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WHERE TO SEND SUBMISSIONS
Send submissions to: Debbie Bulger, Editor, 1623 King Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95001-3028. E-mail: dbulger@sierraclub.org

CHANGE OF ADDRESS
Do not call editor! Send address changes to Sierra Club, The Ventana, P. O. Box 5296, Boulder, CO 80302-2968.

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Debbie Bulger • 408-427-1216
e-mail: dbulger@sierraclub.org

Writer:
Rita Dalessio, Debbie Bulger, Don Hoernschemeyer, Kevin Collins

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Robin Way, Bruce Bettencourt

Jodi Freedman, Debbie Bulger, Tom Hopkins, Coastal Watershed Council

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Advertising Sales:
Debbie Bulger

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State Parks agrees to settlement in Castle Rock suit

When the California Department of Parks and Recreation adopted an inadequate General Plan for Castle Rock State Park in 2000, the Sierra Club and a group called Friends of Castle Rock State Park filed suit to protect the park’s fragile biological resources. The Department’s plan focused heavily on preconceived notions of park design with no scientific analysis that would allow for more informed planning.

The settlement provides for consideration of alternatives to the proposed campground and parking lot adjacent to the black oak forest. To ensure appropriate management decisions in the future, the Department of Parks and Recreation agreed to the establishment of an advisory committee of scientists with expertise in conservation biology and no personal financial or professional stake in the outcome. State Parks also agreed to collect existing data for analysis of the regional cumulative impacts of developments at Castle Rock State Park and other parks in the area. Specifically they will examine impact of development on marbled murrelet habitat, mountain lion habitat, knobcone pine forest, black oak forest, ancient redwood forest, riparian areas, and maritime chaparral.

In addition, State Parks will develop and conduct a meaningful carrying capacity analysis for Castle Rock State Park. The conservation biologists on the advisory committee will be involved in adoption of the criteria for this analysis to ensure that they are science based.

The Club would like to thank both attorney Deborah Siras from Earthjustice, and the Stanford Law Clinic for their unflagging help with this important litigation. This lawsuit has demonstrated to the State Department of Parks and Recreation that it must implement both legal requirements and modern scientific methodologies for park planning that will conserve resources while providing for high-quality recreational experiences.

Contact Your Representatives

President George W. Bush
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington, D.C. 20500
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FAX: (202) 456-2461
president@whitehouse.gov

Vice President Dick Cheney
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Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger
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The Ventura welcomes letters. Send to:
LETTERS TO THE EDITOR
The Ventura, 260 King Street
Santa Cruz, CA 95060
or email to dbulger@cruzio.com
Please include a phone number with your letter. Anonymous letters not accepted. Letters may be edited for length.

Best vacation deal in America

Thanks to our newsletter and some good friends I have discovered the best vacation deal in America, Clair Tappaan Lodge. For $36.00 per night we received a comfortable bunk with futon type mattress (bring your own favorite pillow), use of a well-running communal bathroom, access to a lovely library and great room, a fridge in the basement for perishable foods and beverages and, best of all, three great meals as well. In the morning you make your bag lunch, then eat a hearty breakfast, then at the end of the day the most ravenous appetite is greeted with great comfort food.

You do have to sign up for a 45-minute chore, but that’s a fun way to meet other people and to keep involved.

The location on Hwy. 80 is easy to find with spacious parking on the other side of the road. There are many fabulous hikes whose trailheads are within a 15-minute drive from the Lodge. After a few days of Sierra air, alpine flowers, pristine lakes, birds singing, and a special feeling of being cared for, you will regretted for a fraction of the cost of one night at some posh spa. We have already renewed our reservation for next year!

—Ruth Carter
Carmel Valley

Not a corporate commodity

The Pajaro Valley Water Management Agency (PVWMA) wants to buy water contracts from a central valley water district. While the legality of the acquisition is questionable, the morality is not.

Pajaro Valley has historically mismanaged its vast natural resources, especially its water.

The coastal areas are so badly over pumped that there is a significant salt water intrusion.

But instead of better management, including better conservation methods, bioremediation and recycling of its waste water, PVWMA wants to build a $70 million dollar pipeline to the Santa Clara hikoup through San Felipe from the San Luis Reservoir.

This water transfer for Pajaro is not justified on any count. It will be used to induce growth, and to be sold for municipal use and manufacturing. Water diverted from our northern rivers is precious to native cultures and species.

It must not be shipped around as a corporate commodity.

—Jack Ellwanger
Big Sur

The settlement of the lawsuit provides for consideration of alternatives to the proposed campground and parking lot adjacent to the black oak forest. To ensure appropriate management decisions in the future, the Department of Parks and Recreation agreed to the establishment of an advisory committee of scientists with expertise in conservation biology and no personal financial or professional stake in the outcome.

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A massive development in the Del Monte Forest proposes cutting down more than 15,000 native Monterey pine trees to make way for a new 18-hole golf course, 160 new hotel rooms, 33 residential lots, a golf driving range, 60 employee housing units and new roads and trails. Proposed relocation of the equestrian facilities alone would require cutting down over 1,000 Gowen cypress, coast live oak, and Bishop pine trees.

The Pebble Beach Company released the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) in February. The site of the project, the Del Monte Forest, is the largest and most complex remaining stand of native Monterey pines in the world.

The Ventana Chapter has submitted comments about our grave concerns for the Monterey pine forest as too common to our most important native plant community. Developers like to dismiss the complex forest habitat as though it were one smaller area—like a Christmas tree farm!

The suggested mitigation for this project is woefully inadequate and relies on unproven techniques. For example, the translocation of federally listed species such as Yosef’s piperia is highly risky. Little is known about the habitat needs and propagation of this endangered plant. The removal of thousands of trees and the bulldozing of their habitat cannot be mitigated by planting seedlings. The cumulative effects on ground water quality, raptors, and other wildlife from the large quantities of herbicides, insecticides and rodent poisons which would be used on the golf course and other landscaping is inadequately addressed.

Even without the impacts of Pebble Beach development, the Monterey pine forest is threatened by pitch canker disease, which has caused significant mortality of pines and continues to kill trees.

This project has a long way to go through the public review process. We encourage you to follow and comment on this issue as it relates to protection for all critical natural resources both in our local community and statewide.

From an aesthetic and economic standpoint, the Monterey pine forest provides the dark green backdrop that contrasts with the granitic headlands and dramatic ocean vistas to make this area one of the most attractive places in the world to live and visit. Let’s not kill the goose that lays the golden eggs!
LeConte Centennial

Send a week greeting visitors at the Sierra Club’s LeConte Memorial Lodge in Yosemite Valley during its centennial season. Volunteers are needed to meet people from all over the world and share your interest in wilderness. Park entrance free to volunteers as well as a free campsite. For more information visit www.sierraclub.org/education/
leconte/volunteering.asp.

Coast Dairies land transfer

The Trust for Public Land reports that they anticipate transferring the Coast Dairies property north of Santa Cruz to three agencies this spring. State Parks will receive 400 acres on the ocean side of Hwy. 1 and the historic Laguna Inn which may one day become a visitor’s center. The BLM will receive about 6002 acres of upland property including the grasslands, redwoods, lands leased for grazing, and the cement quarry. A non-profit, Agri-Culture, will acquire the approximately $50 acres that were in cultivation in 1998.

Feinstein signs on to wilderness

Senator Feinstein has officially signed on to Senator Boxer’s Northern California Coastal Wild Heritage Act, S738. This bill is the California Coastal Wild Heritage non-profit, Agriculture, will acquire for grazing, and the cement quarry. A non-profit, Agri-Culture, will acquire the approximately $50 acres that were in cultivation in 1998.

Science lesson plans inspired by John Muir available

Sierra Club announces new standards-aligned Science Lesson Plans inspired by and using John Muir's adventures and explorations. Co-founder of the Sierra Club, Muir is renowned for his exciting adventures and careful observations in the Sierra Nevada and Alaska.

Feds nix National Seashore

After spending $150,000 on a three year study that proved the 76-mile Gaviota Coast is a national treasure, the Bush administration decided against designating the area a National Seashore. The Gaviota Coast, which makes up 50% of all Southern California's remaining rural coastline, is home to 84 rare and endangered species. Its breathtaking vistas are also home to 10,000-year-old archeological sites. Sierra Club is continuing the fight to save this threatened area.

Club to host two Lobby Days in Sacramento

Mark your calendar and join Club members from all over the state in Sacramento on May 17 or August 9 to meet with legislators to advocate for Club-backed bills. Lobby Day provides Sierra Club activists with an opportunity to talk with legislators and their staff about the Club’s statewide priorities and specific legislation that is pending before the Senate and Assembly.

The Club will conduct a training session in political effectiveness the day before Lobby Day, on the afternoons of May 16 and August 8. Using discussion, role-playing, and real-life examples, Club instructors will demonstrate how to maximize the most of your time with an elected official.

Sierra Club to help clean up Pajaro River April 24

The Sierra Club is working with the City of Watsonville Neighborhood Services and the Public Works and Utilities Department to sponsor a morning of trash cleanup in the Pajaro River on April 24 between 9:00 a.m. and noon. Those who help will be treated to refreshments prepared by Chef Joseph Schultz who has volunteered his talents for this effort. There will also be exhibits about the Pajaro Watershed.

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Worm Workshops

Learn how worms can eat your garbage and make beautiful compost for your garden. FREE workshop for Santa Cruz County residents, 1-3 p.m. Optional worm bin $15. Call to reserve worm bin. Sponsord by Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors. Call Karen Grove, 427-3452.

Wednesday, April 1

Arctic Environment & Native Issues

Bob Childers and Trimbile Gilbert will speak at 7:00 p.m., Harvey West Clubhouse, Santa Cruz. $7/Museum members; $10/nonmembers. Sponsored by the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History. Tickets for sale at door. Call 420-6115 for more information.

Wednesday, May 23

104th Anniversary of Sempervirens

Help Sempervirens celebrate 104 years of preserving and protecting the redwoods and watersheds of the Santa Cruz Mountains. The Valley Women’s Club, Roaring Camp Railroad, and New Leaf Markets will co-sponsor the anniversary celebration at Roaring Camp Railroad, May 23 at noon. Fred Keeley, featured speaker. Bring a picnic. Ice cream, train ride and more provided.

Through July 25

Ansel Adams Exhibit

“Another Side of Ansel Adams,” will show in the Solar Gallery of the Museum of Art and History, Santa Cruz.

Visit www.santacruzmah.org for lectures and events associated with the exhibit.

Wilderness First Aid Classes

Two-day course. (16 hours) includes patient assessment, shock, soft tissue injuries, fractures, hypothermia, altitude sickness and more. $145 for non-USCSC students. Courses on weekends: May 1-2, May 15-16, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Stevenson College, Room 175.

Wilderness First Responder. (80 hours) Designed to provide guides, rangers and others with knowledge to deal with medical emergencies in remote settings. Emphasis placed on prevention and decision-making. $495 for non-USCSC students. June 11-20, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. each day and some evenings. East Field House, UCSC.

Call UCSC Recreation for more details, 459-2806 or contact the Wilderness Medicine Program Institute of NOLS, (207) 332-8922 or http://wmi.nols.edu.

Potluck/Slides - Mountain Regions I

This slide show by Vilma Siebers depicts mountain regions in several countries and is the first of a 2-part series. The potluck begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring food to share and your own plate, cup, utensils and serving utensils. We love home-cooked food, but store-bought items (minimum value $4) make great contributions too. For directions call George, 335-7748.

Tuesday, April 22

Potluck/Slides - Wildflowers

Brian LeNeve will show slides of wildflowers from all over California. Bring food to share for 8 and your own plate and utensils. Drinks available. Carmel, 6:15 p.m. Turn east at Hwy. 1 and Rio Road; turn south at the last stop light at Carmel Center Place; park in the lighted area behind the Safeway and enter the side entrance of the mall. For more information call Marion Chilton, 624-3510.

Friday, April 23

Singles Potluck and Games

Friday evening potlucks are a great way to begin the weekend and provide an opportunity to work out some weekend plans with others. 6:30 p.m. Bring food to share and your own plate, cup, utensils, and serving utensils. We love home-cooked food, but store-bought items (minimum value $4) make great contributions too. For directions call George, 335-7748.

Monday, April 12

Arctic National Wildlife Refuge

Peter Van Tuyn, former Livingston, Director, Trustees for Alaska will speak on “Drill and Fill or Wild for your Child.” 7:00 p.m., Louden Nelson Center, Santa Cruz. $7/Museum members; $10/nonmembers. Sponsored by the Santa Cruz Museum of Natural History. Tickets for sale at door. Call 420-6115 for more information.

Sunday, May 23

Vegetarian Potluck/ Plant Swap

Noon to 3:00 p.m. at George Washington picnic area beyond Delavagna park on Brandtville. Please bring your plate, cup and serving utensils. Afterwards, we will exchange indoor and outdoor plants (flowers, fruits, veggies, etc.). You’ll receive as many plants as you bring, i.e., if you bring one plant, you’ll receive one. If you bring 20, you’ll receive 20. Surprising prizes. For more information, call leader Karen Kapan after 10:00 a.m., 335-3342.

Friday, April 9

Pajaro River Clean Up

See details on page 5.

Saturday, April 24

Singles Potluck/ Plant Swap

Bob Hale will share his travels in the Canadian Rockies. Bring food to share for 8 and your own plate and utensils. Drinks available. Carmel, 6:15 p.m. See April 20 for directions. For more information call Marion Chilton, 624-3510.

Monday, April 15

Potluck/Slides - Ecuador

Gary Harrold just returned from Ecuador and will share slides of his adventure. The potluck begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring food to share and your own plate, cup, utensils and serving utensils. We love home-cooked food, but store-bought items (minimum value $4) make great contributions too. For directions call George, 335-7748.

Tuesday, May 25

Potluck/Slides - Canadian Rockies

Bob Hale will share his travels in the Canadian Rockies. Bring food to share for 8 and your own plate and utensils. Drinks available. Carmel, 6:15 p.m. See April 20 for directions. For more information call Marion Chilton, 624-3510.

Friday, May 28

Singles Potluck and Games

See April 23 for details.

Friday, June 11

Potluck/Slides - Mountain Regions II

Vilma Siebers combines slides from several trips depicting mountain regions of the world. This is the second of a 2-part series. The potluck begins at 6:30 p.m. Bring food to share and your own plate, cup, utensils and serving utensils. We love home-cooked food, but store-bought items (minimum value $4) make great contributions too. For directions call George, 335-7748.

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Friday, May 14

Visit www.santacruzmah.org for lectures and events associated with the exhibit.

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Worm Workshops

Learn how worms can eat your garbage and make beautiful compost for your garden. FREE workshop for Santa Cruz County residents, 1-3 p.m. Optional worm bin $15. Call to reserve worm bin. Sponsored by Santa Cruz County Board of Supervisors. Call Karen Grove, 427-3452.

Saturday, April 17, Wilder Ranch

Sunday, May 16, Grey Bears Recycling, 2720 Chanticleer, Santa Cruz.

Tuesday, June 26, Sierra Azul Nursery, 2662 East Lake Ave, Watsonville, across from County Fairgrounds.

Sunday, May 16

Backyard Composting Workshop

Build a compost pile with master composters and learn how to transform your home and garden waste into fertilizer. 10:00-noon. Live Oak Grange Demonstration Garden, 1920 17th Ave, Santa Cruz. Call Karen Grove, 427-3452.

Second and fourth Saturdays

Habitat restoration — Watsonville

Sponsored by Watsonville Wetlands Watch. 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Meet in Orchard Supply parking lot at Green Valley Rd. and Main St. in Watsonville. Gloves, tools and lunch provided. Call Laura Krummerer, 728-4105 for more information. No experience needed.

Saturdays

Garland Ranch bikes

The Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District docents lead hikes at Garland Ranch Park every Saturday and invite Sierra Club members to join them. An updated list of all hikes may be found on their website: www.mprrd.org.
RATINGS

GENERAL INFORMATION: All outings begin and end at the trailhead. Carpooling to and from the trailhead is strictly a private arrangement between the driver and his/her guests. Carpool drivers are not agents or employees of the Sierra Club. GLS = Gay & Lesbian Sierrans. All are welcome on GLS outings.

EXPLANATION OF RATINGS: The outings described vary in difficulty from leisurely strolls to strenuous hikes. The following explanation are general guidelines. (For more information about the difficulty of a particular hike, call the leader).

Walk: No more than 2 miles a day, easy; no elevation gain.

Easy: No more than 5 miles a day; slight elevation gain; easy pace.

Moderate: 5-12 miles a day; up to 2,000 ft. elevation gain; 1 to 2 1/2 mph; boots; better than average fitness required.

Strenuous: Distance variable; may involve off-trail hiking; demanding pace; for experienced hikers in good condition only.

MEETING PLACES

DIRECTIONS:
Big Sur Land Trust Parking Lot 3785 Via Nona Marie, Carmel. From Hwy. 1, heading south in Carmel, turn left on Rio Road, left on Via Nona Marie, then left into the parking lot behind Monterey County Bank, opposite the Post Office.

Albertson’s/Bagel Bakery: Heading south on Hwy. 1, pass through Monterey. One mile past the Ocean Ave. intersection, turn left on Carmel Valley Road (Hwy. G-16), toward Carmel Valley. Go approximately 0.1 mile and then turn right at the light toward the shopping center. Albertson’s and the Bagel Bakery are on the right.

Felton Faire: From Santa Cruz take Graham Hill Rd. toward Felton. Just after you pass Roaring Camp (on the left), make a right into Felton Faire shopping center. We meet at the edge of the Safeway parking lot nearest Graham Hill Rd.

41st Avenue Sears: From Hwy. 1, in Capitola, take the 41st Avenue exit and continue toward the ocean on 41st Avenue toward the Mall. Pass the main Mall entrance and turn right into the next entrance heading toward Sears. We meet behind the bank located at 41st and Capitola Road. Senior Saunter meets at Sears parking lot close to 41st Avenue.

MPC Parking Lot: Monterey Peninsula College Parking Lot. From Hwy. 1, take the Fisherman’s Wharf exit, go straight one block, turn left and left again into the first parking lot, parking lot A. This is the site of the Thursday Farmers Market. Plenty of parking without a fee on weekends.

O U T I N G S

APRIL

Friday, April 9

HIKE: VEEDER TRAIL & REDWOOD CYN.

In spring the Veder Trail in Garland Park hosts a profusion of wildflowers. Our 3 to 4 mile loop hike will be very steep. Bring water and lunch. Meet behind Brinton’s at 9:30 a.m. to carpool. Heavy rain cancels. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Daison, 732-7427.

Saturday, April 10

SPRING SAUNTER: BLOOMQUIST RANCH

We have special permission from the Regional Park District to visit the Carmel Valley Ranch. Join us for an easy stroll of 4-12 miles. No trail burners. We’ll enjoy beautiful vistas of mature Valley Oaks and spring beauty. Bring lunch, water and a windbreaker. Reservations required, space is limited. Call leader: Joyce Stevens, 624-3149.

Sunday, April 11

HIKE: POST SUMMIT

Very strenuous hike in Big Sur, over Post Summit to Pico Blanco Public Camp via Mount Manuel trail, and down to the Coast Road on the Little Sur trail. 15 miles, 3400’ elevation gain. Bring lunch and water, wear boots and be prepared for brush (small clippers recommended). Meet at Albertson’s at 8:00 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Steve Legnard, 402-1422.

Tuesday, April 13

HIKE: VEEDER TRAIL & REDWOOD CYN.

Very strenuous hike in Big Sur, over Post Summit to Pico Blanco Public Camp via Mount Manuel trail, and down to the Coast Road on the Little Sur trail. 15 miles, 3400’ elevation gain. Bring lunch and water, wear boots and be prepared for brush (small clippers recommended). Meet at Albertson’s at 8:00 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Steve Legnard, 402-1422.

Thursday, April 15

HIKE: FT. ORD

Flitter over the oak-studded hillsides and rolling grasslands near Laguna Seca. Great views and a chance to see raptors and wildflowers. Bring water and lunch. 7 miles. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:00 a.m. or at 9:15 a.m. at Mission and King next to Shen’s Gallery.

Sunday, April 18

HIKE: WADDELL CREEK

This beautiful canyon was an ideal place for the Ohlone Indians who gathered marine edibles from the coast and stalked game in the forest. It is an important feeding and nesting area for 200 species of birds. Bring lunch and water. 7 miles. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:00 a.m. or at 9:15 a.m. at Mission and King next to Shen’s Gallery.

Sunday, April 25

BACKPACK: VENTANA WILDERNESS

Escudillo to Arroyo Seco 22 miles (3B). Friday from Escudillo Camp to Lost Valley (5.8 miles). Saturday, we pass Indian grinding stone rocks, lunch at beautiful waterfall and continue to Strawberry Camp (8.7 miles). Bring lunch, water and lots of water. Meet at Albertson’s at 8:00 a.m. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Steve Legnard, 402-1422.

Tuesday, April 27

HIKE: POST SUMMIT/MOUNT MANUEL


Tuesday, April 27

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HIKE: HUCKLEBERRY HILL
We'll find our thrill on Huckleberry Hill, by Point Lobos. 4 miles with 100' elevation gain. Climb through a series of ecosystems from Monterey Pine, to oak, to chaparral, to grass-land, to pine. Possible side trip to redwoods. Meet at Albertson's at 10:00 a.m. Leader: Charles Gagarin, 659-1082.

Sunday, April 25

HIKE: LOWER PEbble BEACH
Enjoy spectacular ocean views on this 9-mile hike starting near Asilomar to Red Rock, then east through Del Monte Forest, Poppy Hills with many wildflowers, and the S.P.B. Monte Reserve to Spanish Bay Golf Course. Bring water, lunch, and west hiking shoes. Meet at the Fishwife Restaurant on Sunset Dr. at Asilomar Ave. in PG at 9:30 a.m. Leader: Stacy Smith, 625-5256.

Tuesday, May 4

SENIOR SAUNTER: UCSC ARBORETUM
Started in 1964 with a gift of 92 species of eucalyptus trees, the Arboretum has more than 5000 specimens, including proteas, cacti, cap heaths and conifers. Easy walk. For those wanting a longer walk, we can head to the campus and possibly the Farm. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch, water, $ for carpool. Leaders: Marilyn and Bill Selby, 479-3809.

Wednesday, May 5

HIKE: WINDMILL PASTURE PRESERVE
This hike in the Los Altos Hills enters the Monte Bello Open Space and goes to the top of Black Mountain overlooking the Bay Area. 7 miles. Bring water and snack. Meet at Felton Fair at 11:00 a.m. to carpool. Leader: Sheila Dinnaway, 336-2125.

Friday, May 7

HIKE: EWOLDSON TRAIL
From Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, we'll hike a 5-mile loop up fern-lined McWay Canyon, passing redwood groves to a viewpoint high above the ocean. The trail is steep. After we'll take a short stroll along the scenic waterfall trail. Bring lunch and meet. Meet behind Brinton's at 9:30 a.m. for 1 1/2 hr. car-pool. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton: 372-7427, marydainton@juno.com.

Saturday, May 8

HIKE: WILDER RANCH
5-hour hike featuring stunning panoramas of Monterey Bay, open meadows, wooded paths, and possibly a bobcat and Northern Harriers. Wilder Ranch docent extraordinaire Liz Ryan will share her knowledge of the wildlife and history of the park. Bring lunch and water. Serious rain cancels. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Government Center at 9:00 a.m. on the Wilder Ranch State Park parking lot at 9:30 a.m. $5 fee per car. Leader: Gabrielle Stocker, 426-0465.

Sunday, May 9

HIKE: TERRACE CREEK
We'll hike up the Pine Ridge Trail from Big Sur State Park, then up shady Terrace Creek to the Old Coast Road for lunch. Bring lunch, plenty of water, comfortable hiking shoes and $ for carpool. Meet at Albertson's at 9:00 a.m. Leader: Steve Legnard, 402-1422.

Tuesday, May 11

SENIOR SAUNTER: BIG BASIN
5-mile hike on the Sequoia Trail to Sempervirens Falls, then up Slippery Rock to the Skyline to the Sea Trail viewing some old-growth redwoods. Some uphill. Bringing your own lunch and plenty of water, comfortable hiking shoes and $3 carpool and share of Park entrance $. Leader: Bob Mitchell, 426-5374.

Saturday, May 15

HIKE: POINT LOBOS

Saturday, April 24

HIKE: HUCKLEBERRY HILL
We'll find our thrill on Huckleberry Hill, by Point Lobos. 4 miles with 900' elevation gain. Climb through a series of ecosystems from Monterey Pine, to oak, to chaparral, to grass-land, to pine. Possible side trip to redwoods. Meet at Albertson's at 10:00 a.m. Leader: Charles Gagarin, 659-1082.

Sunday, April 25

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Enjoy spectacular ocean views on this 9-mile hike starting near Asilomar to Red Rock, then east through Del Monte Forest, Poppy Hills with many wildflowers, and the S.P.B. Monte Reserve to Spanish Bay Golf Course. Bring water, lunch, and west hiking shoes. Meet at the Fishwife Restaurant on Sunset Dr. at Asilomar Ave. in PG at 9:30 a.m. Leader: Stacy Smith, 625-5256.

Tuesday, April 27

SENIOR SAUNTER: PINNACLES WEST
See wonderfully eroded rock formations and wildflowers. We'll hike up the Balconies Trail, a moderate 1.5 miles with some elevation gain. Plan on the whole day. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:00 a.m. This will be a two-hour drive so WE WILL MEET 1/2 HOUR EARLIER THAN USUAL. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen, jacket and $5 for car-pool plus share of entrance $. Leader: Robert Franson, 469-7042.

Wednesday, April 28

HIKE: TORO PARK
The Ollason Trail will reward us with superb views amid the wildflowers (lupine, shocking stars, Chinese houses, blue dicks). 8 miles, 3 uphill. Bring lunch and water. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:30 a.m. at Express Deli off Hwy. 1 at Rio Del Mar, or in the parking lot by the restroom at Toro Park at 10:10 a.m. Leader: Diane Cornell, 425-5925.

Saturday, May 1

HIKE: WADDELL CREEK
Visit the series of waterfalls along Berry Creek (Golden Falls, Silver Falls, Berry Creek Falls). 13 miles with 1000' elevation gain. Bring lunch and snack. Meet at K-Mart in Seaside at 7:00 a.m. at the Santa Cruz County Government Center at 8:00 a.m. For more information call leader: Esperanza Hernandez, 678-1968.

Saturday, May 1

HIKE: MT. UMUNHUM
See a new addition to Mid Pen's extensive collection of preserves, 1-hour drive to trailhead in San Jose. 10 miles with 2000' elevation gain. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Government Ctr. at 9:30 a.m. to carpool. Call for details. Leader: Nick Wyckoff, 462-3101.

Sunday, May 2

HIKE: PAT SPRING

Tuesday, May 4

SENIOR SAUNTER: UCSC ARBORETUM
Started in 1964 with a gift of 92 species of eucalyptus trees, the Arboretum has more than 5000 specimens, including proteas, cacti, cap heaths and conifers. Easy walk. For those wanting a longer walk, we can head to the campus and possibly the Farm. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:30 a.m. Bring lunch, water, and $1 for carpool. Leaders: Marilyn and Bill Selby, 479-3809.

Wednesday, May 5

HIKE: WINDMILL PASTURE PRESERVE
This hike in the Los Altos Hills enters the Monte Bello Open Space and goes to the top of Black Mountain overlooking the Bay Area. 7 miles. Bring lunch and water. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. at 9:00 a.m. or at the trailhead at 10:15 a.m. Go past Foothill College in Los Altos Hills, turn left on Rhus Ridge Road and park near the tennis court. Leader: Diane Cornell, 425-5925.

Friday, May 7

HIKE: EWOLDSON TRAIL
From Julia Pfeiffer Burns State Park, we'll hike a 5-mile loop up fern-lined McWay Canyon, passing redwood groves to a viewpoint high above the ocean. The trail is steep. After we'll take a short stroll along the scenic waterfall trail. Bring lunch and meet. Meet behind Brinton's at 9:30 a.m. for 1 1/2 hr. car-pool. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton: 372-7427, marydainton@juno.com.
O U T I N G S

Getting to outings  Sierra Club encourages outings participants to walk, bicycle, and take the bus to outings meeting places.

Saturday, May 15
WALK: POGONIP
Join Friends of the Pogonip for their usual 5-hour Saturday morning walk. Meet at the top (north end) of Spring Street in Santa Cruz at 9:30 a.m. Call leaders Celia or Peter Scott, 423-2796 if you have questions.

Sunday, May 16
HIKE: PINNACLES
Strenuous 10-mile hike with 1200’ elevation gain. We begin with Balconies Trail and go to the high peaks. Bring lunch, water, and $ for carpool; wear comfortable hiking shoes. After the hike, we might have dinner in Soledad. For carpool with no leader, meet at Seaside’s K-Mart near the gas station at 8:00 a.m. Meet leader at Soledad’s McDonalds at 9:00 a.m. For more information call leader: Esperanza Hernandez, 678-1968.

Tuesday, May 22
HIKE: CASTLE ROCK
9-mile hike with 1200’ elevation gain. Excellent views. Meet at the Santa Cruz County Government Center at 9:00 a.m. or at the Castle Rock main parking lot at 10:15 a.m. Wear hiking boots. Water. Leader: George Jammal, 335-7748.

Wednesday, May 26
HIKE: FOREST OF NISENE MARKS
This hike is along the river and through redwoods, Easy 3-miles. After, we’ll have a potluck picnic. BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:30 a.m. or at Del Monte at 9:30 a.m. or at Foothill. At 9:30 a.m. To go use the main entrance on Hwy. 9; turn right past the pay station to the first picnic area. Bring water, your potluck dish, $ for carpool and a share of the entrance fee. Leaders: Joan Brantley and Pete Liao, 462-3823.

J U N E

Wednesday, June 2
SENIOR SAUNTER/PICNIC: HENRY COWELL
Our loop hike is along the river and through redwoods. Easy 3-miles. After, we’ll have a potluck picnic. BRING YOUR FAVORITE DISH. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:30 a.m. or at the Whaler’s Cove parking lot. Bring lunch and water. Leader: George Jammal, 335-7748.

Saturday, June 5
HIKE: BLACK MOUNTAIN
We’ll climb Black Mountain in the Toro Park backcountry via Marks Canyon and an off-trail ridge. Return by trails. Elevation gain and off-trail portions make this 8-mile hike strenuous. Recommend boots, long pants, lunch, plenty of water and sun protection. Call for details. Leader: John Clark, 484-9453.

Sunday, June 6
WALK: PALM BEACH
We need an early start to walk this beach at low tide in our quest to find the mouth of the Pajaro River. Short, easy walk with good birding, hioconulars recommended. A Watsonville Wetlands Watcher will help us find the way. Wear layers, bring water, snack and some sense of adventure (your leader doesn’t actually know where we are going). Meet at the Seaside K-Mart off Canyon Del Rey at 8:15 a.m. or at Eric’s Deli on Green Valley Road in Watsonville at 9:00 a.m. Optional provided. For carpool with no leader, meet at Seaside K-Mart by gas station at 8:00 a.m. Meet leader at Soledad McDonalds at 9:00 a.m. For more information call leader: Esperanza Hernandez, 678-1968.

Friday, June 4
HIKE: TAN BARK TRAIL
From Hwy. 9 south of Big Sur we’ll hike up Partington Canyon past a rushing creek and through a redwood grove, up through a forest of tanbark oak to the tunned “I’m House” for lunch. Ocean views. Car shuttle 6 miles with 2000’ elevation gain. Meet behind Brinton’s at 9:30 a.m. to carpool. Leaders: Cath Farrant and Mary Dainton, 372-7427, marydainton@juno.com.

Saturday, June 5
HIKE: BLACK MOUNTAIN
We’ll climb Black Mountain in the Toro Park backcountry via Marks Canyon and an off-trail ridge. Return by trails. Elevation gain and off-trail portions make this 8-mile hike strenuous. Recommend boots, long pants, lunch, plenty of water and sun protection. Call for details. Leader: John Clark, 484-9453.

Saturday, June 5
WALK: MOSS LANDING
We’ll start our 3-mile stroll at a new 5-acre state beach given to State Parks by the Elkhorn Slough Foundation. We’ll walk to the end of the Moss Landing pier, then return on Sandhill Road, stopping at Phil’s Fish Restaurant for lunch. After lunch we’ll seek at the new Moss Landing Marine Lab. Meet at K-Mart in Seaside (near the gas station) at 10:20 a.m. or at west end of Potrero Road in Moss Landing at 10:30 a.m. Dress for weather; bring a windbreaker. Leader Joyce Stevens, 624-3149.
Wednesday, June 6

HIKE: PINE VALLEY
Streetsview 14-mile loop with 2200’ elevation gain. Great views. From China Camp to Church Creek Divide, then up on the Pine Ridge Trail to the Bear Paw Basin Connector and down to Pine Valley returning to Church Creek Divide. Some trails will be overgrown. You may bring small clippers. Bring lunch, lots of water, $ for carpool. Meet on the east side of the Monk’s Landing Bakery. Meet in Carmel at 7:30 a.m. Leader: Suzanne Arnold, 626-6422.

Sunday, June 6

SINGLES VEGETARIAN PICNIC & BOATING/LOCH LOMOND
Meet at 11:30 at Felton Fair, or at 4:30 p.m. at the lakeshore picnic table where we will have lunch together before the drive home. Leader: Joan Brohmer, 462-3803.

Tuesday, June 8

SENIOR SAUNTER: CASTLE ROCK
We’ll hike on some NEW trails on easy, rolling terrain for 5 miles or less if we get tired. Giant fir trees. Bathroom available. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:30 a.m. or at Felton Fair at 9:50 a.m. Bring lunch, water, $4 for carpool and share of the entrance fee. Leader: Joan Brohmer, 462-3803.

Tuesday, June 15

SENIOR SAUNTER: PINTO LAKE
Pinto Lake at Watsonville is very picturesque with old oak and eucalyptus trees shading the 2-mile trail. We’ll walk along the lake and see many different birds. Good restrooms and picnic tables. Meet at Sears 41st Ave. before 9:30 a.m. If you go direct, meet at 10:00 a.m. in the last parking lot in the Park. Pinto Lake is located 3 miles from Hwy. 1 on Green Valley Rd. Bring lunch, water, sunscreen and $3 carpool. Leader: Roz DiNatale, 768-0363.

ATTENTION: Potential Advertisers!

Sierra Club Member Profile

Advertising in this newsletter packs more clout into your advertising dollars. Sierra Club members are one of the most valuable audiences in America. They are “opinion leaders” and “influentials” by name as they are some of America’s most sought-after advertising targets. Their own purchasing activity is substantial. But, more important, they influence others—in everything from opinion and outlook to choice of products. They are not only consumers, but also doers and leaders.

Club Members are among the most active, affluent audiences of adventure travelers and year-round outdoor sports enthusiasts your advertising dollars can buy. It’s an unduplicated audience with the power to buy your products and services.

Sierra Club Members are Great Prospects
Median Age: 41
Male-Female: 60% - 37%
Median Household Income: $56,227
Attended/Graduated College: 81%
Professional/Technical/Managerial: 30%

Outdoor Sports Enthusiasts
Backpacking/Hiking 4 times more active than the average adult
Mountain Biking 5 times more active
Cross Country Skiing 5 times more active
White Water Rafting 5 times more active
Source: 1996 MRI Doublebase

For Rate Information, Contact:
Debbie Bulger - 457-1036

Eel River Camping Trip

Friday - Monday, July 2-5

9TH ANNUAL TUBING AND CAMPING: RICHARDSON GROVE STATE PARK
Hike along giant redwoods, swim in the Eel River right at the edge of our group site or go tubing on the river. At this time of year the water is warm. We’ll enjoy potluck dinners every night and live music. Bring your musical instruments. You don’t have to have all the camping gear; we have plenty of stores and lanterns. Cost is only $15/vehicle plus $10/adult members, $12/nonmembers and $5/kids 12 and under. Fill out the reservation form and mail it along with your check and SASE to: Eel River Camping, P.O. Box 624, Santa Cruz, CA 95061. Reservations must be received by 6/22. Info will be mailed on 6/24. No phone reservations. Cancellation: Full refund if cancelled by 6/22, 50% by 6/27, no refund after 6/27. Please don’t forget to include a Self Addressed Stamped Envelope OR your email so I can send you directions, info on where to buy your inner tubes and life vests and the list of participants to help you arrange carpooling. For more information: call George, 335-7748.

Eel River Camping Trip

Friday - Monday, July 2-5

(Read the write-up for more details)

Names
Street
City        ZIP        Phone
# of vehicles        @ $15 each
# of members        @ $10 each
# of non-members    @ $12 each
# of kids 4-12      @ $5 each
Total enclosed (make checks payable to Sierra Club)
Departing day/time           Returning day/time
Total enclosed (make checks payable to Sierra Club)

Sierra Club California/Nevada
Desert Committee Outings

All Desert Committee activities, unless stated otherwise, are suitable for anyone who enjoys the outdoors. The average car will be adequate for most trips; however, many of the roads used are dirt and, as with all desert travel, you should come prepared.

Club desert trips are designed to help you see the desert in a way you have not seen it before. We usually have a campfire in the evenings with potluck food and fun. For a complete listing of CNRCC Desert Committee trips, contact Craig Deuschle, 2251 Kelso Ave, Los Angeles, CA 90064, 310-477-6672. Trips may also be received via e-mail from deuschle@earthlink.net.

Friday-Sunday, April 23-25

CAR CAMP: ANZA BORREGO STATE PK
Culp Valley, in the Upper Sonoran plant zone, is our base for a hike down the old California Riding and Hiking Trail to Borrego Spring 202” below. We’ll see a variety of plants. On shorter hikes we’ll visit local springs, see effects of water sources on plant life, and more. Primitive campground. OK for passenger cars. Email phone number and city or US Mail info and SASE to Bill Engs, Box 3248, Crestline CA 92325, engs@juno.com, 909-338-1910.

Friday-Sunday, May 23-25

CAMP: SOUTHERN SIERRA
Birds and more. Explore John Fremont traveled up the South Fork of the Kern River through beautiful riparian cottonwood forests. An hour’s drive south, Ptiue Mountain includes a forested wilderness. Our trip will visit these lovely areas in the height of the springtime migration for birds. First night meets for campfire at the Audubon Kern River Preserve, then an early morning bird walk on Sat. For reservations and information, contact leaders: Cal and Lesty French, cfrench@csn.net, 925-239-7338.

The Sierra Club / Ventura Chapter Volume 43 Number 2, 2004
Printed on Recycled Paper
Up until the last twenty or thirty years you could spot Sierra Club hikers by the small metal cup hanging from their belts. The cup was used to dip water from streams and lakes whenever one wanted a drink.

With the specter of Giardia emerging in the 70s, the small metal cups disappeared and were replaced by purification tablets and filters. The US National Park Service and the National Forest Service erected signs warning of hazardous water, and we became cautious about our source of drinking water. Companies produced lots of fancy filters to purify contaminated water. Fortunately, an avid hiker and scientist, Robert Rockwell, has researched the danger of Giardia and discovered that it poses little or no threat to intelligent water drinking in the mountains.

Quoting from a research report, Dr. Rockwell writes, “The water that wilderness travelers are apt to drink, assuming they use a little care, seems almost universally safe as far as Giardia is concerned . . . What they [researchers] did find is that Giardia and other intestinal bugs are for the most part spread by direct fecal-oral or food-borne transmission, not by contaminant-ed drinking water.” Rockwell notes that he has been visiting the Sierra Nevada since the early 50s and has never treated the water and has never had symptoms of Giardia infection as a consequence.

Rockwell states, “Untreated Sierra Nevada water should be, all things considered, safe to drink anywhere, when and where, safe to drink . . . if you ‘drink smart.’ If you don’t ‘drink smart’ you may ingest diarrhea-causing organisms. But it won’t be Giardia. Camp cooks in particular need to pay special attention to cleanliness. Wash hands thoroughly, especially before handling utensils and preparing meals. If you contract Giardia in the backcountry, blame your friends . . . not the water. Because up to 1 in 14 of us carries the Giardia parasite, we all need to do what we can to keep the water pure. Defecate away from water, and bury it or carry it out.”

During my recent camping and hiking experience in Humphrey’s Basin it was wonderful to drink freely from the clear flowing waters. If you would like to liberate yourself from the tyranny of purifi-cation chemicals and high-tech filters, I recommend reading Robert Rockwell’s enlightening ten page report, which can be found at www.yosemite.org/nature notes/Giardia.htm.

Where to buy a Sierra-style cup? Campmor has a stainless steel version. A modern high tech version, in titanium, can be purchased at REI.

The hikes below are sponsored by the Ventana Wilderness Alliance and are listed here to support their Wild Rivers Campaign.

Saturday, April 17
HIKE: ARROYO SECO RIVER
The walk will follow the closed Arroyo Seco-Indian road past Horsebridge-Willow Creek up the switchbacks to views of the gorge, 10 miles. Call leader for meeting time and place.
Leader: Jack McKellor, 466-2422, mjckellor@cruzio.com.

Saturday, April 24
HIKE: UPPER ARROYO SECO RIVER
Hike the upper Arroyo Seco past the Wild River and see a diversity of spring flora as well as beautiful wild river vistas. Moderately difficult 6-8 mile roundtrip with some steep up and down. Call leader for meeting time and place.
Bring a lunch and dress in layers for the weather. Leader: Jon Libby, 439-6782 or jon@ventanawild.org.

UCSC students sponsor sustainable living lectures

T he UCSC Student Environmental Center, College 8 and the California Student Sustainability Coalition are sponsoring Monday evening lectures on sustainable living. The follow ing will speak:


April 19: Julian Kemp, founder of the National Wildlife Federation’s Campus Ecology Program, “Ecodemia: The Teaching of University Campuses.”


May 3: Satish Kumar, Editor, Resurgence Magazine: “Voices From the South: Gandhian Perspectives on Global Resurgence.”

May 10: TBA

May 17: Starhawk, Author: “Resewing the Webs of Power: Emerging Paradigms of Planetary Politics.”

May 24: David Orr, Chair of Environmental Studies at Oberlin College: “Earth in Mind” (to be confirmed).

All lectures will be held from 7-9:00 p.m. in Classroom Unit 2 and are open to the public at no charge. For more information, visit: www.eslp.net.

The Sierra Club’s
Clair Tappan Lodge

Resurrect those old Sierra Club cups?
(or Giardia re-examined)

By Don Hoenschmeier

Enjoy beautiful mountain trails and vistas, wildflowers, lakes and streams. Come on your own or join one of our exciting workshops or hiking weekends. Built by Sierra Club members in 1934, this rustic, hostel-style lodge stands atop historic Dormer Pass, just an hour and a half from Sacramento. Expect excellent family meals, a friendly staff and a casual atmosphere.

Featured Programs
April 30-May 2: Tibetan Ongogn
April 26, 29, May 2, 5: Natural History
April 26: “Passage to Paradise,” presented by David O’Neill, the author of 11 books on regional nature history. The price is $25 for this course and is limited to 20 participants.

May 28-31: Memorial Day Weekend
Join naturalists for a series of educational hikes about Donner Summit and Sierra environments. Price: $125 members, $135 non-members.

June 4-6: Tahquitz Hiking Highlights

June 6-7: Hiking Highlights

June 11-13: Family Hikes

June 14-19: Spanish in the Mountains

June 20-27: Volcanic Hiking


June 28-30: High Sierra Hiking

July 3-6: “The Sierra Club’s Volunteer Program”

July 10-13: Family Hikes

For more information about these programs or to receive a full schedule and description of Clair Tappan programs please visit our website at www.ctt.sierraculb.org or call (530) 436-3632.
Sediment discharge permits could fund stream monitoring

**Soil erosion decreases water quality**

Concerned neighbors look at damage caused by erosion after a logging operation on the Gray Whale Ranch before it became a State Park.

**by Kevin Collins**

Soil erosion into local streams smooths salmon and steelhead eggs and fills the pools in which juvenile salmon grow. Sediment is regulated by law because it decreases water quality. During the winter when most water agencies like to “rest” their wells to allow for water table recharge, decreased stream quality reduces the amount of surface water available for human use.

California Regional Water Quality Control Boards are attempting to find a way to regulate sediment discharge from logging operations and agriculture, major sources of sediment in waterways. Although mandated by law to do so, the Boards do not have sufficient staff for the job and have yet to settle on an effective and accurate method of monitoring for this type of pollution. Currently the Central Coast Board allocates less than one staff person to this task and expects the logging industry to essentially regulate itself by supplying information about erosion problems at logging sites.

More than 30 years after the passage of the Federal Clean Water Act, California is just beginning to take on the task of controlling water pollution from logging and agriculture. This is a huge and complex task. The Water Quality Boards must find a way to collect accurate information about the effects of logging at specific sites, and they must effectively enforce regulation to improve water quality in streams that have been damaged. Local Sierra Club activists are working with the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board to improve the condition of area streams.

Current logging practices can damage water quality in several ways. Roads and skid trails forever change the way water moves down slope in steep terrain. These roads and tractor trails, including culvert crossings, are often in a nearly constant state of erosion during the winter. Logging on steep slopes and on landslides and other unstable areas, as well as reductions in tree canopy increase erosion rates.

Many Central Coast streams are listed as impaired under section 303(d) of the Clean Water Act. When a stream is listed, the Water Quality Control Board must try to improve water quality by reducing soil erosion and other pollution sources. The Board must also monitor the impaired streams to verify that improvement is taking place. The Central Coast Board continues to issue waivers even though boards in other regions are switching to waste discharge permits which can track cumulative impacts in watersheds.

Other sources of soil erosion and sedimentation of water sources include poorly-maintained rural roads, construction sites, and allowing erosive run-off on properties.

How to help

- Contact your state representatives to tell them that Regional Water Quality Control Board need the staff and resources to monitor sediment in streams. These resources could be funded with a waste discharge permit fee—a source of funds which would not increase the State’s budgetary problems.
- Attend the May 14 Regional Board hearing in San Luis Obispo on waivers for four timber harvest operations: 1) Redtree Properties, 278 acres on Soquel Creek, 2) Redwood Empire, Pryce Creek 46-acre timber harvest on Ramsey Gulch, 3) the Soquel Demonstration State Forest, 201 acres on Soquel Creek, and 4) the Estrada, 5 acres on Gameco Creek.

The Sierra Club believes that permits should be issued instead of waivers. Attendance by clean water advocates is extremely important. The timber industry will turn out in full force.

- If you cannot attend the May 14 meeting, please write a letter asking the Board to issue waste discharge permits instead of granting waivers. FAX: 805-549-3147. For more information, call Jodi Frediani, 426-1697.
Sunday, May 16

Bicycle & skateboard stunt show 12:00-3:00 p.m. @ Bicycle Trip, 1127 Soquel Avenue in Santa Cruz. Check out Tips & Tricks clinics, Open ramps (Bring your bike and decks). Helmets required, pads suggested. Prize toss & FREE raffle; FREE hot dogs & drinks while they last. Music & bike fun.

Rotating clinics 5:40 p.m. & 6:30-8:02 p.m. @ Spokesman Bicycles, 231 Cathcart. Departs from Alvin Shopping Center and ends at Star Market. Contact James Serrano, 758-7195.

Bikes vs. cars in a rush-hour race that departs from Alvin Shopping Center and ends at Star Market. Contact James Serrano, 758-7195.

Bike parade 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. @ 2931 Mission Street. Bike safety event. Helmets required. Prizes and BBQ lunch. Contact Walt Allen, TAMC Serrano, 758-7195.

Bikes will be available to rent. All rides depart from and return to Adventures by the Sea. Morning snacks provided by Whole Foods.

• Long ride @ 9:00 a.m. 35-mile trek out to Pebble Beach, up Huckleberry Hill, and back.

• Short/family ride @10:00 a.m. Ride to Lover’s Point or out to Asilomar State Beach.

Bike to worship Bike to work/School Day Bike activities, live music, food, raffles, and games @ Adventures by the Sea, 285 Figueras Ave, off Wharf 2, Monterey, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Bike rides by Velo Club of Monterey Bikes will be available to rent. All rides depart from and return to Adventures by the Sea. Morning snacks provided by Whole Foods.

Bike to Work/School Day Bike activities, live music, food, raffles, and games @ Adventures by the Sea, 285 Figueras Ave, off Wharf 2, Monterey, 9:00 a.m.-4:00 p.m.

Bike to council Bike to Salinas City Council meeting with City Council Members. Contact James Serrano, 758-7195.

Salinas commuter race Bikes vs. cars in a rush-hour race. Call to Alvin Shopping Center and ends at Star Market. Contact James Serrano, 758-7195.

Bike to Salinas City Council meeting with City Council Members. Contact James Serrano, 758-7195.

Tuesday, May 18

Commute race 4:30 p.m. @ Scotts Valley City Hall (race start). Cheer on local celebrities and watch the bicyclist take on the motorist, electric bicyclist, tandem bicyclist, unicyclist, and others. Race finishes at end of Santa Cruz Wharf! Be at the start, along the way, or celebrate at the finish line!

Essential bike maintenance for beginners 7:40 p.m. @ Bicycle Trip, 1127 Soquel Avenue, Santa Cruz. FREE PIZZA and prizes.

Wednesday, May 19


Family bike ride Tour of Wilder Ranch bike path. 1:00 p.m. @ parking lot of 2911 Mission St.

Historical tour Historical Transportation Transformations. Departs 2:00 p.m. @ Spokesman Bicycles, 231 Cathcart, return at 5:00 p.m. Hop on your bike and join local historian Ross Gibson for this informative, easy-paced bike tour through Santa Cruz. Light snack provided, BYO water, helmet required.

Bicyclists line up for an assist up the hill to campus. Innovative mechanisms such as the UCSC bike shuttle help people leave their cars at home and reduce traffic congestion.

Bike Week • 2004 May 16-22 • all events are free!

The Sierra Club / Ventana Chapter Volume 43 Number 2, 2004 13
The Ventana Wilderness Alliance (VWA) will remove approximately 6,000 pounds of litter, discarded machinery, and household appliances from the newly-designated Willow Creek addition to the Silver Peak Wilderness in southern Monterey County. The trash and machinery were left by operators of several illegal mining machinery, and household appliances, and burned the illegal cabins but did not remove the debris.

The junk was rediscovered by VWA members when they surveyed the area in 1999 for possible inclusion in a proposed wilderness bill. That bill, The Big Sur Wilderness and Conservation Act, became law in 2002 and designated over 55,000 acres of new wilderness, including 8,820 acres of the Willow Creek drainage. The VWA is now ready to start the cleanup following a two-year process to secure approval from the Forest Service in conformance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). This NEPA approval process, funded by a generous grant from the Employees Conservation Action Fund of the Monterey Bay Aquarium and Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute, consisted of archeological, biological, and hazardous material studies of the area. No impediments to the cleanup project were identified.

Volunteers needed
The cleanup project will remove an illegal structure, suspension bridge, lapidary machinery, car batteries, motors, fuel drums, household appliances and more. All of the material will be brought out of the wilderness by volunteers on an estimated 183 backpack loads. A gondola car on a Tyrolean traverse will be used to transport the material across Willow Creek to minimize stream bank disturbances. A volunter trash packer is also needed. The back pack out to the trailhead is less than a mile. The field work will begin in April and continue throughout the summer. Contact the VWA through their website to volunteer, www.ventanawild.org or contact Tom Hopkins at tom@ventanawild.org.

Carmel River watershed festival slated for May 1
The Carmel River will be celebrated through art and science in a festival sponsored by Rising Leaf Watershed Arts, a local non-profit. The Watershed Festival of Life will be held on Saturday, May 1, at the All Saints Day School, 8062 Carmel Valley Road from 11:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The festival will emphasize how residents can care for the watersheds that sustain their lives. The day will begin with a “Gathering of the Waters” ceremony with a large steelhead puppet leading the way. Freeman House, author of the highly acclaimed book Totem Salmon: Life Lessons from Another Species, will be the keynote speaker. Live harp music will be played by David Pavlovich; fun watershed games for families will be offered; local chefs will present food demonstrations; and various organizations will be represented that focus on river and watershed issues.

A silent art auction will be held of paintings and drawings of the area created by Central Coast artists. Talks about the watershed assessment being conducted by the Carmel River Watershed Council and river restoration will round out the day. The Festival will close with a presentation of awards to the student artists who created the posters for the festival as well as to people who are taking action in their lives that make a difference for the health of watersheds. Awards will be presented by Monterey County Supervisor Dave Potter and State Assembly Member John Laird.

In conjunction with the festival, design architect Sim Van der Ryn will speak on May 6 from 7-9:00 p.m. at Monterey Bay Aquarium. Van der Ryn designed the Real Goods Solar Living Center in Hopland, California and was a former California State Architect. Van der Ryn wrote the book Ecological Design (with Stuart Cowan) and has been at the forefront of regenerative design and building practices for over 35 years. He will be speaking about ecologically-designed housing and homes. Van der Ryn will be present to sign his book Ecological Design after his talk.

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VOLUNTEERS NEEDED
Staff for Sierra Club Bookstore in Carmel
A chance to enjoy working in Carmel and helping the Club. Volunteers work 4 hours a month. Meet interesting people. Join the team! Call Gil Giblare, 624-7301.
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**FREE GARDEN**

- Local garden
- Local landscaping
- Local planting

**FREE GARDENING**

- Local gardening
- Local landscaping
- Local planting

**FREE HOMEGARDENING**

- Local home gardening
- Local landscaping
- Local planting

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- Local real estate
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Volunteers needed to monitor stream quality

On Saturday, May 1 volunteers will check stream water quality up and down the Central Coast as part of the 5th Annual Snapshot Day. Locally, water quality will be monitored in Apros Creek, Corralitos Creek, and Branciforte Creek in Santa Cruz County; the Arroyo Seco River in Monterey County; and Pescadero Creek in San Mateo County.

Four-hour training and calibration sessions will be held on Saturday, April 24 in both Santa Cruz and Monterey at Natural Bridges State Park and CSUMB respectively.

To sign up for this exciting hands-on opportunity to contribute to the environmental health of our communities contact the following:

Monterey County: Bridget Hoover, Coordinator, Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network, 833-9303, Fax: 833-4748, e-mail: bhoover@monitoringnetwork.org.

Santa Cruz County: Tamara Doan, Watershed Program Coordinator, Coastal Watershed Council 464-9200, Fax 475-2379, e-mail: tcdolan@coastalws.org.

Coordination of Snapshot Day 2004 is funded by the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, and the California Coastal Commission.