Night Hikes Are Not the Right Hikes

By Peg Pinard
Master of San Luis Obispo
1992-1994

As the city council is about to consider changing that. There is a push to open up our wildlife protection. In nighttime activities. This is not a small request. It will sub- stantially change the relationship we have with our pro- tected areas. In every survey this city has ever done, the number one goal for residents has been the protection of our wildlife and natural open space reserves. We even dis- tinguished between “Parks” as being for active recreation and natural “Open Space” as specifically designated for wildlife and passive use, to drive home that distinction. As our population has grown, there is no doubt that there is a demand for more recreation spaces. The responsible way to meet that need is to plan for it when the city is as- sessing outlying areas. Night time hiking is fundamentally incompatible with protection of the city's greenbelt was invested in reliance on the strong policy that open space is closed to recreation at night and that the night sky would be protected for noc- turned wildlife. I know because I have been personally in- volved in advocacy for City open space protection since 1988. Has Council communicated with all of those groups regarding the proposed, strongly-worded weakening of City open space protection?
Sanctuary

continued from page 3

Sanctuary

Sanctuary's ability to keep evolved over the last three years, and is basically a conjunction of the sanctuary's ability to keep oil rigs out of the sanctuary proposed to partially locate a wind farm in the area of the sanctuary. The sanctuary proposal has thus become a critical issue in two things any region needs to do: to free itself economically from a coal economy to a clean energy one, and to provide additional fossil fuel infra-structure and fossil fuels to bring in clean energy generation (two years later, the SLO Board of Supervisors provided an object lesson in this. See feature page 3). The issues of offshore oil and wind in the proposed sanctuary area have become almost equally controversial. In the first place, this has been an issue in claims spread by representatives asserting the invulnerability of the Central Coast in the event of any future push for offshore drilling, main-estimation that required a full-page correc-tive in The Tri- bune last December. In the second case, controversy has arisen due to the fact that a potential wind farm has never before been proposed for the site of a potential national marine sanctuary. Speakers cleared up the confusion on both points: Yes, a national marine sanctuary is the only mechanism that provides a permanent ban on offshore oil and gas development, and no, there is no such prescription against offshore renewable energy projects in the National Marine Sanctuaries Act, and in that regard the National Oceanic and At-mospheric Administration is likely to interpret its mar-ine regulatory, non-prohibitive – i.e. reviewing and permitting renewable energy operations in those areas without a sanctuary where they would have minimal or no impact on sanctuary habitat and ma-rine wildlife. In the lively Q&A that followed, as always in the case when the proposed Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary is discus-sioned in a public forum, the subject of fishing came up. In February, The Tri- bune had printed a letter to the editor claiming that federal marine sanctuaries, which do not prohibit fishing, could engage in de-facto regulation by virtue of their “influence” and “voices.” The letter appeared under the heading: “Sierra Club’s sanctuary claims are non-sensical.” But the statement that national marine sanctuaries do not regulate fishing is already a federal promise, or “a trust” issue. It’s a regulatory reality. In trying to deny the obvi-ous reality of the proposed rule (and in the water), sanctu-ary opponents offer per-sonal anecdotes about the “influence” of the marine sanctu-aries, or they strain to connect the Office of National Marine Sanctu-aries with the California Department of Fish and Wildlife (which regu-lates fishing), or strain to con-fuse a proposed rule by a resource agency with actual rule-making done by another agency (on which point, Ms. Webb replied “I was over present agency to talk to each other,” or pretend that there’s some future possibility that a federal agency would suddenly start doing something that is not within its purview and which another agency already does do. (One absolute favorite in this last cate-gory, from another, false letter to the editor: “An unknown cannot be a fact if it hasn’t happened yet.”) We will continue to cor-rect them, repeatedly and non-destructively. For information on what the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary would do, visit chumashsanctuary.com.

Because only a national marine sanctuary can permanently bar new towns and exploration off the Central Coast...
Let This be the End of the Line

Phillips 66’s oil trains project at the terminal

On March 14, the San Luis Obispo Board of Supervisors voted to reject Phillips 66’s proposed oil train offloading terminal. The project was denied with a 3-1 vote, with one supervisor abstaining due to a conflict of interest. As we go to press, Phillips still has time to file an appeal to the California Coastal Commission. Whether it does or not, March 14 was the moment when San Luis Obispo County (i.e. not her constituents). Having struck out at the SLO County Planning Commission, Superior Court, and the Coastal Commission, Phillips 66’s oil trains project and faces a question: Should it ever be allowed to proceed? (See "The End Game for Phillips 66," March 2016).

Why It All Came Down to ESA

As we predicted a year ago, while still early in the County Planning Commission’s review of the proposal Phillips 66 Nipomo oil train terminal, the oil company was putting virtually all its eggs in one basket: the attempt to deny that the site of the proposed project. Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESA). (See “The End Game for Phillips 66,” March 2016). The trains also would have jeopardized power in the world can’t push a bad project through if the people are against it. And organizing to oppose it.

Come Off It, COLAB

Having struck out at the SLO-County Planning Commission, Supervisor Brown, Phillips 66, the County Board of Supervisors, Phillips 66, the County Board of Supervisors, Phillips 66, the Coastal Commission, and the Superior Court. (See "Splitting the difference: Lynne Compton’s letter to the supervisors," the board not only could take into account but was required to by law. We are living in an age that requires vigilance against the normalization of terrible ideas and disastrous policies. Under overwhelming public pressure, our county has shown that it understands that building a terminal for tar sands crude oil on the Nipomo Mesa and transporting 7 million gallons a week of the world’s dirtiest fuel into the county is not in our best interest. Phillips 66 had appealed the San Luis Obispo County Planning Commission decision to reject their project last October, after a nearly three-year review process. More than 34,000 Californians opposed the project in comments and petitions, and more than 65 cities, counties, and school boards sent letters stating the County to deny the crude-by-rail proposal.

Santa Lucian • April 2017

The trains also would have jeopardized power in the world can’t push a bad project through if the people are against it. And organizing to oppose it.
In 51 BC, the Roman politician Julius Caesar (aka “Pompey the Great”) threw lavish games in the amphitheaters of 500,000 lions and leopards were decimated in a day’s extravaganza. When his arch-rival, Julius Caesar, became dictator, his animal shows included matches featuring their deaths, combat between exotic animals, and armed infantry, and the first primate ever seen in Italy.

This bloodbath was minor league, however, compared to the wild beast carnage provided by competitive Roman Emperors from the 26th century AD. When the Colosseum opened in 80 AD, 400 wild animals, mostly predators, were slaughtered in a 100-day spectacle. Twenty years later, Emperor Trajan celebrated his triumph by dispatching 11,000 wild beasts into the arena. Even lions and tigers, before having gladiators kill them, one by one, were thrown to the hounds.

Countries, films, fine art, and serious media have examined Roman gladiator contests and the Mediterra- nean’s and African wildlife destruction. Rome’s cruelst events have been largely overlooked. If, like me, you’ve never visited the Colosseum, supporting Audubon’s campaign can steer you there.

**Unleashing Ancient Carnage**

In 55 BC, the Roman Senate’s professional “Are you not entertained?”-era is kicked off by the opening of the Colosseum. The Colosseum’s first games were to honor a dead leader: a ritual executioner. The Amphitheater of El Jem, Tunisia. Capacity 35,000.

It was paid for by emperor Maximus, which in 329 BC took permanent form as a horse racing track. A huge ellipse, it had seating for 250,000 fans, who were protected by a water barrier and supplied with vendors catering food, lucky charms, and hookers. The everyday Roman’s favorite, the circus (from the word “circular”), was so en- vironmental for everyone, including down. Gladiators were encouraged. Unlike gladi- ator events, men and women could sit together. But all, horse races were held nearly every week throughout the year. After a full day (say as 24 hours) of racing for chariots, the crowds head- ing home received free sportulae, an early version of the goodie bag. This is where the “bread and circuses” cliché begins to sprout.

In addition, the Circus Maximus hosted other races and racing programs, such as wild animal races. Some were simple parades of exotic beasts, allowing Romans to see the cam- eras of Africa and the Middle East. The exquisite gazelles and other 4-footed ungulates. The hippo, the rhino, the boar, the hyena— or mammoths. The program might include gladiator matches or men versus beast races.

Unlike us, Romans were not enamored with animals—when they couldn’t watch or produce something useful, they did not matter greatly. Like us, the Romans, lions and tigers alike, crossed out of sight. Although the racetrack never lost its appeal, when the next New Thing in spectacles came along, it was an immediate hit. And an even more rapidly duplicated phenomenon.

In Rome’s early days, gladiatorial events had begun as simple funeral rites to honor a dead leader: a ritual execution. But when 1-on-1 battles between two armed men. At first, matches were held in temporary locales, on blocked-off streets or thrown-together wooden rings with scarlet room for spectators. As time marched on, the simple funeral ceremony morphed into something bigger, bolder, and bloodier. It became a spec- tacle to impress the public as well as honor the dead. As the Colosseum was built, with its tiers of 50,000 seats surrounding a 250,000-fan audience. In 80 AD, the Colosseum officially opened, with its tiers of 50,000 seats surrounding a 250,000-fan audience. A huge ellipse, it had seating for 250,000 fans, who were protected by a water barrier and supplied with vendors catering food, lucky charms, and hookers. The everyday Roman’s favorite, the circus (from the word “circular”), was so environ- mental for everyone, including down. Gladiators were encouraged. Unlike gladi- ator events, men and women could sit together. But all, horse races were held nearly every week throughout the year. After a full day (say as 24 hours) of racing for chariots, the crowds heading home received free sportulae, an early version of the goodie bag. This is where the “bread and circuses” cliché begins to sprout.

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When one-on-one duels between human gladiators became his- tory, novelty was soon introduced. Carnivals got wild animals. Man fighting lion. Lion versus bears. A series of battles among gladiators to their bloody deaths was replaced by a spectacular public execu- tion venue. Condemned animals from the records of officials and beautiful emperors were in charge.

To accomplish all this, monarchs bought a vast amount of manpower, machines, ships, and infrastructure. It was paid for by emperors and other deep-pocketed individuals, who spent large sums to hold wild-animal fights and days-long spec- tacles.

For every large mammal that arrived the long, tough trip from Mesopotamia or Africa, it’s estimated that 10 to 50 may have died en route. Another succinct percentage pitifully continued or culled. Quiet quarters, inexpensive food, contagious diseases, and stress from proximity to tra- ditional enemies were all fatal. Animals such as the el- ephant that were desirable for large-scale training via starvation, which also led to many unexplained deaths. Another data point: most of the corpses (with the exception of tears), no matter how hungry or vi- cious they became, would seldom attack humans. Even shackled humans. The same, for the animals, mostly referred to wips, chains, foot, and other methods to arouse the beast and put the arena into a warm- ened state.

So when you’re curi- ous: wild critters did a poor job of killing Christians in the arena. Invisibility, by the way, man oversight had to step in. There is no legitimate proof of Christians being thrown to the lions, much less being thrown to death by them, either. The Animals tale, while interesting, was a third-hand folktale. We have genuine evidence from a Chris- tian martyr named Perpetua and other unsentimental about the reluctance of wild animals to attack. (She and others had also been dispatched by a human hand.)

Besides the shocking carnage, also the cru- elty of the carnivores (with the "circuit") offered free entertainment for gladiators and other soon clamored to have their own arenas. By 215 AD, hundreds had been built. Some today, some today, can visit. These amphitheaters still standing from Croatia to England, from Spain to Tanzania. Believe it or not, there were even - construction was in Switzer- land. Statues of these centuries-long animal slayings are stunning. Although, there is no legitimate proof of humans being thrown to death.

The Amphitheater of El Jem, Tunisia. Capacity 35,000.

**Greatest Animal Events**

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should not be nullified because County hasn’t finished its
plans. The Coastal Act.

This is an approach to land
use planning to fit in with the
Coastal Act.

The test will be: Was
the decision supported
by the facts? It was

April 29: March for Climate, Jobs
and Justice

Hundreds of thousands of people will be in the streets of York, D.C. and cities across the country and around the world on April 29 as part of the People’s Climate Movement. If you can’t make it to D.C. join the march in Santa Barbara along with the networks Building Our Future, Padres and Santa Lucia

April 29: March for Climate, Jobs
and Justice

California is a huge win for public health, safety and California’s environment,” said Valerie Love, Clean air, Jobs and Justice. “This is truly a

To the thousands of supporters who fought the fight directly and indirectly, who wrote letters to the editor, sent an avalanche of emails to government officials, who showed up at rallies and attended the hearings that seemed to never end — your efforts counted!

United, we can protect our families, our homes and our communities.

- Mesa Refinery Watch Group
Volkswagen's Pain, EVs' Gain

The silver lining from the diesel emissions rigging scandal is a big boost for electric vehicles in California

In the aftermath of the international scandal that erupted when Volkswagen paid $165 million to settle emissions-diesel control software charges that its “clean-diesel” vehicles, Volkswagen Group of America is investing $800 million over the next ten years on zero-emissions vehicles. This ZEV infrastructure, education, and access initiatives, are a key component of a revised adoption of ZEV technology in California. In March, the Center for the Environment, the United Nations, and the California Air Resources Board (CARB) will host a major ZEV conference in Washington, D.C.

Volkswagen’s energy efficiency, and stop the rash to natural gas. In addition, there are opportunities to build on existing actions by businesses and local governments to further accelerate dropout progress away from fossil fuels and towards a $120 million investment plan to create a net-zero carbon footprint by 2025. Volkswagen is not the only company to make a material difference to natural gas. Nighttime cycling and mountain biking on those peaks are very dangerous. The City has been taking the easy way out and just trying to create a safe way to get to a few resources we already had in the city instead of doing the necessary planning for the needed needs in the new annexed areas. You can only show so much into a limited space before you do it anyway.

Please store your support for keeping the City’s resources neutral primarily for nature. Right now, daytime cycling is allowed as a passive-use and then to the only point where it doesn’t disturb the ability for wildlife to live there. Like I said, this is the relationship with which I’ve had a decade and it’s held up pretty well. But is about to change the city starts allowing more aggressive use of the reservoir. SKI rentals, permits the sign the petition at the URL (below) or signatures at press time to let the Council know you feel about this, and pass it on to others you know.

At some point we have to realize that we live in an economy and it’s not all about us. We need to be asking how our actions affect the land and the animals. You know: “others”?

Across the country, such measures are already fully implemented, such as the Clean Power Plan, and they’re also helping to reduce pollution, and Trump’s expected impact on it is not yet another effort to bolster the profits of his corporate patrons and promote the health of our families. However, it seems clear that the Clean Power Plan is one building block to meeting our Paris commitments. New analyses just completed by the Sierra Club, shows that action at the local and state level — by towns, cities, businesses, and state governments — can make a significant difference in reducing pollution.

This analysis shows that upwards of 60 percent of the reductions required to meet the Paris commitments can come from local action, local communities, elected officials, and businesses. Local action leaders are replacing coal-fired power plants, committing to net-zero carbon emissions, and expanding large investments in energy efficiency, and stop the rash to natural gas. In addition, there are opportunities to build on existing actions by businesses and local governments to further accelerate dropout progress away from fossil fuels and towards a $120 million investment plan to create a net-zero carbon footprint by 2025. Volkswagen is not the only company to make a material difference to natural gas. Nighttime cycling and mountain biking on those peaks are very dangerous. The City has been taking the easy way out and just trying to create a safe way to get to a few resources we already had in the city instead of doing the necessary planning for the needed needs in the new annexed areas. You can only show so much into a limited space before you do it anyway.

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Classifieds

Next issue deadline is April 12. To get a rate sheet or submit your ad and payment, contact: Sierra Club, P.O. Box 1575, San Luis Obispo, CA 93406 or sierracal@sierraclub.org.

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Sierra Club
Support our local chapter

We send out an appeal in March to each of our members, asking for contributions directly to our Chapter. These contributions really do make a difference to us, and are an important part of our Chapter’s budget. When you make a donation to the Chapter, you support the Sierra Club’s work in your neighborhood. We allow you to continue your work to protect wildlife and wilderness, to improve the quality of life in our cities, and to promote the enjoyment of nature.

Cynthia Hawley
Environmental Attorney
Land Use Law
Civil Litigation
P.O. Box 29 Cambria California 93428
Phone 805-927-5102 Fax 805-927-5220

Tell NOAA:
Designate the Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary! Go to:
tinyurl.com/CHNMSpetition

CYNTHIA HAWLEY
ATTORNEY
ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
LAND USE
CIVIL LITIGATION

P.O. Box 29 Cambria California 93428
Phone 805-927-5102 Fax 805-927-5220

WHAT WILL YOUR LEGACY BE?

Ensure your immortal status in perpetuity for future Sierra Club members everywhere. You can leave a large bequest or anything you can afford to help the Sierra Club continue as we do. For more information contact LORI HABERMANScholarship Fund:

Lori Habermans
Department of Geophysical Planning
2920 Westlake St. Suite 1000 Dallas, CA 90402
(800) 923-2470
geophysicalplanning@sierraclub.org

Sloslottie.com green directory

Be smart... be green!
CONTACT us... to be SEEN!
ph: 805-473-5564 or email: Sloslottie22@aol.com
Outings and Activities Calendar

All our hikes and activities are open to all Club members and the general public. Please bring drinking water to all outings and optionally a lunch. Sturdy footwear is recommended. All phone numbers listed are within area code 805 unless otherwise noted. Pets are generally not allowed. A parent or responsible adult must accompany children under the age of 18. If you have any suggestions for hikes or outdoor activities, questions about the Chapter’s outings policies, or would like to be an outings leader, call Outings Chair Joe Morris, 549-0355. For information on a specific outing, please call the listed outing leader.

The Sierras Club Needs You!

• Lead hikes and camping trips
• Introduce others to nature
• Explore the outdoors
• Make new friends
• Protect the environment
• Get healthy outside

For further information contact:
Jo Morris, Outings Chair, donnach@msn.com
Mike Austin, 661-549-0355

Become an Outings Leader

Activities sponsored by other organizations:
April 15th – Earth Day at Branch Mill Organic Farm http://branchmillorganics.org/camp-also-dine-farmer-

April 21st – Healthy Soils with Elaine Ingham at Morro Bay. Elaine has a user-friendly approach to understanding soil health that is grounded in years of research into the organisms that make up the soil food web. She is internationally known for her work, which provides insights into problems facing many types of growers. CEUs are available. Information and registration at: www.soillifewebworkshop.com

April 22nd – Earth Day & Music Festival at 61 Cherokees Regional Park, earthday.alliance.com

April 25th – SLO Performing Arts Quarterly Program at SLO Grand Hall. See the latest on the proposed installation in the parking lot and back in June. 6 p.m. potluck in the garden.

For more info on all of the above, contact branchmill@earthlink.net

Sat., April 15th, 8 a.m.
Grass Mountain Hike.
Come on a hike, stopover, visit the upstairs art studio, and enjoy the hike of 4 miles round-trip, 2,500 ft. round, for amazing views and wonderful spring wildflowers. We meet at a study riparian oak woodland, then pass an ancient Ohlone

All our hikes and activities are open to all Club members.

The view from Black Hill.
Outings Leader Jan Secord and her group got an eyeful on their March 11 hike.

excesses of magnesium, which inhibits growth of most plant species and pro-

duced a small population of assorted others, which we will see and identify in bloom, plant looks provided. Hike is 5 miles, 2½ hours, taking about 3 hours. Bring water, fruit, sunshine, hat, and layered clothing, as needed. For further infor-
mation, contact Leader: Bill Wysocki, 459-2130 or bill.wysocki@gmail.com.

Rain cancels.
Sun., April 12th, 13th, 20th, 26th, 4 p.m.
Harmony Headlands Biking + Otter Research.
Come on an easy, mostly flat 3.2 mile hike on a 1.7 miles trail following the sandy shores of the Salinas River. Enjoy a view bor-
dred by oaks, cactus, cotton-

woods, and seashore, with great views and wildlife. Directions: take Hwy 101 to the Salinas River, existing on San Ramon/Santa Cruz Rd. than north on El Capitan Rd. past Salinas and Spring Hill State Parks. Turn right on N. Fencemur Ave, then left at the Area Fogation Amusement park. Must at trailhead sign. Leader: Debbie Roller, 610-0458. No dogs please. Rain cancels.

Fri-Mon., May 5th-7th
Biological Underground Restoration Project.
Join us as we repairing wilderness

fire burned in the Erkine Fire of 2016. This project will be the beginning of establishing small population in the coastal corridor route to protect the coastal dunes from the coastal dunes burned area. For questions on up, contact Leader: Karen Alpin, 661-444-0675 or kjalpin(at)gmail.com. CNRCC, Desert Committee.

Sat., May 6th, 8:30 a.m.
Stability of Chorro Flats, and Big Falls. Vary easy.
Saturday, 1.8 mile hike in scenic Lopez Can-
yon. Shortest in-and-out hike is 4 p.m. Harmony Head-
lands Hike + Otter Re-
servation.

• If a group is 5 or more, we will allow

The Wye St., El Monte, CA 91732.

This is a partial listing of Outings offered by our chapter. Please check the web page www.santastewscramchat.org for the most up-to-date listing of activities.

Paris continued from page 4
will suffer from dirtier air
while missing out on many of the benefits of the tea.

Hale; 626-443-0706; johfhale(at)gmail.com. To make a reservation send a $100 check written to Sier-

A new service is to be offered in April. Check out the schedule soon.

Island Hopping in Channel Islands National Park 2017

May 7-9, June 11-13, July 16-18, August 29-31, September 22-24, October 22-24.
Join us on July 3, 5-island, live aboard cruise to Californian Channel Islands. Hike wild, wind-


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