Voting Matters
By Victoria Brandon, Redwood Chapter Political Chair

As the November 6, 2018 election approaches it’s becoming more and more obvious that we live in exciting times! Wearing my other hat as chair of the Club’s National Political Team I’ve been watching federal endorsement recommendations pour in from all over the country, many of them in districts where there had previously been no hope of victory for progressive, environmentally supportive candidates, and even a few from Chapters with no political programs until this year. This time around the main question seems to be whether the anticipated blue wave will turn into a blue tsunami.

Here in Redwood Chapter we’re fortunate enough to have many good representatives on both the state and federal level whose reelection seems assured, but there are still significant local contests in city council and other races. Activists in several of the Chapter’s Groups have been engaged in the painstaking task of identifying the best candidates in those races. The results of these grassroots contests often have momentous consequences, with the question coming down to this: do we want to foster the best qualities of the North Coast—a abundant open space, towering forests, free-running rivers, charming, friendly small towns with a rural atmosphere—or do we want to become like the rest of California?

We think the choices are clear, and that the election of candidates endorsed by the Sierra Club offers the best hope of making those choices wisely. So please examine the endorsement list on the back page of this newsletter, and give your vote to the individuals named there that appear on your ballot. Please also consider making a personal endorsement, volunteering a few hours of time, or donating money: the future of all our communities hang in the balance this November, and action by Club members can potentially tip that balance.

The Club is also supporting candidates for several statewide offices, opposing two state propositions (Prop 3 and 6) and supporting others (Props 1, 10, and 12).

Other local endorsements were in progress as this issue of the Redwood Needles went to press. The names of all endorsed candidates will be posted to sierrachl.org/redwood/endorsements as they are approved.

Rep. Huffman Moves to Protect Wilderness
By Sushama Hershy, Redwood Chapter Communications Coordinator

Every swing in one direction brings a counter swing in the other direction. And thankfully for conservationists, our local Congressman, Jared Huffman, has countered the Trump administration’s campaign to destroy public lands with a sweeping bill to conserve and manage Northern California forests.

At the end of July Huffman introduced HR 6596, the Northwest California Wilderness, Recreation and Working Forests Act, to protect Northern California’s forests and wilderness.

The bill not only would create new trails and public access into the wilderness, it would coordinate cleanup of illegal marijuana grows on public land and bolster defenses against large wildfires. Huffman, who has worked on the bill since being elected to serve District 2 five years ago, said the bill is a “creative blend of old school wilderness protection with very innovative management strategies and I think should be supportive by a broader constituency than if it were a standard wildernesses bill.”

“Huffman Wilderness Bill” continued on page 3

Zero Waste Sonoma: Worthy Goals
By Theresa Ryan, Sonoma County Executive Director

As many of you are aware the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency decided in 9-1 vote to move forward with Renewable Sonoma in negotiating a new compost facility currently planned adjacent to the Waste Water Treatment Facility on Llano Road. At the same time Patrick Carte, the Agency’s Director, has stepped down to assume a position with the city of Petaluma.

Unfortunately, until a new Director is chosen there may not be many decisions made of great import to the development of the facility. Sonoma Group’s Facebook page or online newsletter will announce any Sonoma County Waste Management Agency meetings regarding this topic.

One group that has been very supportive in the process of selecting a local compost facility proposal is a Zero Waste Sonoma. Zero Waste Sonoma has developed a Zero Waste Resolution over the past year which is now under consideration for adoption by the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency and all its jurisdictions to use for creating zero waste ordinances. Among its many policy directions are following:

- Set a Zero Waste goal to divert 100% of waste from landfills by 2030 and commit to reducing the total pounds per person per day, currently 4.6, by at least 10% per year
- Institute and/or expand high diversion and Zero Waste goals and programs for all government facilities, events, and projects
- Educate the public by expanding the ongoing information on the environmental and community benefits of reducing wasteful consumption and increasing diversion through reuse, repair, composting, and recycling

“Zero Waste: Worthy Goals” continued on page 7

Museum Exhibit Highlights Lucille Vinyard’s Role in Founding of Redwood National Park

Recognizing Vinyard as Redwood Champion
By Sue Leskiw, North Group

Lucille Vinyard, North Group scion affectionately called “The Mother of Redwood National Park,” is one of the focal points in an exhibit on display at the Clarke Historical Museum in Eureka (www.clarkemuseum.org). Her journals, letters, and photos are part of “The Redwoods Provide[d]: Stories from the Establishment of Redwood National and State Parks,” which runs through January 5, 2019. The display is part of series of art and cultural events at locations throughout Humboldt County to celebrate the 50th anniversary of the park’s creation in 1968.

The exhibit—curated by Katie Buesch and cosponsored by Save the Redwoods League and Green Diamond Resource Company—explores how loggers and conservationists were both united and divided by redwoods. Its goal is to “investigate the different views and reasoning in people’s support or opposition to the establishment of Redwood National Park and its later expansion.”

The arrangement flows to tell a story. The right-hand side of the show explores the history of how those iconic trees were cut down and used, and the center section takes the visitor through the conflict and resolution over preserving some in a national park, and the left-hand part introduces the major environmental players in the process.

The first section the visitor sees includes cases full of early logging tools, iconic photos such as nine loggers sitting in an undercut giant, and products made from those trees.

“Recognizing Vinyard as Redwood Champion” continued on page 3

Sierra Club California Publishes New Report

Calling for More Affordable Housing

A new report from Sierra Club California outlines the factors that have led to our state’s housing crisis and its effects on California’s population and economy. The report summarizes recent housing studies and legislation that motivates housing development. It also offers recommendations to further reform state housing laws that can contribute to a comprehensive solution to California’s housing crisis.

The Sierra Club has been active in housing and related growth issues for several decades. The paper describes our long-standing policies that strongly support infill development and higher housing densities, social justice, reducing pollution, and preserving the natural environment. This report was written by Sierra Club California volunteer leaders who have expertise in planning and housing.

Katherine Phillips, director of Sierra Club California, said in a statement: “Building enough affordable housing for California’s families and workers is one of the most important challenges facing California. State and local officials and elected officials need to work together to spur development of affordable and in-filling housing while upholding tenants’ rights, reducing emissions and protecting wildlands. It’s possible to achieve these goals, but it will require collaboration.”

The paper includes the following recommendations for policies that could and should be considered to help the state plan for it’s own future.

- Mandate that cities that fail behind in their state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Assessment (RHNA) goals must rezone “SCC Calls for More Affordable Housing” continued on page 3

For more Redwood Chapter information: http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood
redwood burls (among them bowls, boxes, a chess set, postcards, and even a phonograph record that quotes the song “Beautiful Dreamer” on one side and a spoken history of the redwoods on the other). In Humboldt County in the late 1960s, 70 percent of local industry was tied to lumber. The middle part dealt with turning points in the debate over creating the parks, mainly by exploring the media communications such as a March 1966 newsletter article that quotes Don Cave, a Eureka stockbroker and chair of the Redwoods Committee, a timber industry-financed group that opposed federal Redwood National Park plans for Humboldt and Del Norte counties: “Every time I mention a redwood tree, the extremists go into a spiritual fit.” A Senate hearing held in Del Norte County in June 1966 attracted 117 witnesses.Mannequins face off representing an eco-protester holding a sign reading “Better Redwood Than Dead Wood” and a logger with an “angry logger” poster that was part of the “Talk to America” convoy of 26 trucks that drove from Boston to Washington, DC, in 1978 to protest the park expansion. The last portion focuses on the Save the Redwoods League, the Sierra Club in general, and the late Lucille Vinyard in particular. Her glass case includes one of her many handwritten daily journals, which are being digitized by Humboldt State University student interns under the direction of special collections librarian Carly Marino. Eighteen students have been funded by project underwriter Redwood National and State Parks, with the results posted at www.rnp.omeka.net. “Journal entries have ranged from the mundane ‘I played golf today’ to the consequential ‘Today I attended a Senate subcommittee hearing on establishing a national park,’ states Marino. The students are attempting to match up photographs with the journal entries. Lucille’s case also includes her original typed open letter to President Johnson ‘on the last chance to really save the redwoods’ that was published in newspapers such as the New York Times, Washington Post, Los Angeles Times, San Francisco Chronicle, and Sacramento Bee, plus her scrapbook of clippings between November 1964 and January 1966 with ‘subject matter pertinent to establishment of a Redwood National Park, lumber industry, state parks, conservation, natural beauty, tourism, and county politics.’

Attendees at the July 7 exhibit opening and the Eureka Street Art Fair/Art Nugget were given a sheet of colored paper and a marker to write their personal redwoods story. The comment cards were then pasted to the wall in the alley that runs along the Clark Museum. While many are one sentence long, others are a drawing, poem, or story. ‘Some people were nearly crying because of how the redwoods speak to them,’ notes Buesch. Redwood National Park was the most expensive U.S. national park to establish, since most of the land and timber had to be purchased from private owners at what courts determined to be fair market value. The exhibit includes a deposit receipt for $111 million from the U.S. Government to Simpson Timber Company, which was the smallest of the three owner companies. $59 million represented the value of the land and $52 million was interest that accrued in the eight to nine years it took to determine the land’s value! Money was also set aside to rehabilitate logged-over land and to help those who lost their jobs due to reduced logging. The 1978 park expansion cost an additional $350 million. Residents share their redwoods experience with the Museum by using the hashtag #theredwoodsprovided.

“Recognizing Vinyard as Redwood Champion” continued from page 1

“SCC Calls for More Affordable Housing” continued from page 1

2018 Redwood Chapter and Group Elections Schedule

Friday, October 5th: Receipt of all your Group’s candidates’ applications (statement of intent to run) due to the Group NomCom Chair
Friday, October 12th: Group NomCom Chair informs all potential candidates of their status and submits list of candidates (with contact information) to their respective ExComs and Chapter Election Chair (Joan Dambros)
Friday, October 26th: Candidates submit ballot election to Election Committee Chair.
Friday, November 2nd: Receipt of any ballot petitions are due to the Election Committee Chair. Approved statements sent for publication in December-Jan. Redwood Needles.
Monday, December 31st: Voting completed and all ballots due.
NomCom Chairs
Redwood Chapter
Joan Dambros: joandambros@earthlink.net
Sonoma Group
Suzanne Doyle: carsorts@gmail.com
Lake Group
Victoria Brandon: vbrandon@lakeville.info
North Group
Ned Forsyth: eaf7@humboldt.edu
Solano Group
Joe Feller: joe36feller@gmail.com
Mendocino Group
Mary Walsh: mwalsh@att.net
Napa Group
Christina Benz: christinabenz@gmail.com

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“Huffman Wilderness Bill” continued from page 1

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“Huffman Wilderness Bill” continued from page 1
Instructions to Hikers

Outings will start not later than 15 minutes after scheduled meeting time. The leader is in charge of the trip and is responsible for your welfare and the good name of the Club. He/she must have your cooperation to make the trip safe, pleasant and rewarding. Never charge ahead of the leader and keep within sight or shouting distance of the person ahead of you so you do not miss an intersecting trail. Do not lag behind rear leader. If you need help, the rear leader will remain with you. Do not leave the group without the leader's permission. Be adequately equipped and prepared. You should carry lunch and liquids. Wear footwear appropriate for the outing. In most cases that would be hiking boots.

Guard against fire. Do not smoke on Sierra Club outings. Build fires only with the leader's permission, and extinguish them completely. Guns or radios are not to be brought on hikes.

If you have any doubts about being able to do a hike or have other questions, please call the leader to discuss your concerns. These ratings only serve as a guide and are not a substitute for you being in appropriate physical condition before participating in an outing.

Leaders are grouped according to how fast they normally hike. Please keep in mind that this info is to help you decide if a hike is right for you. The outing rating instructions to hikers is also important for participants to read. Look at the difficulty of the hike. If the rating is moderate with few or more frequent stops a fast pace hiker must hike slower to accommodate that rating.

Visitors are welcome

All Sierra Club trips are open to the public unless otherwise announced. You are free to bring all members of your family and guests. Children are usually welcome, but please call the leader to make sure it is an appropriate hike.

DIFFICULTY MILEAGE ELEVATION GAIN
E - Easy Actual A - Less than 1,000
M - Moderate Mileage B - 1,000 to 2,000
H - Hard C - 2,000 to 3,000
S - Strenuous D - over 3,000
V - Very Strenuous

The actual mileage will be listed for each trip. Elevation gain will reflect the gain from the start of the hike to the highest point. If you need to know the cumulative gain, please contact the leader.

To submit outings write-ups

Send all outings write-ups to: Louis Vas, Outings Chair, (loras74@sonic.net) by the 8th of the month. All leaders must coordinate their outings with their Group Outings Chair.

CST 2017766-40. Registration as a seller of travel does not constitute registration as a seller of travel (SSST) by the 8th of the month. All leaders must coordinate their outings with their Group Outings Chair.

Rating for Outings Leaders: How fast or slow do you go?

Wander if an outing leader walks fast or slow? Keep in mind that the leader's speed is but one part of hiking. How high up a mountain the hike starts, the total mileage and elevation gain (up hill) and loss (down hill) greatly affect the difficulty of a hike, regardless of how fast or slow you walk. If you have any doubts about being able to do a hike or have other questions, please call the leader to discuss your concerns. These ratings only serve as a guide and are not a substitute for you being in appropriate physical condition before participating in an outing.

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Visitors see hike description for details:
Jonas Gannon
Phil Kohlmetz
Doug Tracey
Moderate pace with few stops:
Lorie Lagasse
Julie Kreis
Paul Farley
Moderate pace with more frequent stops:
Carol Vellutini
Yvonne Kramer
Brian Collen
Moderate pace with few stops:
Jonah Friedman
Steve Devoto
Ned Forsyth
Slower pace:
Allison Bronkall
Carl Inglis

Help Wanted: Redwood Chapter Seeks Chapter Director

Redwood Chapter is looking for a half-time Chapter Director to strengthen our conservation programs, fundraising, volunteer development and member services.

Working closely with volunteer leaders, this talented individual will identify chapter needs and recruit volunteers to fill them. train and oversee membership coordinators at the chapter and group level who can welcome new members and work with the Chapter Treasurer on fundraising strategy, including efforts to bring fundraising components to events and outreach efforts. Strong communications and computer skills are essential, and a passion for protecting the planet.

This half-time job will be based in Sonoma County though some telecommuting may be possible, and is expected to last about six months, with an extension also possible.

A full job description and link to the application form is available on the Club Careers website: https://www.sierraclub.org/careers. Chapter Chair Victoria Brandon is also glad to answer questions: feel free to call her at 707-994-1931 or send an email to vbrandon@lakealive.info.

Redwood Chapter and all local Groups have a variety of volunteer opportunities. Visit www.sierraclub.org/redwood/get-involved for details or contact vbrandon@lakealive.info.

Non-Sierra Club Outings & Events

The following activities and events are not sponsored nor administered by the Sierra Club. The Sierra Club has no information about the planning of these activities and makes no representations or warranties about the quality, safety, supervision or management of such activities. They are published because they may be of interest to the readers of this publication.

Sonoma County Regional Parks trail work days.
On the day of the project you can call 707-548-4424 for an update of if you have questions.
Your support and dedication to our County's trails really makes a big difference. To RSVP for any of these projects please call John at 707-565-3356.
Laguna Environmental Center, 900 Sanford Road, Santa Rosa. Enjoy our native plant garden/volunteers are essential in beautifying our site. Share your expertise or learn new skills by getting involved today! http://lagunastewards.html

California Sierra Club PAC

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park: Oct. 21 - 23, 2018
Join us for a 3-day, 3-island, live-aboard tour of the enchanting Channel Islands. Hike wild, wind-swept trails bordered with blazing wildflowers. Kayak rugged coastlines, marvel at pristine waters teeming with fiddling seals and sea lions. Train your binoculars on unusual sea and land birds—and an occasional whale. Watch for the highly endangered island fox. Look for reminders of the Chumash people who lived on these islands for thousands of years. Or, just relax at sea. All cruises depart from Santa Barbara. The cost, $475, includes an assigned bunk and all meals, snacks, and beverages. A ranger/naturalist assigned by the national park will travel with us to help lead hikes, point out items of interest and give evening programs. Kayaking will be overseen by our concessionaire; all hikes will be on trails, class 1 terrain. This trip is a fundraiser to support the Sierra Club political program in California. To reserve space send a $100 deposit, written to: California Sierra Club PAC to Joan Jones Holtz, 11826 The Wise St., El Monte, CA 91732. For more information contact leaders: Joan Jones Holtz: jholothn@aol.com; 626-443-0706. Wayne Vollaire: avollaire1@gmail.com; 909-327-6825.
Sierra Club California has taken an oppose position on two bad ballot measures on the November ballot, Proposition 3 and Proposition 6.

Proposition 3 is a poorly developed water bond that was crafted via a “pay-to-play” method. That means that the proponents negotiated with various special interests to include pet projects in the bill in exchange for supporting—including with campaign funds—the bond measure.

As a result, the proposition would create a nearly $8.9 billion bond that would be continuously appropriated, without regard for the state of the state’s treasury. And a lot of the projects in the bond, including dams, do not deserve the taxpayer funding that would pay for them. You can see our factsheet about the bond here: http://bit.ly/NoProp3CA-FactSheet. You can see a more detailed FAQ here: http://bit.ly/NoProp3CA-FAQ.

Proposition 6 is a cynical effort by political operatives to draw conservative voters to the polls in November. The measure would rescind a gas tax passed by the legislature in 2017, through Senate Bill 1, to fund a range of transportation projects. Transit funding, repairing local roads and bridges, and improving bicycle and pedestrian access are among the projects that would be funded over time as a result of the tax. You can learn more about that bad ballot measure’s impacts at http://www.noprop6.com.

So, remember, vote NO on Proposition 3 and Proposition 6 in November.

Sierra Club recommends a NO vote!

NO on Prop 3: $8.9 billion Water Bond

This proposed Water Bond:

• Sidesteps Oversight
• Removes Accountability
• Robs Californians
• Raids Climate Funds

See NoProp3CA.com for more information.

Strengthem Salmon

Wild salmon and steelhead of the northwest coast are a treasure to our nation. In the early 19th century, salmon were so abundant that the Columbia River system saw 16 million salmon returning each year alone. Habitat destruction, dams, over-fishing and pollution are threatening the survival of the salmon. Only one percent of wild salmon return to these vulnerable waters today. Help Sierra Club fight to protect wild salmon.

Swim Up & JOIN Sierra Club

Vote Yes on Prop. 12!

Proposition 2 was passed in California a decade ago, and went into effect in 2015. This law banned confinement of pregnant pigs, calves raised for veal and egg-laying hens in a manner that didn’t allow them to turn around, lie down, stand up and fully extend their limbs. Unfortunately, the law didn’t provide specific minimal cage measurements.

Now we have an opportunity to rectify that omission: Proposition 12, the “Farm Animal Confinement Initiative,” includes size restrictions. Beginning in 2020, the proposal would ban the sale of veal from a calf confined to 43 square feet; pork from a breeding pig confined to 24 square feet; and eggs from egg-laying hens confined to an area less than 1 square foot. Beginning in 2021, producers would be required to confine egg-laying hens in cage-free housing systems based on the United Egg Producers’ 2017 cage-free guidelines.

Prevent Cruelty California is leading the campaign in support of this ballot initiative. It’s supported by dozens of groups, including Sierra Club, ASPCA, HSUS, Mercy for Animals, Animal Legal Defense Fund, and the Center for Food Safety.

Animals raised closely in cages are a recipe for disaster. Diseases spread and the animals are treated with antibiotics. It’s no wonder we are going back to the pre-penicillin era as common antibiotics are no longer working. Families can become sickened from drinking water contaminated with harmful bacteria because of manure runoff. It’s an injustice for families living near animal factories to suffer from stench, air pollution and fly infestation.

That’s not all! Sierra Club Agriculture policy recognizes “Negative impacts (of CAFOs) include chronic inhumane treatment of animals.”

In November, 2018, please vote YES on Proposition 12!
Annual BBQ at Dancing Tree People Farm, Upper Lake

Lake Group's annual potluck BBQ at the home of Group Chair Denise Rushing on July 27 was well-attended and very enjoyable despite being held just a few miles from the Mendocino Complex fires as they were beginning. Little did we know that just a few days later Denise and her Dancing Tree People partners would have to evacuate from the path of the Ranch Fire—a fire that soon thereafter became California’s largest to date. We enjoyed a hearty meal while learning more about Denise’s permaculture lifestyle.

Clear Lake Blue Ribbon Committee

Last year many Clear Lake County residents applauded legislation to form a special Blue Ribbon Committee dedicated to improving Clear Lake water quality, with $2 million in initial funding. Ever since, we’ve been expecting to hear more— who the members would be, when meetings would be held, what would be the opportunities for public engagement? The first hint of action came from a brief mention in the county Farm Bureau July newsletter about a stakeholder meeting to be held in Lakeport on August 14, location and time unspecified. The invitation came from Bernadette Austin, Associate Director of the UC Davis Center for Regional Change. We then found out that formal invitations to the Board of Supervisors and several high level county staffers had been made— but apparently to no one else. The meeting was later canceled due to the fires and has not yet been rescheduled, but in the meantime we have gotten in touch with Bernadette to make sure that when it does take place the Sierra Club will have a chance to participate.

Climate Action Retreat

On August 27 the Group held our first ever climate action summit to investigate the most promising local strategies for combating climate disruption. This very stimulating retreat began with an introduction to Drawdown, Paul Hawken’s plan to reverse global warming, followed by a brainstorming session to devise an inventory of interests with respect to climate change. These interests were categorized into four areas:

- Public Education
- Community Choice Energy Project
- Intriguing Tech
- Public Education

We looked in a bit more detail at the Forest Recreation and Management Project as an example of next steps, and assigned leads and actions to each of the four interest areas. Denise has set up a Google Docs site as a repository for each interest area to keep us organized as we move forward.

—CAROLYN RUTTAN, LAKE GROUP EXCOM

Redwood Needles

December 2018 Deadline: Due Nov. 4th

Submit Articles/Reports/Ad Copy via e-mail to: odavison@sonic.net

Send Outings to Louis Vas: lvas75@sonic.net

Meetings to Carl Inglis: chiinglin@sonic.net

Redwood Needles

Meetings

Lake Group Report

North Group Underwrites Three Campers

This summer, North Group sponsored three campers: a 10-year-old girl from Eureka, an 11-year-old girl from McKinleyville, and an 8-year-old boy from Lolita— to attend a week-long session at Lost Coast Camp near Petrolia. A fourth child had been selected but cancelled at the last minute.

This is the second year that campers sponsored through donations to the Luscille Vinyard Environmental Education Fund have gone to overnight camp at this venue in the Mattole Valley. The facility’s mission is to “provide youth with a dynamic summer camp experience, which promotes building self-esteem and positive friendships, individual expression, and fostering an appreciation for the natural world.”

In exchange for their tuition, the campers agreed to submit an essay to North Group about their experience. Below are excerpts:

Camper 1: “I had a great experience at Lost Coast Camp. Some of my favorite activities were art, swimming in the river, and archery. I also really enjoyed making new friends, the amazing food, and playing capture the flag in the forest. I love art, so it was great to make lanterns, bracelets, and masks, as well as a straw wolf. There were many art supplies to be creative with, such as feathers, googly eyes, and ribbons. Art gave me a chance to relax and catch up with the busy day. The river was fairly warm and it was great to jump in after a long day of hiking and walking around camp and the farm. The river was a refreshing friend in the middle of the day, which sometimes got very hot. I think archery was my favorite activity. Instructors taught us how to safely use, aim, and shoot the bow. I loved having the opportunity to come to this camp and am thankful for the scholarship that enabled me to attend.”

Camper 2: “Every day we hiked down to the river and had a lot of fun. The river was big and we played in it every day. The ranch was so fun. We hung out in the garden, then picked squash and apples and climbed on the hay. We saw the cows that were so cute and I liked throwing them apples and squash to eat. We also had a lot of fun with pranks. If you’re looking for a fun summer thing to do, you just found it!”

Camper 3: “I really feel lucky to have gone to Lost Coast Camp. I made a lot of friends and had a lot of fun playing all kinds of fun stuff. I love swimming and we got to do it every day. I also liked that we got to do art projects such as making masks. I made lots of memories at camp and the most important one is having fun. Signed, Happy Camper.”

—SUE LESKIN, NORTH GROUP TREASURER

Napa Group Report

Raise your Voice in the Napa County Strategic Plan

Napa County is inviting citizen participation in a community engagement process to help guide policies and priorities for the next three years. Over 20 meetings are scheduled to get public input on topics including the environment, tourism, social services, health care, homes, housing, youth and many more. Check out the schedule at www.countyofnapa.org/2414/Napa-County-Strategic-Plan.

PLEA considers attending one or more of these meetings to voice your concerns about water, watershed protection, traffic, winery development, housing, environmental sustainability, and other concerns you may have. Business interests will be well represented at these meetings so we hope many private citizens will be in attendance to provide a balanced perspective.

At the conclusion of the input phase, the Community Survey, available at the above link.

The Napa Sierra Club is represented on the Strategic Plan Committee, and will be closely watching to determine if may have. Business interests will be well represented at these meetings so we hope many private citizens will be in attendance to provide a balanced perspective.

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The Napa Sierra Club is represented on the Strategic Plan Committee, and will be closely watching to determine if
Sonoma Group Report

Political Committee and Candidate Endorsements

Get ready for an exciting election season ahead! The candidate endorsements are among the most important and effective actions of the Sonoma Group every election cycle. The Political Committee of the Sonoma Group interviewed 15 candidates for city council along with the City of Santa Rosa, Sonoma and Petaluma, a larger field than we’ve had in years with multiple new faces competing with incumbents. (See http://www.sierracub.org/redwood for a full list of endorsements.)

Sierra Club has been active in housing and related growth issues for several decades. Recently, Sierra Club California published a new report that makes new recommendations and describes our long-standing policies that strongly support infill development and higher housing densities, social justice, reducing pollution and preserving the natural environment. Download at the Sierra Club California website here http://bit.ly/SCC-Housing-Report or see more details in the page one article.

The Sonoma Group submitted the report with a letter urging the Sonoma County Planning Commission to consider the recommendations while deciding on new countywide housing, housing, and preservation policies. We urged the commissioners to carefully analyze the pros and cons of proposed new housing initiatives for Streamlined Development, Workforce Housing Overlay, Cottage Housing and Mobile Home Conversion. While innovative, they are significantly different housing policies from the current General Plan. Sierra Club is seeking more detailed environmental review concerns about some measures because they increase housing units and population in the unincorporated areas outside of city limits.

Our next endorsement historically comes early in the year. With the new Executive Director Daisy Pitsy-Lyne and several of her board members from the organization’s board meetings, the Sonoma Group is exploring ways to get people out to candidate forums. We are on track to put 20-30,000 people to the Rise for Climate March in San Francisco on Sept. 8. Hundreds of Sierra Club members were involved in the mass mobilization.

He noted that greenhouse gas emissions for the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency have decreased, although County efforts have increased in driving. The Napa climate action plan is out and Tom C. is coordinating a review. Tom also detailed information about a software tool for individual energy conservation being used by the “Fremont Green Challenge” program.

Sonoma County Parks for All – Measure M

Sierra Club-endorsed Sonoma County’s Parks for All Measure M to provide a critical new source of funding for county and city parks. If passed by a two-thirds majority, the 1/8 cent sales tax will maintain parks, trails and open spaces, help protect water quality, reduce future wildfire risk, and protect wildlife habitats and fisheries.

If passed, two-thirds of the funds raised would go to county regional parks and one-third would go to the nine cities for neighborhood parks. Measure M will generate about $11.5 million per year for 10 years, adding three cents to the cost of a $25 purchase.

Learn more about the measure here https://www.sonoma-county-parksforall.org/license

—TERI SHORE, SONOMA GROUP CO-CHAIR

“Zero Waste: Worthy Goals” continued from page 1

• Encourage all residents, businesses, and agencies to participate in composting and recycling programs while also encouraging them to reduce and reuse
• Update and Expand the Green Purchasing, Environmentally Preferable Procurement (EPP) and Extended Producer Responsibility (EPR) policies
• Create a countywide Construction and Demolition Reuse and Recycling Ordinance
• Empower jurisdictions and consumers to use their buying power to demand less toxic, easily reused, fully compostable or recyclable products, utilizing recycled materials whenever possible
• Encourage manufacturers to produce and market less toxic, more durable, repairable, reusable, compostable and recyclable products and/or recycled products
• Lobby regional, state, and federal legislators to implement, laws, policies, and regulations that promote Zero Waste, Manufacturer Responsibility, and Environmentally Preferable Procurement
• Inspire and incentivize service providers to embrace and collaborate in these efforts
• Support equitable pay and safe working conditions for material management workers
• Ensure fiscal sustainability by developing a sound financial model that can sustain high diversion and Zero Waste programs and enable long term delivery of quality

Representatives of CAFÉ, the Compost Coalition, Recology, the Santa Rosa Junior College waste specialist, 350 Sonoma, and industries such as Amy’s Kitchen and Oliver’s, Renewable Sonoma and other groups all attend the Zero Waste Sonoma meetings. Leslie Lukacs, an international zero waste specialist and a consultant with ECS engineers in Santa Rosa, chairs the committee. If you are interested in getting up to speed on the various complex issues around how to reduce your community’s waste stream, including keeping up with the progress of our new compact facility on Llano Road, please come to one of Zero Waste Sonoma’s meetings. They are held on the last Wednesday of the month from 3-4:30 pm in the Transportation Conference Room of Sonoma County, 2300 County Center Drive Drive, Bldg, B-100.

On Sept 18th at the Sebastopol City Council meeting several people from Zero Waste Sonoma, including Sunny Calbreath, a Sonoma County Science High School teacher and a 350 Sonoma member, presented a zero-waste study plan for the city of Sebastopol to adopt. Several people presented including Marty Bennett who represents labor concerns around zero waste.

Zero Waste Sonoma has also been responsible for the production of the Zero Waste Symposium the last two years and will continue in that role. Because the Sonoma County Waste Management Agency will be changing its name to Zero Waste Sonoma, the current entity Zero Waste Sonoma faces the need to change its name. Look for an update in the near future.

Sonoma Breeze Corner

Covering Benicia, Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville and Vallejo

sieracublosanomagroup@gmail.com
707-319-6398

Please attend the Sonoma Group meetings, usually on the first Monday of each month.

Our next dates October 1, November 5, 2018 at 6:30 pm.

To confirm location, call Jane at 707-319-6398

VALCORE Recycling and Paper Shredding updates:

Sonoma Group helps out with paper shredding every 3rd Saturday each month at 38 Sheridan Street, Vallejo from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There is a charge of $.50 per pound (CASH OR CHECK ONLY) of paper shredded. (Maximum: 100 pounds)

WEEKDAY SHREDDING from 10 am to 4 pm, closed 1 pm to 2 pm for lunch (CREDIT OR DEBIT ONLY).

Sierra Club volunteers help tend the money and direct traffic. Once a year is all we ask, and you only need work an hour or so. Volunteers get FREE shredding!

—GREG PETRUSON, JUNE BOGREN & JOE FELLER, SONOMA GROUP EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Mendocino Group Report

Our group has been following and commenting on a Mendocino County Parks and Recreation District proposal to construct an OffHighway Vehicle Park on District property located on Highway 20 east of Fort Bragg. The 480 acre property is covered almost entirely with rare Pygmy vegetation. Webelieve this use is not in keeping with conserving this rare habitat.

Steve Birdlebough is gearing up the Jennings Crossing campaign in response to SMART’s refusal to work with the City of Santa Rosa to build the promised safe pedestrian and bike path across the railroad tracks. After the crossing was approved and funding was allocated nearly two years ago, the SMART SMART SMART Board and SMART SMART Board has suddenly reversed course and told the city it could not afford it, despite a determination from the California Public Utilities Commission that it was perfectly safe as proposed.

“Zero Waste: Worthy Goals” continued from page 1

—MARY WALSH, MENDOCINO GROUP CHAIR

Sierra Club Recommends NIX on SIX!

No on Prop 6 ~ Gas Tax Repeal

Proposition 6 STRIKES OUT

$5.4 billion dollars each year for:

> Highway and road maintenance
> Bridge safety and pothole repair
> Transit operations and pedestrian safety

NOProp6.com

Source: Legislative Analyst's Office - Senate Bill 1; California Transit Association

Redwood Needles October 1, 2018 7
Local Measures:

Sonoma County:

☑ YES on Measure M

State Propositions

☑ YES on Prop 1
Affordable housing bond measure

✗ No on Prop 3
Flawed water bond

✗ No on Prop 6
Gas tax repeal

☑ YES on Prop 10
Rent control

☑ YES on Prop 12
Humane treatment for farm animals

See Page 5 for Articles about Propositions.
Please Vote on November 6th.
Visit http://www.sierraclub.org/redwood for a complete list of Sierra Club endorsements