



SIERRA CLUB
FOUNDED 1892

Utah Sierran

utah.sierraclub.org

Fall 2011 Vol. 44 No. 4

WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



Get the scoop on Desert Bighorn sheep, one of the flagship species of Greater Canyonlands.

See the full story on page 4.



The Sierra Club is a democracy that relies on you to succeed.

Get the details on this year's executive committee elections on page 6.



Want to make a difference in your spare time? Check out the opportunities in our **Volunteer Corner** on page 12.

Lobbying for Utah's Public Lands

by Marion Klaus



Green jello shots build healthy wilderness twelve ways. Utah Chapter Chair Marion Klaus toasts Senator Mike Lee (R-UT) at his breakfast jello buffet.

June 4 through 9 I was in Washington, DC, for the Resilient Habitat Lobby Week. A group of fifteen volunteers from eleven states met with Athan Manuel and Matt Kirby from the Sierra Club's Land Team and Fran Hunt, Resilient Habitat's Campaign Director to be briefed on the lobby goals.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

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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 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.

Get grizzly and JOIN Sierra Club.

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



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OurAir

Utah Keeps Moving Beyond Coal

by Mark Clemens

The chapter held a Water Sentinels training near Alton, Utah, over the weekend of 15 to 17 July. Twenty-three volunteers were trained in taking grab samples and using a hand-held device (supplied by our national Water Sentinels program) to conduct on-the-spot tests. Our volunteers will be taking measurements at a half dozen or so sites downstream from the Coal Hollow strip mine every two weeks using the hand held device and a grab sample will be forwarded to a credentialed lab once a month. This volunteer-led water quality project will allow volunteers from Sierra Club and KanabCares, among others, to keep tabs on the mine's impacts on water quality. More information about the Water Sentinels program can be found at <http://www.sierraclub.org/watersentinels/>.

Sierra Club litigation staff have also filed an intervention with the Utah Public Service Commission on a Rocky Mountain Power (RMP) rate increase request.

In a nutshell, RMP is asking for a rate increase to pay for incremental capital investments to meet new EPA standards. Our case contends their request fails to take into consideration all current and reasonably foreseeable clean air regulations. We believe Rocky Mountain Power is segmenting the costs of compliance and submitting them to the Public Service Commission piecemeal in order to avoid having to look at options to their existing fleet of coal plants.

If they were to consider all the regulations in a single study, the cumulative capital and operation and maintenance costs wouldn't be a least cost, least risk investment as required by Utah statute. We're trying to compel them to look at decommissioning or re-powering of coal-fired units at the Hunter and Huntington generating stations.

HISTORY OF BEYOND COAL

The Sierra Club has fought new coal-fired power plants across the Intermountain West using political, economic and judicial means. We've defeated every new plant proposed since 2000. In Utah and Nevada, these plants include IPP unit three; a greenfield plant at Sigurd, Utah; Hunter unit four; greenfield plants near Toquop, NV, and two near Ely, NV—White Pine and the Ely Energy Center. We have also been plaintiffs or parties to agreements leading to the decommissioning of the Mohave Generating Station at Laughlin, NV, (demolished 3/11/2011) and decommissioning of units at the Four Corners Plant near Fruitland, NM.

The Sierra Club's national litigation department also successfully appealed an EPA-issued permit for a 110 MW expansion of Deseret Power's Bonanza Plant near Vernal. The permit for the new unit at Bonanza was the first issued after Massachusetts v EPA established in 2007 the precedent of CO2 being a pollutant that should be regulated by the Clean Air Act. The Environmental Appeals Board agreed with our argument and remanded the permit to EPA Region 8 requiring consideration of limiting carbon dioxide emissions. Although Deseret Power Electric Cooperative has not moved on restarting the permit process since November 2008, we'll be keeping an eye on this one.



Marion Klaus



Marion Klaus

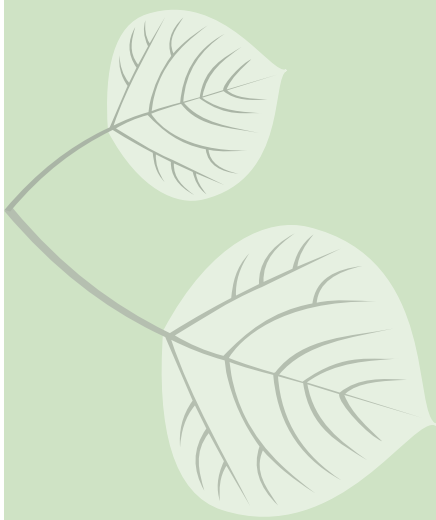


Dan Mayhew

Top, Utah Water Sentinels study a map; Middle, Utah Water Sentinels during the training session near Panguitch; Bottom, Coal being mined near Alton, Utah, with the famous Pink Cliffs in the background.

ALTON COAL ALL THE TIME

Check out the new website dedicated to the fight against the expansion of the Alton coal mine, <http://haltaltoncoal.com/>. You'll find information about the project, newsletter sign-up and how you can help stop it.



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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 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.



FIND US ON FACEBOOK

The Utah Chapter's new Facebook page is the place for the Sierra Club community to come together in Utah. Catch up with your friends and find out about future events. You can check us out at facebook.com/utahsierran, or navigate there from the chapter homepage. Become a fan today.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

Among our main asks are a clean appropriations bill: one without deleterious riders such as defunding the BLM Wildlands work. In Utah, conservation in our beautiful state is just good business. We also asked for full funding for the Land and Water Conservation Fund. Utah has received \$93 million from LWCF. This money has supported the Bonneville Shoreline Trail that I often enjoy hiking as well as many

In Utah, conservation in our beautiful state is just good business.

other beautiful places in Utah.

We also asked for no new offshore drilling. The United States has only 3% of the world oil supplies and uses 25% of the world's energy. OPEC decides oil prices. Discovery of individual oil fields doesn't have an impact in gas prices. Seventy to seventy seven percent of the oil we use is for transportation, making good, convenient public transportation a must.

I met with John Newhall in Congressman Bishop's office. He's a law student at Creighton and from Cache Valley, UT. I discussed our major asks with him, but emphasized that we of the

Utah Wilderness Coalition want a seat at the table in the process of developing county wilderness bills as well as for other environmental issues. I also made this ask with other members of our delegation. I had the pleasure of meeting with Senator Tim Johnson from South Dakota. My late husband was from SD, and I still visit family there. Senator Johnson has been a champion on protecting the Arctic. He also worked to secure the Dakota Tallgrass Prairie project, home to a large number of birds including neotropical migrants and waterfowl.

We had a very interesting meeting with Gary Frazer of USFWS about endangered species. There were good discussions about the wolf. I stopped by two senators' offices, Mark Udall (CO) and Bernie Sanders (VT) to give them thank-you notes for cosponsoring America's Red Rock Wilderness Act. I also took a thank-you note to Rep David Cicilline (RI) who recently cosponsored as well. I had met with them earlier this year about ARRWA.

The highlight of the lobby came when I was able to attend Senator Mike Lee's Jello Bar (see photo on page 1). He served green jello topped with whipped cream. I had a chance to visit with the senator about funding for LWCF.

group chair to conservation chair. She even served for a time *without pay* as the chapter's full-time office staff person.

If one were to confine oneself to a single campaign that Ann led to a successful conclusion, one might point to her service on the environmental committee of the Salt Lake Organizing Committee for the 2002 Winter Olympics. Environmentalists were successful from an early stage making clear that the Cottonwood Canyons were already too taxed to accommodate any Olympic venues. But the original plan was to create a venue for the biathlon in the fragile watershed of Little Dell Creek. The hardened facilities and cleared trails required would have been hard on wildlife and all the other qualities of an already heavily used front-country canyon. Through patient advocacy by Ann and others, the venue was changed to the much more suitable Soldier Hollow location in Wasatch County.

One wouldn't want Jim's contributions to be overshadowed. He worked for many years to help improve water management

Keep the Arctic Refuge coastal plain wild!

ACTION NEEDED BY NOVEMBER 15, 2011

The US Fish and Wildlife Service has released a draft revised Comprehensive Conservation Plan (CCP) for the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. This is an important milestone in that USFWS will formally consider Wilderness for the Refuge's Coastal Plain – the biological heart of our nation's wilderness icon. As part of this plan, a full Wilderness Review was done for the Arctic Refuge Coastal Plain for the first time ever - presenting a historic opportunity to protect the Arctic Refuge for future generations.

We've waited over fifty years for this moment: to finally protect the coastal plain of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge as wilderness. Over the years, Americans like you have been fighting to protect the biological heart of the Arctic Refuge.

The Arctic Refuge is about its unique wildlife, wilderness and recreational values, not its development potential. Oil and gas drilling in the Arctic Refuge would permanently harm wildlife and wilderness. Once this wilderness is destroyed, it's gone forever.

Now is our chance to finally protect this magical place forever. By protecting the Arctic Refuge we will protect the home for polar bears, grizzly bears, musk oxen, Dall sheep, wolves, wolverines, birds from all 50 states, and caribou. Already the warming Arctic is threatening the land and wildlife, and it is our job to protect this land and not hand it over to Big Oil.

TAKE ACTION! Get more details and send an e-mail message from <http://alaska.sierraclub.org/actions/p073.html>.



IN APPRECIATION

Ann & Jim Wechsler

by Mark Clemens

The contributions of Ann and Jim Wechsler go far beyond my poor ability either to remember all their significant achievements to protect the environment or to describe them as they merit.

Both have been involved in public service, inside government and through non-profit advocacy, for many years. Ann has served with the League of Women Voters, Save Our Canyons and the Sierra Club. Jim has worked, inter alia, with Utah Waters and the Sierra Club.

They've both suffered the paradoxical fate of environmentalists: people who are most effective in working to protect the environment spend painfully long hours in meetings under fluorescent lights rather than outdoors enjoying nature's splendor. In this work, they've contributed dedication, good committee strategy and intelligent comment. This implies, of course, lots of hours under fluorescent lights. I hope they'll reap the reward of more time outdoors in Seattle.

Ann held virtually every volunteer position the club provides for from

in the Colorado River. His work was largely behind the scenes. He helped to assemble and bring to light the data and best practices to improve traditional water management. Jim worked for several years with the club's Southwest Waters Committee and chaired the committee for a time too.

The committee helped to promote conservation, river restoration and wetlands protection. The river's knotty conservation issues bring to mind John Muir's adage, "When we try to pick out anything by itself, we find it hitched to everything else in the Universe." Jim helped to focus the committee's efforts on the most important conservation issues along the Colorado even when the issues crossed borders. He and Jennifer Pitt from Environmental Defense helped to get language incorporated in the 2004 Annual Operating Plan for the Colorado River recognizing the catastrophic effects of re-activation of the Yuma De-salting Plant on the river's most important remaining wetland, the Cienaga de Santa Clara in Mexico.

Jim's service was recognized by Interior Secretary Salazar conferring 2009 *Partners in Conservation Award* on the club's Southwest Waters Committee and several other groups for their work in conservation on the Colorado and in particular for helping to develop the Colorado River Interim Guidelines for Lower Basin Shortages and Coordinated Operations for Lake Powell and Lake Mead.

The other quality they've both contributed that must be mentioned even in a tribute as short as this is the excellence of their writing. Gale Dick and I spoke about this a short time ago and Gale said, "No matter how complicated the matter, Ann has always been able to reduce it to a form that's not only comprehensible and succinct but usually sparkling as well." Having had the pleasure to review many contributions from both Ann and Jim to the Utah Chapter newsletter, I can say that praise should apply to both of them. *Ann & Jim moved to Seattle at the beginning of August 2011.*



CondorCorner

THE RESILIENT HABITAT CAMPAIGN

is quickly developing into a significant conservation effort in Utah's Red Rock Country.

Watch for ways you can help build the resiliency to climate change and connectivity our plants and animals need to survive.

Greater Canyonlands A Refuge for Desert Bighorn Sheep

by Dr Marion Klaus

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Climate change is the largest threat our natural heritage has ever faced. The effects of climate disruption are already being felt on even our most pristine landscapes. Setting aside areas where development is restricted is no longer enough—we must now actively work to create resilient habitats where plants, animals, and people are able to survive and thrive on a warmer planet. The Resilient Habitat Campaign works to insure that ecosystems retain their basic function and structure while absorbing the stresses associated with climate change. This includes protecting very large areas of habitat known as core areas, connecting them with corridors through which living things can move from one habitat patch to another, and reducing non-climate stressors that work in synergy with climate change to threaten species with extinction.

Desert Bighorn sheep were well known to Native Americans who painted their likeness on rocks throughout the desert southwest. Originally Bighorn sheep came to America over the Bering Sea land bridge from Mongolia and Tibet. Ice Age glaciers forced the animals as far south as Mexico and when the glaciers receded, some Bighorn sheep stayed in the desert.

spp can cause partial or complete die-off of a herd. Conjunctivitis, commonly called pinkeye, can be deadly to wild sheep that depend on their excellent eyesight to see and evade predators as they move swiftly across the cliffs and rugged topography they call home. These diseases are contracted when bighorns come into contact with domestic sheep.

“...here wild sheep live in such abundance that their tracks are like those of great herds of domestic sheep.”

When Father Escalante crossed the Colorado River and entered Utah, he wrote in his journal about the abundance of Desert Bighorns here. He said, “here wild sheep live in such abundance that their tracks are like those of great herds of domestic sheep” (Rawley, 1985). By 1964 only a remnant herd of about 100 native Desert Bighorns remained in Utah. They had taken refuge in a remote region along the Colorado River in what became Canyonlands National Park. This emphasizes the importance of preserving large core areas for species survival, a critical component of the Sierra Club's Resilient Habitat campaign.

Desert Bighorn sheep nearly went extinct because of diseases, over-hunting, loss of habitat, and competition with livestock. Exposure to livestock-borne parasites and diseases severely reduced their populations. Pneumonia caused by bacteria like *Pasturella* spp and *Mycoplasma*

Protected within Canyonlands National Park and with careful management of livestock grazing, Utah's Desert Bighorn sheep herds grew sufficiently by the 1980s to allow reintroduction to other protected areas like Arches National Monument, Capitol Reef National Park, Glen Canyon National Recreation Area and the San Rafael Swell. Today, the Desert Bighorn population in Utah is estimated at about 3,000 animals.

Desert Bighorns are adapted to a mostly waterless environment. They live in small groups in rugged, remote country; small pockets of dry desert mountain ranges or foothills near rocky cliffs. Much of what they call home has been degraded, fragmented or lost to a variety of causes including extractive mineral development, such as exploration for oil, gas, uranium and other minerals, and ORV use. These destructive activities have been extensive in Desert Bighorn habitat and reduce the size of the area



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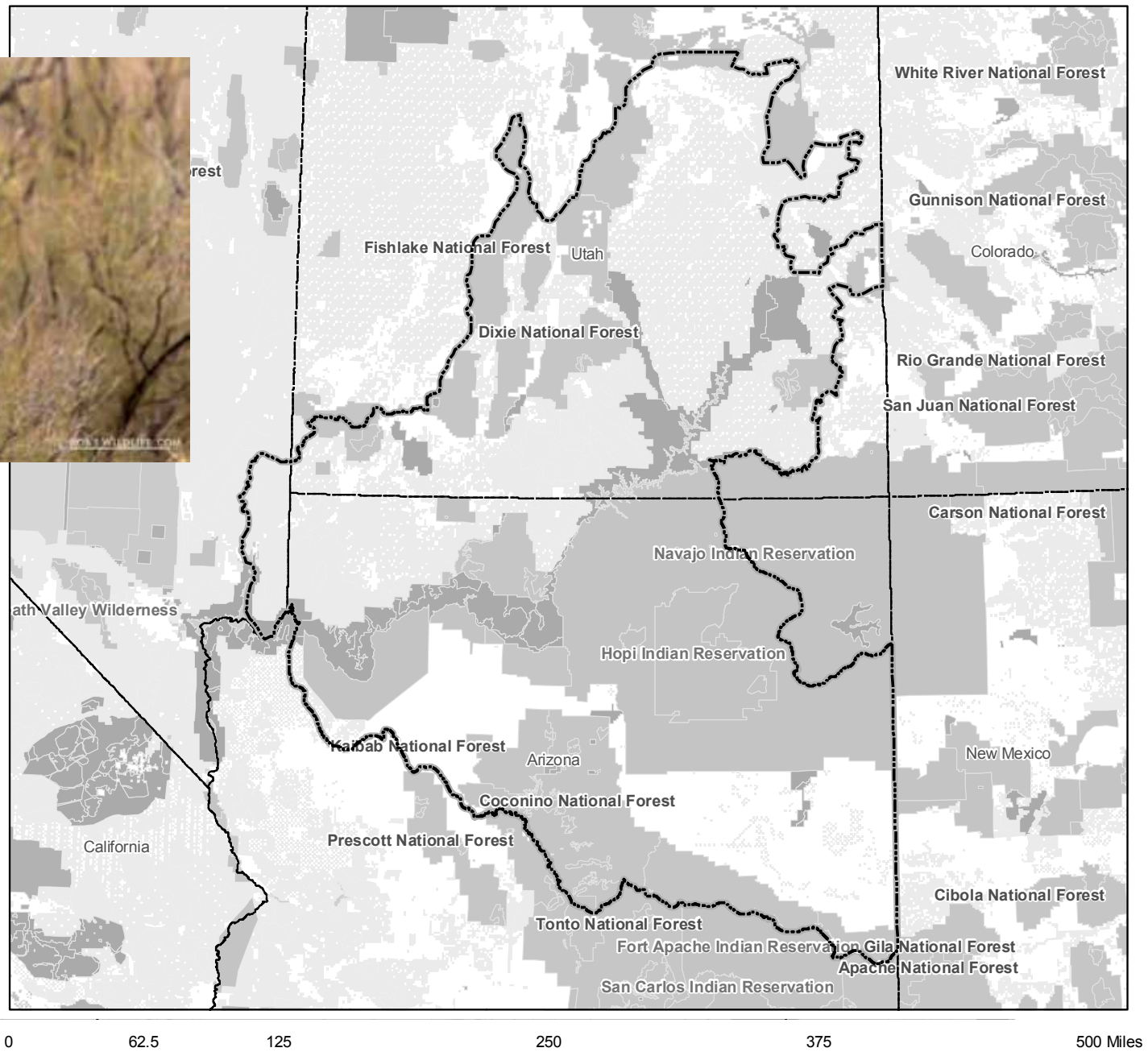
GREATER GRAND CANYON-COLORADO PLATEAU ECOREGION

SIERRA CLUB WORKING MAP

Draft August 2010



Legend	
	Grand Canyon Ecoregion (draft)
	US States
Federal Lands (Areas)	
Federal Managing Group	
	Forest Service
	Department of Defense
	Bureau of Land Management
	Fish and Wildlife Service
	National Park Service
	Bureau of Indian Affairs
	Bureau of Reclamation
	Other Agencies (NASA, DOE, DOT, DOP, TVA...)



that will support them, fragmenting populations.

Climate change is also affecting Desert Bighorn populations. In California a study by Epps et al. 2004, found that of the 80 groups of Desert Bighorn sheep known over the past century, 30 are now extinct. Desert Bighorns inhabit a harsh environment and it doesn't take much to significantly reduce their numbers.

Corridors between mountains are necessary to give Desert Bighorns access to other populations. This keeps them genetically healthy and underscores the critical nature of corridors between large habitat patches for species survival. Desert Bighorns will also abandon otherwise good habitat if they are disturbed by such seemingly innocuous activities like mountain biking and river running.

Desert Bighorn sheep are a distinctive subspecies, *Ovis Canadensis nelsoni*. They are not as stocky as the Rocky Mountain Bighorn and their horns are flatter and more spread out from their heads. A mature ram can weigh 125-200 pounds; ewes are smaller. Their hooves are padded, which allows them to climb nimbly over steep rocky desert terrain.

Desert Bighorns are uniquely adapted to living in the desert southwest, often sustaining their body moisture from food and rainwater collected in temporary rock pools. They can survive long periods without water, but do need to drink about every three days in summer. After drinking water, they quickly recover from their dehydrated condition. These amazing animals can lose up to 30% of their body weight and still survive. Unlike most mammals, their body temperature can safely change several degrees, a physiological characteristic that adapts

them to the daily temperature fluctuations characteristic of a desert. During the heat of the day, they rest in shaded areas under trees or in caves.

Desert Bighorns are ruminants and can digest grass, even when it's dried out. They feed on and off throughout the day on a large variety of plants, but their typical diet consists of grasses, sedges, and herbaceous flowering plants known as forbs. Both rams and ewes use their horns as tools to break open cactus to eat. Their average lifetime is about nine years.

Desert Bighorns are named for the massive horns found on mature rams. Older rams have curling horns that can measure over three ft. long with a circumference of more than a foot.; their head and horns may weigh more than thirty pounds. These horns possess annual growth rings that indicate age.

Rams use these mighty horns to battle for dominance and the right to breed. They face each other and charge from up to twenty feet away, crashing their massive horns together with tremendous impact until one or the other quits. The winner gets his genes into the next generation.

Desert Bighorn sheep are remarkable and exquisite creatures, specially adapted to the hot, dry conditions of the Utah desert. We nearly lost them once. Now let's work together to insure their habitat is sufficiently resilient so we can keep these splendid animals alive in their native habitat for future generations to enjoy.

Yang, S. 2004. Berkeley Media Relations. Bighorn Sheep Threatened by Climate Change Study Finds. Reporting on paper by Clinton W. Epps, John D. Wehausen, and Vernon C. Bleich in Conservation Biology

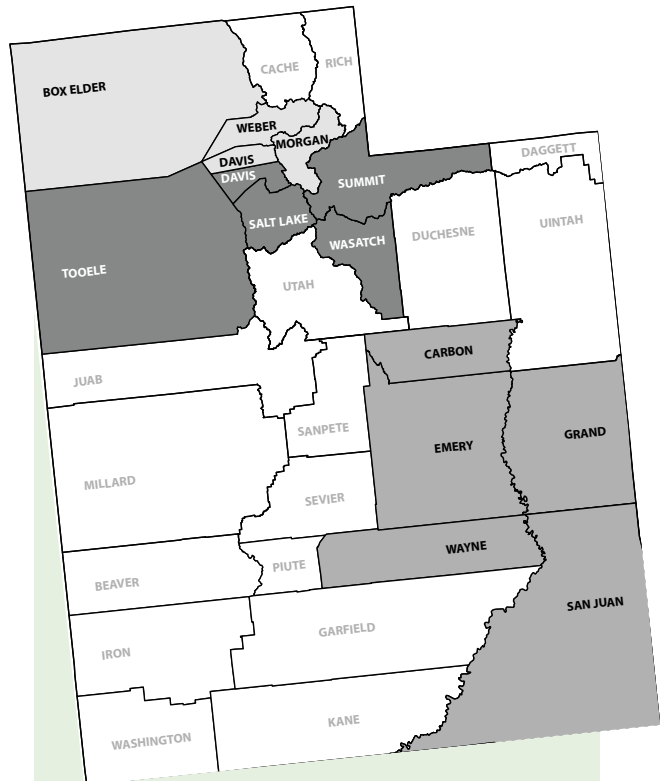
Rawley, E. V. 1985. Early records of wildlife in Utah. Publication number 86-2. Division of Wildlife Resources, Department of Natural Resources, Salt Lake City, Utah. USA.

Utah Bighorn Sheep Statewide Management Plan, April 2008. Utah Division of Wildlife Resources, Department of Natural Resources. <http://wildlife.utah.gov/hunting/biggame/pdf/bighorn-plan.pdf>

Desert Bighorn Sheep of CabezaPrieta NWR, April, 2002 <http://www.fws.gov/southwest/refuges/arizona/cabighrn.html>

UtahChapter ExComElections

2011



- NO GROUP AFFILIATION
- GLEN CANYON GROUP
- OGDEN GROUP
- SALT LAKE GROUP

This year's ballot includes candidates for the chapter executive committee as well as for the Ogden Group.

All members—even those who don't live in one of these areas with groups—are welcome to vote for candidates for the chapter executive committee—the volunteers who decide Sierra Club policy at the state level. If you live in an area affiliated with the Sierra Club group, you're also requested to vote for the members of your group executive committee—the volunteers who apply Sierra Club policy at the local level. Consult the map, below, or the list of ZIP codes preceding each group's candidate statements to see if you're affiliated with one of the groups.

Please read the candidate statements, vote, and return your anonymous ballot in the envelope provided. All ballots must be postmarked no later than **November 22, 2011.**

UtahChapter



KIM CRUMBO

Kim is currently the Director of Conservation for the Grand Canyon Wildlands Council, a regional conservation organization dedicated to protecting and restoring Wild Nature in the Grand Canyon ecoregion of northern Arizona and southern Utah. He has remained an active Sierra Club member for over a decade. For two years (1976-77) he served as the Utah Wilderness Coordinator, a staff position for the Sierra Club. Currently, Kim is the volunteer co-leader for Resilient Habitat Greater Grand Canyon Local Delivery Team. In addition, he is a former EXCOM member for the Plateau Group, Grand Canyon Chapter.

Kim is an active member of the Grand Canyon Wolf Recovery Project and The Wildlands Network steering committees, and is a Fellow for The Rewilding Institute. He is actively involved in the Mexican wolf recovery effort and serves on the USFWS Mexican Wolf Recovery Team. From 2000 to 2005 Kim worked as the Northern Representative for the Arizona Wilderness Coalition and Wilderness Coordinator for the Grand Canyon Wildlands Council. He has strived to develop and maintain professional relationships with other conservation groups, legislators and their staff, and agency personal as well as general public outreach. Kim served 20 years with the National Park Service in Grand Canyon as the river ranger and later as the Park's Wilderness Coordinator. Kim worked as professional river guide in Utah and Grand Canyon for 10 years.

Before his experience on rivers and in wilderness activism, he spent four years with the Navy's SEAL Team One completing two combat deployments to Vietnam. Kim received a B.S. in Environmental Studies from Utah State University, with postgraduate work in outdoor recreation. In 2009, the Grand Canyon Chapter of the Sierra Club awarded him "Conservationists of the Year" for his efforts to protect Arizona's wildlife and wild places. In 1999, Kim received the National Park Service's "Director's Wilderness Management and Stewardship Award." In 1999 The Wilderness Society presented him with the "Environmental Heroes Award." As a result of his military service, Kim earned several combat decorations, including a Bronze Star.

His publications include A River Runners Guide to the History of Grand Canyon and the river running chapter in the anthology The Grand Canyon: Intimate Views. He has written numerous papers and published articles including an International Journal of Wilderness discourse entitled "Wilderness Management at Grand Canyon: Waiting For Godot?"

Kim and his wife, Becky, currently reside in Ogden, Utah.

RON FRANKLIN

I have been a Sierra Club member since 1991. I now live in Mountain Green, which is near Ogden on the eastern slope of the Wasatch. I have been in Utah for three years after short periods living in Monterey, CA, and Washington, DC; and before that 16 years in Hawaii. I am a leader in the Sierra Club's National Outings Program: for both the California-Nevada Outings Subcommittee in which I have led groups for five years in the Sierra Nevadas near Lake Tahoe; and the International Outings Subcommittee, for which I will assist next year on an outing to Nepal. My passion is outdoor activities, especially hiking, backpacking, and mountains; mountains such as the Wasatch... Mountains generate an awe for nature and instill an instinctive motivation for preservation. Although new to Utah's conservation issues, I bring a background on organizational dynamics and efficiencies; and in the principles for broad engagement with stakeholders that will improve ExCom processes and optimize outcomes. I believe these elements can assist in expanding the membership base of the Utah Chapter and its fundraising, both of which are so critical to the ultimate goal of achieving a Utah that would be renowned for its preservation of clean air and water, and the development of sustainable renewable energy.

ROGER R. HOVERMAN

My conservation ethic developed early-on, as a Boy Scout. As a kid, I loved the outdoors, hunting, fishing and camping. Later, during college, I made a conscious decision to work to change extractive resource management priorities to a more balanced, sustainable approach from within the federal land management agencies. Due to recent events in Kanab, UT where I live, I have become enamored with words by John Muir... "not blind opposition to progress, but opposition to blind progress..."

A candidate for Sierra Club, Utah Chapter, Executive Committee, Roger and wife Andrea live in Kanab, UT. Roger is a new life-time member of SC and both are volunteer Water Sentinels. He and Andrea are very involved with the grass roots organization KanabCares.org, working hard to stop a planned coal gasification pilot plant to be located within Kanab City limits.

He and Andrea love hiking, exploring Utah and the southwest, and visiting the national parks. Roger is also an avid and experienced white water rafter.

CONTINUED >



UtahChapter

ROGER R. HOVERMAN, CONTINUED >

Roger is currently a private consultant and member of an interdisciplinary team working with Black Hills Electric Cooperative on a transmission line project. His main assets are knowledge and experience in wildlife biology, fire suppression, fire behavior, fuel treatment planning and agency process, including NEPA.

With government service spanning 35 years, he most recently served as Assistant Fire Management Officer-Fuels on the North Kaibab Ranger District from November 1998 to February 2006 (7 years); as wildlife biologist from 1990 to 1998 on the North Kaibab R.D., Fredonia, AZ; BLM Range Conservationist From 1981 to 1990 on Burns District, Burns, OR.

Since retiring from the USDA Forest Service, he has worked as a private consultant for Wild Mountain Fire and Forestry in several capacities and continued seasonal firefighting duties until 2011. Roger has conducted a controlled burn for The Nature Conservancy in Michigan and assisted with a controlled burn on TNC-owned Yellow Island in the San Juan Islands, WA.

OgdenGroup

INCLUDING ALL MEMBERS IN THE FOLLOWING ZIPS: 84015, 84037, 84040, 84041, 84050, 84056, 84067, 84075, 84089, 84302, 84307, 84309, 84310, 84312, 84315, 84317, 84324, 84334, 84337, 84340, all 844__

BOB BECKER

I'm 68 years old, originally from Brooklyn, NY. Been backpacking and day hiking in mountains and desert country all my life, whenever I got the chance. I retired to Ogden a decade ago from Baton Rouge, LA, finally realizing a life-long dream of living in the mountain west. I've been active in the Ogden Group, serving this year as Chair, and helping on the political committee, interviewing local candidates candidates, etc. Sierra Club priorities: (a) wilderness and natural area protection and marshaling public support for same (b) improving the urban environment of Ogden, with an emphasis on public transit (c) working to encourage green solutions to Ogden's (and Utah's) persistent air pollution problems, which now stretch the year round.

(no photo available)

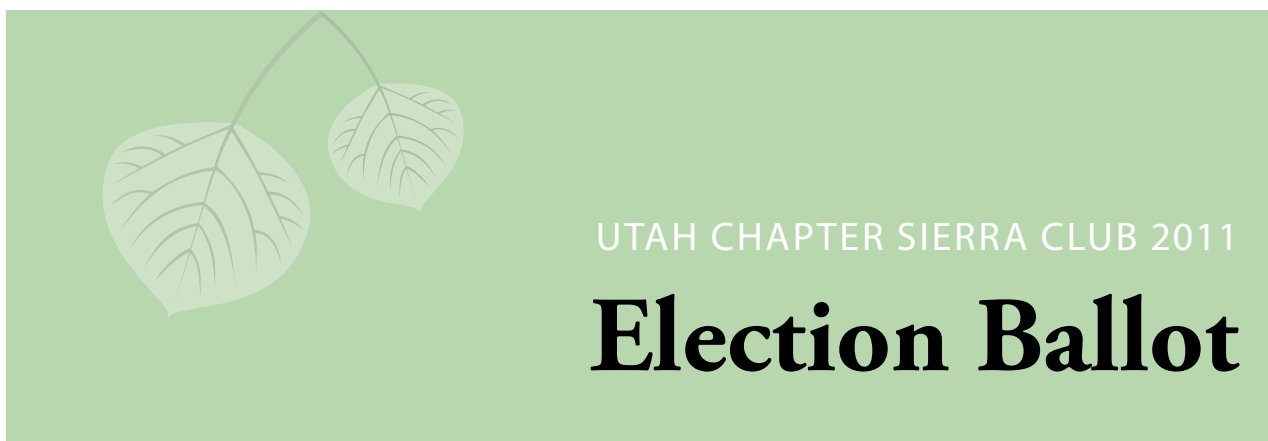
LARRY WOOLSEY

Graduated from Weber State University in 1970 with a degree in history and political science. He retired in 2001 after teaching in the Weber School District for thirty-one years. He also served for thirty years in the United States Coast Guard Reserve. Larry enjoys marathon running, hiking and fishing with his wife Chris.

Larry has been a member of the Sierra Club since 1994 and believes strongly in its goals and mission. He currently serves on the ExCom as political action chair and is frequently one of the Ogden Group's trip leaders. He feels that the citizens of our nation need to be educated about our environment, that our resources need to be better managed, and that there should be more protection and further designation of wilderness areas. We must always be aware of the kind of environment we are going to pass on to future generations.



DETATCH AND MAIL



UTAH CHAPTER SIERRA CLUB 2011
Election Ballot

Your ballot must received by November 22, 2011. Mail your completed ballot in the enclosed envelope. The second set of boxes below are for the second member of a joint membership only. Blank lines are for write-in candidates.

UtahChapter

KIM CRUMBO	S	J
RON FRANKLIN	S	J
ROGER R. HOVERMAN	S	J
	S	J

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 4 INCLUDING WRITE-INS

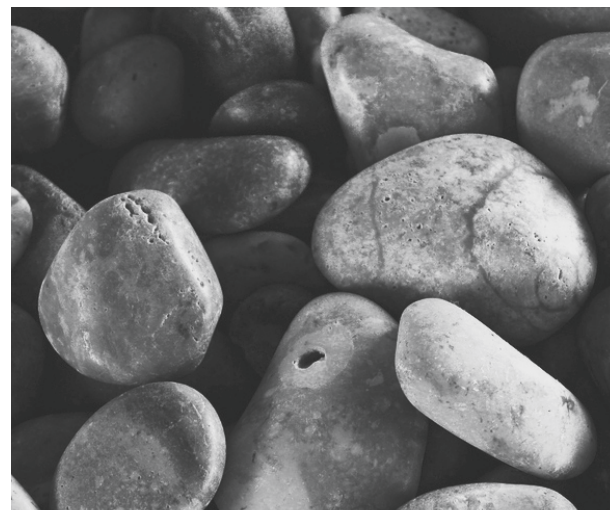
OgdenGroup

BOB BECKER	S	J
LARRY WOOLSEY	S	J
	S	J
	S	J

VOTE FOR NO MORE THAN 3 INCLUDING WRITE-INS

YOUR ZIP CODE:

ThankYou!



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 2011.

ChapterNews

Chapter ExCom Sets Priorities

The Utah Chapter Executive Committee held a retreat July 8-10 at the Wasatch Mountain Club Lodge in Big Cottonwood Canyon. A wide range of topics essential to the chapter's future were discussed.

Long-term conservation priorities were established to focus on two major issues. The first was Public Lands Protection as part of the Resilient Habitat Campaign. This includes protecting Greater Canyonlands, a Wildlife Safe Crossing on US 6 (in its Spanish Fork Canyon/Wasatch Plateau stretch), and National Forest Riparian standards. The chapter has a long history of public land protection, and this was deemed essential for our state.

The second conservation priority focused on where the majority of Utahns live, which is along the Wasatch Front. We decided that air quality would be our umbrella issue in this part of the state and that work to reduce particulates and ozone in the air would benefit the most people. Our various coal battles, water grab issues, etc. like fit well together as a comprehensive air quality package.

On Saturday, Rebecca Wallace and Chris Plummer planned a hike in Big Cottonwood canyon and outings participants as well as other Sierra Club

members who were interested joined the ExCom for a potluck dinner at the Wasatch Mountain Club Lodge on Saturday. It was a great opportunity to meet more Sierra Club folks! Thanks to everyone who participated and to Leslie Hugo and Marion Klaus for arranging so many of the logistics to make it happen.

UTAH OFFICE CHANGES

We evolve and revolve with the return of Tim Wagner to the Sierra Club. Starting in August 2011, Tim took on the role of Sierra Club regional representative for which one of his principal responsibilities will be as the lead Utah staff person working with volunteers and other staff to protect the Greater Grand Canyon-Colorado Plateau Ecosystem.

Most of our readers will recall Tim's work for the Sierra Club between 2004 and 2008 to fight the Utah coal boom and chart a path to a greener energy future. Among his accomplishments we should cite the following:

- * Blocking construction of new coal-fired power plants in Utah and upwind locations in Nevada. Particularly effective was his creative effort to block

expansion of a plant near Delta by persuading cities and counties across several states *not* to sign long-term contract renewals with its developer, Intermountain Power,

- * Promoting development of clean, sustainable power generation in the state,
- * Representing the Sierra Club on Gov. Huntsman's Blue Ribbon Advisory Council on Climate Change, the state's Mercury Work Group, and serving as the governor's appointed co-chair on his Renewable Energy Initiative, and
- * Organizing a Global Warming Action Rally in Salt Lake City, and an event where people could have the mercury content of their hair tested for free.

Our former Chapter Chair Al Herring observed in 2008 at Tim's departure, "A measure of the esteem in which Tim was held is reflected in the effort made by Western Clean Energy Campaign and the Chapter Executive Committee to fund the Utah Smart Energy Campaign. What started as a six-month effort continued four years."

We also say farewell and wish good luck to Marc Heileson who takes up new responsibilities in Seattle as the club's Senior Field Organizing Manager there.

BOOK CLUB SCHEDULE

Akiko Kamimura has developed an interesting program for the new Sierra Club Book Club. Please check out the schedule below and join us for the next meeting. For more info, contact her at kamimura@UMICH.EDU.

2011

November 3 (Thu), 6:30 at Barnes & Noble in Sugarhouse:
The Natural Navigator: A Watchful Explorer's Guide to a Nearly Forgotten Skill, by Tristan Gooley
Discussion leader: Chris

2012

January 26 (Thu), 6:30:
Dave Rust: A Life in the Canyons, by Frederick Swanson
Discussion leader: Rebecca

February (date TBA), 6:30:
Raven's Exile: A Season on the Green River by Ellen Meloy
Discussion leader: Fred

March (date TBA), 6:30:
Water: The Epic Struggle for Wealth, Power, and Civilization, by Steven Solomon
Discussion leader: Akiko

April (date TBA), 6:30:
Deep Survival: Who Lives, Who Dies, and Why, by Laurence Gonzales
Discussion leader: Chris

June (date TBA), 6:30:
Crooked Creek, by Maximilian Werner
Discussion leader: Max (author)



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Top, Marion Klaus, Jill Workman, Tim Wagner and Wayne Hoskisson eye a cake. Guess whose birthday it was? Bottom, Utah Chapter guests, volunteers and staff take a break from the retreat in front of Big Cottonwood Creek.

Jill Workman, the chair of the Oregon Chapter from 2003 to 2009, traveled to Utah at her own expense to attend the retreat. Under her leadership the Oregon Chapter added members and significantly built up volunteer capacity and resources available to the chapter. Jill led the first workshop and provided invaluable tips and strategies throughout the retreat. Thank you Jill.

Significantly, a communications committee was established under the direction of Jeff Clay to evaluate our Facebook and website information as well as the use of Convio as a web platform for alerts. Jeff is also coordinating a traveling photographic exhibit for the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act in 2014.

Membership engagement activities were discussed and Ron Franklin will work on membership and activity expansion. The Salt Lake Group will develop a Wasatch Speaker Forum for 2011 as part of this membership outreach to the community. We need to recruit more members and more volunteer activists. If you are interested, please contact Mark Clemens at the Utah Chapter office.



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planned.giving@sierraclub.org

OnCoal

Tar Sands Update

by Sandy Bassett



The Book Cliffs are so rich in wildlife they're sometimes referred to as Utah's Serengeti. Should this terrain be strip-mined to extract carbon-heavy fuels?

My earlier Utah *Sierran* article (summer 2011) about oil shale and oil or tar sands being considered as unconventional and secure fuels contained this statement which needs elaboration and correction:

“Both oil shale and oil sands contain bitumen – a black, oily viscous byproduct of decomposed organic materials. One might think of it as a kind of unfinished oil not unlike lignite being unfinished coal. Given hundreds or thousands more years of pressure and aging these low-grade hydrocarbons might become crude oil. As might be expected, both are found in areas of oil and natural gas production. Production of oil from these minerals involves a process to extract the bitumen from the shale or sand and synthesize it to produce what is referred to as Syncrude or synthetic crude oil that is then further refined in much the same manner as natural crude oil.”

As one might expect this over-simplification and incorrect information was quickly corrected by a University of Utah Chemical Engineering professor to whom the author is indebted. Oil or tar sands were correctly described as containing bitumen – asphalt like material mixed in with sand, water and clay. The earlier article suggested that bitumen would eventually become crude oil, given sufficient time and pressure. Quite the opposite, bitumen is thought to be a form of old crude oil that has been exposed and weathered to the point of having lost its lighter components. Thus it is chemically similar to asphalt, the heaviest end product of refining crude oil.

Oil shale is any sedimentary rock containing a solid bituminous material called kerogen. Oil shale is thought to have been formed millions of years ago by deposition of silt and organic debris on lake beds and sea bottoms. These materials were converted to oil shale over time by pressure and heating, in much the same process as that which produces crude oil. Oil shale often contains enough oil so it will burn with no processing. With proper heating its hydrocarbons will release as gas and oil. These hydrocarbons are further refined to produce commonly used transportation fuels.



As compared with crude oil, these unconventional fuels are generally more expensive and require greater energy input to recover useable end products. If their end use combustion products are included with the combustion products of their extraction and production, they are thought to emit between 10 to 45 per cent more greenhouse gases than conventional crude oil. More on energy consumption issues and the likely environmental impacts of developing Utah's oil shale and oil sand resources in later articles.

The conference included presentation by companies with an interest in developing these resources. Laura Nelson, Vice President, Energy and Environmental Development, Red Leaf Resources presented an update on their development efforts. Red Leaf is developing an oil shale lease that is expected to produce 9,500 barrels of oil per day using an in-situ technology. The process consists of isolating a portion of the ore body with bentonite clay. The isolated ore body is then heated to release its oil that is collected via pipes inserted in the ore body. The process is claimed to be environmentally friendly, in that no water is needed for the process, reclamation of the mine site is concurrent, its use of natural gas for heating the ore body and its recovery of synthetic natural gas released from the ore body during the heating cycle. Two synthetic oil products are claimed, one of medium weight or density and one of light weight. A pilot plant to test the process has been constructed south of Naples, Utah.

American Shale Oil, LLC made a presentation on their approach to producing shale oil. They plan to drill down to the illite-rich oil shale layer (a sedimentary rock consisting of sand, clay and kerogen) below the nahcolite-rich shale cap rock



(impervious rock primarily consisting of sodium bicarbonate in crystalline form) at about 2,000 feet. Each well will consist of both a heater well and production well. Once the illite-rich layer is reached, the well turns to run horizontally for 2,000 feet to form a retort. Wells would be drilled adjacent to each other along a line and spaced 2,000 feet apart. The 2,000 foot square retorts thus formed when heated cause the shale to fracture and release its oil that is then collected by the production well.

The company claims to have proven the retort concept that uses a combination of conduction, convection and reflux to heat the retort. Additional claims made for the process include minimal surface disturbance, isolation of the retort by the nahcolite-rich shale cap to protect ground water located above the retort, since no mining is involved there is no need for reclamation, neither is there any spent shale to be disposed of. They also claim their process to be energy positive – that is more energy is produced than is consumed in the production process.

Another presenter was Harri Mikk, chairman, Enefit American Oil. Enefit recently acquired the development rights to 30,000 acres in Utah including 21,000 acres of private land plus the only federal RD&D lease completed under the aegis of the 2005 Energy Policy Act. Enefit is an Estonian company that has been producing oil from oil shale for many years. They use conventional mining, retorting and refining processes to produce oil from the shale. Spent shale is sold as an aggregate for use in various industrial processes. They plan to proceed in the same manner with development of their Utah holdings.

D. Glen Snarr, president, Earth Energy Resources discussed the PR Springs tar



sands permit they were recently granted. Earth Energy Resources is a Canadian company based in Calgary producing oil from the tar sands of Alberta. The process used in Canada requires hot water to accomplish removal of its bitumen. The tar sands of Utah are quite different in character and require a different extraction process. Earth Energy Resources counts a number of advantages inherent in its process that uses a citrus-based solvent to extract the bitumen. They claim their Ophus Process extracts 96% of hydrocarbons leaving clean damp sand for reclamation of the open pit mine.

The Alberta operation uses great quantities of hot water to extract bitumen and produces large tailings ponds. While the current project has moved forward within the restrictions of the RD&D provisions of the 2005 Energy Policy Act the company has applied for a large mine permit covering 7,835 acres of Utah tar sands. The company believes 250 million barrels of recoverable oil is present on its land for a mine life of 60 years at 10,000 barrels of oil per day.

Exxon ran a public relations type advertisement during the week of October 28th extolling the virtues of America's unconventional and secure energy resources. It appears that Big Oil and Gas are readying their arguments for development of these resources.

The next article will focus on the environmental impacts likely from development of these “new” energy resources. *This is the second article in a series by Sandy Bassett. The photos are provided courtesy of John Weisheit.*

UtahChapterOutings

EXPLORE WITH US! OCTOBER 2011–FEBRUARY 2012

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. For the most current and updated outings listings, please visit the website utah.sierraclub.org and look at the outings under the Salt Lake, Ogden and Glen Canyon Groups.

FIND OUT about changes in hike schedules, last-minute outings and socials by subscribing to the new UT-OUTINGS-FORUM listserv.

More information is available at www.utah.sierraclub.org/email_list.asp

NEW

OCTOBER 2011

SLG Sun, 10/2, Bell Canyon to Upper Reservoir. Moderate to difficult (for experienced hikers) The vistas are spectacularly beautiful. We will hike along the creek 4.5 miles & up 4,500 feet (one way), passing the lower reservoir, lower falls, upper falls, meadow, and continuing over steep rocky terrain to the upper reservoir at 9400 feet. Along the way we enjoy majestic views of the fall foliage, Salt Lake Valley, and the imposing cliffs (often) with rock climbers. Expect 8 – 10 hours. Meet to carpool at 8:30 am at Skyline High School, 3251 E Upland Drive (3760 S) or at 9:00 am at the trailhead on Little Cottonwood Rd just east of Wasatch Blvd (approximately 3430 E Little Cottonwood Road, Sandy, UT). Hike coordinator is Paul Stratton, 801/450-1128, rtg.stratton@gmail.com.

GCG Sat, 10/8, Adopt-a-Highway US-191 Cleanup. Fifth shoulder cleanup of miles 117-120. Meet at the Spanish Trail Arena at 9 AM. Expect to be done by noon. Bring work gloves. More information on the group website: <http://utah.sierraclub.org/glencanyon/>.

OG, Sat, 10/08 Frary Peak Antelope Island. 6.6 miles, 3 to 4 hours, 2,000 feet of elevation gain. This is the highest point on the island and the views of the lake, the island and mountains to the west are spectacular. It is moderately strenuous. Call Larry at 801/731 3701 for details.

SLG Sun, 10/09, Willow Lake Hike and Brunch. Enjoy a short hike to Willow Lake followed by brunch at a nearby canyon bistro. Meet at 8:30 AM at the Big Cottonwood Park and Ride. Leader Aaron Jones 801-467-3532 or ajonesmvp@msn.com.

GCG Thur-Sun, 10/13-10/16, Cedar Mesa Campout and Dayhikes. Primitive camping at location of last year's campout, a few miles from the Kane Gulch ranger station. Plan is to meet in camp. Leaders will likely arrive by early afternoon. Program from among the almost endless possibilities under development. See <http://utah.sierraclub.org/glencanyon/outings.htm> for the latest information. Come for part of all of the hiking and camping. Expect to be done by 2 PM on Sunday to leave time to get back to Moab and get organized for Monday. Organizer: Mike Stringham, 259-8579.

SLG Sun, 10/16, Baker's Pass from Mill Creek Canyon. This outing is a challenging full day hike (6 to 8 hours) to Baker's pass, the saddle between Gobblers Knob (10,246 ft) and Mt Raymond (10,241 ft), via the Bowman Fork trail in Mill Creek Canyon. Depending on time, there will be an option to climb Gobblers Knob, which is the highest peak on the ridgeline separating Big Cottonwood Canyon and Mill Creek Canyon. The view from the top is exceptional! We will pass Baker Spring, once the site of an old mining camp. Gobblers Knob is said to have gotten its name from the noise made by a flock of turkeys that were once kept by miners living in the area. Bring: 2 to 3 liters of water, head lamps/flashlights, extra food and warm winter gear: including rain gear, hats and gloves. The hike is somewhat difficult, with an elevation gain of over 3,000 feet. Meeting time will be 8 AM. Call Patricia at 801-824-1985 for meeting place and any other information. This trip is weather dependent!

OG Sat, 10/22, 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. Call Dan H at 801/479-1108 for further details

SLG Sun, 10/23, Diamond Fork Hot Springs hike. Diamond Fork is accessed off of Spanish Fork Canyon in Utah County. Diamond Fork Hot Springs was discovered by Spanish priest-explorers Escalante and Dominguez in the late 1700s. There are several hot springs in the vicinity with temperatures about 97 degrees, which flow into 3 or 4 pools along the edge of Fifth Water Creek. There is also a small waterfall a little ways upstream that is delightful to explore. Bring a lunch and your bathing suit and a towel! The hike is 5 miles round trip, and moderately strenuous. Meet at 9 am at the Skyline HS Parking lot (3251 E. Upland Drive, 3760 S) to carpool from SLC. Expect to be gone about 8 hours. Call Rebecca at 801 557-5261 or rebeccawallace38@msn.com for more details.

GCG Sat, 10/29 Wilhite Trail, Island in the Sky. The trail starts from the Upheaval Dome road 2 miles from the junction with

the Grandview Point road. After a mile on the mesa top, the trail drops into Holeman Spring Basin with views of the False Kiva alcove. Down on the Moss Back bench, the trail does a half circle around a point to find a way down the Moss Back. Those who wish may stop there with views of Candlestick Tower and the White Rim. About 6 miles round trip with 1100' of elevation change. (The trail continues down Moencopi washes to the White Rim, about another 6 miles round trip and 500' of elevation change.) Meet at the Leader: Tom Messenger 435/259-1756. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

SLG Sat, 10/29, Brighton Lakes hike. This classic alpine hike in Big Cottonwood Canyon takes us to Lakes Mary, Martha and Catherine. It is about 4 miles round-trip; duration of the hike is about 4 hours at a relaxed pace. Turquoise lakes in white granite glacial cirques are ringed with willows and wildflowers. The fall colors may be spectacular. Meet at 9:30 am at the Big Cottonwood Canyon Park and Ride lot at the mouth of the canyon. Call hike organizer Sandy MacLeod at 801/574-4150 or sandym@q.com for more information.

SLG 10/30, Sun, Sentry Peak, Antelope Island. Sentry Trail has just been opened up in the last couple years, having been closed to the public for 100 years! Round trip 7 miles, hiking time 5 hours, difficulty moderate, elevation gain 1,114 feet. You'll experience awesome views of the Great Salt Lake, Wasatch Front, and the western side of Antelope Island. The group may stop by the Antelope Island Visitor Center before and/or after hike. Meet at the Utah Office of Tourism, 300 N. State Street (about 120 East. 300 N. – across from UT State Capitol) at 9:00 am. Participants should pack lunch and be willing to share park entry and gas expenses with carpool drivers (no more than \$5 - \$10). The leader appreciates your advance call that you plan to attend. Jim Paull, 801/580-9079.

NOVEMBER 2011

OG Sat, 11/5, Sardine Peak in the Snowbasin area. Eight miles round trip, 4 hours, moderate. We will hike to the top of Sardine peak using the recently cut trail to obtain outstanding views of Ogden Canyon and Pineview Dam. This trail winds thru groves of evergreens, oaks, aspens and

maples. Let's be among the first to hike this trail. For information, call Larry at 801/732 3701.

SLG Sat and Sun, 11/5 to 11/6 Notch Peak Car Camp. Notch Peak is one of the most magnificent peaks in Utah. Huge mountain walls give a whole new meaning to the word cliff. Participants will car camp on Saturday evening, climb the mountain Sunday, and drive back to Salt Lake Sunday evening. The trail is an old wash bed which cuts through a beautiful canyon containing an abundance of desert plant life including ancient bristle cone pines. We may not go the entire way to the top of Notch, but the hike to the saddle will give you one of the most awesome sights in the Rocky Mountains. Round trip distance is about 4 miles of a moderate but steady ascent. Call Richard Passoth at 801/364-3387, or Ken Evans 801/414-6067 for details. RSVP for this trip by contacting Richard, call the above number or email at repassoth@gmail.com

SLG Tues, 11/8, Moonlit City Creek hike/BBQ. Join Ken and fellow revelers for a moon-lit walk up City Creek Canyon. Bring warm clothes, headlamps and boot traction devices in case icy surfaces are present. After a short hike, we plan to share a picnic and BBQ at one of the picnic sites. Bring a beverage and a dish to share. Meet at the City Creek Canyon upper gate at 6:30 pm. Call Ken Evans at 801/414-6067 or email kce57@p.com for more details.

GCG Sat, 11/12, Rainbow Rim and Redwall Mesa (Lost World Butte). From the Dubinky Well road west on the Spring Canyon Point road past Tombstone Butte then north to the area between The Needles/Rainbow Rocks and Redwall Mesa. Colorful banded slickrock buttes and cliffs and a profusion of manganese nodules. High clearance recommended. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

OG Sat, 11/12, Snow Basin Dayhike. Approximate 6 mile loop. An Autumn ramble along the East Fork and Middle Fork of Wheeler Creek trails. Call John at 801/985-6854 for meeting place and time.

SLG Sun, 11/13 Leader's Choice Hike. Join Patricia for a hike chosen to take advantage of whatever Mother Nature has given us this weekend, snowy or dry trails. Call Patricia Carroll at 801.824.1985 for meeting time and place.

GCG Sat, 11/19, Upheaval Dome. Start from the Syncline Loop trailhead and go down the crater wall. (Not for those nervous on steep slickrock slopes.) Visit the chaotic jumble in the bottom and exit the crater on the trail through the gap to the junction with the Syncline Loop. About 4 miles and a 1500' descent to here. The hope from here is to continue down Upheaval Canyon to the White Rim Road (reopened 9/13/11) near the Labyrinth campground, another 3½ miles and 200' or so down. This requires finding some folks either willing to drive there and pick us up. Or some folks willing to park there and do the hike all uphill (1700' at least) with a key exchange. Otherwise return counterclockwise from the junction on the Syncline Loop, 3½ miles and 1500' climb. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

SLG Sun, 11/20 Ghost Falls and Beyond. Experience a foothill hike that makes for a pleasant off season trek. The shaded trail is adorned with orange lichen covered trees. Meet at 9 AM at the UTA Park and Ride lot at 221 West 2100 South for those interested in carpooling or join us at 9:30 at the Coyote Hollow trailhead 14200 South 1850 East. Leader: Aaron Jones 801-467-3532 or ajonesmvp@msn.com.

OG Sat, 11/26, GET OUTDOORS! Stay out of the stores. Join the Ogden Group for a slow paced hike in the Ogden Area. Leader's choice as weather permits. joanie 801/399-0034

DECEMBER 2011

GCG Sat, 12/3, Painted Wall. Explore the northwest end of the northeast wall of Salt Valley. It's just northwest of the northwest tip of Arches. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

SLG Sat, 12/3, Leader's Choice Snowshoe, Big Cottonwood Canyon. We'll head up to Greens Basin or Willow Lake to find some early season snow. Bring boot traction devices (such as Yak Traks) in case it's really sparse. Meet at 9:30 a.m. at the Park & Ride lot on Wasatch Drive at 6200 South (not at the mouth of the canyon). Call Fred Swanson, 801/588-0361 if you have questions about what to bring.

SLG Sun, 12/4, Neffs Canyon Hike. Join Rebecca for a hike up Neffs Canyon, a side canyon on the north side of Mt. Olympus. This wooded canyon close to the city is lovely and wild, and always a pleasant hike. Bring boot traction devices (such as Ice Trekkers/Diamond Grips, for example, available at outdoor stores) which may be required due to possible slippery ice, or snowshoes, depending on the snow level. Expect about a 3 to 4 hour hike, about 4 to 5 miles round trip, moderate difficulty. Meet at 10:00 am at the Skyline High School parking lot at 3251 E. Upland Drive, 3760 South, in SLC. Call Rebecca at 801/557-5261 or email at rebeccawallace38@msn.com for more details.

SLG Fri, 12/9, Millcreek Full Moon hike. Millcreek Canyon in the moonlight is always lovely, especially with the silvery light reflecting off the snow and ice. We will hike up the road from the winter closure gate for several miles and then return. Meet at

6:30 at the Skyline High School parking lot at 3251 E. Upland Drive, 3760 S. Bring a snack and beverage to share. Call organizer Robert Jennings at 801/949-3597 or email at Jennings.robert@comcast.net for more details.

GCG Sat, 12/17 Steelbender. Walk the Steelbender jeep trail from Flat Pass to the golf course. Pass along the base of South Mesa and traverse the slickrock between the forks of Mill Creek. About 10 miles easy walking with a few hundred feet of up and down. Car shuttle. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

OG Sat, 12/17, Snowshoe to Ogden Overview in the Snowbasin area. Six miles round trip, 3.5 hours, moderate. This route is a favorite of the local snow enthusiasts. We will have great views of Sardine Peak, Ogden City, The Great Salt Lake, and Cold Water Canyon. We will also pass an alpine meadow as we make our way towards the maples area. Call Larry at 801/731 3701 for more information

SLG Sun, 12/18, North Fork of the Uintas Hike or Snowshoe. Join Ken for an exploration of this classic Uintas trail, accessed from the Mirror Lake Hwy outside of Kamas, UT. Meet for carpooling at 10:00 am at the Skyline High School parking lot at 3251 E. Upland Drive, 3760 South, in SLC. Call Ken Evans at 801/414-6067 or email at kce57@q.com for more details.

GCG Sat, 12/31, Deadman's Ridge. Get some exercise over the New Year's weekend. Follow a Bar M bike trail for good views of upper Moab Canyon and the Moab Fault. About 4¼ miles and a 300' altitude range. Meet at the Moab Information Center, Main and Center Streets, 9 AM.

OG Sat, 12/31, Snowshoe/ Ski North Fork Park. Well end this year by getting outdoors in a beautiful location. Home to moose, and other wildlife. Well stay out for about three to four hours, enjoying the numerous trails in the area. Dress for the weather, bring water/ Refreshments shall be provided. Contact joanie for more details 801/399-0034

JANUARY 2012

OG Sat, 1/21/2012, Snowshoe into Wheatgrass Canyon in the South Fork of Weber County. Six miles round trip, 3.5 hours, moderate. Every January the club snowshoes into one of the most beautiful areas in Northern Utah. It is a narrow canyon with interesting rock formations, high canyon walls, forested slopes and lots of snow. Moose, deer, elk and eagles have been spotted in the area. For information call Larry at 801/731 3701.

FEBRUARY 2012

OG Sat, 2/18/2012.Snowshoe into the Mill Creek Canyon area. This is a must do adventure for those who like winter activities. Five to six miles round trip, 3 to 4 hours, moderate. We will pick a route that offers the most snow and provides the best views of the snow capped mountains. Perhaps we will see a moose, for they winter in this area. Call Larry at 801/731 3701 for information

DON MAHAFFEY



win a backcountry guide

AUGUST 2, 2011: Hikers in White Fir Canyon. Be the first (before October 16, 2011) to correctly list the first name of ten of these trekkers and receive a Guide Book for the High Uintas. Send your list to Ron Younger at 920 East 1500 South, Bountiful, UT 84010-2138.

Utah Chapter Directory

Chapter Executive Committee

- Ron Franklin ronkailua@yahoo.com, (801) 876-2555
- Wayne Hoskisson..... wyh@xmission.com, (435) 260-9045
- Leslie Hugo, secretary..... coyotespaw@yahoo.com
- Jeff Clay..... jclay@clayhaus.net, (801) 582-3740
- Marion Klaus, chair..... marionklaus@comcast.net
- Dan Mayhew, vice-chair..... drmayhew@comcast.net, (801) 712-5353
- Steve Thiese..... sthiese@yahoo.com, (801) 466-2893

Group Delegates

- Marc Thomas, Glen Canyon Group marc_judi@frontiernet.net, (435) 259-2208
- Larry Woolsey, Ogden Group landcrun@hotmail.com, (801) 731-3701

Issue & Committee Chairs

- Dan Mayhew, conservation chair drmayhew@comcast.net, (801) 712-5353
- Tim Fellow, treasurer timfellow@gmail.com, (801) 787-1129
- Sandy Bassett, membership co-chair..... molygray@me.com, (801) 583-1022
- Wayne Hoskisson, membership co-chair..... wyh@xmission.com, (435) 260-9045
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- Susan Stewart, political chair susan.ryonen@gmail.com
- Chris Plummer, outings chair..... ChrisP347@gmail.com, (919) 720-8125
- Sarah Fields, nuclear waste..... sarahmfields@earthlink.net
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- Ron Franklin, CCL delegate..... ronkailua@yahoo.com, (801) 876-2555
- Susan Stewart, CCL alternate susan.ryonen@gmail.com
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- Jeff Clay, new media chair..... jclay@clayhaus.net, (801) 582-3740
- Steve Thiese, communications/PR sthiese@yahoo.com, (801) 466-2893
- Dan Schroeder, ORV impacts dvs@relia.net, (801) 393-4603

Group Chairs

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- Bob Becker, Ogden Group..... flatlander@gmail.com

Group Outings Chairs

- Tom Messenger, Glen Canyon Group..... messengertj@citlink.net, (435) 259-1756
- Joanie Aponte, Ogden Group..... aponte_83@hotmail.com
- Rebecca Wallace, Salt Lake Group rebeccawallace38@msn.com

Utah Chapter Staff

- Mark Clemens, chapter manager mark.Clemens@sierraclub.org, (801) 467-9297

National Organizing Staff

- Tim Wagner, Resilient Habitat..... twagner@xmission.com, (801) 467-9294

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.

Out&About



Enjoy, explore and protect the planet

2012 Sierra Club Calendars



Support local conservation and get a head-start on the new year!

2012 Calendars are now available for purchase in the chapter office during business hours. Do drop by, as we are unable to ship. Wall calendars are \$10, engagement calendars are \$11.

Volunteer Corner

If you value the Chapter's work, why not get involved and be a part of the action? Our success would not be possible without a strong core of volunteers who are passionate about our great state and its wild places. There are currently several ways to become more active in the Chapter, including:

EVENT ORGANIZERS

In 2014, the Wilderness Act will turn 50 years old. The Sierra Club plans to coordinate a series of events to celebrate the golden jubilee of this wise and forward-looking legislation that has preserved wild areas across the country. The overarching goal of Wilderness 50 is to make the concept and benefits of wilderness better known to the American public. The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club is recognizing this watershed event in a number of ways. One of those ways is with Fifty Wild Years: A Utah Wilderness Photographic Celebration. This is envisioned as a year-long exhibit featuring fifty images (one for each year of the Wilderness Act) from local photographers highlighting the beautiful and sublime wild lands of Utah. The exhibit will be organized to travel throughout 2014 to various venues – museums to galleries, schools to libraries – in an effort to reach the greatest number of people. Would you like to be a part of this fantastic event? Are you a good organizer? Great managing logistics and details? Like to talk to people? We need volunteers to help with a number of



tasks. Contact Jeff at jclay@clayhaus.net or 801/898-0639 and be part of this momentous celebration!

LEGISLATIVE ACTION COMMITTEE

The Utah Legislature makes a wide range of important environmental decisions every year by that affects everything from state parks to air quality to wildlife. Too often these decisions are badly informed and badly made.

The Utah Chapter takes positions on legislation and supports an active lobbying program. Join our legislative committee to help make this project work for better air quality, protected landscapes, more public transportation and a greener energy future.

You can help us make a splash during the general session when we organize our Volunteer Lobbyist Day in February, or tracking and making blog posts on bills, and reaching out to chapter members to encourage them to call and e-mail their legislators.

If you're interested in joining the team, e-mail mark.clemens@sierraclub.org or call Mark at 801/467-9297.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE,
VOLUNTEER TODAY!



START A COMMUNITY SHARES/ UTAH CAMPAIGN AT YOUR WORKPLACE

by Mark Clemens

On the front page of each issue of the Utah Sierran, you'll find the logo of Community Shares/Utah (CS/U), and you might have wondered what it is.

CS/U is a workplace-giving federation that allows employees to donate any specified amount through payroll deduction to a range of agencies and charities that work to benefit the environment, deliver critical human services, improve the community, protect human rights and promote animal welfare.

The Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club helped to found CS/U in 1989. Check out the full roster of agencies at www.communitysharesutah.org. CS/U helps raise money for the chapter and the other member agencies in most public-sector and several private sector workplaces too.

Fall is usually the season to harvest pledges for workplace giving, and thank you to all of those who already give. If you don't have the chance to contribute to Community Shares at work and would like to, call me at 801-467-9297 or send me an e-mail at mark.clemens@sierraclub.org or Lynne Brandley, the executive director of Community Shares at 801-486-9224 or lbrandley@xmission.com.

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