ancient Bristle Cone pine forest, some trees to be dated over 4,846 years. And for the adventuresome folks a hike to Wheeler Peak the second tallest peak in Nevada can be added. During 'down time' we shall be practicing survival skills, bring what you have, and share your knowledge. The Park does not charge an entrance fee, Lehman Cave tours and camping is charged. If you are planning to join us please RSVP no later than May 1st so reservations can be made for the cave tours, a fee of ten dollars for the Grand Palace Tour will be charged by the park. Camp site is limited to twenty humans, (no dogs) call early to reserve your spot. Camp ground details will be provided when you reserve your spot. Joanie at 801-399-0034 or Rebecca 801-557-5261 for reserved spot.

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.

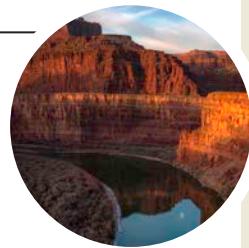
Dear Friend of Utah

Dear Friend of Utah's Environment,

The Utah Chapter, Sierra Club is poised in 2015 to take advantage of opportunities to make profound conservation changes that would benefit all Utahns. **We need your support to move forward on the following initiatives.**

RED ROCK CONSERVATION THROUGH POLITICAL CHANGE

The chapter's Glen Canyon Group found itself at loggerheads with a majority of members of the Grand County Council on issues ranging from new wilderness designation to a massive new oil and gas field on the doorstep of Canyonlands National Park. Sierra Club volunteers led a quiet revolution at the ballot box in November 2014 that resulted in the pro-development majority on the council being replaced by decidedly greener members. Glen Canyon Group volunteers will work with the new council to diminish threats to Greater Canyonlands and to create a set of county-wide conservation recommendations that could be implemented by Congress. **With your help we'll keep up this critical conversation and involve a wide spectrum of club members and conservationists.**



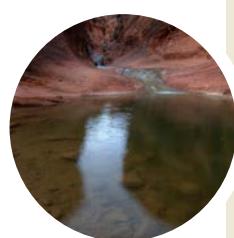
INCREASING RENEWABLE ENERGY

Last Summer Utah Chapter volunteers and staff collaborated with a broad coalition of groups opposed to Rocky Mountain Power's proposed tax on homeowners with solar electric panels. We brought together faith communities, prominent politicians, economists, community councils and solar businesses to speak with one voice to the Utah Public Service Commission. The Commission voted two to one against the tax. In 2015 we will be upping the ante to challenge Rocky Mountain Power's long-range plan that has 97% of Utah energy coming from coal and gas. We will be seeking a guaranteed standard of 20% of Utah's electricity to come from renewable sources by 2025. **Only with your help can we carry this campaign to success with rallies, outreach and lobbying needed to make our case.**



HEARING THE SAGE GROUSE'S CONSERVATION CALL

Chapter volunteers work on the ground and in the halls of power to protect Utah's parks and natural lands with the incredible diversity and richness of animals and plants that make their homes there. An example is the Sage Grouse. Once found by the hundreds of thousands across the West this noble bird's has now dwindled to dangerously low numbers as a result of the unchecked oil and gas boom and the chronic effects of over grazing. **Our volunteers will continue to work for more scientific and protective management of our public lands, but your advocacy and support can extend our reach.**



FIGHTING FOR AIR QUALITY

For years the Sierra Club has made improving air quality a priority by fighting refinery expansions in Salt Lake and Davis County, working to prevent a massive increase in pollution from an expanded Kennecott mine and reducing pollution from sources such as the Stericycle incinerator and the manufacturer US Magnesium. **We'll continue these efforts in 2015 too, but we need your help to support litigation, communication and volunteer activism.**



Virtually no other conservation organization has the reach, experience and commitment of the Utah Chapter, Sierra Club, but future success depends on your continuing support. Please consider making a gift in 2015 of \$50 or \$100.

Yours truly,

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.



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

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

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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.

A Look Back at 2014 Accomplishments

With the help of member and volunteers, the Utah Chapter, Sierra Club notched significant conservation victories and other milestones in 2014. These include

We persuaded the Utah Public Service Commission to turn down a proposal from Rocky Mountain Power to burden solar homeowners with a tax of just under \$5 per month for generating extra power for the grid. Working with Sierra Club economists, attorneys and a diverse coalition of faith communities, other environmental groups and solar businesses, we built a case that won community and official support.

Chapter volunteer and photographer extraordinaire Jeff Clay inspired and organized the **Utah Wilderness 50 Photo Contest** and Exhibit at the Natural History Museum of Utah. It consisted of 50 photos of the wonders of Utah's publicly-owned wilderness and parks. Look for an opportunity to see the exhibit soon in Summit County.

Chapter volunteers in the Glen Canyon Group organized an amazing effort to change the political atmosphere in Grand County.

The former county council was resolutely opposed to wilderness and fawningly supportive of every proposal to dig up dirty fossil fuels that came along. Our volunteers, led by Marc Thomas, started talking to fellow club members as well as friends and neighbors about the stark choice at the ballot box in November. What's the best measure of their success? The new council just voted to withdraw from a seven county coalition set up to build infrastructure to subsidize the fossil fuel extraction industries.

We kept up pressure on the multi-party consultative process set up by Representative Rob Bishop to consider all Bureau of Land Management lands eligible to become wilderness and to protect as much of this stunning country as possible. We also continued to build support for a Greater Canyonlands National Monument if Representative Bishop's Public Lands Initiative fails to live up to its potential.

Utah Chapter outings leaders led a roster of exciting and varied hikes across the state—about 120 in 2014. Check off destinations on your personal bucket list in Utah with them, <http://utah.sierraclub.org/content/calendar>. Members and non-members are welcome.

We petitioned BLM State Director Juan Palma to call a time out on explosive growth in oil and gas exploration on the doorstep of Canyonlands National Park and Dead Horse Point State Park. Working with National Sierra Club staff and local volunteers, we will be at the front of the pack fighting industrialization of the Colorado Plateau.

Nearly 600 new members joined us in 2014. Thank you new and continuing members! And we saw a real growth of strength and interest in our Wasatch Back Network set up to serve chapter members in Summit and Wasatch Counties.

