

Sierra Club YODELER

THE NEWSPAPER OF THE SAN FRANCISCO BAY CHAPTER ♦ SUMMER 2018



VOTE!
Find June 5th
endorsements
on page 3
✓

SIGN UP FOR SUMMER BACKPACKING TRIPS ♦ TWO BAY AREA
CITIES FIGHT COAL EXPORTS ♦ OIL DRILLER WANTS TO POLLUTE
THE LIVERMORE AQUIFER ♦ CITIES TAKE ON FOODWARE WASTE

LETTER FROM THE DIRECTOR

If you're like me, there is nothing you love more than exploring the Bay Area. Whether it's poking around the Presidio or Golden Gate Park or treading further afield to more rural parts of the East Bay, there is so much to see and do. I can't think of a better time than early summer for this adventuring; the weather is just warming up, the landscape is still green and lush and it's stone fruit season — when cherries, peaches, and apricots start dripping from the trees.



Nature isn't the only thing that is buzzing around us. The chapter has been busy as a beehive moving us towards a better and healthier Bay Area. Over the past few months, an ordinance was introduced to protect Richmond residents from coal dust pollution (read more on page 5), plastic waste regulations passed in a number of cities (page 6), and we've seen an expansion of renewable energy across the Bay with our work on Community Choice Energy (pages 12-13).

Meanwhile one of our dormant groups has come back to life! The Delta Group in Contra Costa, covering areas from Pittsburgh to Discovery Bay, has new leadership working to protect the air, water, and land in the East Bay. If you live or work in the Delta area, reach out to new chair Paul Seger with ideas, concerns, or for information on the next group meeting: psseger65@gmail.com.

Though we've many recent successes, we had some bad news as well. Our campaign to stop a plan to export coal through a new terminal at the former Oakland Army Base hit a major roadblock (read more on page 4). This is distressing to everyone who is concerned about the health of the West Oakland community, as well as all of the communities that the uncovered coal trains would travel through. Be assured that although we are disappointed, we are never dissuaded, and we will continue to work to ensure that coal is never shipped from that terminal.

Whether it's at a public meeting to fight coal or a hike up Mount Diablo, I hope you will get a chance to discover and adventure with us this summer. The Bay is a wonderful place to be — let's work to enjoy, explore, and protect it together.

Minda Berbeco
DIRECTOR

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ABOUT THE COVER PHOTOGRAPH: A Wilson's Warbler greets the spring. Photo courtesy Michael Reinhart.

Sierra Club YODELER

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2530 San Pablo Ave, Suite I
Berkeley, CA 94702
Monday - Thursday, 10 am - 5 pm
Friday, 10 am - 2 pm

Email: info@sfbaysc.org
Phone: (510) 848-0800
Website: www.sierraclub.org/sfbay

Editor

Virginia Reinhart
yodedit@sfbaysc.org

Advertising

Jim Rohrlack
jim@henryhousemedia.com

Design

Courtney Andujar
www.courtneyandujar.com

Postmaster

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Address Changes

Sierra Club Membership Services
P.O. Box 421042
Palm Coast, FL 32142-1042
address.changes@sierraclub.org
(415)977-5653





Vote on June 5th!

Here are the Sierra Club's endorsements for the Tuesday, June 5th Primary Election. Please also check bit.ly/vote0518 for an updated list, as some endorsements may still be in process. Thanks for voting!

STATEWIDE OFFICES:

Governor: Gavin Newsom
Lieutenant Governor: Jeff Bleich
Attorney General: Xavier Becerra
Secretary of State: Alex Padilla
Controller: Betty Yee
Insurance Commissioner: Ricardo Lara
Superintendent of Public Instruction: Tony Thurmond

STATEWIDE BALLOT MEASURES:

YES on 68: California Drought, Water, Parks, Climate, Coastal Protection, and Outdoor Access For All
NO on 70: Greenhouse Gas Reduction Reserve Fund

U.S. CONGRESS:

Jared Huffman, District 2
Jerry McNerney, District 9
Mark DeSaulnier, District 11
Nancy Pelosi, District 12
Barbara Lee, District 13

STATE ASSEMBLY:

Dan Kalb, District 15
Rebecca Bauer-Kahan, District 16
David Chiu, District 17
Rob Bonta, District 18
Phil Ting, District 19

STATE SENATE:

Mike McGuire, District 2

ALAMEDA COUNTY BALLOT MEASURE:

YES on A: Child Care and Early Education Measure

ALAMEDA COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

Nancy O'Malley

ALAMEDA COUNTY SUPERVISORS:

Richard Valle*, District 2
Wilma Chan*, District 3

CONTRA COSTA DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

Diana Becton

CORTE MADERA TOWN COUNCIL:

Eli Beckman
Bob Ravasio
Valeria Sasser

EMERYVILLE BALLOT MEASURE:

YES on C: Emeryville Affordable Housing Bond

MARIN COUNTY SUPERVISOR:

Damon Connolly*, District 1

MARIN COUNTY DISTRICT ATTORNEY:

Anna Pletcher

MARTINEZ BALLOT MEASURES:

YES on I: Martinez Open Space and Park Protection Initiative
NO on F: "Poison pill" to nullify Measure I

OAKLAND BALLOT MEASURE:

YES on D: Protect Oakland Libraries

ROSS VALLEY SANITARY DISTRICT:

Pamela Meigs*

SAN FRANCISCO MAYOR:

Dual endorsement for first place

Jane Kim
Mark Leno

SAN FRANCISCO SUPERVISOR:

Rafael Mandelman, District 8

SAN FRANCISCO BALLOT MEASURES:

YES on A: Revenue Bonds for Public Utilities Commission Clean Power, Water, and Clean Water Facilities
YES on B: Commissioners Without Conflicts
YES on C: Early Education and Care for Every Child
YES on E: Prohibiting Tobacco Retailers from Selling Flavored Tobacco Products
YES on F: City Funded Legal Representation for Tenants
YES on G: Our Teachers Deserve a Living Wage

*Unopposed

SUMMER 2018 CHAPTER NEWS

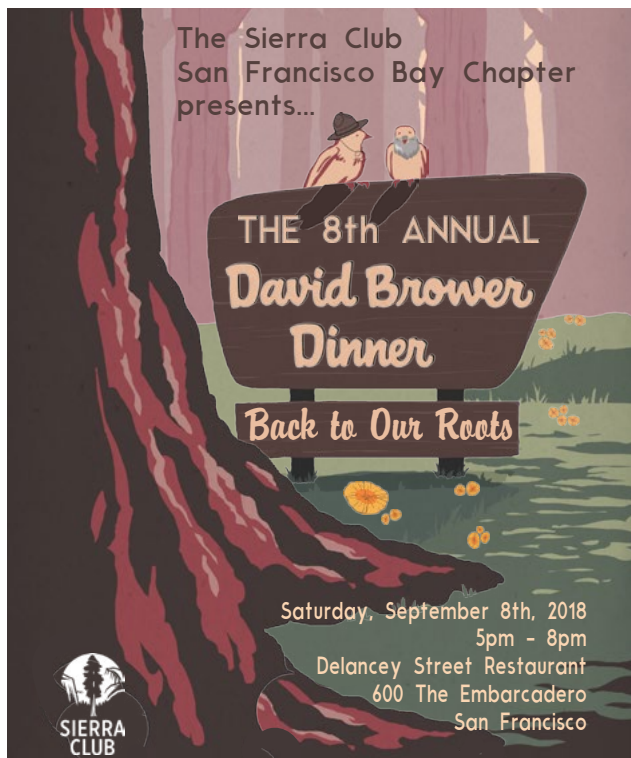
Save the date: September 8th for the David Brower Dinner celebration and fundraiser

Join us for our 8th annual David Brower Dinner as we go "Back to Our Roots" to honor the Sierra Club's history of conservation and protection of our forests and parks. The event promises to be a lively evening of inspirational talks, youth speakers, live music, and delicious food.

Honorees will include:

- Congressman Jared Huffman, legislative leader
- Jonathan Jarvis, former director of the United States National Park Service
- Dick Schneider, stalwart open space defender
- Cabrel Kapsiak, climate literacy activist (and Oakland high school student!)

To learn more and purchase tickets and sponsorships, visit www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/davidbrowerdinner2018.



Help maintain Sierra Club's Tahoe-area huts

The Sierra Club's Clair Tappaan Lodge operates four backcountry huts in the Donner Summit/Lake Tahoe area for year-round recreational use. These huts, built in the 1930s, '40s, and '50s, give ambitious skiers, snowshoers, and hikers a chance to explore the mountains without needing to build an igloo or pitch a tent.

Volunteers perform hut maintenance on weekends once the snow melts, and we're looking for Summer-Fall 2018 volunteers now! If you're interested in joining a work party, visit <http://clairtappaanlodge.com/backcountry-huts> to view the schedule and leader contacts.

Volunteers cut and stack firewood, make repairs, and get the huts ready for the winter season. The Club provides tools and supplies; all you need to bring is gear for an overnight backpack, clothes you don't mind getting dirty, and a healthy attitude toward manual labor. In exchange for their efforts, work party participants are given priority over the general public when reservations for next winter are first allocated in early November.

In Memory: Paula Carrell

We're sad to report that Paula Carrell passed away from breast cancer on May 21st. Paula was a state lobbyist for Sierra Club California in Sacramento and then served as the Club's first State Lobby Program Director, coordinating the work and trainings of the state lobby network. She initiated annual state colloquiums and was a trusted advisor and friend of chapter lobbyists and state directors. She will be missed.

PHOTO CREDITS: This page: the Peter Grubb Hut in the summer, courtesy the Clair Tappaan Lodge Facebook page; Facing page: a plastic fork lodged in the nostril of a sea turtle. Photo courtesy Sean A. Williamson, via <http://bit.ly/turtleplasticfork>

Bay Area cities take on the plastic straw scourge

ALFRED TWU

Plastic straws and other foodware aren't just a waste issue — they are a water pollution issue. Around half of all street litter is disposable foodware. This trash clogs storm drains, pollutes the Bay, and ultimately ends up in the Great Pacific Garbage Patch and inside the stomachs of wildlife.

Even when properly disposed, foodware is a challenging material to recycle. Straws and sporks are too small to sort, food contamination can cause materials to be rejected by exporters, and compostable plastics are disliked by compost processors, who find that some brands don't break down fast enough. Most straws are made from polypropylene, a petroleum-based plastic. Plastic straws can take up to 200 years to decompose.

To combat the straw scourge, a number of coastal cities have adopted or begun exploring various regulations to limit disposable foodware waste. Berkeley, Oakland, and San Francisco are among the pioneering cities.

Oakland's legislation, introduced by Councilmember Abel Guillén and adopted on May 1st, prohibits single-use plastic straws in Oakland's dine-in restaurants, bars, and other food facilities, except upon customer request, as part of its health and sanitation standards. The "straws-by-request" ordinance includes a provision that directs the City Administrator to return to the City Council in six months with draft legislation for restricting containers, utensils and other disposable food-service ware, in addition to straws.

Berkeley's proposed ordinance, introduced by Coun-

cilmember Sophie Hahn, would require dine-in customers to be served with reusable cups, plates, and utensils. Single-use straws, utensils, and stir sticks would be required to be compostable, and be provided only on customer request. There would be a 25-cent fee charged for disposable cups and takeout containers. Existing businesses that do not have space for a dishwashing machine would be exempted, as well as customers paying with SNAP and WIC.

San Francisco is the latest Bay Area city to consider a ban on disposable foodware. On May 15th, Supervisor Katy Tang and Ahsha Safaí introduced an ordinance banning plastic straws, stirrers, and cocktail sticks. It would also require that other disposable products including beverage lids, condiment packets, and napkins be made available only upon request or at self-serve stations.

Research by Clean Water Action's Rethink Disposables program has found that many businesses ultimately end up saving money from not having to buy disposables, and they also benefit from cleaner streets. For more information, visit www.rethinkdisposable.com.

Alfred Twu is chair of the Bay Chapter's Zero Waste Committee



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Judge overturns Oakland coal ban — but community vows to fight on

LUIS AMEZCUA

In a ruling released on May 15th, Judge Vince Chhabria invalidated a City of Oakland ordinance that bans the storage and handling of dirty coal at a terminal proposed for the former Oakland Army Base. The Sierra Club advocated for this ordinance alongside the people of Oakland — and when it was challenged by developer Phil Tagami, we argued in court to defend the city’s right to protect its residents’ health and safety from the impacts of a coal terminal in West Oakland.

Despite this unfortunate setback, we believe the City

of Oakland has every right to protect the public health of its community, especially for the most vulnerable, by banning the handling and storage of coal. We will continue to support the City and people of Oakland who have stood up to Phil Tagami’s dangerous coal export scheme, which could cost Oakland up to \$1.3 billion in health costs each year and cut short thousands of lives in a community already disproportionately impacted by pollution.

We support job creation and economic development at the former Army Base, but we should not have to choose between economic development and our health — we can have both. This decision is just one step in what we expect to be a long legal process. Stay tuned.

Luis Amezcua is co-chair of the Bay Chapter’s Energy and Climate Committee and chair of the Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group

Oil drilling operation seeks permits to pollute the Livermore aquifer

DONNA CABANNE

E&B Natural Resources, an oil company operating in the Livermore Valley, is seeking two conditional use permits from Alameda County that would allow it to dispose of oil-drilling waste by injecting it into local aquifers. E&B also wants to nearly triple the allowable area for wastewater injection, from 26 to about 70 acres.

The drilling process used by E&B in Livermore is a close cousin of hydraulic fracturing, or fracking, in which water that has been mixed with a cocktail of chemicals is pumped into the earth to stimulate oil production. The oil company then dumps, or “re-injects”, the contaminated water back into the aquifer for disposal, poisoning our groundwater.

Seven domestic wells and two irrigation wells are within a quarter-mile of E&B’s wastewater re-injection area, and there’s no way to keep the polluted wastewater from flowing out of the dumping area through the aquifer.

Waste-water reinjection can also trigger earthquakes, even in geologically stable areas. The area in question is at greater risk because it’s very unstable — located adjacent

to the active and unpredictable Greenville Fault, which experienced a 5.8-magnitude earthquake in 1980. Even small tremors could put the aquifers at risk by opening up contamination pathways.

E&B Natural Resources has a poor track record here in Alameda County and elsewhere. Alameda County recently cited E&B for failing to immediately report soil contamination from oil tanks at an operation in the Livermore Valley. The Alameda County District Attorney also sued E&B for improper transportation and disposal of hazardous waste. We can’t trust E&B Natural Resources with the safety of our water and public health.

The Livermore Valley has a strong agricultural tradition that continues today. It has the largest ranching community and the largest number of wineries in Alameda County. Our ranchers and many East County residents depend on wells, including deep water wells during droughts. We cannot afford to put our groundwater at risk for the maximum profits of an oil company with a bad track record.

In the first step of the permit-approval process, the East County Board of Zoning Adjustments expected to consider E&B’s request on May 24th, after this paper went to print. Visit our blog at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/blog for updates. To get involved in this campaign, email Donna Cabanne at donna.cabanne@gmail.com.

Donna Cabanne is a member of the Executive Committee of the Sierra Club’s Tri-Valley Group.

Public scrutiny of soaring Richmond coal exports yields promising City action

MELISSA YU

There's been progress in our efforts to keep Richmond's neighborhoods free of coal dust. This month, through the combined efforts of a network of residents, activists, scientists, and decision-makers, there has been growing public awareness of coal exports out of the privately owned Levin Terminal in Richmond — and new action to combat the toxic effects of coal dust spearheaded by Mayor Tom Butt.

Thanks to the efforts of activist working to bring this public health concern to the awareness of Richmond government, we finally made a breakthrough. In the May 10 Tom Butt E-Forum, the mayor expressed concerns about a significant spike in coal exports, which he was made aware of by a May 8th CBS news report. In his forum, Mayor Butt highlighted the shocking scale of coal shipments, citing new numbers provided by the terminal itself. As we can see from the chart below, coal exports last year more than *tripled* from 2016, and they're on track to exceed those numbers this year.

Coal Shipments from the Levin-Richmond Terminal	
YEAR	COAL SHIPPED
2015	986,649 metric tons
2016	377,883 metric tons
2017	1,159,386 metric tons
2018 (through March)	372,497 metric tons

Mayor Butt laid out two broad concerns: First, he wrote, "Even though it is burned for fuel in destination countries in Asia and Mexico, coal contributes to greenhouse gases worldwide that adversely affects California. Some of the air pollution also finds its way back to California". Second, "Coal dust from train cars and from the open-air storage and ship loading operations at Levin Terminal contaminates Richmond neighborhoods".

In response, Mayor Butt introduced an ordinance amending the "Public Nuisances" regulation of the Richmond Municipal Code to require coal and petroleum coke storage and transfer facilities to be enclosed. At the ordinance's first hearing on May 22nd, we joined our community partners to urge city officials to consider any possible modifications to the terminal's current operations that will



reduce impacts on our health and the health of the environment. We need the council to act immediately, as coal dust contains heavy metals that are harmful to human health and are associated with asthma, breathing problems, cancer, heart and brain disease, and low birth weight in babies.

The council voted unanimously to move the ordinance forward. Visit www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/blog to learn when the next hearing will be, and please join us!

To help in this effort, join our No Coal In Richmond activist meetings held at 7 pm every second Wednesday at 2540 Macdonald Avenue in Richmond.

Melissa Yu is the chapter's Conservation Program Coordinator

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Alameda County opens up public process to assess amendments to urban growth boundary

DICK SCHNEIDER

On April 30th, Alameda County Supervisors Scott Haggerty and Nate Miley convened in Livermore a special meeting of the Transportation and Planning Committee board. The purpose of the gathering was to get district input on amending Measure D, the county open space initiative sponsored by the Sierra Club and approved by the voters in 2000.

Measure D established an Urban Growth Boundary to prevent sprawl from encroaching on our dwindling agricultural lands, open space, watersheds, and wildlife habitat. It encourages infill and transit-friendly development to help revitalize neighborhoods within existing urban boundaries. Measure D also sets standards for development outside the urban growth boundary to protect open space from excessive development.

The Measure D amendment under consideration would expand the allowable area for agricultural and other non-residential buildings in the unincorporated rural areas. Measure D limits the floor area of such

buildings to 1% of a parcel's area in order to keep the scale of buildings in proportion to the size of a parcel. Larger parcels, and therefore presumably larger agricultural operations, get larger building areas while smaller parcels and smaller operations get proportionately smaller building areas.

Approximately 100 people attended the April 30th meeting to discuss this amendment to Measure D. The large majority of people who spoke said either that no amendment to Measure D should be made or that if any such amendment is proposed, it must be submitted to the voters for approval. Supervisor Miley had previously suggested that he could support a technical amendment without voter approval, but after one and a half hours of public testimony both Supervisor Miley and Supervisor Haggerty agreed with the overwhelming opinion that any substantive changes to Measure D must be made by the voters.

The Sierra Club's position is that persuasive evidence has not been presented that an increase in floor area or floor area ratios for non-residential buildings is necessary. Weakening the protections contained in Measure D could set a dangerous precedent for more changes, including moving the urban growth boundary. However, we, as well as many other Measure D supporters, agreed to participate in a public stakeholder process to determine whether consensus can be reached on that question.

No meetings of the stakeholder group have yet been scheduled. If any Club members have a genuine interest in this issue and want to participate in the process, they should contact Dick Schneider at richs59354@aol.com or (510) 926-0010 for more information. It is important that representation from all parts of Alameda be included in the process since voters from all of Alameda County ultimately will decide whether any amendments to Measure D are approved.

Dick Schneider is a member of the Sierra Club Tri-Valley Group Executive Committee



NATIVE PLANTS THROUGH A MODERN LENS



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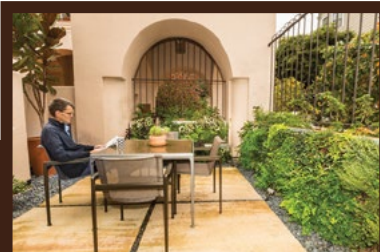
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No excuses: Community Choice energy programs now offer cleaner and cheaper electricity

MELISSA YU

San Francisco's local Community Choice power provider CleanPowerSF now offers cleaner energy at cheaper rates than PG&E. The same goes for MCE, whose default program costs its Marin, Napa, and Contra Costa County customers 2-5% less than PG&E as of March 1st.

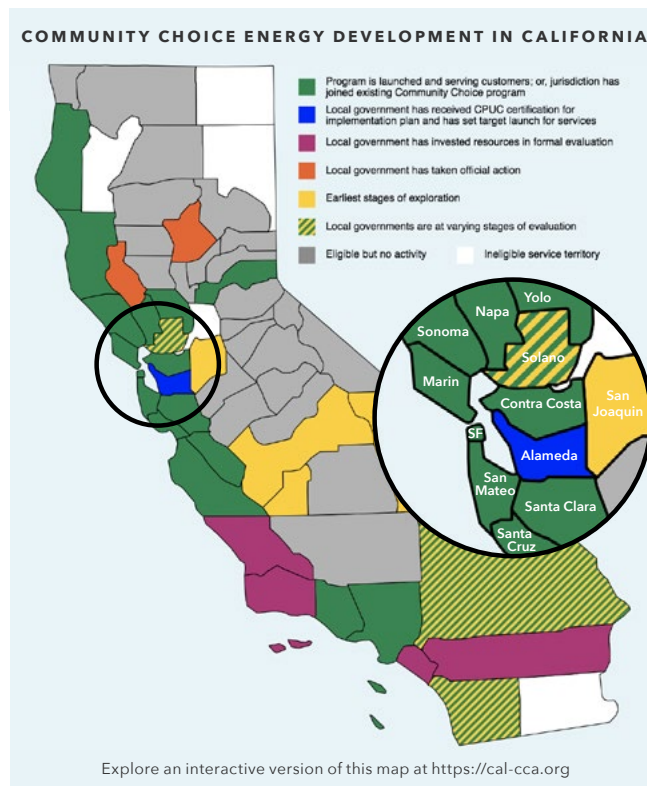
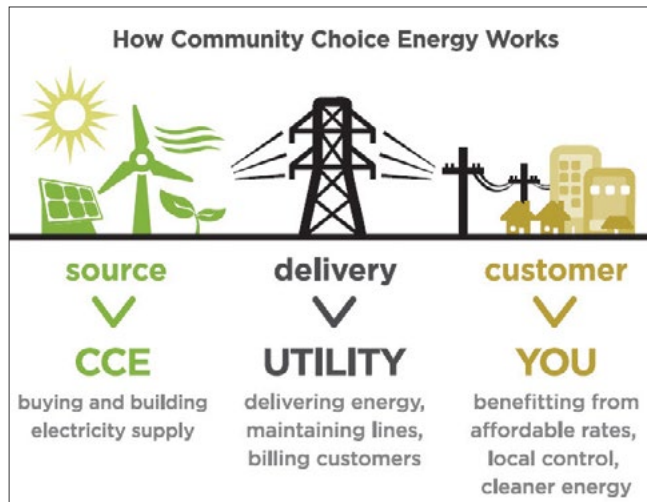
The share of renewable electricity in both power providers' default services (which customers are automatically enrolled in) is steadily increasing. Currently, CleanPowerSF's Green service contains at least 43% renewable energy that meets California's strict Renewable Portfolio Standards — and it costs less than PG&E's 33% renewable energy. MCE's Light Green service is 50% renewable from sources like solar, wind, bioenergy, geothermal, and small hydro.

The CleanPowerSF Green product and MCE Light Green product represent a great first step toward sustainability. But customers can make the ultimate clean energy commitment by choosing to enroll in their power provider's 100% renewable energy option: SuperGreen for CleanPowerSF customers or Deep Green for MCE customers. For the average residential customer in San Francisco, SuperGreen costs less than \$5 more than Green per month. Meanwhile, for the average MCE customer, Deep Green is just \$2 more per month than PG&E's 33% renewable service.

With 100% renewable power you can make a huge impact by cutting your greenhouse gas emissions from electricity to zero. That's how we improve air quality. That's how we fight climate change right here in the Bay Area — and around the globe. And because Community Choice energy programs are locally owned non-profits, ratepayer funds are reinvested in the local economy.

What are you waiting for? MCE customers can enroll in Deep Green 100% renewable energy online at www.mcecleanenergy.org/100-renewable. CleanPowerSF customers can opt up to the 100% renewable SuperGreen program at www.cleanpowersf.org/supergreen.

Melissa Yu is Conservation Program Coordinator for the Sierra Club SF Bay Chapter



Sample Residential Cost Comparison

Typical Monthly Electric Charges*

Example Monthly Residential Electric Charges*

MCE Light Green 55% RENEWABLE**	PG&E 33% RENEWABLE**	MCE Deep Green 100% RENEWABLE**	MCE Local Sol 100% LOCAL SOLAR**
\$101⁴³ <small>average total cost</small>	\$104⁰⁴ <small>average total cost</small>	\$105⁰⁴ <small>average total cost</small>	\$134⁰⁰ <small>average total cost</small>
\$55.42 PG&E Electric Delivery	\$55.42 PG&E Electric Delivery	\$55.42 PG&E Electric Delivery	\$55.42 PG&E Electric Delivery
\$30.67 Electric Generation	\$48.62 Electric Generation	\$35.18 Electric Generation	\$64.04 Electric Generation
\$15.34 Additional PG&E Fees	— Additional PG&E Fees	\$15.34 Additional PG&E Fees	\$15.34 Additional PG&E Fees
NO ACTION NEEDED	OPT OUT FOR PG&E	OPT UP TO DEEP GREEN	OPT UP TO LOCAL SOL

California's first Community Choice energy program now spans three counties

DAVE MCCOARD

In 2010 MCE was formed in Marin County as California's first Community Choice program — a game-changing alternative to the investor-owned utility model that enables cities and counties to pool electricity customers and form a local power agency. Since then, MCE has been an exemplar of what the Community Choice model can do for customers, communities, and the environment. As of this spring, Concord, Danville, Martinez, Moraga, Oakley, Pinole, Pittsburg, San Ramon, and unincorporated Contra Costa County are enjoying these benefits as the newest MCE member communities. MCE also serves Marin, Napa, and most of Contra Costa County's other cities.

MCE has established a solid financial base and is invest-

ing in local clean energy projects. In addition to providing local energy, these projects create jobs and economic development for the community. MCE has developed several local renewable energy sources, including Richmond's 10.5-megawatt Solar One solar farm, which generated 341 jobs and flipped the switch in December 2017.

Now that it's providing power to nearly all of Contra Costa, MCE is putting down even deeper roots. It has signed a multi-trade project labor agreement for medium- and large-scale solar projects in Contra Costa, to be union-built and to create local jobs. MCE is also collaborating with Future Build in Pittsburg to establish MCE's first local call center. And MCE is planning to open an East Bay office in Concord's downtown area, creating economic and job benefits.

For more details on local renewable energy projects, visit www.mcecleanenergy.org/local-projects.

Check out the article on the previous page to learn more about MCE's energy choices.

Dave McCoard is co-chair of the Bay Chapter's Energy & Climate Committee

Alameda County's Community Choice energy program to add a 100% renewable choice

LUIS AMEZCUA

We're thrilled to report that in April, the board of directors of East Bay Community Energy (EBCE), Alameda's new Community Choice power program, voted to offer a 100% renewable electricity choice starting in November 2018! Thank you to the hundreds of Sierra Club members who sent messages and spoke up at the board meeting to achieve this critical victory.

The locally governed, non-profit EBCE will start serving commercial and municipal customers in June, and residential customers in November. Customers will be automatically enrolled in EBCE's 38% renewable Bright Choice program, which provides more clean energy than PG&E offers — at a cheaper rate. And now, thanks to last night's decision, Alameda County residents and businesses will be able to do more for the climate by "opting up" to 100% renewable power. All of California's existing Communi-

ty Choice programs offer a 100% renewable option, and it usually costs residential customers between \$2 and \$5 more per month.

Details have not yet been released about how to sign up for the 100% renewable product, but we'll be in touch with Alameda County residents when information is available.

Additionally, EBCE is on track to approve its Local Development Business Plan in July. We've submitted comments for each draft at every comment period, and we've been impressed with the quality of work being completed. The Business Plan has been of utmost importance to the Sierra Club and its allies, as it will serve as a roadmap to develop and integrate local renewable energy resources in the long and short term. It will also lay out how the program will foster meaningful benefits to its local customers.

The EBCE service area is unincorporated Alameda County and eleven of its cities: Albany, Berkeley, Dublin, Emeryville, Fremont, Hayward, Livermore, Oakland, Piedmont, San Leandro, and Union City. Only Newark and Pleasanton opted out of joining EBCE. The City of Alameda is served by its own municipal utility.

Luis Amezcua is co-chair of the Bay Chapter's Energy and Climate Committee and chair of the Sierra Club Northern Alameda County Group

What the Sierra Club is doing at the local level to tackle the housing crisis

JULIA FOOTE

How can we reconcile the Bay Area's housing crisis while passing scattered vacant lots, commercial buildings adorned with "for sale" signs, and simply too many homeless encampments? Between 2011 and 2015, the region has added only one unit of housing for every eight jobs created — and the influx of new residents isn't going to slow down anytime soon; to accommodate the two million new residents expected by 2040, we need to build 820,000 new homes.

It's a given that we must provide homes for everyone. How and where we build the necessary housing has serious implications for both people and planet. The Bay Chapter advocates for affordable, infill development in "Priority Development Areas" in order to house the growing population in a way that makes sense for people and the environment.

Under a program implemented by the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and Association of Bay Area Governments, local city and county governments throughout the region have identified and approved Priority Development Areas, or PDAs. The goal of PDAs is to tackle the challenges of creating affordable infill housing and reducing driving emissions, which increase as people are displaced

further from where they work, shop, and recreate. Over 70 Bay Area local governments have voluntarily designated nearly 200 PDAs, which are intended to accommodate about 80 percent of new housing and over 60 percent of new jobs on less than five percent of the region's land.

A BOTTOM-UP APPROACH

The concept of PDAs is a bottom-up approach to encourage cities and counties to permit and advocate for higher-density development around the region's transit. With more top-down legislation regarding development coming down the pipeline at the state level (such as the now-dead SB 827), PDAs are a way to incorporate local land use considerations into planning.

TRANSIT-ORIENTED DEVELOPMENT

PDAs aim to concentrate dense development in areas that are transit-rich and near job centers and other amenities. They apply the concept of transit-oriented development, meaning that communities are designed with transit-riders, pedestrians, and cyclists in mind. Compact, dense development not only allows for the creation of more housing units, it also concentrates people near transit hubs and walk-to destinations so that green modes of transportation are utilized and vehicle use decreases. The approach also elevates design considerations so streets are safe and attractive to pedestrians.

THE AFFORDABILITY CHALLENGE

Successful transit-oriented development depends on affordable housing because low-income populations rely heavily on transit. Locating affordable housing within PDAs has a positive impact on transit ridership, reduces car travel, and helps



PHOTO CREDIT: An example of the "Complete Streets" design principle, which creates safe and welcoming access for pedestrians, bicyclists, transit riders, and motorists. Photo courtesy Eric Sehr via Flickr Creative Commons.

combat displacement. Here in the Bay Area, displacement has hit communities of color, low-income workers, and other vulnerable populations most severely, often forcing these groups out and away from their communities, jobs, and way of life.

THE THREAT TO OPEN SPACE

On top of the deep social impacts and injustices of displacement, the mass migration out of urban areas to find less expensive homes increases pressure for sprawl development on open space and agricultural lands. Greenbelt Alliance's 2017 "At Risk" report found that 293,000 acres of open space in the Bay Area's greenbelt are in jeopardy of being developed over the next generation, with 63,500 acres at high risk of being developed within the next 10 years. For the health of our people and planet, it's necessary to protect these natural landscapes and the valuable ecosystem services they provide, such as clean air and water, food, and climate change mitigation.

CHALLENGES FOR PDAS

PDAs aim to stop this chain reaction by helping cities meet their state-mandated Regional Housing Needs Allocation (RHNA) requirements for the amount of housing units that must be built for different income levels. The major challenge for most cities is meeting targets for low, very low, and extremely low income residents due to a lack of funding for affordable housing. Unfortunately, state and federal governments have pulled back financial support for affordable housing, so local governments are left with the challenge of financing its provision. The majority of affordable housing is now built through inclusionary housing policies that require new developments to include a certain percentage of affordable homes, with that percentage often not being high enough to meet housing goals.

In addition to the challenge of creating enough affordable housing, PDAs have been slow to reach their potential due to other factors such as a lack of planning readiness, infrastructure needs to accommodate additional growth, and the contentious nature of development.

WHAT WE'RE DOING TO HELP:

We advocate for PDAs in order to provide necessary affordable housing, reduce vehicle emissions, and preserve our valuable open spaces. Here's some of what we've been doing lately to help achieve these goals:

We helped to ensure that the transit-oriented Berkeley Way project — an ambitious development for affordable and supportive housing for the homeless in downtown Berkeley — moved forward without minimum parking requirements. This helped the project move along without delay and will

help effectively reduce emissions from vehicles.

We also successfully pushed for affordable housing as part a planned development on a parking lot at Lake Merritt BART station, which falls within a PDA. The project had been planned to be primarily commercial and include parking to replace what would be lost by building on the lot. We sent BART a letter advocating for a mixed-use development, and BART's response was to change their plans so that the development is residential and commercial; the housing is 25% affordable; and they won't replace the parking.

Recently, we called on our members to turn out and speak in support of the Habitat for Humanity Las Juntas Way project when it went before the Walnut Creek Planning Commission. This project was approved, and it will provide high density, infill, affordable housing for working families directly across the street from the Pleasant Hill BART station.

In addition to advocacy on specific projects like these, I am working as a full-time organizer to speak with local decision makers, community groups, our members, and residents about the benefits and necessity of infill development within PDAs, while addressing concerns that come with development. I'm researching grant resources, technical assistance programs, policy recommendations, and success stories from other cities to share with those that are falling behind in affordable housing development. Our goal is to help push forward the appropriate development of PDAs to help residents of the Bay Area and the environment alike.

WHAT YOU CAN DO:

Come to our upcoming community event and learn how to be an advocate for transit-oriented development!

WHAT: Building Equitable & Sustainable Bay Area Communities

WHEN: Tuesday, June 12, 6 pm

WHERE: National Sierra Club offices in Oakland, 2101 Webster Suite #1300, Yosemite Room

RSVP: bit.ly/transitorientedbayarea

Join the Sierra Club, East Bay Housing Organizations, and Walk Oakland Bike Oakland for a conversation about transit-accessible development, affordable housing, and bikeable/walkable communities. This is an opportunity to discuss the environmental and social aspects of development and learn how to be an advocate for the most equitable and sustainable avenues of development in your community.

You can also reach out to me directly at (510) 848-0800 or julia.foote@sierraclub.org.

Julia Foote is the Bay Chapter's Community Outreach Coordinator

Environmental review shows Regional Transportation Plan won't achieve driving reductions

MATT WILLIAMS

Our regional transportation plan (Plan Bay Area 2040) will guide the expenditure of \$303 billion between now and 2040 to enact transportation and land-use strategies in the nine-county Bay Area. This plan (and this budget) offers an enormous opportunity to influence where people live and how they get around in order to reduce our collective impact on the environment and create “a more sustainable, equitable and economically vibrant future.”

The Sierra Club wholeheartedly supports these goals, as well as the core strategy identified to achieve them: targeted in-fill development near transit, identified as Priority Development Areas. But we wanted to know: is the plan set up to achieve its goals?

To answer this question I've been digging into Plan Bay Area's 762-page Environmental Impact Report (EIR). I've found huge gaps between the plan's stated goals and what the environmental review indicates it will accomplish. Here's an overview of my findings so far:

lion additional vehicles on Bay Area roads by 2040 — not a good start for a plan with the stated goal of “[reducing] per-capita CO₂ emissions from cars and light-duty trucks by 15%.” This number of additional vehicles is also in conflict with the vision of compact communities; on already congested local streets, where will 1.1 million more cars be parked? Building parking in new residential developments can't be the answer, as it takes up limited space and increases costs.

Table 2.1-14 Bay Area Travel Behavior (2015-2040)

	2015	2040 Plan	Change (2015 to 2040 Plan)	
			Numerical	Percent
Daily ¹ Transit Boardings	2,279,000	3,208,900	929,900	+41%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Trips ²	21,227,800	26,018,900	4,791,100	+23%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Miles of Travel (VMT) ²	158,406,800	191,528,600	33,121,800	+21%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Miles of Travel per Capita ²	20.9	20.0	-0.1	-4%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Hours of Recurring Delay	353,200	531,100	177,900	+50%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Hours of Recurring Delay (Freeways)	222,800	323,400	100,600	+45%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Hours of Recurring Delay (Expressways and Arterials)	99,200	126,400	27,200	+27%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Hours of Recurring Delay (Other Facilities)	31,300	81,300	50,000	+160%
Daily ¹ Vehicle Hours of Non-Recurrent Delay ⁴	144,900	188,000	43,100	+30%
Total Daily Vehicle Hours of Delay (Recurring + Non-Recurrent)	498,100	719,100	221,000	+44%

Notes:
¹ Daily metrics are measured for a typical weekday and rounded to the nearest 100.
² Only reflects interzonal trips (assigned directly to the highway network); includes intraregional, interregional, and commercial vehicle trips, and trips to and from the airport and future high-speed rail stations.
³ Total daily VMT is calculated using *Travel Model One*; therefore, to calculate per-capita VMT, it is essential to use simulated population levels to ensure consistency. Simulated population may be slightly different than overall population forecasts for Plan Bay Area EIR alternatives because of slight variability in modeling tools. Further clarification on this issue is found in the Plan Bay Area EIR technical appendices.
⁴ Only includes non-recurrent delay on freeway facilities.

Figures may not sum because of independent rounding.
 Source: Metropolitan Transportation Commission Travel Demand Forecasts 2015

Table 2.1-11 Bay Area Demographic Forecasts (2015-2040)

Demographics	2015	2040 Plan	Change (2015 to 2040 Plan)	
			Numerical	Percent
Total Population ¹	7,571,300	9,627,500	2,056,200	+27%
Total Jobs	4,010,100	4,698,400	688,200	+17%
Employed Residents	4,027,000	4,663,900	636,900	+16%
Total Households	2,760,500	3,426,700	666,200	+24%
Share of Households with Zero Autos	10%	11%	+1%	+10%
Share of Households with One Auto	33%	34%	+1%	+3%
Share of Households with Multiple Autos	57%	55%	-2%	-4%
Average Number of Vehicles by Household	1.74	1.70	-0.04	-2%

Note:
¹ Population statistics reflect the total Bay Area population able to travel on the region's transport network; it does not include immobile, involuntary populations such as prison inmates.
 Sources: Association of Bay Area Governments 2016; Metropolitan Transportation Commission Travel Demand Forecasts 2015

TOO MANY MILES DRIVEN

My latest findings underscore the concern that Plan Bay Area will not achieve the required reduction in driving-related emissions. According to Table 2.1-14 ("Bay Area Travel Behavior (2015-2040)", above), per capita mileage is only expected to decrease by 4% (the statewide goal is a reduction of 15% by 2020). Aggregate daily vehicle miles traveled, meanwhile, is expected to increase by 21%! Moreover, all of that driving will result in routine traffic delays on freeways increasing by 45%.

CARS STILL DOMINATE THE COMMUTE

One of the objectives of Plan Bay Area's greenhouse gas reduction strategy is to shift people from cars and light trucks to walking, biking, and mass transit, such as buses. Yet what we find in Table 2.1-15 ("Typical Weekday Daily Person Trips, by Mode (2015-2040)", next page) throws cold water on that objective.

TOO MANY CARS

In a prior analysis of the EIR (based on Table 2.1-11, "Bay Area Demographic Forecasts (2015-2040)", above), I showed that Plan Bay Area projects an additional 1.1 mil-

By 2040, driving alone will still make up 46.6% of all trips — just 1% less than in 2015. Half of that 1% change will go to carpools and the other half to transit. The share of trips by walking will stay the same and the share of trips by bike are projected to go down.

Table 2.1-15 Typical Weekday Daily Person Trips, by Mode (2015-2040)

Purpose	2015		2040 Plan	
	Trips	% of Total	Trips	% of Total
Drive Alone	12,310,000	47.6%	14,880,100	46.6%
Carpool	8,917,700	34.4%	11,138,800	34.9%
Transit	1,660,900	6.4%	2,208,500	6.9%
Walk	2,695,600	10.4%	3,320,700	10.4%
Bike	305,500	1.2%	359,100	1.1%
Total Trips¹	25,889,700	100%	31,907,200	100%

Note: ¹ Excludes commercial and interregional trips. Figures may not sum because of independent rounding. Source: Metropolitan Transportation Commission Travel Demand Forecasts 2015

OVERVIEW

It seems clear from Plan Bay Area’s own environmental review that it will fail to meet the state-mandated requirement to cut greenhouse gas emissions from transportation “through the promotion of more compact, mixed-use residential and commercial neighborhoods near transit”. Adding 1.1 million cars to the road, driving an additional 33 million miles each day, and shifting just 1% of drivers into other modes of transit doesn’t sound like a recipe for success. This raises a fundamental question: If we don’t plan to succeed, how will we?

THE SIERRA CLUB'S ROLE

The Sierra Club is trying to help jumpstart stalled Priority Development Areas to reduce driving-related emissions that contribute to climate change. Read more about this work on pages 12-13.

Our efforts to provide housing for all Bay Area residents extend to our political work. In the June 2018 election we've endorsed Emeryville's Affordable Housing Bond (Measure C), as well as measures to prevent displacement including Alameda County's Measure A for child care and early education, SF Measure D for a living wage for teachers, and SF Measure F for city-funded legal representation for teachers. In the November 2016 election we endorsed and worked to pass a dozen affordable housing ballot measures, including Oakland's Measure KK, San Francisco's Measure C, and Berkeley's Measure U1, which will invest \$600 million, \$260 million, and an annual \$1.5-\$4.5 million, respectively, into affordable housing.

WHAT YOU CAN DO

In order to get local officials fully on board and engaged, we need you, their constituents, to let them know you support the goal of affordable infill housing near transit. Please write or call your elected representatives today

and ask them to do everything in their power to make Priority Development Areas in their districts a success. Tell them that the housing crisis and the climate crisis depend on their action in our city centers.

If you want to get involved in this campaign, email Bay Chapter organizer Julia at julia.foote@sierraclub.org.

Matt Williams is chair of the Bay Chapter's Transportation & Compact Growth Committee.



NOT EVERY HIKE IS ALIKE

Join over 2,500 people across the nation raising money with Team Sierra. These funds support clean energy, make the outdoors accessible for all, and protect our water, air, and land.

Join Team Sierra and make your next hike a fundraiser to benefit the Sierra Club. Learn more at teamsierra.org/sanfrancisco




ABOUT THIS CALENDAR

Activities listed here are abbreviated. For full listings, visit: sierraclub.org/sfbay/activities. The online calendar will also include changes, cancellations, and outings submitted after the print deadline.

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, good hiking boots with treads, 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, or visit <http://tinyurl.com/outingswaiver>.

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 contact the Activities Committee ombudsman, Seth Feinberg, at sethfeinberg@yahoo.com or (510)969-7151, or the Chapter office at (510)848-0800.

Carpooling

Carpooling helps the environment and allows people 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 a couple weeks in advance of the event. Join the Meetup group and post a comment requesting or offering a ride: www.meetup.com/sanfranciscobay.

SUMMER 2018 OUTINGS CALENDAR

TUESDAYS

Lake Chabot Reservoir 1A hike. Scenic weekly three-mile hike followed by optional dinner at a local restaurant dinner. MEET: 4 pm at boathouse/cafe. LEADER: Dolores Gruenewald, (510) 351-6247 or doloresgru@aol.com. (Solo Sierrans)

WEDNESDAYS

Lafayette Reservoir 1A hike. Enjoy the lovely weather while walking around the beautiful reservoir. We have both faster and slower walkers, or you can walk at your own pace. Optional dinner afterward. MEET: 4 pm in parking lot (takes five quarters or annual pass). LEADER: Lee Cowden, (925) 934-6357. (Solo Sierrans)

ALTERNATE FRIDAYS (JUNE 1, 15, 29; JULY 13, 27)

Redwood Park 1A evening hike. This four-mile hike features lush woods and expansive vistas. The terrain is hilly so be prepared for at least a light cardio workout. Friendly dogs welcome. MEET: 6:30 pm at Redwood Staging Area, Roberts Regional Recreation Area, Skyline Boulevard, Oakland (about 40 feet from the entrance to the Chabot Space and Science Center). LEADER: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510) 599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JUN 2 • SAT

Mount Tam circumnavigation 3B hike. This is a counterclockwise round-the-mountain hike that begins near Mountain Home Inn. MEET: 9:30 am in the parking lot across from the inn, 810 Panoramic Highway, Mill Valley. ENDS: 4 pm. LEADER: Marian Stainbrook, (510) 673-7408 or marian2049@att.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

Whales and wildlife private cruise for women. We hope to encounter a variety of whales, dolphins, pinnipeds, and seabirds on our cruise in Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. Our afternoon will begin observing a famous raft of sea otters residing in North Moss Landing Harbor. From there, caravan to the boat at South Moss Landing Harbor. To register, contact the leader. COST: \$60. ENDS: 8:30 pm. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510) 759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

Inner Sunset to Ocean Beach 2A hike. Walk to Ocean Beach via Sea Cliff with its lovely homes and the very scenic Coastal Trail. This is a one-way hike, returning via Muni. COST: Muni fare is \$2.75 or \$1.35 for seniors. MEET: 10:15 am at the northeast corner of 9th Ave and Irving Streets, San Francisco. ENDS: 4 pm. LEADER: Gloria Navarra, (415) 731-6144. (Hiking)

JUN 3 • SUN

Pescadero Creek County Park 3B/3C hike. Explore less-traveled territory through first- and second-growth redwood forests, with the occasional panoramic view. Moderate pace. Choice of an 11.5-mile route with approximately 1,600' elevation gain or a 14-mile route with 2,100' elevation gain. Not for speed demons or gazelles, but not a beginner's hike. MEET: 10:15 am at Sam MacDonald County Park parking lot. ENDS: 6:45 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510) 525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

JUN 9 • SAT

Gorgeous views from Tam's East Peak 3B hike. Hike up to East Peak with its mesmerizing views, where we'll have lunch, walk around the peak, and visit the history center before heading back down, with a quick stop at West Point Inn. Strenuous hike for the very experienced hiker. BRING: Money for lemonade at the West Point Inn. MEET: 9:30 am at Rock Springs parking area, West Ridgecrest Boulevard, Stinson Beach. ENDS: 3:30 pm. LEADERS: Kimberly Luce, (707) 571-9510 or kluce@sonic.net; Kimberly Oberg, (425) 941-4149 or kimoberg01@gmail.com; Marian Stainbrook, marian2049@att.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

Piedmont 2A architectural walk. An architectural and historical walk past Piedmont mansions, emphasizing homes designed by Julia Morgan. Leisurely pace, takes all day. BRING: Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. MEET: 9:45 on Piedmont Elementary School lawn at corner of Piedmont and Echo Avenues in Oakland. Ends around 5 pm. LEADER: Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

JUN 10 • SUN

Mount Diablo 'round the mountain 2C hike. This classic loop provides stunning views in all directions. We will circle the Park's namesake peak via Deer Flat, Murchio Gap, Prospectors Gap, and Devils Elbow. Late-season wildflowers should be abundant. Steady, relaxed pace with breaks. Be prepared for poison oak. COST: \$10 vehicle entry fee. MEET: 9:30 am at parking lot at entrance to Juniper Campground on Summit Road. LEADER: Jake Van Akkeren, (925) 933-3486 or jvanakkeren@comcast.net. (Mount Diablo Group)

Angel Island 2B hike. From Tiburon we will sail across Raccoon Strait into Ayala Cove and then hike up and around Mount Livermore. Afterwards we will head down to secluded Perles Beach. Wide variety of terrains and (weather permitting) spectacular views of the bay. COST: \$15 cash for the ferry (round trip), plus parking (\$5+). MEET: 9:30 am in front of the restrooms at the Tiburon Ferry Terminal, 21 Main Street, for the 10 am ferry. LEADER: Jeffrey Sanchez, (510) 599-5238 or amagi@pacbell.net. (Sierra Singles)

JUN 12 • TUE - FRI, JUN 15

Car camping at Big Basin. Located the heart of the Santa Cruz Mountains, Big Basin's biggest attractions are its ancient coast redwoods. Some of these giants are more than 50 feet around and as tall as the Statue of Liberty. The park also offers spectacular views of the Pacific Ocean, lush waterfalls, and a fascinating natural and cultural history. COST: \$50. BRING: Your own breakfasts, lunches and happy hours, plus (with others) one evening meal. LEADER: Diane Burke, (530) 227-5052 or diane.burke@sbcglobal.net. (Solo Sierrans)

JUN 15 • FRI - JUN 17 • SUN

Backpack from Glen Alpine to Lake Aloha, Desolation Wilderness 2BT backpack. Explore the beauty of Desolation Wilderness by hiking along the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail. Hike pass the lovely Susie and Heather Lakes to camp at Lake Aloha. Once camp is set up, we may take a short two-mile side trip to Jabu Lake. Watch the sunset over the snow-capped Crystal Range. Register through the online activities calendar or email leader. COST: \$35. BRING: The trip is individual commissary. Bear canisters required. LEADERS: Yanny Cheng, (612) 888-1818 or chengyeyan@hotmail.com; Rodney Omachi, rodomachi@yahoo.com. (Backpacking)

JUN 17 • SUN

Shell Ridge hike and picnic. Enjoy the views in the Diablo foothills at Shell Ridge Open Space in Walnut Creek. 3.75-mile hike with rolling hills, mostly on fire road trails, with a picnic brunch afterwards. Dogs are allowed, but be aware that there are rattlesnakes and cows in the area. BRING: Potluck dish. MEET: 9 am at Bob's Pond picnic area, 1035 Castle Rock Road, about 1/2 mile past Northgate High School. Turn right off Castle Rock Road when you see the sign for Old Borges Ranch. LEADER: Beth Bittle, (510) 759-6225 or callingu2@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

Bernal Heights greenery and stairways 1A walk. Visit community gardens and other points of historical interest in San Francisco's Bernal Heights and Mission neighborhoods. The approximately four-mile walk will climb around 800 feet at a leisurely pace. Restrooms are limited. Optional early dinner or snack afterwards. MEET: 11 am at Orange Alley and 24th St, San Francisco. LEADER: Eihway Su, (415) 566-5412 (home). (Hiking)

JUN 22 • FRI - JUN 24 • SUN

Hetch Hetchy loop 3CT backpack. Join us on this early summer 29-mile loop beginning and ending at Hetch Hetchy Reservoir in Yosemite, with overnights at Rancheria Falls and Lake Vernon. Late winter rains should ensure beautiful waterfalls and streams. COST: \$45. To register, email Linda. BRING: Bear cans required, as well as all gear and food. LEADERS: Linda Weldele, (925)852-1011 or lindaweldele@gmail.com; Thomas Meissner, (707) 795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

JUN 23 • SAT

Pink Triangle installation and hike. We see it every year: the large Pink Triangle that overlooks our city on Pride Weekend. Our outing will begin at Twin Peaks where we'll show how butch we are as we help assemble dozens of pieces of pink canvas to create a triangle that can be seen for miles. Afterwards, we'll take a hike via public staircases, open spaces, and beautiful gardens enjoying gorgeous city views as we go. The 2-mile hike includes steep hills and lots of stairs. At 10:30ish, we'll return to Twin Peaks to enjoy a potluck brunch to the music of the San Francisco Lesbian/Gay Freedom Band, schmooze with elected officials and celebrities, and attend a commemoration before heading back down the hill. MEET: 6:30 am at 442-508 Twin Peaks Boulevard, San Francisco. ENDS: 9:30 pm. LEADER: Paget Valentzas, (415) 271-2945 or etvalentzas@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

JUN 23 • SAT

Redwood Regional Park 2B hike. Pleasant hike with many redwoods and ferns followed by potluck/barbecue in park. Leisurely pace.. Any rain cancels. COST: \$5 car entry fee into park. BRING: Lunch, water, and food to eat and share at post-hike potluck/barbecue in park. MEET: 11 am at Redwood Regional Park in Wayside parking lot on left side of main entry road from Redwood Road off Highway 13 in Oakland (NOT in Canyon Meadow lot at end of road). ENDS: 4:30 pm. LEADER: Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

Point Reyes solstice celebratory 4C hike. Enjoy old-growth forests, ocean views, and the long days of June on this hearty but moderately paced 18+ mile loop with 2,800' elevation gain in central Point Reyes. Not for speed demons or gazelles, but definitely NOT a beginner's hike. MEET: 9:45 am at Bear Valley Visitor Center. ENDS: 8 pm. LEADER: Bob Solotar, (510) 525-2110 or bob_solotar@hotmail.com. (Hiking)

JUN 28 • THU

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C hike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended for short sections of the trail but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight without artificial illumination. COST: \$ 4 parking fee in Ohlone College multi-story garage. MEET: 6:30 pm at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. ENDS: 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650) 642-5150 (cell) or wyragui@infobond.com. (So Alameda County)

JUN 30 • SAT

Big Basin 3B loop hike. Hike through giant redwoods, along babbling brooks, and around impressive falls. Good trail conditions. Optional 1/2-mile post-hike walk on interpretive trail to see mother and father of the forest and other redwood attractions. Worth the drive! COST: \$10 parking fee. BRING: Insect repellent advised for mosquitoes. MEET: 10 am at Redwood trailhead across from Park headquarters. ENDS: 6 pm. LEADER: Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Mount Diablo Group and Santa Cruz Group)

Corona Heights Natural Area habitat work. More than 100 native plant species are recorded at Corona Heights. Help us remove invasive plants, plant or maintain the extant range of natives, or perform other light maintenance work. Tools and gloves provided. Children welcome with adults. No dogs allowed. BRING: Layered clothes, close-toed shoes, sun and wind protection, and water. MEET: 10 am on north side of Randall Museum (parking lot is on south side) at end of Museum Way, just off Roosevelt Way in San Francisco. ENDS: 12 pm. LEADER: Russell Hartman, (650) 242-2679 or rph1917@comcast.net. (Gay & Lesbian)

JUN 30 • SAT - JUL 4 • WED

4th of July Bear River Reservoir car camping. Situated at 6,000 feet, Bear River Group Campground's proximity to water and mixed pine setting in the fresh Sierra Nevada air make it an excellent group retreat destination. There are spectacular hikes into the High Sierra from trailheads along 88 as well as short, easy hikes near camp. Potluck dinner on Saturday evening and camaraderie around propane fire pits, with options for Follies, game night, sing-alongs, and/or a dance party. COST: \$50. Limited space; register with leader. LEADER: Paget Valentzas, (415) 271-2945 or pagetvalentzas@gmail.com. (Gay & Lesbian)

JUL 1 • SUN - JUL 4 • WED

Kennedy Meadows to Leavitt Meadows 2C2 backpack (WAIT-LIST ONLY). Trek through some of the most scenic parts of the Emigrant and Hoover Wilderness areas, filled with mountain lakes, streams, meadows, and spectacular summits. Email leaders to get on wait list. More information on online activities calendar. COST: \$40. LEADERS: Kent Lewandowski, (510) 759-6646 or kentlewan@gmail.com; Roger Williams, (415) 601-2079 or rogerwsf@outlook.com. (Backpacking)

JUL 4 • WED

City of El Cerrito & worldOne 4th of July Festival. Come say 'Hi' to the Sierra Club at our booth! The admission-free family-friendly festival is full of fun, food and entertainment. It includes live entertainment on the main stage, a children's fun area with carnival games, jump houses and rides, arts and crafts vendors, an art show and sale, lots of great tasty food, and vendor booths by local business and service groups. MEET: 10 am at Cerrito Vista Park, 946 Pomona Avenue, El Cerrito. ENDS: 6 pm. LEADER: Gabriel Quinto, gtq2002@yahoo.com. (West Contra Costa Group)

JUL 4 • WED - JUL 7 • SAT

Trinity Alps 2CT backpack. We explore Long Canyon, Siligo Pass, the Four-Lakes Basin (if snow conditions permit) and the Stuart Fork. Layover day at Morris Meadow with optional day hike to Emerald and Sapphire Lakes. COST: \$50. BRING: Your own food and cooking gear. Bear canisters required. REGISTER: Contact leader; see online calendar for information you need to provide. LEADER: Thomas Meissner, (707) 795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

JUL 6 • FRI - JUL 8 • SUN

Clouds Rest/Tenaya Peak in Yosemite National Park 2C2 backpack. Climb two ethereal granite sentinels — Clouds Rest and its sibling monolith, Tenaya Peak — and behold Tenaya Lake from above, as well as many Yosemite classic landmarks such as Mount Starr King, Half Dome, El Capitan, Mount Hoffman, the Clark and Cathedral Ranges. Come early for an optional one- or two-day extension to explore the Polly Dome area. Designed for physically fit beginner backpackers with experience at altitude. COST: \$45. To register, email the leader. BRING: Your own food, bear canisters, and mosquito repellent. LEADER: John Torres, (415) 269-5406 or jpinkflo@xecu.net. (Backpacking)

JUL 7 • SAT

Presidio of San Francisco 2B hike. Hike the Presidio with its many scenic trails and views and a little history along our way. **MEET:** 10 am at Lyon and Lombard Streets, San Francisco. **ENDS:** 4:30 pm. **LEADER:** Gloria Navarra, (415) 731-6144. (Hiking)

JUL 7 • SAT - JUL 8 • SUN

Point Reyes Wildcat Camp 2AT backpack. Take the Bear Valley, Glen, and Stewart trails, with great views of the coastline, to Wildcat Camp. Two-mile side trip hiking along the Wildcat Beach to Alamere Falls, a tidal waterfall that flows into the ocean (or you can relax at camp and enjoy the beach). **COST:** \$25 (or \$15 low income). **BRING:** Backpacking gear and all of your food. **MEET:** 8:30 am at Bear Valley Visitor Center. **REGISTER:** Limited to 20 participants. Previous backpacking experience or completion of a Sierra Club backpacking course is required. Sign up on online activities calendar or email leader. **LEADERS:** Yanny Cheng, (612) 888-1818 or chengyeyan@hotmail.com; Andy Westbom, andywestbom@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

JUL 8 • SUN

Art Deco Oakland 2A hike. An urban walk featuring architecture and history of downtown Oakland. Leisurely pace, but walk takes all afternoon, ending about 5:30 pm near Twelfth Street BART station. **BRING:** \$1.85 for return to Lake Merritt BART station and money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **MEET:** 11 am at Tenth and Fallon Street side of Oakland Museum next to statue of nursing bear (one block from Lake Merritt BART station). **LEADER:** Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590. (Hiking)

JUL 14 • SAT

Central Point Reyes 3C loop hike. Take a leisurely to moderately paced scenic day hike through varied terrain. Highlights include the top of Mount Wittenberg and Kelham Beach. **MEET:** 9:30 am at Bear Valley trailhead, Point Reyes National Seashore. **ENDS:** 7:30 pm. **LEADER:** Steve Bakaley, slbakaley@gmail.com. (Hiking and Santa Cruz Group)

JUL 28 • SAT

Hidden Golden Gate Park 3A hike. A lengthy walk in seldom-seen parts of Golden Gate Park. Lunch stop in Dutch Windmill garden at northwest corner of park. Leisurely pace, but walk takes all day, returning to start about 6 pm. **BRING:** Money for post-walk dinner at local restaurant. **MEET:** 9 am at entry to San Francisco Botanical Garden (Strybing Arboretum) inside Golden Gate Park near Ninth Avenue and Lincoln. **LEADER:** Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590 null. (Hiking)

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C hike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended for short sections of the trail but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight without artificial illumination. **COST:** \$ 4 parking fee in Ohlone College multi-story garage. **MEET:** 6:30 pm at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. **ENDS:** 10 pm. **LEADER:** William Yragui, (650) 642-5150 (cell) or wyragai@infobond.com. (So Alameda County)

JUL 29 • SUN

Martinez Regional Shoreline 1A sunset walk. A leisurely stroll along scenic shoreline and marina. **MEET:** 4:30 pm in front of former Amtrak station at intersection of Ferry Street with railroad tracks. Wheelchair accessible. Optional stop after for dinner and sociability. **ENDS:** 6 pm. **LEADER:** Lidia Campos, (925) 240-5795. (Delta Regional Group)

AUG 4 • SAT

Inner Sunset to Corona Heights 2B hike. One-way walk through the Haight/Ashbury to Corona Heights with Victorian homes and wonderful views along our way. Return via Muni. **COST:** Muni fare: \$2.75 or \$1.35 for seniors. **MEET:** 10:15 am at 9th and Irving, northeast corner. **ENDS:** 4 pm. **LEADER:** Gloria Navarra, (415) 731-6144. (Hiking)

AUG 6 • MON - AUG 10 • FRI

Car camping near Lake Alpine. We'll be camping at Lodgepole Group Camp in the Stanislaus National Forest about two miles from Lake Alpine. Breathtaking views of snow-capped peaks. Enjoy hiking and biking in the forest and water sports at the lake. Campfire at night. Campground has vault toilets; showers at the lake. **COST:** \$50. **BRING:** Your own breakfasts, lunches and happy hours plus one group dinner (with others). **LEADER:** Howard Herskowitz, (510) 658-1176, howard@itsolutions.net. (Solo Sierrans)

AUG 8 • WED - AUG 13 • MON

Pine Creek/Humphrey's Basin 2C2 backpack. A high Sierra trip to the Pine Creek Basin and its beautiful lakes, over Pine Creek pass, through the lush French Canyon, and into and around Humphrey's Basin. Mostly on trail. Individual commissary. Register through online calendar and then email Andy. **COST:** \$80 (\$50 low income). **LEADERS:** Andy Westbom, (707) 483-2083 or andywestbom@gmail.com; Kathryn Leonard, (510) 520-3500 or kleonardnet@yahoo.com. (Backpacking)

AUG 11 • SAT

Oakland hills stairways 2B hike. Walk through pathways and stairs in Oakland hills. Much of the walk is in the area of the 1991 Oakland Hills Fire. Leisurely pace, but walk takes all day. Many stairs. Walk returns to College Avenue not far from Rockridge BART about 4:30 pm for dinner at local restaurant. **BRING:** Money for post-walk dinner. **MEET:** 11 am at Rockridge BART near base of escalators. **LEADER:** Guy Mayes, (510) 522-1590 null. (Hiking)

AUG 11 • SAT - AUG 13 • MON

Southern Yosemite light and fast 4D2 backpack. This tour of the low-use Cathedral and Clark ranges in Southern Yosemite will cover ~50 miles over three days. Primarily on trail with a couple of short cross-country sections. We plan to move fast when we're moving — but to take downtime to swim in beautiful lakes and nap in meadows. To register, email leader. **COST:** \$50. **BRING:** Your own meals and gear. **LEADER:** Kevin Sawchuk, (925) 362-1542 or ksawchuk@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

CONTINUED ON FOLLOWING PAGE

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

CONTINUED FROM PREVIOUS PAGE

AUG 16 • THE - AUG 19 • SUN

Eastern Sierra 2CT backpack. We traverse the Eastern Sierra from McGee Creek to Mammoth Lakes. Spectacular scenery each day. Lakes, canyons, high passes. Cost: \$65. To register, email leader. See online calendar for information to provide. Prior recent backpack experience and good physical condition required. BRING: Your own food, cooking gear, and bear canisters. LEADER: Thomas Meissner, (707) 795-7980 or meissner.thomas@sbcglobal.net. (Backpacking)

AUG 18 • SAT

Summertime at Point Reyes 3C hike. Moderately paced hike with views of Drakes Head. If we're lucky, we'll see wildflowers, elk, and a hawk or two. MEET: 9 am at Bayview trailhead, Point Reyes Station. LEADER: Terry Balestriere/Francois Saint Gassies, fairfaxunny@gmail.com. (Hiking)

AUG 20 • MON - AUG 25 • SAT

Mineral King 2C1 backpack. A strenuous tour of Mineral King Basin in Sequoia National Park. Over six days, we will hike about 40 miles with almost 11,000 feet of elevation gain and loss as we cross Timber Gap and Black Rock Pass, spend time in the beautiful Little and Big Five Lakes area, and circle back to Mineral Basin over Franklin Pass. Experienced and fit backpackers only. Cost: \$80 (some low-income partial scholarships available). Register through online calendar after June 15. Do not email leaders. LEADERS: Michael Bandrowski, (510) 834-3235 or mike.bandrowski@gmail.com; Danielle Henkel, (614) 406-1329 or danielle.henkel@gmail.com. (Backpacking)

AUG 25 • SAT

Moonlight on Mission Peak 2C hike. Moonlight hike from Ohlone College to Mission Peak summit on the Peak trail. Headlamps or flashlights recommended for short sections of the trail but the objective is to enjoy hiking in the moonlight without artificial illumination. Cost: \$ 4 parking fee in Ohlone College multi-story garage. MEET: 6:30 pm at Mission Peak trailhead near parking garage and tennis courts. ENDS: 10 pm. LEADER: William Yragui, (650) 642-5150 (cell) or wyragai@infobond.com. (So Alameda County)

AUG 26 • SUN - AUG 29 • WED

Car camping at Samuel P. Taylor State Park. The park lies 15 miles west of San Rafael. Its 2,882 acres offer shady strolls through the stately redwoods along Lagunitas Creek as well as exhilarating hikes to the top of Barnabe Peak, one of the best viewpoints in Marin County. It's within striking distance of Point Reyes National Seashore. Campfire at night. There are restrooms and showers. Cost: \$50. BRING: Your own breakfasts, lunches and happy hours, plus one group dinner (with others). LEADER: Maurie Ange, (510) 527-9343 or mjange@msn.com. (Solo Sierrans)

SEP 2 • SUN - FRI • SEP 7

Mammoth Pass to Tuolumne Meadows on the John Muir Trail 2BT backpack. Five nights in the Ansel Adams Wilderness. Visit the spectacular basalt columns of the Devils Postpile. We'll camp at some of the most scenic lakes of the High Sierra: Lake Ediza in the shadow of the Minarets, and Thousand Island Lake under towering Mount Ritter. We'll cross Island Pass and Donohue Pass on our way into Lyell Canyon and Yosemite National Park. Moderately strenuous with a few shorter days. Car shuttle required. Cost: \$95. BRING: All your own equipment and food. Bear canisters. LEADERS: Roger Williams, rogerwsf@outlook.com; Alice Chung, aliceysf@outlook.com. (Backpacking)

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GET YOUR WEST ON!

Summertime in Carbon County, Wyoming means camping — and Carbon County offers some of the best camping around. There are options for those who want a remote wilderness site and those who are looking for an RV hookup, running water & showers. There are also options for those who are looking for a more glamorous camping experience complete with private pool, luxury cots & delicious prepared meals.

Find camping ideas and more at
[www.wyomingcarboncounty.com/
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SPECIAL EVENTS & CLASSES

FAIRFAX FESTIVAL PARADE: MARCH FOR CLIMATE

Sat, Jun 9, 10 am, downtown Fairfax

Join the Marin Group at the Fairfax Festival Parade. We will march with other Marin environmental groups concerned about climate change and the need to take action. We will be holding a huge white crane puppet created by David Solnit. Wear your best 'Action On Climate' t-shirt or make signs showing your support.

Please RSVP to Brian Staley at (415) 488-9120 for the Sierra Club meeting place and time. Children and families welcome!

MT. DIABLO GROUP PRESENTS: EAST BAY PARKS, TODAY AND TOMORROW

Wed, Jun 11, 7 pm, Ygnacio Valley Library, 2661 Oak Grove Rd, Walnut Creek

East Bay Regional Park District Director Colin Coffey will lead us on an armchair tour around the area parks and trails, including the new Concord Hills Regional Park at the site of the former Naval Weapons Station south of Highway 4.

One of America's premier park districts, the East Bay Regional Park District was created in 1934 and now encompasses over 120,000 acres in Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. Come learn about significant developments and new attractions.

BUILDING EQUITABLE & SUSTAINABLE BAY AREA COMMUNITIES

Tue, Jun 12, 6-8 pm, Sierra Club national office, 2101 Webster St, Ste 1300, Yosemite Room, Oakland

Join the Sierra Club, East Bay Housing Organizations, and Walk Oakland Bike Oakland for a conversation about transit-accessible development, affordable housing, and bikeable/walkable communities. This is an opportunity to discuss the environmental and social aspects of development and how to be an advocate for equitable and sustainable development in your community.

RSVP at <http://bit.ly/transitorientedbayarea>.

ENVIRONMENTAL CRIMES IN ALAMEDA COUNTY

Tue, Jun 12, 6-8 pm, Castro Valley Library, 3600 Norbridge Ave

What is an environmental crime? How can you identify it and who do you report it to? In this presentation a panel of environmental law experts from the Alameda County District Attorney's office will identify the most common environmental crimes in the Bay Area, provide resources to better understand their impact on the environment, and empower attendees with tools and resources to help identify and report environmental crimes in our communities.

This event is a collaboration between the Alameda County District Attorney's Office, The League of Women Voters Eden Area, and the Sierra Club.

RSVP at <http://bit.ly/alamedaenviocrimes>.

MARTINEZ BEAVER FESTIVAL

Sat, Jun 30, 11 am - 4 pm, Susana Park, Martinez

New time, new place, new beavers! Come to the 11th Martinez Beaver Festival at the historic Susana Park, where our beavers are currently living. See acclaimed artist Amy G. Hall of Napa create a giant beaver pond paradise chalk drawing in the park center. Over 40 wildlife exhibits, live music, and children's activities mark this beloved nature festival as one of the Bay Area's best. Don't miss this DAM good time!

WILDERNESS FIRST AID

Sat, Sept 15 & Sun, Sept 16, 8:30 am - 5 pm, Bay Chapter office, 2530 San Pablo Ave, Ste I, Berkeley

Students have two options: You can take the one-day class on Saturday (\$50 for members or \$60 for non-members) and receive the Basic Wilderness First Aid certification of the American Safety & Health Institute. Basic WFA is a practical eight-hour course that prepares you to recognize and avoid wilderness hazards, and perform first aid outdoors with whatever equipment you have or can improvise. To receive the higher-level WFA certification, you can take the two-day class for an additional \$30/\$40. This option adds more advanced skills and role-playing scenarios.

This class satisfies first-aid requirements for most Bay Chapter outing leaders (confirm with your section/group officers).

REGISTRATION:

Current chapter outings leaders should call (510) 848-0800 or email firstaid@sfbaysc.org, then mail a \$30 deposit check to the chapter office (will be returned in class). The Chapter will pay for both days.

All others should email Steve Donelan at donelan@speakeasy.net and pay him in class (cash or check).

More information is available at www.sierraclub.org/sfbay/wfa.

The Delta tunnels drama continues

KYLE JONES

Proponents of plans to develop tunnels under the San Francisco Bay-Delta that would destroy the Delta ecosystem took two key steps in the last two months that put the Delta at greater peril.

In April, Metropolitan Water District of Southern California (MWD) sought to flex its financial muscle and waste ratepayer dollars on a single tunnel. Then, in a surprise move, MWD announced it would vote on the two-tunnels project, which would cost over \$17 billion.

The Sierra Club opposes the tunnels project. It would produce no new water, but would dramatically degrade water quality and fish and wildlife habitat in the Delta and San Francisco Bay. The proposal, a version of a peripheral canals proposal that voters rejected in the 1980s during Governor Jerry Brown's earlier terms as governor, is already diverting resources that would be better spent on helping regions dependent on Delta water to reduce that dependency.

After last-minute lobbying by all sides, including Governor Brown himself, the MWD Board voted to support the project, over the objections of the cities of Los Angeles, San Diego, Santa Monica, and San Fernando.

With MWD on board, the eye of the Department of Water Resources (DWR) moved north to the Santa Clara Valley Water District (SCVWD). The SCVWD board rushed into a hearing, giving only 72 hours notice (the minimum required), to decide whether to commit at least \$650 million on the tunnels. After receiving the agreement details on the day of the hearing and listening to five hours of robust public opposition, the board delayed the vote a week.

On May 8th, SCVWD resumed the hearing and again listened to hours of testimony from Sierra Club members

and fellow advocates opposing the tunnels. Despite those appeals, the board narrowly voted 4 to 3 in support of the expensive and ill-conceived twin tunnels project. According to the SCVWD Board majority, MWD is doing whatever it can to get the project built. If SCVWD doesn't sit at the table, some board members reasoned, the district wouldn't get to shape the project at all. The majority of the board ignored the fact that the district could join in opposing the project and promoting progressive water solutions instead.

Despite these apparent setbacks, the fight, and political drama, will continue. The project is still undergoing permitting at the State Water Resources Control Board. The tunnels have to show that they won't harm other users of water, such as those who divert water from the Delta, and that the impacts to fish and wildlife will be reasonable. This process may take until next year, and will likely be a subject of litigation.

The project also still has a faulty environmental impact report that must be completed to comply with the California Environmental Quality Act. Among the biggest problems is the lack of an analysis of alternative water supplies — including recycling, conservation, water efficiency and better ground water management — which the environmental community insist are the solutions that should replace the tunnels.

Finally, the project also falls far short of full funding. MWD cannot pay the \$17-plus billion cost itself, and agricultural water districts have balked at the proposed rate increase for water from the tunnels. Without further public subsidies, the project cannot go forward.

Sierra Club California is a party to two lawsuits aimed at stopping the tunnels and is currently involved in the permitting hearings and process at the State Water Resources Control Board. Additionally, Club volunteers throughout the state, and particularly in the Bay Area, the Santa Clara Valley and the Los Angeles Region, have been actively working to persuade local water agencies and elected officials to oppose the tunnels.

Kyle Jones is a policy advocate for Sierra Club California



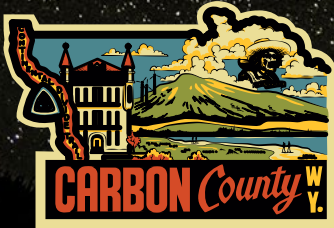
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GET YOUR WEST ON



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#SierraSnapshots | A herd of grazing tule elk spotted on a Sierra Club hike at Tomales Bluff in April 2018. Photo by Sierra Club member Jonathan. For a chance to be featured in the next Yodeler, email photos to yodedit@sfbaysc.org or submit your photographs on Twitter, Instagram, or Facebook using the hashtag #SierraSnapshots. Include your name and where and when the photo was taken.

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Our website is home to helpful information and resources including:

- The Yodeler blog, updated regularly
- Our full events and activities calendar
- Group information and leadership roster

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Vote! Find the Sierra Club's June 5th Primary Election endorsements in this issue (see page 3)
- The 8th annual David Brower Dinner fundraiser is September 8! Tickets on sale now (see page 4)
- Pack light! Summer 2018 backpack trips are filling up – book your spot today (pages 16-20)

EMAIL

Visit sierraclub.org/sfbay/email to sign up for Bay Chapter emails, including monthly bulletins and action alerts.