Fate of Doolan Canyon hangs on competing ballot initiatives

In November, Dublin’s voters will have the opportunity to preserve a beautiful swath of land that separates the city from neighboring Livermore. This past winter and spring, Dublin voters qualified—and on June 3 the Dublin City Council unanimously adopted—an open space initiative that establishes an urban limit line along the eastern city limits and removes the sunset provision for the western urban limit line. The new eastern urban limit line protects rural Doolan Canyon from urban sprawl.

Doolan Canyon is a scenic and biologically-rich area north of I-580 currently used for ranching and a few rural homesteads. The area contains critical habitat for the California red-legged frog and the California tiger salamander, both designated as vulnerable species by the International Union for Conservation of Nature. Numerous other Special Status animal species live or forage in Doolan Canyon, including golden eagles, western burrowing owls, American badgers, San Joaquin kit foxes, tricolored blackbirds, and Callippe Silverspot butterflies. Special Status plant species found in Doolan Canyon include Congdon’s tarplant and San Joaquin spearscale. Doolan Canyon is a California Native Plant Society Biological Priority Protection Area, and the Tri-Valley Conservancy rates most of its parcels as high priority for the protection of biological resources, wildlife migration corridors, trail corridors, and agriculture.

The protection provided by the urban limit line was a long time in coming. For decades, Doolan Canyon served in effect as a “demilitarized zone” between Dublin and Livermore; each city concerned that the other would annex and develop the unincorporated area that serves as a greenbelt buffer between them. With the passage of Alameda County Measure D in 2000—which established a county urban growth boundary—the only remaining risk was from city-approved development. Livermore adopted an urban growth boundary in 2002, but none existed on Dublin’s east side until now.

But a threat still remains. During the last weeks of the Open Space Initiative signature drive, Pacific Union Land Company—a developer seeking to build in Doolan Canyon—began circulating its own initiative to allow urban development in the canyon. Cleverly written to give the false impression that Dublin voters would retain control over development, the developer’s initiative sets an urban limit line on the far side of Doolan Canyon; this would, in effect, remove the requirement of voter approval for a huge, 2,000-unit residential subdivision within Doolan Canyon, as proposed by Pacific Union in 2010.

Using paid signature-gatherers receiving up to $7.50 per signature and deceitful collecting tactics (some paid collectors claimed to be collecting signatures for the open space
Celebrate 90 years of Chapter history at the annual potluck picnic in Berkeley

Fri., Aug. 1, 5 – 8 pm, Ohlone Park, Berkeley; site near McGee and Hearst.

All Chapter members are invited to the San Francisco Bay Chapter Sierra Club's annual Summer Picnic, this year celebrating the Chapter's 90th anniversary! Whether you're a brand new member or long-time Sierran, join us for a fun and festive potluck.

Bring a favorite dish or beverage to share. In the spirit of minimizing waste, we strongly encourage guests to bring their own reusable plates, utensils, and cups. Pack a picnic blanket and warm clothes, and bring friends and family. There will be a free raffle—your chance to win cool Sierra Club gear.

Guests will have the chance to learn about the Bay Chapter's current conservation efforts from staff, leadership, and interns.

To walk to the picnic site from North Berkeley BART, cross Sacramento St. and walk two blocks east on Hearst Ave. or through the park. By car, from University Ave., turn north on Sacramento. Turn right on Hearst and drive two blocks east.

If you’re available to assist, we need you! We need volunteers for set-up, welcoming guests, and clean-up (find more details on page 7). To volunteer, contact Joanne Drabek at (510)318-4614 or joanne1892@gmail.com.

To RSVP (helpful but not required) or with any questions, contact Deirdre Ashby at deirdre.ashby@sierraclub.org or (510)848-0800, ext. 305.

Call for Southern Alameda County Group leaders

The Chapter’s Southern Alameda County (SAC) Group is looking for two new members for its Executive Committee. The SAC ExComm holds a public meeting every other month in Hayward. Meetings are typically held the fourth Wednesday of even-numbered months. Most activity takes place in the months leading up to elections, when candidates and ballot measures are considered for endorsement. SAC also sends representatives to the Chapter Executive and Political Committees in order to have a voice in issues that affect the entire Bay Area.

If you are a current member of the Sierra Club living in Southern Alameda County (Hayward, Union City, Newark, Fremont, Ashland, Cherryland, Castro Valley, Fairview, and San Lorenzo) and can commit to spending about 5 hours per month on Sierra Club business, email treasurer Toni Wise at toniwise@mac.com. Find more information about groups at http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/groups.
Oakland joins forces with neighboring cities to oppose dirty fuels by rail

On June 17, Oakland joined nearby Richmond, Berkeley, and Davis in passing a city council resolution opposing dangerous crude oil from rolling through the city by rail. The resolution was also the first in the state to address railway transport of dirty coal and petroleum coke (or petcoke, a byproduct of refining heavy crude oil that is produced locally) in addition to oil. The city council acted knowing that there is a real threat that the Port of Oakland and Oakland Army Base will build export terminals for these hazardous fossil fuels—and Oakland’s families, businesses, and community interests will not stand for it.

Oakland’s passage of a resolution opposing coal, petcoke, and oil from coming through the city by rail cannot physically stop trains at the city border, as rail is regulated at the federal level. However, this action sets an important policy precedent and is the first step toward ensuring that no fossil-fuel export facilities are built or approved within the city or the Port of Oakland’s jurisdiction.

As Big Coal’s profits are squeezed by closures of coal-fired power plants and new EPA regulations, companies are looking for ways to ship the dirty commodity to foreign markets that have more relaxed environmental standards. As reported in the June-July 2014 Yodeler (“Dangerous and dirty coal exports threaten Bay Area,” page H), major organizing victories squashing export-terminal proposals in Oregon and Washington mean that Big Coal is now targeting California’s ports and marine terminals.

In Feb. of this year, Oakland’s Port Commission unanimously rejected proposals to export coal and petcoke because of serious community concerns about air quality and climate impacts. However, the Port has no official policy prohibiting the handling of dangerous fossil fuels on its property. Anti-export advocates would like to see such a policy adopted in order to permanently block fossil-fuel exports from the Port of Oakland—even if new commissioners were to be appointed.

Oakland’s other potential export site is the Oakland Army Base Redevelopment Project, also known as Global Oakland. The developer of this project, California Capital Investment Group, is not limited in the commodities it can export through a bulk terminal to be built near the eastern touchdown of the Bay Bridge. This is extremely troubling and we would like to see a binding agreement from California Capital Investment Group to prohibit fossil-fuel exports from the Army Base.

San Francisco has also taken an important step toward banning fossil fuels from its port. In May, the city’s Commission on the Environment passed a resolution stating its intent to work with Port of San Francisco staff and commissioners to draft a policy prohibiting the handling of fossil fuels at its facilities.

The Bay Chapter is working with the West Oakland Environmental Indicators Project to build a base of opposition to exports in communities and neighborhoods surrounding the Port of Oakland and the Oakland Army Base, as well as those adjacent to rail lines leading to these properties. On July 6, the community-engagement campaign kicked off with door-to-door canvassing in West Oakland to collect signatures and talk with residents about these threats. The canvassing program will continue throughout the summer. To get involved, contact Chapter conservation organizer Jess Dervin-Ackerman at jess.dervin-ackerman@sierraclub.org or visit www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/coal.
Assembly Bill 2145, renewable energy wrecking ball: down but not out

Community Choice energy is under attack—again. Pending legislation, Assembly Bill (AB) 2145, was introduced earlier this year with the aim of destroying Community Choice in California. If it had succeeded, it would have been a significant loss to our clean energy future.

Sierra Club California, including many Bay Chapter members, helped remove the most egregious element of the bill as part of a new coalition, Californians for Energy Choice. AB 2145 would have made the monopoly utility the default service provider for Community Choice programs to sign up customers one-by-one. The Senate Energy Committee in June removed this poison provision. However, two other elements in the bill, and a newly added geographical limitation that only applies to Community Choice programs, are still cause for concern.

One untenable remaining element of AB 2145 requires Community Choice programs to set rates five years into the future, while the corporate monopolies are merely required to provide rate projections. This provision is nonsensical on its face, and tantamount to requiring Community Choice programs to possess a working crystal ball.

Another problematic element requires not-for-profit Community Choice programs to be subjected to the same complaint process that exists for the for-profit monopoly utilities. One of the many benefits of Community Choice is that it establishes local control and accountability by virtue of its being run by local elected officials and members of the community. This proposed element imposes an unnecessary bureaucratic layer and expense to the state, and sets up Community Choice programs to be burdened by frivolous complaints that must be addressed at the distant and arcane California Public Utilities Commission.

Shawn Marshall of the Local Energy Aggregation Network (LEAN), a national Community Choice advocacy organization, stated, “While we would’ve preferred the bill to die in Committee, AB 2145 has yielded some upsides for Community Choice in California. The bill has galvanized statewide attention and support for Community Choice that we’ve not seen before. Just a few years ago, Community Choice was a little-known, fringe program that the legislature largely ignored or openly dismissed. Our success against the huge monopoly utility establishment in removing the ‘poison-pill’ provision absolutely changed that.”

What is Community Choice?

Community Choice, enabled by 2002 legislation, empowers local governments to buy and generate electricity for businesses and residents. Marin and Sonoma Counties, the only two California communities that currently offer Community Choice programs, provide their customers cleaner power at lower rates. Community Choice is the most powerful tool under local control to rapidly and cost-effectively reduce greenhouse-gas emissions, according to a variety of analyses.

What You Can Do

The fight for Community Choice continues: AB 2145 will be considered in the Senate Appropriations Committee on Mon., Aug. 4. Please attend the hearing and speak up for Community Choice!

For up-to-date information and other ways you can take action, visit: www.no2145.org.

If you are interested in doing more to help advance Community Choice in the Bay Area, consider joining the Club’s Community Choice Team. For more information, contact Chapter conservation organizer Jess Dervin-Ackerman at (510) 848-0800 or: jess.dervin-ackerman@sierraclub.org.

Woody Hastings, Renewable Energy Implementation Manager, Climate Protection Campaign; Volunteer Coordinator, statewide Community Choice Team

New alliance calls for Alameda County fracking ban

Local fractivists invited to join Alameda County Against Fracking

In the wake of the defeat of Senate Bill 1132 (the Fracking Moratorium Bill) and of Governor Jerry Brown’s continued support for extreme oil extraction methods and acidizing, fracking continues in California with minimal, weak regulation. Given the dearth of state-level leadership, communities are stepping up to stop fracking locally. In San Benito, Santa Barbara, Mendocino, and Butte Counties, activists are working on local ballot initiatives to ban fracking. Now, Alameda County has joined the fight.

On July 9, fifty fractivists gathered for a kick-off meeting of Alameda County Against Fracking (ACAF). Elizabeth Echols and Tony Thurmond, both running for State Assembly, took part in the launch event to show their support for a fracking ban. ACAF is actively signing on new partners; so far eleven groups have joined the campaign.

Alameda County is home to six producing oil wells. While the wells are not currently being fracked, the Bay Chapter Don’t Frack CA Team, as a founding member of ACAF, is urging the County Board of Supervisors to pass legislation ensuring that the county stays drill-free. To date, a majority of Supervisors have expressed support for fracking-ban legislation in unincorporated Alameda County, but they have conveyed that they want to hear broad-based community support before moving forward.

Meet other fractivists, share your ideas, and learn what you can do to help ban fracking in Alameda County at the Don’t Frack CA Team’s next monthly meeting on Tue., Sept. 16, at 6:30 pm at the Chapter office in Berkeley. Also, look for us at the Chapter Picnic on Fri., Aug. 1.

For more information, to join the Google Group announcing upcoming events and news articles of interest, or to volunteer, contact Aria Cahir, Chair of the Bay Chapter Don’t Frack CA Team, at: dontrfrackca@gmail.com.

If you are active in a group that would support a ban on fracking, please get in touch about bringing that group on board—we are aiming for 150 organizations to support the ban on fracking in Alameda County.

Aria Cahir, Chair, Bay Chapter Don’t Frack CA Team

Gifts to the San Francisco Bay Chapter of the Sierra Club

In honor of Adam Duhan and Dierdre Arima
Gift of Paul Werner and Patricia Smith

The San Francisco Bay Chapter welcomes donations in general, as well as gifts in memory or honor of relatives and friends. Such gifts will be used as specified by the donor, or, if unspecified, at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

June rally at the PG&E Service Center, Oakland.
About this calendar
This calendar includes many Sierra Club Bay Chapter events and outings, but the most extensive calendar is found on the Chapter website at: http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities. The Calendar website may include changes, cancellations, or outings that were submitted after the print deadline. Many of our activity sections place additional information and more outings in section newsletters, or on section websites, which are found at the above URL.

Hike and backpack ratings
Hike ratings are based on distance and elevation gain (the sum of all gains in elevation per day):

1. up to 6 miles
2. 6 - 10 miles
3. 10 - 15 miles
4. 15 - 20 miles
5. over 20 miles

Backpack ratings include a third digit for travel:

T. trail
L. moderate crosscountry
S. strenuous/difficult crosscountry.

What to bring
For day hikes always bring lunch and enough water. Consider layered clothing, sunscreen, and hiking poles. Non-service dogs are allowed only if specified in the listing; canine hikers should bring leashes, litter bags, and water for their dogs.

Liabilities
To participate on a Sierra Club outing, you will need to sign a liability waiver. To read a copy of the waiver form, call (415)977-5630.

Problem resolution
If you have an outing-related concern that you are not able to address via the outing's leader, please contact the chair of the sponsoring section or group. If that is not sufficient, you can call the Activities Committee ombudsman, Rob Postar, at (510)551-4979 or: rpostar@jfprieticalav.com or the Chapter Office at (510)848-0800.

Tuesdays

Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. Meet: 4 pm at boathouse. Leader: Dolores Gruenewald, (510)351-6247 or doloresgru@aol.com. (Solo Sierrans)

Wednesdays

Lafayette Reservoir 1A hike. Optional dinner afterward. Meet: 4 pm in parking lot (takes five quarters or annual pass). Leader: Lee Cowden, (925)934-6357. (Solo Sierrans)

Aug 1 - Fri

Bay Chapter potluck picnic. Whether you’re a brand new member or long-time Sierran, join us for a fun and festive potluck to celebrate the Chapter’s 90th anniversary. For more details, see page 2. Bring: a prepared dish or beverage to share, reusable dishes/flatware, family, and friends. Meet: 5 – 8 pm at Ohlone Park, Berkeley; site near Hearst and McGee. Contact: Joanne Drabek, (510)530-5216 or juanne1892@gmail.com.

Aug 2 - Sat

San Bruno Mountain 1B hike. Explore two of San Bruno Mountain’s less-traveled canyons and learn about the historical ecology of this “Island of Biodiversity.” The 3 – 3.5-hour hike is on narrow footpaths surrounded by coastal scrub, riparian woodland, and coastal grassland. Includes Ohlone shellmound visit. Heavy rain cancels. Meet: 10 am at San Bruno Mountain Watch office, 44 Visitation Ave. #206, Brisbane. Bus: SamTrans #292. Bring: Shoes with good tread, long pants, and layered clothing for a variety of weather; water and lunch. Leader: Paul Bouscal, (415)431-6631 or sanbrunomountainwatch.org. (Hiking)


August 3 – 7 - Sun – Thu

Calaveras State Park car camping. Walk through some of California’s best redwood groves, cool off in a creek, and hike a variety of trails. Flush toilets and coin-operated hot showers available. 25-person limit; reserve now. Cost: $50/person; Send check made out to “Solo Sierrans” to Dave Sutton, 3731 Barrington Dr., Concord, CA 94518, and include your address, email, and phone numbers. Bring: Each participant is responsible for preparing one hot dinner for the group and providing their own breakfasts, lunches, and happy hours. Meet: 2 pm at Calaveras Big Trees State Park, Stanislaus National Forest. Leader: David J Sutton, (925)686-0158 or davesunt@yahoo.com. (Solo Sierrans)

Aug 6 – 10 - Wed - Sun

Southern Sierra crest route backpack. This trip is for people who run marathons for training, practice a lightweight backpack ethic, and are comfortable with difficult cross-country travel. Route follows the paralleling spine of the Sierra Crest from Kearsarge Pass to Mt. Whitney and beyond. We’ll visit a string of high Mountain lakes includ-

Check before you hike!
In hot, dry summer weather, open-space areas may be closed due to fire danger. Leaders may have to cancel or change scheduled activities.

To find out about possible fire closures, call after 2 pm the day before. The Marin County Fire Department public-service hotline at (415)499-7191 covers parks in Marin County. The East Bay Regional Parks Fire Department at (510)544-2222 covers the East Bay Regional Parks; or see the District’s Park-Closure hotline at: www.ebparks.org/closure.

Chapter activities will go as scheduled, if possible. Call the leader if in doubt.

Aug 9 - Sat

Mt. Tamalpais. 3C hike. A moderate 3C on Mt. Tamalpais. Any rain cancels. Meet: 9 am at Miller and Locust Aves., Mill Valley. Leader: Pao Chen, (510)237-7570 or paoc945@yahoo.com. (Hiking)

Point Isabel 1A hike. Level, 4.5-mile walk on the Bay Trail along the Richmond shoreline from Point Isabel to Marina Bay. Ends 3 pm. Meet: 11:30 am at the end of Rydin Road, Point Isabel Regional Shoreline parking lot. Leader: Caprice Solotar, (510)525-2110 or caprice@yahoocom. (Mt. Diablo Group)

Bayshore walk in El Cerrito 1A hike. Hourlong walk on wheelchair-accessible paved trail at Point Isabel. Optional Chinese dinner follows at Pacific East Mall. Bring: Binoculars for possible shorebird sightings. Meet: 5 pm at the end of Rydin Road, Point Isabel Regional Shoreline parking lot. Leader: Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Mt. Diablo 1A evening hike. Leisurely evening hike in the Mitchell Canyon area of Mt. Diablo to see the park as it gets ready for sleep—or is it time to wake up? Search for owls, bats, and other creatures of the night. See and listen to what nature has to offer at night. 2-3 miles with little elevation gain. Any rain cancels. Cost: $6 park entrance fee. Bring: Flashlight, layered clothes, and water. Meet: 6:30 pm at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center, 96 Mitchell Canyon Road, Clayton. Leader: Liz Watson, (925)768-3717 or lizzy0087@hotmail.com. (Mt. Diablo Group)

Aug 9 – 13 - Sat – Wed

John Muir Wilderness Goddard Canyon backpack. Hiking from Wishon Reservoir to Florence Lake, we’ll head over Hell For Sure Pass and into and along the spectacular Goddard Canyon in John Muir Wilderness. Cost: $40 covers wilderness permit, contribution to section, and possible camping Friday night. Meet: 8 AM at Goddard Canyon. Directions: Details will be sent to all trip participants three weeks before the trip. Carpool: Rosters will be provided to all participants to facilitate carpools. Each participant must arrange their own transportation. Leaders: Andy Westbom, (707)483-2083 or andywestbom@gmail.com; Linda Ghysels, lindaghysels@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities.
Aug 10 • Sun

Mt. Tamalpais 3C peak climb. Hike up, down, and around our favorite mountain, visiting many of its famous landmarks. Route will include the summit, Rifle Camp, Potrero Meadow, Barth’s Retreat, Rock Springs, Mountain Theatre, and the West Point Inn. 15 miles with approximately 3,000 feet of elevation gain. Moderate pace, but not for speed demons or gazelles. Ends 7 pm. High heat or red flag warnings may cancel; contact leader if in doubt. Meet: 9:15 am at Throckmorton and Cascade, Old Mill Park, Mill Valley. Carpool: Carpools can be arranged through the Chapter’s Meetup site at www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay. Leader: Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

Aug 16 • Sat

Summertime at Point Reyes 3C+ hike. Moderately-paced, 15+ mile hike to Drakes Head for lunch. Experienced hikers only. Bring: Minimum 2 qts. water—no facilities available at trailhead. Meet: Parked and ready to hike at 9 am sharp at Bayview Trail off Limantour Rd., Inverness. Leader: Terry Balestriere, (415)454-8527 or tenybaless@ yahoo.com; Francois Saint Gassies. (Hiking)

Aug 21 – 24 • Thu – Sun

Ansel Adams Wilderness 3BT backpack. Come pay homage to the peak John Muir crowned “King of the Mountains of the middle portion of the High Sierra” (Mt. Ritter) and the “sharp and slender spires” of the Minarets. We will camp at Pumice Flat Group Camp on Thursday evening, begin our trip from Agnew Meadow on Friday morning, and camp 2 nights above Lake Ediza at the base of Mt. Ritter. On our layover day we will hike to the base of the Minarets at Iceberg Lake and optionally to Cecile Lake. On Sunday we return to Agnew Meadows in time to drive home. Activity is held rain or shine, but may be altered due to inclement weather. Cost: $30 includes Pumice Flat group camping and wilderness permit. Meet: 9 am at John Muir Trail, Inyo National Forest. Bring: Individual commissary: bring your own food and cooking equipment. Carpool: For those interested in ride sharing a trip roster will be provided to everyone who has signed up about 2 weeks before the trip. Leaders: Rodney Omacchi, (415)518-6503 or rodomachi@yahoo.com; Alice Chung, (415)765-9076 or alicye@yahoo.com. (Backpacking)

Aug 22 – 26 • Fri – Tue

Sequoia National Park: all Tablelands exclusive 2C2 backpack. It’s on the “Tabletop of the World” at 10,000 feet that we traverse the flat, stark, and sun-drenched rock garden known as Tablelands. This vast expanse of clean, white granite slabs is accented with emerald lawns and sapphire lakes, offering huge views across the Great Western Divide supplanting its barren alpine openness. Join us for a 5-day (30-mile, 9,000-foot elevation gain) exploratory loop suitable for intermediate backpackers. Cost: $45 includes wilderness permit and campground for the night before the trip. $20/carpark entrance fee. Bring: Individual commissary—provide your own food. Bear canisters are required. Meet: 8 am at Tioga Road, Yosemite National Park. Directions: Details will be sent to all registered participants about two weeks before the trip. Carpool: The trip leader will provide a roster to facilitate ride sharing if desired. It is the responsibility of each participant to arrange their transportation to and from the trail head. Leader: Brian Gunney, brian@gunney.net; John Carney unclejock@baol.com. (Backpacking)

Aug 24 • Sun

Sunday Streets Mission. Visit our table at the coolest open streets event in SFI Meet: 11 am at Mission and 24th St., San Francisco. Leader: Ben Alvers, (510)285-7982 or ben.alvers@sierraclub.org. (SF Bay Chapter)

Aug 26 – 29 • Tue – Fri

Desolation Wilderness 2BT backpack. We’ll start at Wrights Lake and work our way over Rockbound Pass, admiring the granite and many beautiful lakes. Then head over Dick’s Pass as we work our way to spectacular Echo Lake. Enjoy Desolation wilderness at its finest on this 4-day, 3-night, 35-mile trip. Highlights include: Maud Lake, Dick’s Peak and Lake Aloha. Meet: 9 am at Wrights Lake, Eldorado National Forest. Leader: Thomas L. Post, (415)492-2264 or tpost123@hotmail.com. (Backpacking)

Aug 28 • Sat • Thu – Mon

Ansel Adams Wilderness Ediza 2BT Backpack. 4-day loop through the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Open to experienced and fit backpackers; advance signup and leader approval are required. Trip explores Ediza, Ediza, and Minaret Lakes. Details will be sent to all trip participants approximately three weeks before trip. Cost: $64 includes wilderness permit plus group commissary. Leaders: Ellen Potthoff, (925)229-2645 or ellenpotthoff@comcast.net; Chris Kramar, (619)818-2524 or ckkramar@yahoo.com. (Sierra Singles)

Aug 29 • Sat • Fri – Mon

GLS Labor Day car camping at Sugar Pine Point State Park. Fun Labor Day weekend includes hikes, swimming, and the traditional GLS potluck and Fallies. Many trails along the creek and two miles of lakeside. Hot showers! Information provided upon registration. Cost: $50/person for GLS members; $65 for nonmembers. Postmark by Aug. 1 and save $10. Meet: 2 pm at Sugar Pine Point State Park, Tahoma. Leaders: Pamela LoPinto, (415)641-0644 or pamlolo@att.net; Susan Fracisco, (301)537-7400 or susan.fracisco@yahoo.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

 Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found at http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities. 

continued on page G
Wild and Scenic protection for the Mokelumne River is not yet out of the woods

Your help is needed for a final push to keep the Mokelumne River permanently free of additional dams and major new infrastructure!

SB 1199—state Wild and Scenic designation for the Mokelumne River authored by Berkeley Senator Loni Hancock and co-sponsored by Foothill Conservancy and Friends of the River—has thus far survived the gauntlet of the state legislature. Having passed through the Senate and the Assembly Natural Resources Committee, the bill now must make its way through the Appropriations Committee on Aug 6 before it can face a full Assembly floor vote and make it onto the Governor’s desk.

SB 1199 would ensure that the approximately 37-mile stretch of river in question, just upstream of the East Bay Municipal Utility District’s (EBMUD) Pardee Reservoir, will maintain its fine habitat and recreational, cultural, economic, and scenic value. The bill enjoys strong support both in the Bay Area and in the Sierra foothills counties of Amador and Calaveras that border the river.

“Upcountry” Amador County and foothills water agency officials oppose SB 1199, fearing that the bill’s passage would cut them off from future Mokelumne water rights. According to information provided by the bill’s sponsors, however, precedent from other California Wild and Scenic rivers shows these fears to be unfounded.

Getting UC out of the fossil fuel industry

In response to pressure from the Fossil Free UC student movement, the Regents of the University of California (UC) will vote at their September meeting on whether to divest from their fossil-fuel holdings. With a General Endowment Pool of nearly $7 billion, a vote to divest would be a huge victory for the planet.

Divestment is a tactic that has worked in the past for issues such as apartheid, tobacco, and the Sudan. Climate change is arguably the biggest issue of our time. The students of Fossil Free UC recognize that if we continue to emit atmosphere-warming greenhouse gases at the current rate, by 2050—when current UC students are in the prime of their lives—the impacts on global climate could be catastrophic. We owe it to future generations to ensure their future is not unlivable. UC can make a difference.

The University of California has an admirable carbon-neutral goal for the year 2025. Holding stocks in fossil-fuel companies (oil, gas, and coal) runs counter to that worthy goal. Also, many UC researchers have contributed to the science that concludes that 80% of remaining fossil fuels must be left in the ground in order to avoid the worst damages of climate change. Meanwhile, the fossil fuel companies spend millions every day exploring for new sources of carbon to exploit and sell.

Holdings in fossil fuels pose a financial risk as well. Just as there was a housing bubble, there could also be a carbon bubble, and holdings could become stranded assets—worthless compared with investments in water, wind, and solar.

Divestment is a moral statement more than an attempt to financially damage the fossil fuel industry. It is wrong to profit from the destruction of the planet. While our politicians seem unable to do what needs to be done—such as put carbon taxes into place, build more effective public transportation, and subsidize clean energy—the divestment movement sends a powerful message: get dirty oil money out of politics, and do it now. Move on with slowing climate change.

WhatYouCanDo

The eyes of the world will be on the Regents as they vote on divestment at their meeting in San Francisco on Sept. 17. Join a coalition of concerned citizens and UC students, faculty, staff, and alumni at the meeting and help put pressure on the Regents to use their investment portfolio of nearly $7 billion to address climate and sustainability. For more information about attending the Sept.17 meeting or getting involved in the campaign, visit: www.fossilfreeUC.org.

Kathy Barnhart, Fossil Free UC

Oakland Zoo’s proposed expansion into Knowland Park goes from bad to worse

The Sierra Club has grown increasingly concerned about the California Trails exhibit that the Oakland Zoo proposes to build on the ridge line of Knowland Park. The City of Oakland approved the fifty-six-acre project in 2011 on a fifteen-year-old Mitigated Negative Declaration. Since then, however, the permitting agencies have pushed back against the zoo’s claim that the project would have no significant environmental impacts. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) recommended that the project be built within the zoo’s existing footprint to avoid significant impacts to rare plant communities and to threatened Alameda whipsnake. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), meanwhile, sent the zoo’s application back to the drawing board, noting that the project is at best conceptual.

Two-and-a-half years later, after much heated negotiation, CDFW and USFWS find that the zoo and the city have each grossly underestimated impacts to Alameda whip-snake habitat, and now require fifty-two acres be set aside for mitigation. In order to fulfill this requirement, the zoo is proposing that an additional 21 acres of Knowland Park land be set aside. In addition to the fact that taking park land for mitigation is double-dipping, this proposal would require the loss of public access to that land.

The parcel in question is closed-canopy oak bay woodland, not the high-quality Alameda whipsnake habitat that the project would destroy. And, because the Deed of Transfer that conveyed the park from the state to the city required that it always remain a public park, removing acreage from public access could potentially trigger the “reverter clause” that would re-convey the land to the state. The zoo and the city are once again offering a ludicrous solution to a self-imposed problem: they propose to keep the appearance of public access by allowing the public to view the 21 acres under mitigation from the project’s aerial gondola or a viewing station.

It is clear that the city failed in its fundamental duty as Lead Agency to require a full Environmental Impact Report (EIR). Such a process would have included the critical alternatives analysis, which would have uncovered the major problems with the project and proposed better alternatives. In fact, early in the process the Sierra Club requested that the City conduct a full EIR. The California Native Plant Society’s East Bay Chapter, the California Native Grasslands Association, and Friends of Knowland Park all concurred.

As of this writing, not a single East Bay environmental organization endorses this project.

The Sierra Club believes that the public’s right to full and complete access to land in Knowland Park is unequivocal. Furthermore,
Take part in Clair Tappaan Lodge 80th anniversary celebration

Fri. - Sun., Aug. 15 - 17. John Muir famously said, “The mountains are calling and I must go.” In that spirit, you are invited to a three-day celebration of the 80th anniversary of Clair Tappaan Lodge. Built by Sierra Club volunteers in 1934, Clair Tappaan is the Sierra Club’s flagship lodge, hosting a wide variety of programs that support sustainable practices and the Club’s mission to “explore, enjoy and protect the wild places of the Earth.”

Anniversary festivities begin on Fri. with an afternoon hike, gourmet dinner, and dramatic, panoramic slide program of Yosemite and the High Sierra by John Muir reenactor Don Baldwin. On Sat., you’ll have the opportunity to swim in a High Sierra lake and join guided hikes with themes including archaeology, geology, and photography. On Sat. afternoon, indulge in wine and cheese in the Hutchinson Lodge while enjoying the music of classical guitarist Stephen Holland. After dinner, Sierra Club President David Scott will give a keynote address on the topic of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act. Afterwards, tap your feet to the traditional bluegrass, original tunes, and honky tonk harmonies of Mountain Fire. The celebrations will conclude on Sun. with a raffle and day hikes.

The cost for the weekend is $195 per person, which includes six meals (vegetarian options available), two nights’ lodging, and all activities. The fee for Sat. only is $95; or $25 to attend only the Music in the Hutchinson Lodge wine and cheese reception on Sat. afternoon. Participant fees partially support Lodge operations and those funds are not tax deductible. If you can’t attend the celebrations but want to support grants for youth to study environmental education at the Lodge, donations are gratefully accepted. To make your reservations, call (530)426-3632 or email reservations@clartappaanlodge.com.

Learn Wilderness First Aid with Sierra Club—final class of 2014

Sat. and Sun., Sept. 20 - 21, 8:30 am – 5 pm, Chapter Office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley.

Come to an all-day class in Wilderness First Aid sponsored by the Bay Chapter Activities Committee. The class satisfies first-aid requirements for most outing leaders (confirm requirements with your section/group officers). Students have two options:

- do the one-day class on Sat. and receive the Basic Wilderness First Aid (BWFA) certification from the American Safety & Health Institute (ASHI) — $50 for members/$60 for non-members; or
- sign up for two days (Sat. and Sun.) for an additional $30/$40, and receive ASHI’s higher-level Wilderness First Aid (WFA) certification. Textbook: if you already have the current WEC textbook (200 pages) and show it at the registration table, deduct $15. The old edition (196 pages) won’t do.

Registration

If you are a current Bay Chapter outing leader, register by the Tue. before the class to (510)848-0800 or:

wsf@sfbaysc.org

Then mail a $30 deposit check (payable to “Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter”) to:

Sierra Club
Attn: Wilderness First Aid
2530 San Pablo Ave., Suite 1
Berkeley, CA 94702.

This check will be returned in class, but will be cashed if you don’t show up. Include your mailing address, e-mail, phone number, and which section you lead for. Indicate if you are also attending the Sun. class; you will pay the $30 for the second day at the class. (If you are a leader candidate or trainee, you must follow the non-leader procedure and cost for registering, as spelled out below.)

If you are not a current Chapter outing leader, register with the instructor at:

dona@speakeasy.net
P.O. Box 1227
Berkeley, CA 94701.

Indicate if you are attending the Sun. class. Include your membership number. Be prepared to pay the fee in class.

People who have taken Steve Donelan’s one-day class in the last three years can sign up for the second day only, for $30/$40. Those who have taken Steve’s two-day class can repeat the second day for free. Pre-register with Steve.

The Sept. 20 - 21 course is the final Wilderness First Aid training of 2014.

Celebrate wilderness, culture, and community

Vallejo festival commemorates 50 years of the Wilderness Act

Sept. 3 - 6, Vallejo. In honor of the 50th Anniversary of the Wilderness Act, the U.S. Forest Service Pacific Southwest Region and partners—including several local Sierra Club chapters and groups—are hosting Visions of the Wild, a festival in Vallejo this Sept. Expected to be the single-largest Bay Area event celebrating the Wilderness Act, the festival will feature art exhibits, speakers, film screenings, music, and field trips. For full program information, visit:


Events will take place at seven different venues in historic downtown Vallejo, a city known for its cultural diversity, beautiful waterfront setting, and vibrant arts community.

“We’re putting together a unique and varied menu of activities that will appeal to people of all ages and walks of life,” said Heather Davis, Visions of the Wild coordinator. “There will be something for everyone. The festival will be a ‘one-stop shop’ for wilderness information.”

Visions of the Wild will be a venue to discuss and learn about topics such as what “wilderness” means in diverse cultural contexts; how wilderness values are expressed through the arts; how we can “re-wild” our humanized landscapes; how we can expand the circle of people who care about wild places; and how our understandings of wilderness and wilderness-conservation paradigms will change in an era of global environmental change.

The festival will take place 50 years to the day after President Lyndon Johnson signed the Wilderness Act establishing our National Wilderness Preservation System. Today more than 100 million acres of land are designated as wilderness. For more information about celebrations underway locally and across the country, visit:

www.wilderness50th.org.

To volunteer at Visions of the Wild, contact festival coordinator Heather Davis at:

hdavis@shec.ca.org.

To volunteer for other anniversary activities, contact Anne Henny at:

ameth16@sbcglobal.net, or Vicky Hoover at (415) 977-5527.

Still from “FRESH”, courtesy of Specialty Studios/Ripple Effect.
Groups

What is a group?

Because Sierra Club chapters cover so much territory, they form local sub-units called “groups” (or sometimes “regional groups”). The San Francisco Bay Chapter is divided into eight groups. Groups address environmental issues that fall within their boundaries. They may also sponsor outings and other activities. These events are open to everyone; you don’t need to be a group member to participate.

East Bay Dinners—“Trekking across Pakistan’s Karakoram mountain range”

Thu., Sept. 25, 7 pm, Berkeley Yacht Club.

We are all familiar with K2, but have you ever wondered if there is a K1? Follow along with Seiji Kawamura as he treks from Askole to the K2 base camp on the Baltoro Glacier, along breathtaking scenery unsurpassed anywhere in the high mountains. On the 23-day trek, Seiji also traversed on the Biafo Glacier over Hispar La to rejoin the Karakoram Highway at Karimabad.

Seiji is a retired teacher, active participant in the Sierra Club’s snow camping and backpacking sections, and volunteer with the Pacific Crest Trail Association’s trail-maintenance crew. He has done a number of treks in South America and Asia, and spent 30 days trekking in Nepal’s Manaslu-Annapurna region earlier this year.

Cost of dinner and program is $27, including tax and tip. To reserve your seat, send a check payable to “Sierra Club, SF Bay Chapter” to:

Gerry Souzis
1801 California St., Apt. 405
San Francisco, CA 94109

Checks must be received by Fri., Sept. 12. Please send a separate check for each program and indicate program date, number of guests and phone number. Non-members welcome. Bring your own wine or soft drinks; glasses and ice available. Let us know if you are a vegetarian. With questions, contact Gerry between the hours of 4 and 9 pm at (510)474-4440 or: gsouzis@hotmail.com.

Delta Group

The next Delta Group general meeting will be held in Nov. Delta Group program meetings are usually held at the Antioch Library in Feb., May, Sept., and Nov., unless otherwise noted. A newsletter listing Delta Group programs, outings, and activities is available by sending a check for $5, payable to “Sierra Club, Delta Group”, to:

Janess Hanson
431 Levee Road
Bay Point, CA 94565

For information about Delta Group activities, call Janess Hanson at (925)458-0860. For information about Delta-area environmental concerns, call Tim Donahue at (925)754-8801.

Celebrate National Drive Electric Week with a test drive!

Sun., Sept. 21, 8 am – 3 pm, Marin County Civic Center, 10 Ave. of the Flags, San Rafael.

As part of National Drive Electric Week, the Golden Gate Electric Vehicle Association is hosting an event in Marin County to raise awareness of the widespread availability and benefits of all-electric and plug-in hybrid-electric vehicles.

Electric vehicles from nearly every electric-vehicle (EV) manufacturer will be on display and many will be available for test drives. EV drivers will be on hand to share their experience, and information on charging stations, solar charging, and EV car-sharing will be available.

The celebration will be held alongside the Sunday Marin Farmers Market and will include food and family-fun activities. Anyone interested in learning about or sharing the economic advantages, environmental benefits, and fun of driving electric is invited to participate in this celebration. Learn more about these and other National Drive Electric Week events at: https://driveelectricweek.org.

San Francisco Dinner—“Touring the great national parks of the west”

Thu., Sept. 18, 6 pm, City Forest Lodge, 254 Laguna Honda Blvd., San Francisco.

Join us for a breathtaking tour of some of the great National Parks of the western United States, as captured by professional landscape and travel photographer, Gary Crabbe. This is a special chance to see some of the grand and more intimate scenes that draw millions of visitors to our parks from across the globe every year. Gary’s stunning photos will remind us of the magnificent and varied beauty that lies in our own backyard.

Social hour begins at 6 pm; dinner at 7 pm; and the program at 8 pm. Arrive early for street parking (no sidewalk parking please). Parking is available next door at the Forest Hill Christian Church lot for $1.50 per car.

To reserve your spot, send a check for $18 (note new price) made out to “Sierra Club, SF Bay Chapter” to:

Gerry Souzis
1801 California St., Apt. 405
San Francisco, CA 94109

Checks must be received by Fri., Sept. 12. Please send a separate check for each program and indicate program date, number of guests and phone number. Non-members welcome. Bring your own wine or soft drinks; glasses and ice available. Let us know if you are a vegetarian. With questions, contact Gerry between the hours of 4 and 9 pm at (510)474-4440 or: gsouzis@hotmail.com.

Mount Diablo Group—“Up and down Mount Diablo”

Wed., Sept. 12, 7 pm, Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Road, Walnut Creek.

While we wait for the weather to cool off on our favorite mountain, come enjoy an armchair tour of Mount Diablo with Ken Lavin. Learn everything you ever wanted to know about the mountain’s geology; is Mount Diablo a volcano? What made the wind caves? What are fossilized seashells doing high up on a mountain? This presentation will take us on a journey through the geologic history of Mount Diablo, including anecdotes about the adventures (and misadventures) of Diablo’s famous geologists, including Clarence King, who married an ex-slave and led a secret double life!

Ken Lavin is a Sierra Club hike leader. He is outings coordinator for Greenbelt Alliance, a teacher with Diablo Nature Adventures, and a Mount Diablo Interpretive Association volunteer. According to the San Francisco Chronicle “Ken is such a familiar figure on Mount Diablo, even the snakes seem to know him.” Everyone is welcome and no reservations are necessary. For information, contact Ken Lavin at (925)852-8778 or: ken_lavin@hotmail.com.

Yellowstone River Canyon; Photo by Gary Crabbe.
Oakland City Council candidates forum

Thu., July 31, 5:30 – 9:30 pm, Council Chambers, Oakland City Hall, 1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza, Oakland.

The Bay Chapter Northern Alameda County group, Oakland Climate Action Coalition (OCAC), and League of Conservation Voters of the East Bay (LCVEB) invite you to participate in a candidates forum for the Oakland City Council races in Districts 2, 4, and 6.

The forum will begin with the District 2 race and conclude with District 6. Each portion of the forum will last approximately an hour and fifteen minutes and will include Q&A sessions.

Our ultimate goal is to support leaders who are conscientious of environmental well-being and are most effective in introducing and advancing policies that support a vision for a sustainable and healthy city for all its inhabitants. Please come to listen, engage, and (hopefully) come closer to choosing your preferred candidates!

For more information contact Olga Bolotina at: obolotina@presidiomba.org.

Founder of East Bay Dinners passes away at 92

John V. Sudall, better known to us as Jack, passed away at age 92 on June 20 in El Sobrante. Jack was one of 10 siblings; he survived the other nine.

Jack founded the Sierra Club’s East Bay Dinners in 1948 and served as the group’s treasurer for over sixty years. The group’s first meetings were held in the True Blue Cafeteria in Berkeley.

In his last months, Jack attended East Bay Dinners at the Berkeley Yacht Club, although he did so in a wheelchair. He greeted friends and was thanked for his service to the Club.

Jack was a longtime member who made generous donations to the Club. No services are planned. Donations can be made in his name to the Bay Chapter.

SnowcAMPing Section donation

The SnowcAMPing Section has made a generous donation to the SF Bay Chapter in the amount of $860.
Aug 30 • Sat
Corona Heights habitat restoration workparty. Join Friends of Corona Heights Habitat Restoration for a work party at one of SF’s prime native habitat areas. We’ll be weeding out non-natives to improve Corona for wildlife habitat. Kids must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. No dogs. Ends at noon. Heavy rain cancels. Bring: Water; wear layers, a hat, sunscreen, and sturdy shoes. Tools, gloves, and kneeling mats will provided. Meet: 10 am on the north side of the Randall Museum (parking lot is the south side), 199 Museum Way off Roosevelt Way, San Francisco. Leader: James M. Houllion, (415)552-3542. (Gay & Lesbian)

Inner Sunset to Duboce Park 1B hike. One-way walk through interesting neighborhoods with lots of old Victorians and wonderful views of the city. Return via MUNI. Ends at 3 pm. Cost: Return MUNI fare is $2 (75 cents for seniors). Bring: Lunch and liquids. Meet: 10:15 am at the northeast corner of 9th and Irving. Directions: Take N. Judah or 44 MUNI. Also can take 6 or 43 MUNI, get off at 9th and Judah and walk one block north to 9th and Irving. Leader: Gloria Navarra, (415)731-6144. (Hiking)

Aug 31 • Sun
Tilden Regional Park 1A hike. Hourlong walk through the eucalyptus groves, followed by optional dinner on Solano Ave. at Cactus Taqueria. Meet: 5 pm at Tilden Regional Park, Berkeley. Directions: From Grizzly Peak Blvd. intersection with Wildcat Canyon, take a steep downhill on Canyon Dr. Turn right onto Central Park Dr., continue 100 feet to Long Meadow, parking lot on left. Leader: Vera Lis, (510)343-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

San Bruno Mountain 1B hike. Explore two of San Bruno Mountain’s less-traveled canyons and learn about the history and ecology of this “Island of Biodiversity.” 3 – 3.5-hour hike on narrow footpaths. Includes Ohlone shellmound visit. Heavy rain cancels. Meet: 10 am at San Bruno Mountain Watch office, 44 Visitacion Ave. #206, Brisbane. Bus: SamTrans #292. Bring: Shoes with good tread, long pants, and layered clothing for a variety of weather. water and lunch. Leader: Paul Bouscall, (415)431-6631 or sanbruno@mountainwatch.org. (Hiking)

IC0 whitewater rafting fundraiser. Whitewater rafting in a beautiful river canyon while supporting the Club’s Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO) rafting program. ICO is an all-volunteer outreach program of the Sierra Club that provides wilderness experiences for youth and adult groups who have little or no access to nature. Trip is all-inclusive and features a great riverside lunch and shuttles. Option for overnight camping with gourmet dinner and/or rafting on Sunday. Meet: 10 am, South Fork, American River. Leader: Bill Weinberg, fundraiser@icrafting.org. (SF Bay Rafting ICO)

Emeryville Marina sunset walk 1A. Hourlong walk on wheelchair-accessible paved trail through the marina, with quiet views of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge. Optional dinner follows at the Emery Market. Meet: 5 pm by the picnic tables at the back of Chevy’s Restaurant at Emeryville Marina. Directions: Exit Hwy. 80 at Powell St. Leader: Vera Lis, (510)343-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Sept 7 • Sun
ICO whitewater rafting fundraiser. Second day of ICO fundraiser (see above). Meet: 9 am, South Fork, American River. Leader: Bill Weinberg, fundraiser@icrafting.org. (SF Bay River ICO)

Point Reyes loop 3B hike. Up Mt. Wittenburg and down to the coast at Sculptured Beach for lunch, returning via Bear Valley. Approx. 13 miles with 1,800’ elevation gain. Steady but moderate pace. Ends 6:30 pm. Meet: 10:15 am at Bear Valley Visitors Center, Point Reyes National Seashore. Carpool: Carpools can be arranged through the Chapter’s Meetup site, at meetup.com/sanfranciscoby.

Alameda architectural 2A hike. View Victorian-era houses and other homes in Alameda on an educational walk. Ends approx. 5:30 pm. Any rain cancels. Bring: Lunch, liquids, and snacks. Meet: 10:30 am at Valle Vista Staging Area Canyon Road, Moraga. Directions: Take Hwy. 24 to the Orinda/San Pablo Dam Rd exit; go south on Moraga Way to junction w/Canyon Road; go right to EMBUD Valle Vista Staging area. Carpool: Meet leader at Lafayette BART 9:45 am. Recommended that you sign up for this hike on www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay and arrange your own carpool. Leader: Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or sibakaley@ibl.org. (Mt. Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

Sept 11 – 15 • Thu – Mon
Salt Point State Park car camping. 4 nights camping north of Fort Ross. Park has miles of hiking trails and covers six miles on the Sonoma Coast, ranging from sandy beach coves to steep bluffs and sandstone cliffs. Restrooms but no showers. Each person prepares one hot dinner for the group; bring your own breakfasts, lunches, and happy hours. 25-person limit; reserve now. Cost: Send $50 check made out to “Solo Sierrans” to Dave Sutton, 3731 Barrington Dr., Concord, CA 94518. Include address, email, and phone numbers. Meet: 2 pm at Salt Point State Park, Jenner. Leader: Erin Pollack, (415)050-0941, or enidpollack@gmail.com. (Solo Sierrans)

Sept 14 • Sun
Solano Stroll. Sierra Club will be tabling at Solano Stroll, the East Bay’s largest street festival! See what makes Solano Ave. a wonderful place: entertainers, food booths, government and non-profit agencies, hand-crafters and more. Ends 6 pm. Meet: 10 am, Solano Ave., Albany. Leader: Ben Alvers, (510)285-7982 or ben.alvers@sierrclub.org. (SF Bay Chapter)

Tarantula walk. Leisurely loop to enjoy autumn colors in a scenic canyon, with possible tarantula sightings! Ends 6 pm. After hike, optional stop nearby for refreshments and sociability. Rain cancels. Meet: 4 pm at the Interpretive Center parking area ($6 parking fee) at Mt. Diablo State Park, 96 Mitchell Canyon Road, Clayton, CA 94517, USA. Leader: lucy Henderson, (925)254-2898 or hndrsnlucy@yahoo.com. (Delta Regional Group)

Emeryville Marina sunset walk 1A. Hourlong walk on wheelchair-accessible paved trail through the marina, with quiet views of San Francisco and the Golden Gate Bridge. Optional dinner follows at the Emery Market. Meet: 5 pm by the picnic tables at the back of Chevy’s Restaurant at Emeryville Marina. Directions: Exit Hwy. 80 at Powell St. Leader: Vera Lis, (510)343-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

Sept 16 • Tue
Don’t Frack CA general meeting. Discuss goals and brainstorm strategies to stop fracking in California at the monthly meeting of the Bay Chapter Stop Fracking Team. New members are welcome. Call-in option available; email to request number. Meet: 6:30 pm at 2530 San Pablo Avenue, Berkeley. Leader: Aria Cahir, (510)848-0800 or dontfrackcall@gmail.com.

Sept 18 • Thu
Redwood Regional Park 1A hike. Connect with nature as we hike the trails of Redwood Regional Park, enjoying panoramic vistas, serene creekside scenery, and views of Upper San Leandro Reservoir. 500 feet of elevation gain over almost 6 miles. No facilities at trail head; available halfway through hike. Ends at noon. Any rain cancels. Meet: 9 am at East Ridge Trail to Pinehurst Staging Area off Pinehurst Road. Leader: George Denney, (925)787-9437 or georgedenney01@comcast.net (preferred). (Hiking)

Gourmet 2C1 backpack. Hike among the beautiful lakes and peaks of the Eastern Sierra from Agnew Meadow to spectacular Garnet Lake. Day hikes from base camp to the remote iceberg and 1,000 Island Lakes. Trip limited to 8 people; participants will take turns helping guest chef, Dr. Peter Sherris, cook gourmet meals. Cost: $75. Bring: Personal gear, bear canister, and lunches. All participants must carry approx. 10 pounds of group gear. Meet: 8 am. More info. provided upon RSVP. Leaders: Michael Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or sl-bakaley@ibl.org. (Mt. Diablo Group)


Fuller versions of many of these listings can be found on the Chapter website at http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/activities.
Sept 21 · Sun
Alameda Bay Farm Island and Harbor Bay shoreline 1A hike. Explore the Bay Shoreline and lagoons of Harbor Bay Isle, with great views of the open water and the San Francisco skyline. 5+ flat and very scenic miles. Ends 5 pm. Meet: 1:30 pm at 3328 Bridgeview Island. Alameda. Directions: From Oakland, take High Street to Otis; left on Otis to park entrance. Transit accessible via 12/57 #21 AC Transit bus from Fruitvale BART station. Leader: Caprice Solotar, (510)909-3301 or ecastiaux@hotmail.com. (Mt. Diablo Group)

Sept 21 – Oct 7 · Sat – Sat
Germany’s long distance trails: Bavarian Forest 3CT supported trekking. Our 140-mile journey along one of Germany’s renowned long distance trails takes us off the beaten path through the beautiful countryside of northern Bavaria. Along the way we visit old castles, little towns and villages, and sample the tasty local cuisine and beers of the area’s prolific microbreweries. Our trek ends in Nuremberg, with its medieval town center, historic sites, and museums. We stay in small country B&Bs with organized luggage transport. Cost: $2,100. Meet: Nuremberg, Germany. Leader: Thomas Messner, (707)795-7980 or messner@bcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

Sept 27 · Sat
Bear Valley to the sea: Point Reyes 2B hike. Moderate hike down Bear Valley trail to the ocean. Meet: 8:30 am at the loading zone at the front gate of the North Berkeley BART station; or at historic sites, and museums. We stay in small country backcountry B&Bs with organized luggage transport. Cost: $300 for members; $400 for non-members. (Mt. Diablo Group)

Sept 28 · Sun
Angel Island 2B hike. From Tiburon we will sail across Raccoon Strait into Ayala Cove and then hike up and around Mt. Livermore. Afterwards we will head down to secluded Perles Beach. This hike features a wide variety of terrain and weather permitting) spectacular views of the bay. Heavy rain cancels. Cost: $13.50 for the ferry (round trip), plus parking ($5 and up). Bring: Lunch, snacks, and water. Wear hiking boots and layered clothing. Meet: 9:00 am at the Tiburon Ferry Terminal, 21 Main St., Tiburon. We will take the 10 am ferry. Directions: From US 101, take the Tiburon Blvd. exit and turn east towards the bay. Follow Tiburon Blvd. 4 miles into downtown Tiburon. Leader: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)909-5238 or amag@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

Sept 28 · Sun (continued)
China Camp vista loop 3A hike. Avoid the summer heat in this 1880s fishing village, on a shidy hike among oak woods along the Bay View and Shoreline trails. 10.8 miles. Bring: $5 parking fee. Meet: 10 am at China Camp State Park, San Rafael. Directions: From US 101 in Marin County, exit North San Pedro Road. Continue east on North San Pedro Road for 3 miles, then turn right into the park at the campground sign. Leader: Ernest Castiaux, (510)909-3301 or ecastiaux@hotmail.com (preferred). (Mt. Diablo Group)

Oct 4 – 5 · Sat – Sun
China Camp State Park overnight backpack. Camp in scenic China Camp State Park on beautiful San Francisco Bay near San Rafael. We will do day hikes both Sat. and Sun. Register in advance with the leader; space is limited. Full trip details will be sent a few weeks before the trip. Meet: 1 pm. Leader: Allison Murdoch, (510)581-6794 or allisonandjo@hotmail.com. (Backpacking)

Oct 11 · Sat

Oct 18 – 19 · Sat – Sun
Wilderness First Responder & WEMT Upgrade. In this professional-level course (open to everyone), you learn how the human body functions and how it is affected by injuries, environmental stress, and medical conditions. Learn wilderness hazards and how to cope with emergencies anywhere. WFR & WEMT Upgrade meets or exceeds all first aid requirements for outings leaders. No prerequisites, but you must show current certification in professional-level CPR before graduating. Cost: $300 for members; $400 for non-members. Meet: 8 am at Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Leader: Stephen G. Donelan, donelan@speakeasy.net. (Backpacking)

Oct 25 – 26 · Sat – Sun
Wilderness First Responder & WEMT Upgrade. (See above for description).

Chapter gets behind “Raise the Wage” campaigns

This year, the Bay Chapter took the historic step of supporting local campaigns to raise the minimum wage in several of its member cities. Bolstered by President Obama’s call to raise the federal minimum wage, recent attempts by state legislators to do the same in California, and the successes of “Raise the Wage” campaigns in San Francisco and San Jose, a broad coalition has emerged around this issue in the East Bay. Many leaders within the Sierra Club have supported “Raise the Wage” campaigns in Richmond, Berkeley, and Oakland, writing letters to and speaking in front of city councils and participating in strategy meetings. A strategy meeting hosted by the Bay Chapter earlier this summer drew nearly 40 representatives from labor, communities of faith, and progressive organizations.

In June, the Chapter Executive Committee voted to support all campaigns to increase the minimum wage within its member jurisdictions. This decision is in line with the Club’s commitment to sustainable communities and the goal of curtailing carbon pollution, because when workers can afford to live in or near the cities where they work there is an aggregate reduction of sprawl and greenhouse-gas emissions. The EoC mission statement also demonstrates solidarity with workers and other organizations that support this important issue, such as the Wellstone Democratic Renewal Club, Bend the Arc, and Tax the Rich.

Although “Raise the Wage” campaigns in the East Bay called for a minimum wage of $15/hour, the city councils of both Richmond and Berkeley ultimately passed watered-down resolutions featuring more modest wage increases and a number of exemptions. This suggests that placing an initiative directly before the voters may be a more effective way to raise the wage.

In Oakland, the Sierra Club recently signed on to a November ballot initiative supported by coalition partners that raises the wage from $9 to $12.25/hour. Meanwhile, a business-aligned coalition is currently lobbying the Oakland City Council to place a competing measure on the ballot that would phase in minimum wage increases over three years and exempt certain employers.

As strategy discussions continue around the Oakland campaign and next steps for Richmond and Berkeley, we welcome your participation. To get involved, contact Igor Tregub at: itregub@gmail.com.
November election pits grassroots initiative to protect Golden Gate Park against Park Department power play

After working around the clock to qualify the Golden Gate Park Recreational Fields Renovation Act for the November ballot, dedicated environmentalists and health-conscious parents submitted over 15,000 signatures to San Francisco's Department of Elections in July. If certified, the Fields Renovation Act would give San Franciscans the opportunity to cast a simple “yes” or “no” vote on installing artificial turf and stadium lighting in the western end of Golden Gate Park. The Act requires the City to maintain those same sports fields as grass.

The Fields Renovation Act was born from efforts to protect Golden Gate Park from the destructive Beach Chalet soccer-fields project. For over five years, the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Park (SFRPD) has pushed for demolishing the natural-grass fields to make way for a seven-acre artificial-turf soccer field containing toxic tire waste and 150,000 watts of stadium lighting on 60 foot poles. The SFRPD project would bulldoze grassy and forest habitat and bring in more car traffic, more concrete, and extensive nighttime lighting, right next to Ocean Beach.

The outpouring of grassroots support for the Fields Renovation Act has prompted SFRPD to file a competing initiative through the Mayor and the Board of Supervisors. The SFRPD initiative would amend the Park Code to “authorize renovation of children’s playgrounds, walking trails and athletic fields where a certified environmental impact report documents at least doubling in anticipated usage.”

The SFRPD initiative is both too vague and too broad, presenting a Pandora’s Box of unforeseen consequences for the entire park system—not just for Golden Gate Park. While it claims to satisfy the need for more recreation areas, what the SFRPD initiative would actually accomplish is unclear. SFRPD already possesses the authority to renovate city parks, and the initiative does not provide any new funding to accomplish its stated goal of future renovations. Moreover, the SFRPD initiative is vague as to the meaning of “usage,” opening the door for the department to use its own data to decide unilaterally which activities should take precedence in all of San Francisco’s parks.

The SFRPD initiative would take control of the park system away from the public in other ways. First, the impact of the proposed legislation on the public’s right to appeal under the California Environmental Quality Act or at the Board of Appeals is uncertain. Second, the initiative states that it shall be “liberally construed,” potentially opening the parks to privatization and commercial “usage.” And third, the initiative states that it can be amended by the Board of Supervisors. Control of the parks was taken away from the Supervisors years ago because they could not be trusted to look beyond the next election. Is this legislation the first step to placing power over our parks back in the hands of the Supervisors?

The SFRPD initiative is actually a thinly veiled power grab, disguised as a measure that will somehow benefit children. By contrast, the grassroots Fields Renovation Act would save Golden Gate Park and Ocean Beach from irrevocable environmental damage, while promoting maintenance of the existing playing fields. Support the Recreational Fields Renovation Act and reject the SFRPD’s competing initiative when you vote this fall.

For more information about the ballot initiative to protect Golden Gate Park, visit: www.protectggp.org.

For background information on the Beach Chalet soccer fields, visit: www.sfoceanedge.org.

Katherine Howard, ASLA
Retired Yodeler editor reflects on a career’s winding paths

Retiring after 23 years as editor of the Yodeler, Don Forman notes how the many strands of his life have woven together to make up the fabric of a rewarding career. A life in Berkeley working for an environmental nonprofit wasn’t the obvious destiny for an Easterner whose exposure to camping was limited to one negative overnight trip. Born in Baltimore and raised there and in central New Jersey by an English teacher mother and a chemist father, Don went on to study math, literature, and linguistics at MIT. During the Vietnam era, he wrote poetry and attended political demonstrations, but didn’t consider himself “a real activist.”

When Don enrolled in graduate school in linguistics at UC San Diego, with palm trees, fog, and shell-covered beaches, he knew he wasn’t in the East anymore. While in graduate school, Don learned to hitchhike and backpack. At first he hiked with friends, but soon developed a love of solo backpacking, “staggering off into the wilderness” alone. After four years in San Diego, Don migrated north to write his dissertation in Berkeley. After two years in New York teaching at SUNY Binghamton, Don returned to Berkeley, where he became a “visiting scholar” and an eclectic student. The community provided a plethora of enriching activities, from lectures, concerts, and movies to classes in linguistics, Spanish, and more. For several years Don enjoyed the life of the “gainfully unemployed.”

In 1978, feeling the need to give back, Don telephoned local “do good” organizations. His fourth call—the Sierra Club—needed him! He attended the next Legislative Action Committee meeting, where then-Yodeler editor Steve Rauh saw him taking notes and asked him if he would report on the gathering for the newspaper. Thus began Don’s association with the Yodeler. At first, he wrote articles and helped with paste-up once a month. Eventually, he took over the Yodeler’s advertising, the commission from which allowed him a reliable, if modest, income. Don also joined the chapter’s Conservation Committee, for which he testified at hearings, wrote materials presenting the chapter’s views, and served as conservation chair for two years. He also served two terms on the chapter’s Executive Committee.

Over the next few years Don worked several different jobs. Following two years working for the Atlantic States Legal Foundation in Syracuse, New York, which included reporting on companies’ adherence to the Clean Water Act, Don again returned to Berkeley—this time for good. He soon landed the job of Yodeler editor.

The Yodeler’s office was then the cramped back room of the old Sierra Club bookstore on College Avenue in Berkeley. A loyal Sierra Club activist owned the shared home where Don lived, and let Don and Yodeler volunteers work out of the dining room. To lay out the paper, they used Ventura Publisher, printing out sections of the paper on office-paper-sized sheets, and then pasting them up. A volunteer would deliver the pages to the printer by hand. The transition from paste-up to desktop publishing was a gradual one, and over the years the newspaper evolved into a more attractive, accessible, and sophisticated organ.

One of the great satisfactions of the job, Don recounts, is its creativity: the challenge not just to do a good job but to do it in an individual way. He remembers with particular pleasure the themed issues on topics like energy, water, and transportation (in days when the budget allowed more pages); and the volunteers he recruited as front-page illustrators, as caricaturists, as map-makers, and as expert writers for special articles. The job broadened as the number of print pages was reduced and the Yodeler gained an online presence. Don’s love, however, is print and paper, which he feels is the main contact most members have with the Club. He looks forward to seeing how the paper and website evolve under a new editor with a different approach.

The most important job of an editor is editing, and Don excelled at working with his volunteer writers. Typical of his stable of writers is Howard Strassner, who has written for the Yodeler for decades. Strassner praises Don for asking pointed questions that force him to clarify his own thinking. “Don’s calls well before the article’s due date,” he says, “often reminded me to think about what I was really trying to accomplish with my advocacy.”

Don has a rich life outside the San Pablo Avenue office. He and his wife, Kate Roberts, have been together for 14 years. After meeting at an English country dance, they quickly discovered many common loves: the outdoors—in particular, deserts; mushrooming; opera and other music; books; and vegetarian food (she eats what he cooks).

Don’s expertise will be missed by Chapter staff and volunteers, but his legacy lives on in the many volunteer writers he cultivated and the strong standards he established for the paper. Don can regard with satisfaction the complex and meaningful tapestry of his years with the Yodeler.

Karen Rosenbaum

Transportation Conference tackles MUNI troubles

Sat., Sept. 6, 10 am – 4 pm, Main Public Library, lower level, 100 Larkin St., San Francisco. The Sierra Club is co-sponsoring a daylong conference geared to improving public transit in San Francisco. Experts will discuss ideas for improving MUNI, the Mayor’s approach to transportation, how to reduce commute traffic, and ways of reducing the conflicts between cars, buses, bicycles, and pedestrians.

The conference will feature a debate between proponents and opponents of the transportation funding measures that Mayor Ed Lee plans to place on the Nov. ballot. In the morning session, a panel of experts and activists will dissect MUNI’s operating problems. In the afternoon, another panel will discuss ways of restructuring the city’s Municipal Transportation Agency (MTA) to improve MUNI’s ability to provide service to the community. The conference will also present ideas for better transit options for people who commute into San Francisco.

All sessions are free and open to the public. Registration begins at 10 am and the conference continues until 4 pm, with a break for lunch.

We need your help to make this conference a success! To volunteer, contact Bob Feinbaum at bobf@att.net.

Desert outings

The Sierra Club California/Nevada Desert Committee sponsors frequent and varied trips to teach about the desert. For listings, see: www.desertreport.org (Click on “Outings”).
Classifieds

For rates, procedures, and deadlines for Yodeler classifieds, see: www.therodeler.org (search for “classified”) or call the editor at (510)835-0800.

Display ads (boxed ads in other sections of the paper) are a separate department. For information contact Ellen Felker, (510)548-0725 or: ellen@sfbay.org.

Vacation Rentals


Flowing Waters Retreat at Mt Shasta—Two sunny cottages for spiritual/creative retreats and/or one gorgeous house for groups. Large eating/yoga decks/meditation huts. Fully furnished. Private swimming creek. Near Trinity’s Marble/PCT Trail. Photos at: Shastaflowingwaters.com Laurel 415 454 0391

“You’re our best source. We always get the most through you.” Why don’t you try a Yodeler ad?

Bay Chapter volunteer opportunities—your chance to help where it counts

Sierra Club calendars
Starting Wed., Aug. 20, the Chapter Offices will be selling 2015 Sierra Club Calendars. We need volunteers for the following positions:
• marketing manager: a sales-oriented volunteer with creative ideas for promoting and selling Sierra Club Calendars; needed Aug. through Oct.
• regional group reps: help your regional group raise money by selling calendars at local meetings and events, from Sept. through Dec.
• shipping clerk: able-bodied person with a motor vehicle to box calendars and take packages (one to two packages bi-weekly, up to 20 pounds each) to the post office once every other week in Oct. and Nov.
To volunteer or get more information, contact Joanne Drabek at (510)318-4614 or: joanne1892@gmail.com.

Please purchase your 2015 Sierra Club Calendars from the Bay Chapter.

Summer picnic
Help out at the potluck picnic honoring the Chapter’s 90th birthday. We need volunteers for the set-up crew from 4 to 5:30 pm. Meet at the Chapter Office at 2530 San Pablo Ave. in Berkeley to help transport gear and get the picnic site ready for the event. Greeters are needed from 5:30 to 7:30 pm to welcome guests, oversee sign-ins, and help lay out food. From 7:45 to 8:45 pm we will need a clean-up crew to help put away leftover picnic supplies, clear off tables, load vehicles with gear, and put away gear at the Chapter Office. To volunteer, contact Joanne Drabek at (510)318-4614 or: joanne1892@gmail.com.

Tabling at Sierra Club events
Want to attend an event with the Bay Chapter? Join our tabling team! Tabling is a great way to reach out to the community, meet other active Sierra Club members, and learn about our regional issue work. To volunteer, visit www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/volunteer and fill out the form, or contact volunteer coordinator Ben Alvers at: ben.alvers@sierraclub.org.

We need volunteers for the following events:
• Sun., Aug. 2, 11 am – 4 pm: Martinez Beaver Fest, Alhambra and Marina Vista Intersection, Martinez
• Sun., Aug. 24, 8 am – 5 pm: Sunday Streets Mission, 24th and Mission, San Francisco
• Sun., Sept. 14, 7 am – 6 pm: Solano Stroll, Solano Ave., Albany
• Sun., Sept. 28, 8 am – 5 pm: Sunday Streets Excelsior, Balboa BART, San Francisco

Act now to save Alhambra Hills and the spirit of John Muir

The spirit of John Muir is still alive on the Alhambra Hills. But if we don’t act now it could disappear from our hills forever. The ridgeline owned by Muir is currently approved for development of 109 homes, and there is limited time to stop this irreversible destruction.

Now that the 30-month moratorium on the start of any construction on the Alhambra Hills has run its course, many are urging the city to take the lead in finding a solution. Legal action does not seem to be feasible, but purchase of the property is a possibility. We need the City of Martinez to take the lead in finding a solution.

A petition to save the property started by the Alhambra Hills Open Space group has surpassed 3,800 signatures, catching the attention of Martinez Mayor Rob Schroeder and other city officials. This spring, the Martinez City Council authorized up to $5,000 to perform an appraisal of the property—a positive first step.

At a recent meeting to brainstorm ideas to save the Alhambra Hills—attended by the Sierra Club, Save Mt. Diablo, East Bay Regional Parks (EBRP), the National Park Service, Robert Hanna (Muir’s great-great-grandson), and the Alhambra Hills Open Space group, among others supportive of the conservation effort—Bob Doyle, general manager of EBRP said, “This is some of the most beautiful property I’ve seen in my almost forty years with the East Bay Parks. It was a crime this was ever approved for development in the first place.”

The bulldozers and chain saws will not be cranking up for a several months, but there is no time to waste.

WhatYouCanDo
Please sign the petition at: www.AlhambraHillsOpenSpace.org, and tell the story of Muir’s endangered ridgeline to your friends! Help the petition reach a critical mass of 10,000 supporters!

Jamie Fox, Alhambra Hills Open Space Committee

Follow us on social media!

/SierraClubSFBayChapter
/@SFBaySierraClub

Oakland Zoo expansion
continued from page C
building on ridge lines, in protected park land, and in listed-species habitat is an affront to conservation principles—especially when there’s more than adequate unused land to accommodate this project within and immediately adjacent to the zoo footprint. The City has dragged the public down a long, twisted path in its quest to accommodate the zoo’s desire to build in the wrong place. The Sierra Club recommends that the City acknowledge that it has gotten in over its head and hit the reset button.

WhatYouCanDo
Contact Oakland City Council members, the Director of City Planning, and the Office of Parks and Recreation to let them know that you oppose developing high-quality park land.

Send your letter to:
1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza
Oakland, CA 94612
www2.oaklandnet.com/Government.
Norman La Force, Chair, East Bay Public Lands Committee

Photo by David H. Collier
Francisco Park proposal moves forward on SF’s Russian Hill

The Francisco Reservoir was built on San Francisco’s Russian Hill in 1861 to provide water to the densest part of a rapidly-growing city. It was replaced in 1940, and despite numerous development proposals over the years, the site remains zoned “P” for Public Open Space—this in large part thanks to the efforts of neighbors and former Supervisor Michela Alioto-Pier.

In 2011, four neighborhood associations—Aquatic Park Neighbors, North Beach Neighbors, Russian Hill Improvement Association, and Russian Hill Neighbors—came together to form the Francisco Reservoir Working Group. The alliance produced a proposal to transform the defunct reservoir site into a new public city park.

With the assistance of Supervisor Mark Farrell, the Francisco Park proposal has passed through the city’s Recreation and Park and Public Utilities (PUC) Commissions. The Recreation and Park Department has authorized spending $9.9 million from the City’s Open Space Acquisition and Park Renovation Fund for transfer of the property from the PUC. Meanwhile, the Francisco Reservoir Working Group has received pledges of $9 million against the $11 million target for planning, constructing the park, and endowing future maintenance.

Although to the casual observer the city’s northern waterfront area appears to have a lot of green space, there is an unmet need for recreational opportunities for children in Chinatown, North Beach, and nearby neighborhoods. It is expected that Francisco Park would primarily serve seniors, schools, and children from Chinatown, North Beach, Russian Hill, and the booming Polk Street neighborhoods on the east side of Van Ness, where green open space is sparse. The Sierra Club, the Parks Alliance, and other green groups support the park’s creation.

There has been token opposition to the Francisco Park proposal from housing advocates who want this site with its splendid views used for housing. But the adjacent Fontana Towers, built in the 1960s are a constant reminder of inappropriate development in view corridors.

On July 22 the Board of Supervisors unanimously approved the Francisco Park proposal. Look to the Yodeler’s web edition for updates on this issue. Those interested in learning more about the Reservoir are encouraged to go to: www.franciscoreservoir.org/email-registration and sign up for the newsletter.

Becky Evans

The 2015 Sierra Club Calendars

Calendars will be available August 20 through December 12, 2014. The Early Bird prices below are good through Friday, October 17, 2014.

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Number of calendars purchased</th>
<th>1 – 3</th>
<th>4 – 11</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2015 Sierra Club Wilderness Wall Calendar</td>
<td>$12.50</td>
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<tr>
<td>2015 Sierra Club Engagement Calendar</td>
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Combine the total number of wall and engagement calendars you are purchasing to determine the unit price of each type. Prices include sales tax. We accept cash, checks, MasterCard, Visa, Discover Card, and American Express.

To purchase, visit the Chapter Office:
2530 San Pablo Ave. (between Dwight Way & Parker), Berkeley CA, Monday – Thursday 10:00 AM to 5:00 PM and Friday 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM.
For further information call (510) 848-0800.

NOTE: This year the San Francisco Bay Chapter will not be shipping orders of fewer than 12 calendars. Purchases of fewer than 12 must be made at the Chapter Office. Call (510) 848-0800 for details on free shipping for orders of 12 or more. Shipping will start Tuesday, October 7.

PROCEEDS BENEFIT THE LOCAL CONSERVATION WORK OF THE SIERRA CLUB SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER

Dublin open space

continued from front page

Defense of the Dublin urban limit line will require people and money. It will take volunteers to walk precincts in the fall, knock on doors, and explain the situation to voters. There is no more effective method to cutting through the developer’s lies and distortions than direct, person-to-person contact. Success will also require funds to print and mail campaign literature, produce yard signs, and rent a campaign headquarters.

No amount of time is too little and no contribution is too small. To volunteer, please visit: www.SaveDublinOpenSpace.org, or contact Dick Schneider at (510) 926-0010 or: rich59354@aol.com.

WhatYouCanDo

Effective grassroots campaign designed to defend Dublin’s open space initiative will require people and money.

If the developer’s initiative passes, it would nullify the Open Space Initiative and authorize urban development in Doolan Canyon.

Nevertheless, we must mount a large and effective grassroots campaign to defend Dublin’s new urban limit line and the natural values of Doolan Canyon. Pacific Union stands to lose $150 million in estimated profit if their ballot measure fails, so we can expect an expensive and distortion-filled campaign designed to confuse voters into approving the misleadingly-titled “Let Dublin Decide Initiative.”