

# Sierra Club YODELER

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## 90th Anniversary of the Bay Chapter

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER • [theYodeler.org](http://theYodeler.org) • AUGUST-SEPTEMBER 2014

### 2014 Chapter Election Calendar

#### August 7

Deadline for candidates to be registered as Sierra Club members



#### September 8

End of Nomination period  
Deadline for return of candidate questionnaires

#### December 19

Closing date for acceptance of ballots at Chapter office

#### September 29

Deadline for petition candidates

#### December 20 – 21

Ballots counted

Candidates contacted with election results

#### November 21

Mailout of paper ballots in Dec./Jan. issue of Yodeler

#### January 12

ExComm certifies results

Learn more about the 2014 SF Bay Chapter Election and how to run for a position on the Executive Committee on page 2.

### September Solar Homes Special!

Bring the Sierra Club's Solar Homes Campaign to your home. A Club partnership with Sungevity makes it easy to put solar on your rooftop with little upfront cost. You pay on your monthly energy bill, and an average Sungevity customer saves 15% on electricity costs. For September only, your participation will be rewarded even more: Sungevity will give you a \$1,000 discount and \$1,000 back to the Club for every home that goes solar. Visit:

[www.SierraClub.org/solarhomes](http://www.SierraClub.org/solarhomes)

for a free solar iQuote, or contact the Sierra Club solar-homes coordinator at (415)977-5668.

*The Chapter Calendar of events and activities is on page A.*



Hikers in Doolan Canyon; Photo by Scott Hein, [www.heinphoto.com](http://www.heinphoto.com).

## 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

continued on page 8

Find the fullest and most up-to-date coverage at [theYodeler.org](http://theYodeler.org).

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## Sierra Club online

Visit the online portal to the Sierra Club at: [sfbay.sierraclub.org/onlineportal](http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/onlineportal).

From this page you can access:

- all the resources on the Sierra Club San Francisco Bay Chapter web site;
- the Chapter Activities and Events Calendar—all items in the Yodeler Calendar (often with fuller descriptions) and more;
- a directory of Chapter leaders;
- the Chapter's social media pages, including Facebook.com/SierraClubSFBayChapter and Twitter (@SFBaySierraClub).

## Matching gift raises \$20k

The Bay Chapter thanks Lori Grace, a supporter whose exceptional generosity has helped us raise \$20,000 for efforts to move beyond fossil fuels to renewable energy. Her gift was a matching challenge of \$10,000, with \$10,000 donated by other supporters. The funds will be used to build a strong base of community opposition to local coal and petroleum coke exports, as well the transport and refining of dangerous heavy crude oils. With donors like Lori and an engaged community, the Bay Area can lead the country in developing a clean-energy based economy.

Do you want to make your own gift to support the Bay Chapter? Contact Chapter director Michelle Myers at:

[michelle.myers@sierraclub.org](mailto:michelle.myers@sierraclub.org).

### Buying or Selling a Home? Support the Chapter at Zero Cost!

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best-in-market agents  
who donate to the  
Sierra Club Bay Chapter.**



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## 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

## Will you be a Sierra Club ExComm leader?

It's election season! Every year the Sierra Club Bay Chapter's Executive Committee and the Executive Committees of each of our local groups make dozens of critical policy, budget, and other decisions. These choices are made by volunteers elected to serve and represent local chapters.

This fall, the Bay Chapter is looking for new leaders. The campaign process is not long or costly (see the 2014 Chapter ExComm election calendar on page 1). If you are a member with experience on another committee or with organizing, environmental issues, or fundraising, we could use your skills on the Chapter ExComm.

The Sierra Club is a rare national organization where members make key decisions. Success depends on the strength of our membership. It's empowering and effective.

If you're a newcomer but would like to one day run for a leadership position, get started now! Attend a committee meeting, join an outing, or find a mentor.

For more information, to request an application packet, or to help out on the Nominations and Elections Committee, visit:

[sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/chapter/elections](http://sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/chapter/elections)

or contact Elizabeth Lam, Nominations and Elections Committee Chair, at:

[elections@sfbaysc.org](mailto:elections@sfbaysc.org).

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](mailto:joanne1892@gmail.com).

To RSVP (helpful but not required) or with any questions, contact Deirdre Ashby at:

[deirdre.ashby@sierraclub.org](mailto: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 Wed. 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](mailto:toniwise@mac.com).

Find more information about groups at:

<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/groups>.

## SIERRA CLUB YODELER

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To find out more,

call editor at (510)848-0800.



Canvassers in West Oakland; Photo by Ethan Buckner.

## 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 dan-

gerous 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](mailto:jess.dervin-ackerman@sierraclub.org)  
or visit:  
[www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/coal](http://www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/coal).

## “Out of the classroom”: An intern observes environmental activism up close

As the Rolling Stones said, “You can’t always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you get what you need.” I walked away from the Senate Energy Committee Meeting on June 23 with mixed emotions. A patchwork of frustration, hope, and excitement mingled together while feelings of empowerment and disempowerment played leap-frog. At the end of the day, we—those fighting Assembly Bill 2145, the Utility Monopoly Protection Bill—got what we needed, but not what we wanted. Community Choice Aggregation in California was no longer saddled with an opt-in provision, but the bill still passed (read more about AB 2145 on page 4).

When I drove up to Sacramento that Monday morning, I did not know what to expect. Before that day I had attended meetings of the Alameda County Board of Supervisors and the Oakland City Council, but this was the first time I would experience decision-making at the state level. In fact, just about everything I did that day I did for the first time: going to a press conference on the steps of the California State Capitol; running around to senators’ offices in an attempt at last-minute lobbying; waiting for over an hour in a crowded hallway for the hearing to commence; and speaking in front of the committee during the public-comment period.

I spent the majority of my day watching and listening. I decided to intern at the Sierra Club this summer because I wanted to experience what environmental activism looked and felt like, and this was a perfect opportunity for me to observe. I observed as the Bay

Chapter’s conservation organizer, Jess Dervin-Ackerman, debated with a man there to share his support of the bill. I noticed how both of them were simultaneously joking around while being deadly serious about the matter. I saw how the people around them turned an eye and an ear to their conversation in the hope of seeing some action. I saw how both were truly listening to what the other had to say, while maintaining their own firm stance.

I observed the audience of the Senate Energy Committee meeting react throughout the hearing. I saw the woman sitting next to me raise her hands and wiggle her fingers in support of someone’s statement. I saw activists making pointed eye-contact and whispering to one another. I observed the blank faces of the senators sitting on the committee. I saw the fear on the “No on 2145” organizers’ faces when thirty people stated their support of the bill. I saw the energy in those same faces when seventy people stated their opposition to the bill. I experienced the butterflies right before I got up to the microphone and the smile on my face as I walked away.

I observed all of the anger, patience, annoyance, fear, optimism, and passion of the day. While I have many, many more things to observe, people to meet, and thoughts to consider, my trip to Sacramento and the four weeks of planning and organizing leading up to it gave me a bitter-sweet taste of environmental activism out of the classroom and in “the real world.”

Frances Swanson, Bay Chapter intern



Author Frances Swanson (second from right) with Chapter conservation organizer Jess Dervin-Ackerman (far left) and fellow summer interns (right to left) Thomas Munzar, Isabella Bustamante, and Vanessa Gerber.

## 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, forcing 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.

### WhatYouCanDo

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](http://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](mailto:jess.dervin-ackerman@sierraclub.org).

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



Anti-fracking rally in Sacramento; Photo by Aria Cahir.

## 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

frack-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:

[dontfrackcal@gmail.com](mailto:dontfrackcal@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



June rally at the PG&E Service Center, Oakland.



## 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.



# Events & Activities

AUGUST-SEPTEMBER

2014

of the SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER

OF THE SIERRA CLUB

Explore, enjoy and protect the planet

Our outings are open to all. They are designed to educate participants about the great outdoors through direct experience and contact with nature, and to cultivate an appreciation of nature and the local environment.

## 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 | A. under 1,000 feet   |
| 2. 6 - 10 miles  | B. 1,000 - 2,000 feet |
| 3. 10 - 15 miles | C. 2,000 - 3,000 feet |
| 4. 15 - 20 miles | D. over 3,000 feet    |
| 5. over 20 miles | E. over 3,500 feet    |

Backpack ratings include a third digit for travel:

- |                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| T. trail                             |
| 1. limited/easy crosscountry         |
| 2. moderate crosscountry             |
| 3. 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@jffprenticelaw.com](mailto:rpostar@jffprenticelaw.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](mailto: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 [joanne1892@gmail.com](mailto:joanne1892@gmail.com).

## Aug 2 · Sat

**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." 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 [sanbruno@mountainwatch.org](mailto:sanbruno@mountainwatch.org). (Hiking)

**Castle Rock State Park 2B hike.** Leisurely hike featuring waterfall and spectacular rock scenery. Ends 5:30 pm. Post-hike dinner at restaurant in Saratoga. **Cost:** \$8 car entry fee. **Bring:** Lunch, water, and money for post-hike dinner. **Meet:** 10:30 am at Castle Rock State Park parking lot. **Directions:** Hwy 35 (Skyline Blvd) three miles south of Hwy 9 in San Mateo County. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (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 [davesutn@yahoo.com](mailto:davesutn@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](http://www.ebparks.org/closure).

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

ing Lake Helen of Troy, Wallace Lake and Tulainyo, using abandoned trails and cross-country routes, possibly including Miter Basin gems; join the PCT/JMT on the way home. RSVP to Kevin. **Meet:** 7:30 am. **Leaders:** Brian Gunney, [brian@gunney.net](mailto:brian@gunney.net); Kevin and Carol Sawchuk, [ksawchuk@gmail.com](mailto:ksawchuk@gmail.com). (So Alameda County Group)

## 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](mailto: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 [caprice94804@yahoo.com](mailto:caprice94804@yahoo.com). (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](mailto: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](mailto:andywestbom@gmail.com); Linda Ghysels, [lindaghysels@gmail.com](mailto:lindaghysels@gmail.com). (Backpacking)

continued on following page

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](http://www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay). **Leader:** Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or [bob\\_solotar@hotmail.com](mailto: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 [terrybalestriere@yahoo.com](mailto:terrybalestriere@yahoo.com); Francois Saint Gassies. (Hiking)

**Muir Woods loop 2B hike.** Chance to see baby salmon. **Meet:** 8 am at the North Berkeley BART loading zone (front gate), or 9 am at Miller and Locust Aves., Mill Valley (in front of the 7-Eleven). **Leader:** James Bonsey, (510)527-5345 or [jlbj3@netzero.net](mailto:jlbj3@netzero.net). (Marin Group)

**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." 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 [sanbruno@mountainwatch.org](mailto:sanbruno@mountainwatch.org). (Hiking)

**Benicia State Recreation Area hike.** Trail, mostly paved, leads beside marsh and shoreline with scenic views of coastal hills and bay. Ends approx. 12:30 pm, then optional visit to Old Town Benicia for refreshments and exploration. **Meet:** 10 am in trailhead parking area just off freeway (parking fee). **Directions:** Take Military West exit off Hwy 780 in Benicia. At first stop sign turn south to West K St. **Leader:** Lidia Campos, (925)240-5795 or [lidiacampos@sbcglobal.net](mailto:lidiacampos@sbcglobal.net). (Delta Regional Group)

**Four MidPen Preserve loop 3C hike.** Exploration of old-growth forests and open grasslands in four Midpeninsula Open Space Preserves. Approx. 15 miles with 2,000 feet of elevation gain. Moderate pace, but not for speed demons or gazelles. Relaxed attitudes especially welcome. Ends 5:45 pm. High fire danger or excessive heat may cancel; call on morning of hike if in doubt. **Meet:** 10 am at Monte Bello Open Space Preserve parking lot, Page Mill Road, Los Altos. **Directions:** From I-280, take Page Mill Road exit and go west approx. 7 miles. **Carpool:** Can be arranged through the Chapter's Meetup site, [www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay](http://www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay). **Leader:** Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or [bob\\_solotar@hotmail.com](mailto:bob_solotar@hotmail.com). (Mt. Diablo Group)

## Aug 16 · Sat (continued)

**Alamere Falls and Bass Lake 2B hike.** Scenic hike to Bass Lake and Alamere Falls (large waterfall on beach). 9 miles round-trip. Leisurely pace. Ends approx. 5 pm. Post-hike dinner at local restaurant. Any rain cancels. **Bring:** Lunch, water, swimsuit and towel for possible lake swim; money for post-hike dinner in Bolinas. **Meet:** 11 am at parking lot for Palomarin Trailhead at end of Mesa Road, near Bolinas in Point Reyes National Seashore. **Directions:** From Hwy. 1 north of Stinson Beach, take unmarked road on left at top of Bolinas Lagoon toward Bolinas. Turn right at Mesa Road and follow Mesa Road to end of road in parking lot. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

## Aug 16 – 19 · Sat – Tue

**Up the Creek in Yosemite family 1B1 backpack.** Backpacking trip up Yosemite Creek into the Grant Lakes area. Moderately easy and suitable for families. Rain or shine, but may be altered due to inclement weather. **Cost:** \$20/person, excluding park entry fee. **Bring:** Individual commissary: bring all required backpacking gear, including shelter and cooking equipment. Bear canisters are required. Trip leaders will bring a minimal first-aid kit for the group. **Meet:** 10 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](mailto:brian@gunney.net); John Carney [unclejock@aol.com](mailto:unclejock@aol.com). (Backpacking)

## Aug 17 · Sun

**Point Reyes/Bear Valley-Glen Camp 3B hike.** Moderately-paced, 11-mile hike with 1,400 feet of elevation gain through an impressive variety of natural environments on Point Reyes. Great coastal views in clear weather. **Meet:** 9 am at Fairfax Parkade (across from Fairfax Theater) to carpool to Point Reyes. **Leader:** Paul F. Glodis, (510)665-6158 or [pglodis@mindspring.com](mailto:pglodis@mindspring.com). (Marin Group)

**Marin Coastal views 3C hike.** Cool off from the Summer heat as we explore the Muir Beach headlands and learn about its history. We begin along Redwood Creek, then hike up to Dias Ridge via the Miwok trail. Lunch at Muir Beach Overlook. More vistas going back via the Coast View trail and down the Dipsea. **Meet:** 10 am at Dipsea trailhead, Muir Woods auxiliary parking lot. **Leader:** Ernest Castiaux, (510)909-3301 or [ecastiaux@hotmail.com](mailto:ecastiaux@hotmail.com). (Mt. Diablo Group)

**Marin Headlands hike.** 7.5-mile loop walk around the southeastern side of the Marin Headlands. Weather permitting, enjoy spectacular views as we climb up from Sausalito to the SCA trail and make our way to Slacker Hill. From there, descend to Rodeo Valley where we'll cross the creek and view the wetlands before ascending Wolfback Ridge. Any rain cancels. **Meet:** 10 am outside Starbucks by the Safeway on Market near Dolores, San Francisco; or 10:30 am at trailhead across the street from the parking lot on the west side of Spencer Street, Sausalito. **Leader:** Paget Valentzas, 415-271-2945 or [pagetvalentzas@gmail.com](mailto:pagetvalentzas@gmail.com). (Gay & Lesbian)

## 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 day 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 pm 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 Omachi, (415)518-6503 or [rodomachi@yahoo.com](mailto:rodomachi@yahoo.com); Alice Chung, (415)765-9076 or [alicey@yahoo.com](mailto:alicey@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 accentuated with emerald lawns and sapphire lakes, offering huge viewscapes of the Great Western Divide supplanted by 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/car park entrance fee. **Bring:** Individual commissary—provide your own food. Bear canisters required. **Meet:** 8 am at Lodgepole Campground, Sequoia National Park. **Carpool:** Other participants' contact info will be provided in advance of the trip so that carpools can be arranged. **Leaders:** JP Torres, (415)584-7914 or [jpinkflo@xecu.net](mailto:jpinkflo@xecu.net); Michael Bandrowski, (510)834-3235 or [mike.bandrowski@gmail.com](mailto:mike.bandrowski@gmail.com). (Backpacking)

## Aug 23 · Sat

**Las Trampas ups and downs 3C hike.** From Bollinger Canyon Staging Area over various trails with steep ups and downs, mostly under tree cover. About 10 miles with 2,900 feet of elevation gain. **Bring:** At least two quarts of water, lunch, and snacks. Hiking poles useful. **Meet:** 9 am at Bollinger Canyon staging area. **Directions:** From I-680 take Bollinger Canyon Road all the way to the end and park at the staging area parking lot. **Leader:** Lutz Heinrich, (925)216-8672 or [litz\\_hnrch@yahoo.com](mailto:litz_hnrch@yahoo.com). (Hiking)

**Limantour Estero 3B day hike.** Follow in what may have been Sir Francis Drake's footsteps as we explore the Estero Trail in Point Reyes. Tule elk spottings possible; we'll certainly hear them as they announce the start of rutting season. We will likely also see manta rays, leopard sharks, and seals. **Meet:** 10 am at Muddy Hollow trailhead, Point Reyes National Seashore. **Leader:** Steve Bakaley, (925)945-8205 or [slbakaley@lbl.gov](mailto:slbakaley@lbl.gov) (preferred). (Hiking and Sierra Singles)

## Aug 23 · Sat (continued)

**Purisima Creek 2C hike.** Lesser-known gem along the coast of Half Moon Bay. Purisima Creek features a wide variety of vegetation, including towering redwoods, coastal scrub, ferns, berries and wildflowers. 10-mile hike through the preserve begins with a long slow climb; recommended for strong and experienced hikers only. **Bring:** Lunch, snacks, and water. Wear hiking boots and layered clothing. **Meet:** 11 am at Higgins-Purisima trailhead, Purisima Creek Redwoods Region Open Space. **Leader:** Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or [amagi@pacbell.net](mailto:amagi@pacbell.net). (Sierra Singles)

**Mt. Diablo 1A evening hike.** 3-mile nature hike on Mt. Diablo. We'll experience mother nature's night shift as we search for owls, bats, scorpions, tarantulas, poor-wills, and other denizens of the dark. Ends 9 pm. Any rain cancels. **Cost:** \$6/vehicle park entrance fee (exact change). **Bring:** Wear good hiking shoes, dress in layers, and bring a flashlight. **Meet:** 6 pm at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center, 96 Mitchell Canyon Road, Clayton. **Leader:** Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or [ken\\_lavin@hotmail.com](mailto:ken_lavin@hotmail.com). (Mt. Diablo Group)

## Aug 24 · Sun

**Sunday Streets Mission.** Visit our table at the coolest open streets event in SF! **Meet:** 11 am at Mission and 24th Sts., San Francisco. **Leader:** Ben Alvers, (510)285-7982 or [ben.alvers@sierraclub.org](mailto: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](mailto:tpost123@hotmail.com). (Backpacking)

## Aug 28 – Sept 1 · Thu – Mon

**Ansel Adams Wilderness Lake 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 Shadow, Ediza, and Minaret Lakes. Details will be sent to all trip participants approx. three weeks before trip. **Cost:** \$64 includes wilderness permit plus group commissary. **Leaders:** Ellen Potthoff, (925)229-2645 or [ellenpotthoff@comcast.net](mailto:ellenpotthoff@comcast.net); Chris Kramar, (619)818-2524 or [ckkramar@yahoo.com](mailto:ckkramar@yahoo.com). (Sierra Singles)

## Aug 29 – Sept 1 · 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 Follies. Many trails along the creek and two miles of lakeshore. 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 [pamlo@att.net](mailto:pamlo@att.net); Susan Fracisco, (301)537-7400 or [susan.fracisco@yahoo.com](mailto:susan.fracisco@yahoo.com). (Gay & Lesbian)

## 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.

EBMUD, which delivers water to approximately 1.3 million customers in the East Bay, derives 90% of its supply from the Mokelumne River. Sierra Club Bay Chapter members have joined with Foothill Conservancy and Friends of the River members in lobbying EBMUD to support SB 1199. Directors Andy Katz, Doug Linney, and Lesa McIntosh were readily supportive, but others—having been heavily lobbied by other water agencies and local governments on the "Moke"—have been slow to embrace SB 1199.

On June 24, the board voted unanimously to modify its position slightly, from "oppose if amended" to "support if amended." It is a move in the right direction, but several directors want to see the bill amended to the satisfaction of the most staunchly-opposed upcountry interests before giving it their full support.

While the state Assembly Natural Resources Committee passed SB 1199 in a 6-3 vote, its chair, Assemblymember Wesley Chesbro, also requested that Senator Hancock do everything in her power to find acceptable compromise language. It will be a challenge to reach a compromise without voiding the protective powers of a Wild and Scenic designation. A strong show of support from assemblymembers could help pressure the holdouts in Amador and Calaveras Counties to agree to reasonable provisions.

With the legislature in recess through early Aug., assemblymembers will be in their home districts gauging their constituents' views on pending legislation. Let's be sure that they hear from many of us that we want the "Moke"—a river for all!—to be saved for posterity. For more information on SB 1199 and the Mokelumne Wild and Scenic campaign, go to:

[www.foothillconservancy.org](http://www.foothillconservancy.org).

### WhatYouCanDo

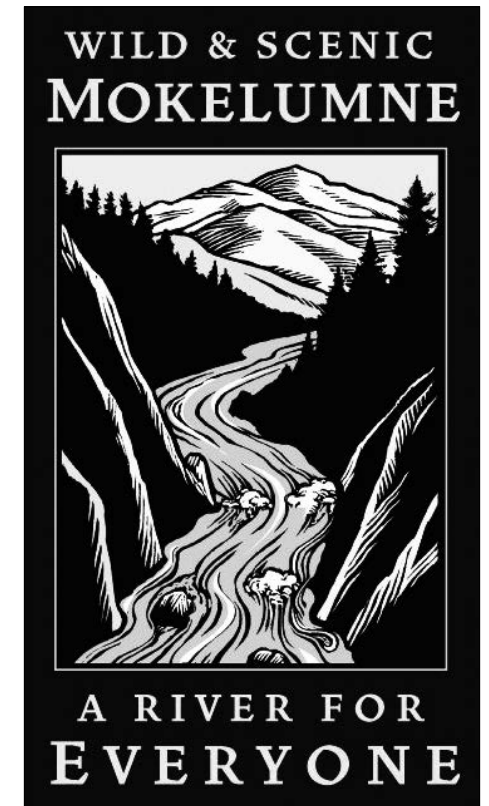
There are several ways you can help:

- Contact your EBMUD director and ask them to adopt a full "support" position.
- Visit, call, write, or email your Assemblymember and ask them to pledge their support for a broadly-protective SB 1199.
- Ask your friends and relatives in other parts of California to do the same, particularly if they live in Central Valley and Southern California districts.
- If you are in Assemblymember Bill Quirk's district (20), your voice is especially needed! Urge him to vote "aye" at the Appropriations Committee.
- Attend the Aug. 6 Assembly Appropriations Committee meeting and briefly state your support for SB 1199.

For more information or to help with this campaign, contact Chapter Water Committee

Co-chair Sonia Diermayer at (510)336-1102 or: [sodier@mindspring.com](mailto:sodier@mindspring.com).

Sonia Diermayer



## 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 com-



pared 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](http://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 the 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 whipsnake 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.

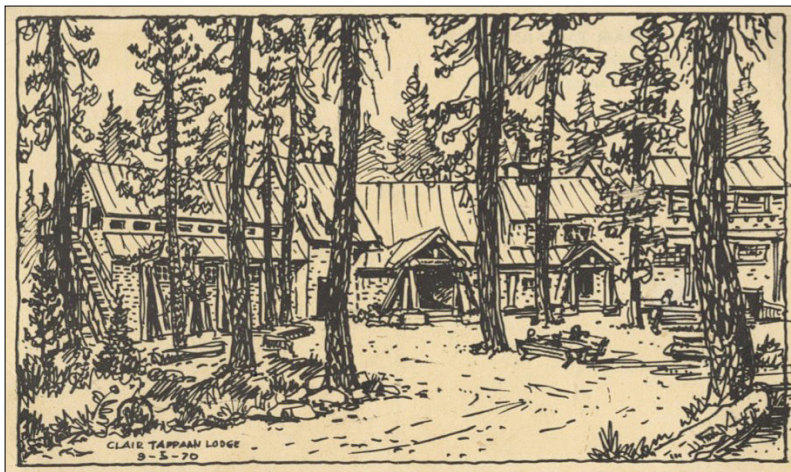
The Sierra Club believes that the public's right to full and complete access to land in Knowland Park is unequivocal. Furthermore,

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## 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@clairtappaanlodge.com](mailto:reservations@clairtappaanlodge.com).



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

## Green Fridays presents FRESH movie screening

**Fri., Sept. 12,** Chapter Office, 2530 San Pablo Ave., Berkeley. Green Fridays presents a screening of *FRESH*, the critically-acclaimed documentary about the good food movement. *FRESH* celebrates the farmers, thinkers, and business people across America who are re-inventing our food system. Each of the characters profiled in *FRESH* has witnessed the rapid transformation of our agriculture into an industrial model, and confronted the consequences: food contamination, environmental pollution, depletion of natural resources, and morbid obesity. Among several main characters, *FRESH* features urban farmer and activist, Will Allen, the recipient

of MacArthur’s 2008 Genius Award; sustainable farmer and entrepreneur, Joel Salatin, made famous by Michael Pollan’s book, *The Omnivore’s Dilemma*; and supermarket owner, David Ball, challenging our Wal-Mart dominated economy.

Green Fridays is a monthly series featuring informative speakers and discussions about the important environmental issues of our time. Join us on the second Friday of every month. Snacks and drinks begin at 7 pm; presentation is 7:30 to 9 pm. \$3 suggested donation. All are welcome!

There will be no Green Friday meeting on Aug. 8—instead, go to the Chapter Picnic (see page 2 for more information).

## 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 of 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:

[wfa@sfbaysc.org](mailto:wfa@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:

[donelan@speakeasy.net](mailto:donelan@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:

[www.visionsofthewild.org](http://www.visionsofthewild.org).

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](http://www.wilderness50th.org).

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

[hdavis@thesca.org](mailto:hdavis@thesca.org).

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

[anneth16@sbcglobal.net](mailto:anneth16@sbcglobal.net),

or Vicky Hoover at (415) 977-5527.



## 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.



Photo by Seiji Kawamura.

## 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 25-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” with your name, telephone number, and the names of your guests, to:

Jane Barrett  
170 Vicente Road  
Berkeley, CA 94705  
(510)845-8055

Attendance is limited to the first 115 reservations received. Reserve early, as these programs do fill up. The reservation deadline is Sept. 18. There is no program-only admittance.

## 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 experi-

ence, 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 (415)474-4440 or: [gsouzis@hotmail.com](mailto: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.



Yellowstone River Canyon; Photo by Gary Crabbe.

## 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](mailto:ken_lavin@hotmail.com).



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## 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 email Olga Bolotina at: [obolotina@presidiomba.org](mailto: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.

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## The Chapter is hiring!

Want to work for the local chapter of America's largest and most effective grassroots environmental organization? The Bay Chapter has two open positions: one for our conservation program and an office position.

To learn more and apply, visit:

[www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/jobs](http://www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/jobs).

## History Speaks: John Muir and his legacy

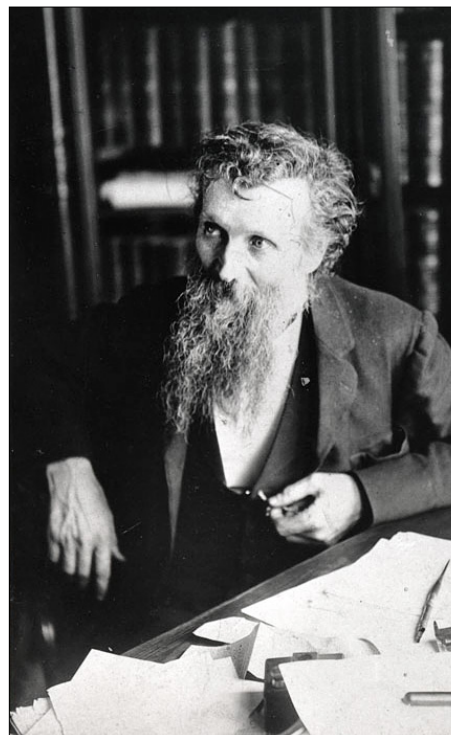


Photo from the John Muir National Historic Site.

## Our Power Day of Action

Coming together for a just transition

Sat., Aug. 9, 10 am – 5 pm. Richmond, home to the Chevron oil refinery—one of the state's largest stationary greenhouse gas-emitters—is on the front lines of the fight against a pollution-based economy. On the second anniversary of the 2012 Chevron refinery explosion, join clean-energy activists for the 2014 Our Power National Convening Day of Action.

This day-long event will unite local and national frontline communities, community-based organizations, environmentalists, labor unions, climate activists, food-justice groups, and other allies to advance a just transition strategy and build local living economies that work for people and the planet.

The Day of Action begins at 10 am with an opening ceremony and Just Transition March beginning at the Kinder Morgan Rail Yard—the destination for “bomb trains” bringing explosive Bakken crude into our community. At 1 pm, join a community speak-out. Then, from 2 to 5 pm, celebrate the day's shared vision at a community festival and solar-powered concert featuring teach-in demonstrations of just-transition strategies in action, from urban gardens to bike clinics.

This event is hosted by the Richmond Environmental Justice Coalition (REJC) and the Climate Justice Alliance (CJA). The Our Power campaign is a growing national movement working to build interconnected power bases of impacted communities, end the era of extreme energy, and implement a just transition to local living economies.

For more information and a full schedule of events, visit:

<http://www.ourpowercampaign.org/dayofaction2014>.

Thu., Nov. 13, 6 pm, California Historical Society, 678 Mission St., San Francisco.

Even a century after his death, John Muir's life continues to be an inspiration for wilderness and environmental protection. To learn about Muir is to understand how one person who cares about the environment can make a difference for public values and policy.

Join the California Historical Society (CHS) and the Sierra Club at a special event exploring John Muir's life and legacy. Doug McConnell of Bay Area Backroads will open the event and set the stage for a lecture by renowned John Muir scholar Harold Wood. The event is part of the Sierra Club's year-long celebration of the 50th anniversary of the Wilderness Act and also marks the centennial year of John Muir's passing.

Harold Wood is a long-time John Muir scholar and wilderness activist, chair of the Sierra Club John Muir Education Team, and webmaster of the Sierra Club John Muir Exhibit website.

Admission is \$5 for the general public and free for Sierra Club and CHS members. Learn more and purchase your tickets at:

<http://bit.ly/1oMXIUW>.

**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 be 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. Houillion, (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 Lone Oak; parking lot on left. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

**Sept 1 • Mon**

**SF to Sausalito via the Marin Headlands 3B hike.** Leave your car behind and play tourist at home on this urban hike through the northern tier of SF, across the Golden Gate Bridge, and over the Marin Headlands into Sausalito. Ends 6:30 pm. **Bring:** Snack or lunch, weather-appropriate clothing, money for return via 6 pm Golden Gate Ferry. **Meet:** 9:45 am in Justin Herman Plaza (Embarcadero Center) by the Hyatt Regency stairway. Parking meters will be operating on Labor Day. **Leader:** Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob\_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

**Sept 3 • Wed**

**Late summer swim 3C hike.** Join us at Five Brooks at Point Reyes for a late summer swim. **Meet:** 9:15 am at Five Brooks at Olema Valley Trail, Bolinas. **Leader:** Janie Bryant, (415)621-4163 or bryantjanie@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

**Sept 6 • Sat**

**Lands End 3A coastal walk.** All-day walk from Sutro Baths ruins to near Golden Gate Bridge and back by a mostly different route. Return to start by 6 pm. Rain cancels. **Bring:** Lunch, water, money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **Meet:** 9 am near restrooms at Lands End visitors center. **Directions:** Drive to Point Lobos Ave. and El Camino De Mar or take #38 Geary MUNI bus. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

**Sept 6 • Sat (continued)**

**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 Bouscal, (415)431-6631 or sanbruno@Mountainwatch.org. (Hiking)

**ICO 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@icorafting.org. (SF Bay Rafting ICO)

**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@icorafting.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 www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay. **Leader:** Bob Solotar, (510)525-2110 or bob\_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

**Mt. Tamalpais 2A pancake hike.** Leisurely 8-mile hike from Rock Spring to the East Peak of Mt. Tamalpais via West Point Inn, where we will stop and enjoy their famous pancake breakfast. This festive event raises funds to help maintain and improve the historic site. **Cost:** Fluffy pancakes, tasty sausage, and hot coffee for \$10 (\$5 for kids). OJ and fruit for \$1 extra. Scenic views and live music. Cash only. **Meet:** 10:30 am at Rock Springs parking area, Mt. Tamalpais State Park. **Leader:** Jeffrey Sanchez, (510)599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (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:** Enid Pollack, (415)505-0941, or enidcpollack@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@sierraclub.org. (SF Bay Chapter)

**Tarantula walk.** Leisurely loop to enjoy autumn colors in a scenic canyon, with possible tarantula spider 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)234-8949. (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 dontfrackcal@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 at Pinehurst Staging Area off Pinehurst Road. **Leader:** George Denney, (925)787-9437 or georgedenney01@comcast.net (preferred). (Hiking)

**Sept 19 – 22 • Fri – Mon**

**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 Iceburg 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 mike.bandrowski@gmail.com; JP Torres, (415)584-7914 or jpinkflo@xecu.net. (Backpacking)

**Sept 20 • Sat**

**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 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 Visitacion Ave. #206, Brisbane. Bus: SamTrans #292. **Bring:** Water and lunch. **Leader:** Paul Bouscal, (415)431-6631 or sanbruno@Mountainwatch.org. (Hiking)

**Contra Loma Reservoir shoreline cleanup.** Annual shoreline cleanup work party to celebrate California Coastal Cleanup Day. Ends at noon. **Meet:** 10 AM at parking lot near swim area. No entrance fee required; just say you are on the cleanup crew. **Directions:** Take Hwy. 4 to Antioch, A/Lone Tree Way exit; turn right on Lone Tree; right on Golf Course Road; right on Frederickson Lane to Contra Loma Park. **Leader:** Tim Donahue, (925)754-8801 or timothy-donahue@sbcglobal.net. (Delta Regional Group)

**California Coastal Cleanup.** Call for further info. **Meet:** 10 am, meeting place to be announced. **Leader:** Vera Lis, (510)234-8949. (Solo Sierrans)

**EBMUD/Redwood Park 2B hike.** 10-mile leisurely-to-moderately-paced lasso from the brown grasslands of Contra Costa County to the cool redwoods in Redwood Park. 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 EBMUD 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 slbakaley@bl.gov. (Mt. Diablo Group and Sierra Singles)

**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, money for post-walk dinner at Alameda restaurant. **Meet:** 11 am at entry to Robert Crown Memorial Beach, Alameda. **Directions:** Corner of Otis and Westline in Alameda. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

**Tarantula trek 1A hike.** A 19th-century scientific expedition described Mt. Diablo's tarantulas as "attaining the size of a half grown mouse, possessing fangs the size of a rattlesnake's, delivering a bite generally considered fatal." Truth or arachnophobia? Find out at this talk and 3-mile nature hike through Mitchell Canyon. Ends 7:30 pm. Rain cancels. **Cost:** \$6/vehicle park entrance fee. Exact change required. **Meet:** 5 pm at Mitchell Canyon Visitor Center, 96 Mitchell Canyon Road, Clayton. **Leader:** Ken Lavin, (925)852-8778 or ken\_lavin@hotmail.com. (Mt. Diablo Group)

**Bioluminescence kayaking.** Witness bioluminescent plankton on the Elkhorn Slough National Marine Sanctuary. Leisurely paddle on double sea kayaks—very stable and easy to use. No experience necessary. Send a check payable to "Blue Water Ventures" to Paget Valentzas, 386C Richland Ave., San Francisco, CA 94110. Ends 9:30 pm. **Cost:** \$55 GLS discount rate. **Meet:** 5:30 pm at Moss Landing Harbor launch ramp, behind Monterey Bay Kayaks, 2370 California 1, Moss Landing. **Leader:** Paget Valentzas, (415)271-2945 or pagetvalentzas@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

**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 Isle, 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)525-2110 or caprice94804@yahoo.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&B inns with organized luggage transport. Cost: \$2,100. **Meet:** Nuremberg, Germany. **Leader:** Thomas Meissner, (707)795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.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 9:30 am at the Fairfax Parkade (across from Fairfax Theater). **Leader:** James Bonsey, (510)527-5345 or jlbj3@netzero.net. (Marin Group)

**Shell Beach 2B hike.** Scenic, moderate-but-steady-paced, 9.5-mile hike through shady woods to four beaches on Tomales Bay. Ends at 5pm or 6pm if we swim. Hike is followed by an optional dinner or drink. Steady rain cancels. Bring: Lunch, liquids, sturdy shoes, layered clothing, and swimsuit. We may take a swimming break at the beach depending on weather and tide. **Meet:** 11:15 am at Shell Beach parking lot, Tomales Bay State Park. **Carpool:** Carpools can be arranged through the Chapter's Meetup site at [www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay](http://www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay). **Leader:** Thomas Hinshaw, (510)769-9778 or t.hinshaw@comcast.net. (Sierra Singles)

## 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 terrains 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:** 9:30 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)599-5238 or amagi@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 shady 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 Murdach, (510)581-6794 or allisonandjo@hotmail.com. (Backpacking)

## Oct 11 · Sat

**Historic Nortonville and Somersville 2B hike.** Hike trails in historic coal-mining area. Some steep trails. Leisurely pace. Return to trailhead by 4:30 pm. Post-hike potluck/barbecue in park. Any rain cancels. **Cost:** \$5 car entry fee into park. **Bring:** Lunch, liquids, and food to eat and share. **Meet:** 10 am in last parking lot in Black Diamond Mines Regional Park, at the end of Somersville Road in Antioch. **Directions:** Take Somersville Road south from Hwy. 4 in Antioch. **Leader:** Guy Mayes, (510)522-1590. (Hiking)

## 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.

## Oct 25 – 26 · Sat – Sun

**Wilderness First Responder & WEMT Upgrade.** (See above for description).

## Carpools

Carpooling helps the environment by burning less gas and reducing the number of cars on the road, and allows folks without cars to participate. If you are driving to a hike, please stop by the carpool point to pick up others. If you're a rider, pay a share of expenses.

Many activities are listed on the Chapter's Meetup site at:

[www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay](http://www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay).

Join the Meetup group and post a comment requesting or offering a ride.

## Settlement puts Plan Bay Area back on track

On June 19, Communities for a Better Environment and the Sierra Club, together with Earthjustice as legal counsel, announced an agreement with the Association of Bay Area Governments (ABAG) and the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) over a lawsuit related to the Regional Transportation Plan (RTP), otherwise known as Plan Bay Area. This settlement is a victory for all Bay Area residents, ensuring that planning for the region's transportation, housing development, and land management will meaningfully address the goals of reducing climate change; securing the health and safety of vulnerable communities; and promoting sustainable growth.

The litigation goes back to Aug. 2013, when the social justice and environmental organizations filed a lawsuit under the California Environmental Quality Act. Plan Bay Area (a 28-year, \$292-billion master plan) was supposed to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions through smart-growth programs and by improving transportation alternatives to driving. However, the plan did not provide information about the sustainability of the key smart growth programs, nor did it assure adequate funding to maintain the region's existing transit system. Plan Bay Area also took credit for reduced greenhouse-gas emissions for projects and programs unrelated to it, such as new statewide formulations for motor-vehicle fuels.

Further, there was no program for dealing with increased freight traffic, which poses health and safety risks for people living near busy truck and railroad lines (see "Oakland

joins forces with neighboring cities to oppose dirty fuels by rail" on page 3).

Under the settlement, ABAG and MTC must be transparent about what the next regional transportation plan—likely to be adopted in 2017—will do to reduce greenhouse-gas emissions. Bay Area residents have the right to know how and to what extent the plan secures their health and safety, and that of the environment.

Plan Bay Area's smart-growth program is based on Priority Development Areas (PDAs) targeted for sustainable housing growth. For example, West Oakland Transit Town Center will grow by more than 6,000 new housing units during the life of Plan Bay Area. The settlement requires that the next regional transportation plan provide the public with information about whether or not each of the approximately 200 PDAs will be successful and sustainable. For instance, residents will be told if a PDA will be adequately served by public transit, or if it may flood due to sea-level rise.

The settlement also requires that the next regional transportation plan have a transparent and effective strategy for reducing air pollution from trains and trucks moving through populated areas such as West Oakland.

Subsequent to the environmental settlement, an Alameda County judge dismissed a related lawsuit by the group Bay Area Citizens, represented by the Pacific Legal Foundation, claiming that Plan Bay Area was unnecessary and would reduce property values.

Matt Williams, Chair, Transportation and Compact Growth Committee

## 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 curbing 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 ExComm decision also dem-

onstrates 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](mailto:itregub@gmail.com).

Igor Tregub, Chapter Vice Chair

## Last chance to speak up for composting in Oakland

Oakland is implementing a new “Zero Waste” system in 2015. As the City Council prepares to approve its franchise agreements for Oakland’s waste-hauling and recycling services, do your part to help ensure that the new program protects recycling workers and expands composting to multi-family buildings. You can learn more about the campaign at: <http://bit.ly/1t4T3uU>.

### What You Can Do

Recycling and composting programs work best if everyone participates—the same is true for our political process! How you can help:

Come to the special Oakland City Council meeting on **Wed., July 30**, at:

1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza  
14th St. entrance  
Oakland, CA 94612,

and speak in support of the mandatory third bin for all Oaklanders.

Sign the online petition in support of the mandatory green organics bin for multifamily residential buildings at:

<http://tinyurl.com/zerowasteoakland>,

or write a letter to the full city council; Interim City Administrator Henry Gardner; Mayor Jean Quan; and Public Works Director Brooke A. Levin; and send it to:

1 Frank H. Ogawa Plaza  
Oakland, CA 94612

[www2.oaklandnet.com/Government](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government).

You can find sample text online at:

<http://tinyurl.com/zerowasteoakland>.

## 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.

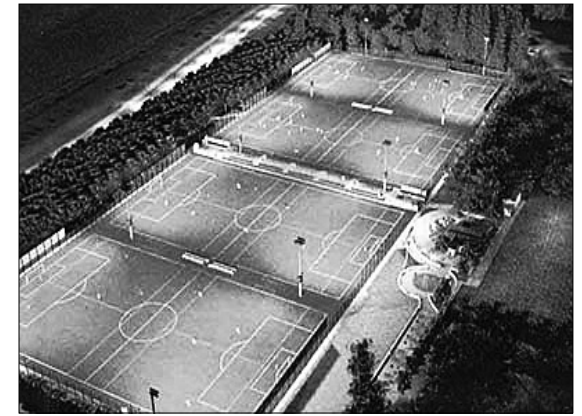
The Fields Renovation Act was born from efforts to protect Golden Gate Park from the destructive Beach Chalet soccer-fields project. For over five years, the San Francisco Department of Recreation and Park (SFRPD) has pushed for demolishing the natural-grass fields to make way for a seven-acre artificial-turf 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 night-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



Rendering of proposed SFRPD project at Beach Chalet fields.

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](http://www.protectggp.org).

For background information on the Beach Chalet soccer fields, visit:

[www.sfoceamedge.org](http://www.sfoceamedge.org).

Katherine Howard, ASLA

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## 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](http://www.desertreport.org) (Click on "Outings").

## 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, print-

ing 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.



Don Forman.

## Transportation Conference tackles MUNI troubles

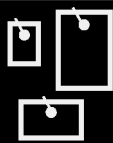
**Sat., Sept. 6, 10 am – 4 pm**, Main Public Library, lower level, 100 Larkin St., San Francisco. The Sierra Club is co-sponsoring a daylong conference geared to improving public transit in San Francisco. Experts will discuss strategies for improving MUNI, the Mayor's approach to transportation, how 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](mailto:bobf@att.net).

Karen Rosenbaum



## Classifieds

For rates, procedures, and deadlines for Yodeler **classifieds**, see:  
[www.theYodeler.org](http://www.theYodeler.org) (search for "classified")  
or call the editor at (510)848-0800.

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

### Vacation Rentals

**Spectacular Tahoe View**—4BR/2BA on quiet W. Shore. Slps 9. \$175/nt. Jeff Jones 530-474-3110

**Vacation Retreat for Yodelers:** Tranquil 30 acres with access to Napa/Sonoma wineries. Charming 3 bedroom, 2 bath sleeps 6. All-year stream, woods, meadow. Fireplace with wood. Dogs OK. 3 nights: \$600. Seven nights: \$975. Photos & info:  
<http://spot02.googlepages.com>  
415-647-3052

**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 Trinities/Marbles/PC Trail. Photos at  
[Shastaflowingwaters.com](http://Shastaflowingwaters.com)  
Laurel 415 454 0391

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### Websites

**The Sierra Club**, the Bay Chapter, and many of the activity sections have websites. To find them, visit the Chapter website at:  
<http://sfbay.sierraclub.org/onlineportal>

### Personals

**When drafting your will**, please consider a bequest to the San Francisco Bay Chapter. Contact Melanie Jolly at (510)848-0800, ext. 302, or:  
[melanie@sfbaysc.org](mailto:melanie@sfbaysc.org)

### Employment

The Bay Chapter is hiring for two open positions. For more information and to apply, visit:  
<http://sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/jobs>

## 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](mailto: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](mailto: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](http://www.sanfranciscobay.sierraclub.org/volunteer) and fill out the form, or contact volunteer coordinator Ben Alvers at:  
[ben.alvers@sierraclub.org](mailto:ben.alvers@sierraclub.org).

We need volunteers for the following events:

- Sat., 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 once 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 with conservation financing in order for this land to be preserved.

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.



Photo by David H. Collier

### WhatYouCanDo

Please sign the petition at:  
[www.AlhambraHillsOpenSpace.org](http://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

## 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](http://www2.oaklandnet.com/Government).

Norman La Force, Chair, East Bay Public Lands Committee

### Follow us on social media!



/SierraClubSFBayChapter



@SFBaySierraClub

## 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 expending \$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, Russian Hill, and nearby



Conceptual design for Francisco Park, Richard Parker, 450 architects, inc.

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](http://www.franciscoreservoir.org/email-registration)

and sign up for the newsletter.

Becky Evans

## Dublin open space

continued from front page

petition), the developer's initiative also qualified for the November ballot. If the developer's initiative passes, it would nullify the Open Space Initiative and authorize urban development in Doolan Canyon.

Fortunately, the city council voted unanimously to oppose the developer's initiative and to write the ballot argument against it. 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."

### WhatYouCanDo

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](http://www.SaveDublinOpenSpace.org),

or contact Dick Schneider at (510) 926-0010 or: [richs59354@aol.com](mailto:richs59354@aol.com).

# 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.

Number of calendars purchased	1 - 3	4 - 11	12+
2015 Sierra Club Wilderness Wall Calendar	\$13.00	\$12.50	\$12.00
2015 Sierra Club Engagement Calendar	\$14.00	\$13.50	\$13.00

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



Two formats:

► **ENGAGEMENT CALENDAR:** Week-by-week format, featuring 57 spectacular photographs and "wire-o" binding.

► **WILDERNESS WALL CALENDAR:** Spiral bound, month-by-month format, featuring 12 majestic North American landscapes.