

NEWS RELEASE

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Sierra Club Endorses in Senate Recalls

Madison, WI –The Sierra Club—John Muir Chapter announced its endorsement of four outstanding environmental advocates who are candidates in the Senate recall elections this spring.

The Sierra Club is proud to endorse: Lori Compas (District 13), Kristin Dexter (District 23), John Lehman (District 21), and Donna Seidel (District 29). These four candidates were endorsed based on their impressive environmental voting records and their commitment to protecting and enhancing Wisconsin's natural resources. The Republican State Senators are being recalled for their extremist voting records.

- Lori Compas is a strong advocate for sustainable growth: growing Wisconsin's economy while
 respecting the need to protect our sensitive lands, waters and air. She is a strong advocate for sound
 transportation planning including, commuter rail.
- Kristin Dexter earned a 100% score on the <u>Sierra Club's environmental scorecard</u> as a pro-environmental voter for Assembly District 68 and earned the Sierra Club's endorsement for her reelection bid in 2010.
- John Lehman was a 100% pro-environmental voter as State Senator for District 21 and has consistently earned the Sierra Club's support in the legislature.
- Donna Seidel voted 100% pro-environment in the most recent two sessions and has earned the Sierra Club's endorsement for each election she has run.

Compas is challenging Sen. Scott Fitzgerald, who as Majority Leader lead the Senate to dismantle Wisconsin's protections for wetlands, local governments, clean air, drinking water, and mining in vote after vote. Kristin Dexter is challenging Terry Moulton. John Lehman is challenging Van Wanggaard. As Senators, Moulton and Wanggaard voted in lockstep with the rest of the GOP caucus for every anti-environmental bill that came before them. All four Senators have earned their recalls with their horrible votes this session. The recalls are especially deserving over their votes in favor of gutting environmental protections and stripping public rights from the state's existing mining laws for the state largest mine proposal ever — a hugely destructive open pit mine in the headwaters of the Bad River.

"This legislative session was the worst attack on environmental safeguards in Wisconsin's history," said Caryl Terrell, Legislative Committee Chair, "Unlike their opponents, Lori Compas, Kristin Dexter, John Lehman, and Donna Seidel will protect Wisconsin's conservation heritage while moving our economy forward responsibly."

"The Sierra Club will mobilize our members to elect Compas, Dexter, Lehman and Seidel to the Senate," stated Dave Blouin, Political Committee Chair, "Sierra Club members are appalled by the Senate's extremist anti-environmental agenda in the last session. We are thrilled and motivated to work for true and proven environmental champions."

Founded in 1892 by John Muir, the Sierra Club is America's oldest, largest and most influential grassroots environmental organization. The Sierra Club's mission is to explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out those objectives. The Sierra Club – John Muir Chapter is made up of 15,000 members and supporters working to promote clean energy and protect Wisconsin's natural resources.