

WORDS OF the WILD

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Newsletter of the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Wilderness Committee

A Monumental Celebration: Permanent protection for Point Arena-Stornetta

-- by Victoria Brandon

Lovers of wilderness and wildlands rejoiced in a monumental achievement early in March, when President Obama used his authority under the Antiquities Act to add the 1665-acre Point Arena-Stornetta Public Lands to the California Coastal National Monument, allowing the Monument to “walk on shore” (in the words of Bureau of Land Management California Director Jim Kenna) for the very first time.

Under the management of the BLM Ukiah field office since 2004, Point Arena-Stornetta is located on Mendocino County's south coast adjacent to Manchester State Beach and the Point Arena Lighthouse. It includes more than two miles of Pacific coastline with natural bridges, tide

It was the most joyous day I've experienced in the Sierra Club.

poools, waterfalls, sinkholes and blowholes, as well as two miles of the Garcia River, the Garcia estuary, a quarter-mile of beach adjacent to Manchester State Park, and a five-acre

County, City proclamations honor 50 years of American wilderness

Lake, Sonoma and Kern Counties Mark Wilderness 50

Lake County may have been the first in the United States to give official notice to a year of nationwide celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the landmark federal Wilderness Act. After passage by an overwhelmingly nonpartisan Congressional vote, this legislation was signed into law by President Lyndon B. Johnson on September 3, 1964. It created America's National Wilderness Preservation System, federal lands to be preserved permanently for “the use and enjoyment of the American people in such manner as will . . . provide for the protection of these areas and the preservation of their wilderness character.”

To commemorate the anniversary, shortly after 9 a.m. on Tuesday January 7, 2014, newly elected Lake County Board of Supervisors Chair Denise Rushing read a resolution proclaiming the significance of our National Wilderness Preservation System to “America's cultural, scientific, historical, cultural and spiritual heritage,” and reflecting on the “profound influence of the great outdoors on our lives and our national character.” All or part of four designated wilderness areas (Cache Creek, Sanhedrin, Snow Mountain, and Yuki) -- *continued on page 2*

FLASH!
**Santa Lucia County
passes Wilderness50 Anniversary
resolution on April 1**

--no fooling



photo: Victoria Brandon

island called Sea Island Rocks. The area is recognized not only for breathtaking scenic values, but also for outstanding natural resources that include riparian corridors, extensive coastal wetlands, wind-sculptured stands of cypress, wildflower-strewn meadows, and shifting sand dunes. Otters and seals gambol in the surf, brown pelicans sail by in characteristic single file, and countless gulls and shorebirds call the area home.

On March 12, the day after the Presidential declaration, Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell came to this remote part of the coast for a day of celebration. Under a bright blue sky full of wheeling gulls and before a backdrop of crashing surf, at least 300 -- *continued on page 2*

Stornetta Monument addition -- from page 1

people gathered to hug, cheer, applaud, wave flags, and listen to a succession of speakers marvel at this spectacular place, and to affirm the solidarity of the community in making this achievement possible.

Secretary Jewell pointed out that “great places drive local economies” and “it takes a village to make a monument,” and along with Mike Boots of the President’s Council on Environmental Quality referenced the President’s State of the Union promise to “use my authority to protect more of our pristine federal lands for future generations.”

This was a celebration of a unique landscape and of the communities that cherish its wonders, It was the most joyous day I’ve yet experienced in the Sierra Club. ☞

(Victoria Brandon is chair of the Redwood Chapter)

County, city proclamations-- fr page 1

lie within the borders of Lake County.

Rushing presented the proclamation to Sierra Club Lake Group Chair Ed Robey, who thanked the members of the Board for their resolution and expressed his gratification at the county’s extremely prompt recognition of this significant anniversary. He then informed them that the Redwood Chapter has prepared a guidebook to the 21 state and federal wilderness areas in northwest California and promised on the earliest possible occasion to offer a complimentary copy to each Supervisor.

Sonoma County celebrates

On Tuesday January 28, 2014 at the beginning of the regular weekly session of the Board of Supervisors in Santa



Sonoma Group chair Dan Kerbein displays Sonoma County proclamation to fellow activists at Board of Supervisors meeting.

photo: Victoria Brandon

Rosa, Sonoma County gave official recognition to a year of nationwide celebrations marking the fiftieth anniversary of the landmark Wilderness Act.

To celebrate the grand anniversary of 50 years of American wilderness, Supervisor Shirlee Zane offered a proclamation celebrating the “50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, upholding that proud tradition and resolving that future generations will trek forest paths, navigate winding rivers, and scale rocky peaks as visitors to the majesty of our great outdoors.”

A delegation of local Sierra Club members led by Sonoma Group Chair Dan Kerbein was on hand to accept the proclamation. After thanking the Board, Kerbein commented on the invaluable recreational opportunities offered by wilderness areas on the North Coast, as well as their importance in preserving wildlife habitat and watersheds. “The influence of wild places on our lives and our national identity has been profound,” Kerebein said. “During this year of celebration let us recommit to



preserving them in perpetuity, for the sake of our children, our grandchildren, and all the generations to come.”

Kern County honors wilderness

In late March, Kern County and its leading city, Bakersfield, separately proclaimed the Wilderness anniversary. A Sierra Club deputation attended the March 25 Board of Supervisors meeting at which Kern County formally issued its proclamation (next page.)

Mayor Harvey L. Hall of Bakersfield attended -- go to next page



Kern Kaweah Chapter chair Steve Montgomery and longtime wilderness activist Joe Fontaine receive Kern County proclamation from Supervisor Zach Srivner.

photo: Georgette Theodig

RESOLUTION

HONORING AND COMMENDING
FEDERAL WILDERNESS ACT
IN OBSERVANCE OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY



KERN
COUNTY

WHEREAS:

- a) On September 3, 1964, President Lyndon B. Johnson signed the Wilderness Act into law, after passage by an overwhelmingly nonpartisan Congress vote; and
- b) The Wilderness Act was a landmark conservation bill that created a way for Americans to protect their most pristine wild lands for future generations. It is considered to be one of our Nation's greatest conservation achievements; and
- c) Wilderness areas provide immense value to our Nation, as natural habitats for diverse species of wildlife, as destinations for family trips, as venues for hiking, hunting, fishing, as protectors of wild rivers and their watersheds, and as places to inspire awe, wonder and delight; and
- d) A wilderness, in contrast with those areas where man and his own works dominate the landscape, is hereby recognized as an area where the earth and its community of life are untrammeled by man, where man himself is a visitor who does not remain; and
- e) The Wilderness Act created America's National Wilderness Preservation System preserving federal lands permanently for the use and enjoyment of the American people in such a manner as will provide for the protection of these areas and the preservation of their wilderness character for future generations; and
- f) The iconic wilderness areas of our County draw tourists from across the country and around the world, bolstering local economy. The County of Kern appreciates this profound influence of the great outdoors on our culture, history, spiritual heritage and our lives.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS RESOLVED that the Board of Supervisors of the County of Kern, State of California, does hereby honor and commend the Federal Wilderness Act on its 50th Anniversary.
Adopted: March 25, 2014

[Signatures]
CHAIRMAN, KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
SUPERVISOR, KERN COUNTY
SUPERVISOR, KERN COUNTY
SUPERVISOR, KERN COUNTY



the Sierra Club Kern-Kaweah Chapter's annual banquet on March 29th; and, at this wilderness celebration event, he read aloud the city's proclamation, which begins:

"The Mayor of the City of Bakersfield California has officially proclaimed March 29, 2014 as "Wilderness Act Day" in our city in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of the land mark legislation that protects nearly 110 million acres of American wilderness...."

Berkeley City Council Proclamation

On March 11, the City Council of Berkeley in the San Francisco Bay Area, led by Councilwoman Laurie Capitelli, commemorated the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. They recognized that "the anniversary of the Wilderness Act and the creation of the National Wilderness Preservation System is consistent with the City's sustainability goal: "Preserve natural habitats and minimize air and water pollution." After the appropriate ceremonial Whereas, the resolution states:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Berkeley that the City of Berkeley does hereby commemorate our nation's "50 Years of Wilderness" celebration honoring the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 Wilderness Preservation Act and encourages Berkeley citizens to visit the anniversary organization website [Wilderness50](http://www.wilderness50th.org/) at <http://www.wilderness50th.org/> to learn more about educational events, projects, program, and products to raise awareness of wilderness during this 50th anniversary year. ☞

Art exhibit on WILDERNESS: Heather Anderson's Views of the Sierra Nevada

One artist's passion for wilderness was featured at downtown Fresno's Fig Tree Gallery during February with an exhibit of large colorful paintings of mountains, rocks, hills, creeks and streams.

The exhibit by Heather Anderson corresponds to the national celebrations of 50 years of American wilderness and is one of several Fresno events celebrating the Year of Wilderness.

Heather Anderson kicked-off this momentum in Fresno with her show of paintings on Wilderness, "Views of the Sierra Nevada", with a reception 5 – 8 pm on February 6 at Fig Tree Gallery, 644 Van Ness Ave., Fresno.

Her art background and innate sense of wonder at nature's beauty have led her to paint and write about it. She self-published a book, *A Life in Landscape*, a collection of essays don her close connection to the natural world. Earlier she published *Art Education and Eco Awareness*, a curriculum to help K-12 students learn about the environment and ecological awareness through art.

A former professor, distinguished painter, and recipient of fellowships and awards, she taught art and art education. Heather Anderson stays active in the Sierra Club's Tehipite Chapter and has held most of its volunteer positions.

Another wilderness exhibit in Fresno this year will be the Spectrum Gallery's exhibition of Wilderness Photographs at Fresno Art Museum, 2233 N. First St., Fresno, May 15 to Aug. 24. ☞



Cathedral Peak painting in Heather Anderson's Wilderness exhibit

The Wilderness of American Literature: Manners, Mores, & Metaphors:

-- by Jonah Raskin

The fiftieth anniversary of the U.S. Wilderness Act comes just in the nick of time, as Henry David Thoreau would have said. Fifty years is a long time in a nation as new as ours and in a culture in which rapid change is the name of the game. The anniversary provides the opportunity to inform Americans about how we as a culture have defined the wild and the wilderness and the many ways that we've written about it in fiction, poetry, history, and memoir.

The literature of North America, before independence from England, and later in the United States, always explored the wilderness, though no one seemed to notice until the 1840s and 1850s. Edgar Allen Poe, who wrote "The Raven" and "The Murders in the Rue Morgue," observed that the wilderness was a theme of "universal interest." Soon afterward Thoreau — perhaps the patron saint of all friends of wilderness — looked at the American continent itself and wrote, "I saw that while we were clearing the forest in our westward progress, we are accumulating a forest of books in our rear, as wild and unexplored as any of nature's primitive wildernesses." He added that, "the library was a wilderness of books." Not the first writer to think of the wilderness as a metaphor, he was

the first to see a kind of inverse relationship between the decline and fall of forests and the genesis and evolution of America literature



about them. He also linked Indians to the wild without denouncing them as savages and without describing wilderness as the land of the Devil.

Thoreau inspired several generations of environmental writers: John Muir, Mary Austen, Aldo Leopold, Rachel Carlson, Wallace Stegner, Gary Snyder, and many more. He's the father of wilderness writing in part because he actually plunged into the wilderness, though perhaps not as far as he made it seem. Still, he removed himself from civilization, or what passed for it in the 1840s, 1850s, and 1860s.

Every ethnic group in the United States has written about the wilderness and the wild, though Indians have usually preferred to write about "forests" and "woods" and not wilderness. To be an American author you practically have to write about the subject. African Americans, such as Frederick Douglass have, along with Anglos, men and women, and from the seventeenth century to the present day. Playwright Eugene O'Neill wrote a drama entitled *Ah, Wilderness*, though there's no wilderness in it — perhaps an ironic commentary on the vanishing wilderness itself.

The fiftieth anniversary is a good time to read and reread our wilderness classics and to remember that the wilderness has given Americans a sense of commonality, and at the same time divided us. From the beginnings of our literature, it has been contested territory. Writers have asked "To whom, if anyone, does it belong?" And "What can it do for us?" As early as the 1820s, writers asked who if anyone was allowed to hunt in the forest, and who would protect woods and trees from "the people" themselves. Even before the 1820s, laws were passed to protect wild animals.

Americans didn't really begin to appreciate the "Back-Lands" as Thomas Paine called them until they become aware that forests and trees were chopped down and that villages, towns, and cities replaced them. John Jacob Audubon was one of the first to notice the vanishing wilderness and its vanishing wild life. He painted his famous portraits of birds because he recognized that whole species were going extinct, along with bird habitat. At about the same time, James Fenimore Cooper was writing about the wilderness and the western movement of Americans in novels such as *The Pioneers*, *The Last of the Mohicans*, and *The Prairie* that were translated into French, Russian, Spanish and Italian and that became best sellers in Europe, introducing Europeans to American landscapes.

The period from about 1820 to 1860 was a Golden Age of American wilderness writing. All of our major writers tackled it: Hawthorne, Melville, Emerson, Thoreau, Whitman, Emily Dickinson and a host of lesser known writers such as Lydia Maria Child, and Catherine Sedgwick who brought female characters to the pages of wilderness and who enjoyed it as thoroughly as any

To be an American author you practically have to write about the subject.

male characters. They added a dimension to the wild that men didn't see.

Two hundred years before that Golden Age, the Puritans explored the wilderness in sermons, poems, and religious tracts. Indeed, they believed that they had a "mission in the wilderness" — that it was their duty and destiny to bring Christianity to the New World, and that they had to endure the trials and the tribulations of dark, terrifying forests if



photo: Mike Painter



Boundary Peak in Nevada wilderness, White Mountains

they were to reach their Promised Land. If the Puritans wanted to punish someone accused of heresy — Anne Hutchinson, for example — they exiled her to the wilderness.

Then, in the nineteenth century, the wilderness underwent a radical transformation and a rebirth in the writings of Emerson and Thoreau. Romantics rescued it from the Puritans and their descendants. They saw it as a place for spiritual rebirth and renewal; a territory where one could walk freely, inhale fresh air, and get away from the entanglements of civilization.

“In wildness is the preservation of the world,” Thoreau famously observed. He wanted human beings to preserve their own innate wildness and not to become machines on the assembly line of civilization. Emerson hoped and prayed that the whole continent would not be divided up into parcels he called “real estate.” Walt Whitman wanted a new breed of vital humans to spring from the backwoods. Nathaniel Hawthorne revisited the Puritan past in books like *The Scarlet Letter* and wrote about the “moral wilderness” that his heroine Hester Prynne occupies. Emily



Henry David Thoreau

Dickinson viewed the wilderness as an emotional landscape that one had to endure and survive. Herman Melville wrote about

the wilderness of the oceans and about the wildness of Nature as embodied in his white whale, Moby-Dick, in the book of the same name that called attention to endangered species and the whaling industry that assaulted the environment.

In *The Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*, Mark Twain follows Huck and Jim down the wild Mississippi and away from all attempts to civilize them. By 1886, when Twain’s novel was published, Yosemite had already received protection from development, and Americans were beginning to realize that Nature had to be protected by the federal government or it would soon be destroyed. By the start of the twentieth-century a new breed of writers came along that heralded the wilds; Jack London wrote about the arctic wilderness in short stories and novels such as *The Call of the Wild* and *White Fang*. In many of London’s Darwinian short stories about the fittest, white men can’t and don’t survive. California writer Philip Fradkin chronicled the life of Everett Ruess, the desert wanderer who aimed to record the beauty of the wilderness and who disappeared in 1934.

More recently, in the non-fiction narrative, *Into the Wild*, and Sean Penn’s movie based on it, the male protagonist, Christopher McCandless, dies alone in Alaska, though he means to be as heroic as Jack London.

Wilderness heroes are as mythic as they are real. Daniel Boone, the man credited with building the Wilderness Road, was in part a figure

Thoreau wanted human beings to preserve their own innate wildness

of history and in part a figure of legend. These days, women seem to have an easier time in the wild than men – like Sheryl Strayed in the book *Wild*, or like Gretel Ehrlich in *This Cold Heaven*.

I arrived in California in the

mid-1970s; I’m only now discovering much of California wilderness writing including John Muir’s. “We are now in the mountains and they are in us,” he noted. “When we try to pick anything out by itself we find it hitched to everything else in the universe. The whole wilderness in unity and interrelation is alive and familiar.” When he encountered a grizzly bear in a California meadow, he rushed toward it to “study his gait.” The bear just stood here. Muir called the incident his “interview with a bear” and said that he never forgot the “right manners of the wilderness.” Wilderness writing

wilderness is a metaphor as well as a real place

can be whimsical and wise, and yes, there are wilderness manners, too.

I should also say that I have always liked Wallace Stegner’s notion that we don’t have to go into a wilderness to appreciate it. I can stand at the edge and feel good knowing it’s there.

Whatever we call ourselves - conservationists, preservationists, restorationists, bird watchers, hikers, environmentalists, park rangers, foresters, eco-warriors, worshippers of Mother Earth, or just picnickers - we’ll probably have to put all our heads together and learn from Thoreau, Muir, Carlson, Snyder, Stegner, Mary Austen and others to protect the land and its heritage. We’ll have to remember, I think, that the wilderness is a metaphor as well as a real place and that we can learn about it by going into it and respecting it, and also by reading about it in the wonderful body of American wilderness literature. In 2014, we’re still a wild species. We still hear the call of the wild. We probably need it now more than ever before. ☞

(Jonah Raskin is a retired professor of literature and law at Sonoma State University. He writes for *Bay Nature*, hikes, backpacks, rides his bicycle and reads tons of books.)



Outings



Support wilderness the Sierra Club way!

--May your trails be crooked, winding, lonesome, dangerous, leading to the most amazing view. May your mountains rise into and above the clouds. Edward Abbey (As seen in Range of Light Group newsletter)

April 13 -- Sun

Owens River Gorge Hike

Join Range of Light Group on a 6.6 mi rt hike, 1500 ft gain, and enjoy geologic formations created during Long Valley Caldera eruption 760,000 years ago. Meet 7:15 a.m. Mammoth Lakes Union Bank or 8 a.m. Gorge Rd Plant off 395. No dogs. Contact Sherry (909)709-2970, hikerlady@verizon.net or Dick and Joanne (760)709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu.

April 19-20 -- Sat - Sun

Carrizo Service and Flowers

A day of service in Carrizo Plain National Monument plus a day of sightseeing and/or hiking. Weather cool in evenings, comfortable in day. Service--remove or modify fences to give pronghorn greater mobility; recreation-- wishes of group to determine. Combine carcamping, exploring, and service in a relatively unknown wild place. Contact leader: Craig Deutsche, craig.deutsche@gmail.com, (310)477-6670. CNRCC Desert Committee.

April 26 -- Sat

Santa Rosa planting work project

Join Friends of Nevada for a day of planting native seedlings in northern Nevada's Santa Rosa mountains. What better way to celebrate Earth Day, Arbor day, and the big anniversary of wilderness than a day of restoring wild habitat for pronghorn antelope, sage grouse, and mule deer in breath-taking scenery? For more info and to RSVP contact Renee -- renee@nevadawilderness.org.

May 24-26 -- Sat - Mon

Black Rock rendezvous

Several hundred people will meet for fun and touring in the Black ock Desert north of Reno. Dutch oven cook-off, kids' events, varied tours, and expert speakers on regional history, geology. Leader is very familiar with the area. RVs and trailers ok, but no facilities. Dogs on leash ok. Lots of HAM radio activity. For info, visit blackrockdesert.org. To sign up-- David Bock (775)843-6443. Great Basin Group/CNCC Desert Committee.

June 27-29 -- Fri - Sun

Sheldon Last Fence Pull

It's official--the Sheldon National Wildlife Refuge will be fence-free after this June so you do not want to miss out on pulling these last barbed wire strips! The celebration includes a BBQ luau party and a Hawaiian shirt contest. Rumor has it there will even be a chuck wagon and roasted pig. To RSVP, contact Renee: renee@nevadawilderness.org.

July 4-6 -- Fri - Sun

50th Celebratory Black Rock Campout

Make a week of exploring northern Nevada after the June 27-29 Sheldon trip; then swing by Steven's Camp in north Black Rock Desert to applaud the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act! Join Bureau of Land Management, Friends of Black Rock/High Rock, and Nevada Outdoor School to celebrate our wild lands and their historic law. A patriotic weekend of guided hikes, star-spangled skies, guest speakers, a photo contest, Dutch oven cookoffs, and writer's workshop. RSVP: Contact Renee: renee@nevadawilderness.org.

July 11-14 -- Fri - Mon

Eastern Nevada Wilderness Service

Once again, the CA/NV wilderness committee partners with BLM Ely office to enjoy camping at the edge of an Eastern Nevada Wilderness area and doing a valuable service project there. Join us! This year's special feature -- a birthday bash for wilderness--celebrate the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Don't miss out. Central commissary offered. Where will we go? Latest word is -- most likely location is Mt Grafton Wilderness (one of our favorites). Central commissary offered; contact Vicky Hoover (415)977-5527; vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org.



photo: Mona Daniels

Cadiz dunes weed workers pose with first few of the 50-plus bags of tumbleweed, etc. they removed

Wilderness service trip gets into the weeds

In mid-March, the CA/NV wilderness committee enjoyed its annual service trip with the Mojave Group and the Bureau of Land Management's Needles office. This time Mona Daniels, the Needles wilderness coordinator, gave us the job of pulling invasive weeds in the Cadiz Dunes Wilderness--just west of the Old Woman Mountains Wilderness, site of many of our early service trips. We combined a day and a half of digging and pulling mostly tumbleweeds but also Sahara mustard with some celebratory relaxation in our nearby camp --cheering 50 years of wilderness -- and especially 20 years of California desert wilderness. Being 20 miles south from Route 66 along a rough dirt road gave us complete solitude and quiet for enjoying full-moon nights -- and the occasional train that went by. ☺



photo: Jose Witt

In Arrow Canyon, southern Nevada, Feb. wilderness service day with BLM and Friends of NV Wilderness

Inyo National Forest Needs Advocates!

-- by Frances Hunt

The Inyo National Forest in California and Nevada anchors the natural landscapes and local recreation-based economies of its neighboring counties and communities. Little wonder that the forest is among the most visited in California - its beautiful, diverse wildlands are home to a rich array of plants and wildlife and offer a wealth of other attractions: iconic wilderness, beautiful mountain meadows, great fishing, challenging hiking trails, and high mountain peaks--including many of California's highest and most spectacular peaks, both in the Eastern Sierra and in the White Mountains across the Owens Valley.

But the future health of the forest stands in the balance as the Forest Service rewrites the Inyo's management plan.

The Inyo National Forest plan, and plans for the Sierra and Sequoia National Forests, are being revised under the Obama Administration's new 2012 forest planning regulations. These California national forests were picked by the Forest Service as "early adopters" that are



among the first forests nationally to revise their plans under the new planning rule. These three revised plans will not only shape the future of these great Southern Sierra forests, they will set an example - for better or worse - for all national forests to follow. We must ensure these "early adopters" set a high bar for wilderness and environmental safeguards, sustainable recreation, watershed and water protection, and habitat restoration.

Unfortunately, these forests were also jointly given an unrealistic and inflexible time frame for devel-

oping their new plans. Sierra Club activists and our allies have become increasingly alarmed that this tight time frame would lead to overly narrow, deeply flawed plans. The agency's initial documents and actions to date lead to concern that the process will be rushed to conclusion and won't protect critical forest, desert, and water resources or adequately assess the potential for new wilderness or other protective designations for remaining unprotected roadless areas..

After we had tried for months to communicate our concerns to Forest Service leadership at the national forest, regional and national levels, a breakthrough came suddenly on March 27, when the Regional Forester announced a delay of the scheduled April start of the formal scoping phase for these forests mandated by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) -- and the associated 30-day public comment periods and three forest-level public workshops.

"We have heard from the public and our partners that they need more time to understand and engage with us on the 'Need to Change'," said Regional Forester Randy Moore. "By postponing these meetings we will provide more time to do so. We are committed to ensuring that the public remains engaged as we move forward with revising these three forest plans."

Right now, it is uncertain when the Forest Service will initiate formal scoping and hold public forest-level workshops. What is clear is that this additional time offers Sierra Club members and our partners a great opportunity to mobilize and prepare for strong and informed comments to the agency. For the Inyo, we can use this time to press for decisions that will improve recreational opportunities and the ecological health of the forest, for example: improved trails management, additional wildland designations, and stronger habitat safeguards

Next Wilderness meeting Sunday, June 15, Eaton Canyon, Pasadena

The next meeting of the Sierra Club's California/Nevada Wilderness Committee will take place Sunday, June 15, at the Eaton Canyon Nature Center, Pasadena, 10 am to 5 pm. Join us for fun, networking, food, and timely presentations on worthwhile wildlands topics—including an account of many California events going forward for the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act this year. **Special feature:** the San Gabriel Mountain Forever Campaign -- also the new Central Coast wilderness campaign. Possible dinner afterwards. All interested wildlands advocates invited. For info, contact Vicky: vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org.

for key species such as the Sierra Nevada big horn sheep, mule deer, and sage grouse.

Please help put the Inyo on the path of good science and strong protections to benefit recreation, water, wildlife, and local communities for decades to come.

How You Can Help

1. **Respond to email alerts** from the Sierra Club and other conservation groups working to conserve the forest and its many benefits.
2. **Gather pictures** of the special places, habitats, species and trails that you care about. If you see a problem that needs to change—like an overused trail—take a picture and email it to fran.hunt@sierraclub.org
3. **Write a Letter to the Editor** saying how you use and love the Inyo National Forest and urge the agency to do all it can to create a strong, protective and scientifically-based forest plan.
4. **Attend** the Inyo, Sierra, and Sequoia National Forest public workshops when they are rescheduled.
5. **Stay involved:** To get more information and get involved on the Inyo, please email me at fran.hunt@sierraclub.org. [Sequoia and Sierra National Forest lovers can email Joe Fontaine (fontaine@wildblue.net) and Alan Carlton (carltonal@yahoo.com)]. ↵

(Fran Hunt is the Sierra Club's Inyo National Forest organizer, based in Bishop in the Eastern Sierra.)

Fight and Win: Brock Evans' new book



Long-time conservation leader Brock Evans, president of the Endangered Species Coalition, has launched an effort to teach activists how they can triumph over the enormous and well-funded forces that aim to speed up the destruction of our environment and are hastening climate change.

Regarded as a legend by his fellow environmentalists, Evans has spent decades making life miserable for out-of-control property developers and for the oil, timber, and mining industries.

His new book *Fight & Win: Brock Evans's Strategies for the New Eco-Warrior*, a 200-page full-color hardback, is a nuts-and-bolts field manual on how to succeed in grassroots recruiting, lobbying hostile politicians, postponing hearings when you need to buy time to beef up your own case, working social media to

build support for your cause, and fast-tracking other priceless advocacy and organizing skills. According to Cristina Bryan, Evans's publisher (Barclay Bryan Press), "It's an ABC of activism tactics that really work."

Award winning filmmaker and writer Chris Palmer is excited about the impact on the environmental movement of Evans's unique manual. "It's a gem of a book," Palmer says, "and it's a must-read for aspiring eco-warriors and citizen activists."

One fan of the book, Grammy-winning songwriter, performer and wilderness advocate Carole King, is enthusiastic. "I've known Brock Evans as a leader among conservation activists through two generations," says King. She looks forward to the book's teaching thousands of activists of all ages how "to carry the conservation movement forward with courage, wisdom, and persistence."

Brock Evans, who began his wilderness-advocacy career as the Sierra Club's Northwest Representative for six years, followed that with eight years as the Club's top lobbyist in Washington, and then served as a two-term Director on the Sierra Club National Board. He is now working with colleagues in the DC Chapter to ensure that the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act stays high on their list of priorities for 2014.

Brock will also be one of the many presenters at the National Wilderness Anniversary Conference in Albuquerque, New Mexico, in October of 2014.

Please email the publisher, Cristina Bryan, at tina@barclaybryanpress.com for further information about price plus special bulk purchase option and for an order form. Also see <http://www.barclaybryanpress.com/fight--win.html>.



WORDS OF the WILD

The Sierra Club California/Nevada Wilderness Committee, an issue committee of the CA/NV Regional Conservation Committee, advocates for preservation of unroaded, undeveloped public lands in a wild state, through legislation and appropriate management and sponsors stewardship and wilderness study outings.

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FIRST CLASS



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