

BEC



31 YEARS OF SERVICE

Mark Your Calendars: Endangered Species Faire, May 5.....See Page 17

BUTTE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL'S

Environmental NEWS

Winter-Spring 2007

Volume 13 - Number 1



**They fell for it! Our invasion is a success!
I told you there was no intelligent life down there.**

Illustration by Gregg Payne

Wal-Mart Invasion

*And What You Can
Do to Stop It*

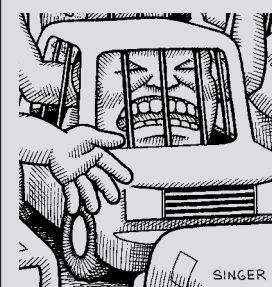
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Environmental News

Environmental News, a quarterly published paper, covers environmental news and events of Butte County and beyond. To submit articles or events for the Environmental Calendar, e-mail Tempra Board at tempra@tempraboard.com. All articles submitted to the *Environmental News* should be sent via e-mail to tempra@tempraboard.com. Articles should be submitted 30 days before publication and must include the author's name, address, and phone number. BEC reserves the right to edit work for space, clarity or libel. The opinions expressed by contributors are not necessarily those of BEC.

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About BEC

The Butte Environmental Council (BEC) is a not-for-profit public benefit corporation. Founded in 1975, BEC is devoted to environmental education and information, referral services, and advocacy.

BEC
116 W. Second St, #3, Chico, CA 95928
(530) 891-6424, www.becnet.org

Hours: Monday through Thursday,
9:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

How to Join BEC

To join BEC, just fill out the membership form on the back page of this paper.

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FROM THE BEC BOARD

Tempra's Tantrums (not really)

I thought it was about time I started a column in the *Environmental News*. It's not because my ego is getting the better of me, but because as editor of this publication and as secretary of the Board of Directors of BEC, I wanted to have the opportunity to direct readers to some of the inspiring articles and authors we are featuring. I also want to remind you of upcoming events and dates, and to provide my take on some of the amazing work and successes of BEC and other environmental groups in Butte County.

Ever since my high school newspaper column, *Tempra's Tantrums*, I've often thought that there must be a way to use that phrase somewhere again. Of course I'll leave discussions of bubble gum wads and litter on the ground outside the lockers behind. Despite the name of the column, I will try to focus on the positive, though I may still interject some sarcasm, cynicism, and wit when I can.

You might have noticed the new look of the newsletter. I'm excited that we have begun using *Paradise Post Printing* and are impressed with their professionalism and great service. We've also started using Gregg Payne's cartoons, which have caught even unlikely readers' attention (especially readers that may not even want to read...and I'm not necessarily blaming them). Even more importantly, they are helping to stimulate dialogue in the community.

We are delighted to feature another cartoonist this time on our new transportation page (page 14)—Andy Singer. He generously donates the use of his *CARtoons* about how modern life has been affected by the automobile with any non-profit group working on alternative transportation. His cartoon goes with a new column by Donna Cook on local transportation issues.

We've also revived our contacts list for our local and state-wide legislators (page 18). There are several issues that are going to take the work of every one

of us to address. One is the proposed Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (SVIRWM) Plan—something about the very name of this plan, and its equally incomprehensible acronym, is almost enough to thwart public involvement from the get-go. Then there's the attempted Wal-Mart invasion, the proposed M&T gravel mine, and the Butte County Habitat Conservation Plan, among others. Even just a phone call to express your opinion, a brief email to our representatives, or a letter to the editor, is more important than ever. If, like me,



you are lately feeling that democracy is failing us, then it's time for you—and me—to get involved. For a start, read on...and thank you.

-Tempra Board

CORRECTION: We regret that in our last issue of the *Environmental News*, we misspelled Allen Harthorn's name. Allen Harthorn is on the Board of Directors of Friends of Butte Creek and the Salmonid Restoration Federation, and is a local producer of organic citrus fruit and avocados.

Derive Tax Benefits and Make Direct Donations from IRAs until End of '07

Adapted from Morgan Stanley

The Pension Protection Act of 2006 allows Traditional and Roth IRA owners who have attained the age of 70 and ½ the ability to make charitable contributions of up to \$100,000 per year directly from their IRAs to an eligible charitable organization such as the Butte Environmental Council without incurring any adverse federal income tax consequences.

The ability to make direct donations is available only until the end of 2007—unless subsequently extended by Congress.

The distributions will be counted for purposes of the required minimum distributions ("RMDs") from an IRA but will not be included in calculating the individual taxpayer's limitation on charitable deductions in the year the donation was made.

There are specific procedures that must be followed to ensure no taxes are due on the IRA distribution. For example, Private Foundations and Donor-Advised Funds are not qualified charities. In addition, the transfer must be from the trustee or custodian of the IRA to the charity and the entire amount must be available to the charity (e.g., donor cannot receive any benefit for the contribution). Distributions from SEP IRAs and SIMPLE IRAs are not currently eligible to have donations made from them directly to qualified charities.

Your tax advisor can help you take advantage of this limited-time opportunity. If you are interested in making a charitable contribution to BEC or another organization using your Traditional and/or Roth IRA assets, contact your financial advisor today. BEC's tax ID# is 94-2309829.

Local and Statewide Groups Oppose Questionable Butte County Habitat Conservation Plan Process

We can't solve problems by using the same kind of thinking we used when we created them.

- Albert Einstein

On February 5, a coalition of organizations sent a letter to the Butte County Supervisors and the City Councils of Chico, Oroville, Paradise, and Gridley with comments and

questions regarding the Butte County Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). The comments were submitted on behalf of the Altacal Audubon Society, Butte Environmental Council, Defenders of Wildlife, Lassen Forest Preservation Group, the Sierra Club-Yahi Group, and Vernalpools.org. The membership of each of these organizations (a combined nearly half a million people) are deeply

concerned about the HCP process and structure. Though many of these groups would be interested in participating in a genuinely well thought out process, they do not see that in this effort. To be specific, the following areas leave these groups with deep apprehension, which leads us to question the motivation and intention behind the HCP endeavor.

History

Butte County was required in a 2002 U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Biological Opinion to create an HCP to mitigate for the growth inducing and cumulative impacts from the SR70/149/99/191 highway expansion. A draft HCP was due in Spring 2004, but other than a few meetings (excluding the public), nothing was done to reach that milestone. When this was pointed out to the BCAG Board on January 26, 2006, BCAG staff denied the lack of compliance with the federal permits. Following that meeting, a flurry of calls and emails recruited Congressman Herger's involvement to pressure the regulatory agency to alter the requirements of the freeway expansion project.

Continued on page 4.

Mary Anne Houx Remembered

By Barbara Vlamis

A wonderful lady, public servant, and human being took flight in November 2006. Mary Anne Houx was a respected leader in Butte County having served on the Board of Supervisors for fifteen years. She not only prioritized the interests of the third supervisorial district, but all of Butte County.

As a very candid person, you always knew where she stood on issues, but she would listen to anyone's concerns or ideas and could collaborate with people "across the aisle" when agreement was reached on specific projects. She also dealt with the hostility and political bickering that frequents a rural county's meetings with class and pride.

She was a role model worth respecting and emulating. I will remember her affectionately and listen for her voice in my ear while BEC tries to protect what she, too, cherished about Butte County.

Protect the North Valley's Land, Air, and Water BEC Angels

Join the BEC Angels who replace their annual membership donation with monthly or quarterly contributions. BEC relies on Angel memberships to maintain the independence necessary to advocate for your land, air, and water.

Becoming an Angel is easy! You may pay by check, credit card, or electronic funds transfer and it is all tax deductible. **New (\$20 per month or more) or upgraded Angel members will receive a set of cobalt blue goblets etched with a special BEC emblem.**

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Make checks payable to Butte Environmental Council. Mail this form to BEC, 116 W. Second Street., #3, Chico, CA 95928. Contributions to BEC are tax-deductible (less the cost of any premiums).

☐ Please don't share my name with other groups.

☐ I prefer not to be thanked in the *Membergram* for my donation.

Remembering Paul Persons

By Barbara Vlamis

It is with great sadness that I let you know that Paul Persons, professor, lawyer, community activist, and loving human, has died. He was attending a conference and was found in his room. I am stunned.

Sunday, January 14th, I went to the Martin Luther King march alone not knowing whom I might meet. The first person I saw was Paul, so I went over, we hugged, and had quite a long chat about, of course, politics, planning, and an intern he

might have for BEC. Laurel Blankinship came up and joined us.

Paul and I walked together, singing all the wonderful civil rights' tunes. He was right behind me, so I was able to hear his voice clearly, "We shall overcome...."

The last I saw of him was as he passed by me as I pulled out of the line at Trinity United Methodist Church to look for some elderly friends of mine. I will treasure our last time together in the freezing cold, honoring another man of significance.

Local and Statewide Groups Oppose Questionable Butte County Habitat Conservation Plan Process

Continued from page 3.
Structure

The Butte HCP/NCCP steering committee is comprised of four elected officials and BCAG staff with regulatory staff invited to some meetings. This is not the norm. Generally, the steering committee includes diverse interests, local government staff, and resource agency staff (Regional Conservation Planning in California: A Guide; S. Sacramento; Yolo County; Solano County). The most common interest groups represented on the steering committee include development and landowner interests and the environmental and agricultural communities.

Steering committees typically determine the goals of the plan, may adopt a mission statement, review and discuss draft materials, and approve a proposed plan. Often times, some steering committee members take on other assignments such as interviewing consultants and working on numerous details of plan development and content with local staff and consultants

(Regional Conservation Planning in California: A Guide). Open meetings would also be necessary, something the current process does not provide. If the environmental community were to invest time in the Butte HCP, this is the structure and role that they would accept. Revisiting the rest of the process that has been initiated by the current steering committee may be the only option.

Either the Butte County planning department or LAFCO should be the local coordinating entity. BCAG's mission and role in Butte County is not compatible with the goals of an HCP/NCCP. If Butte County is to follow the proper protocol, changing entities would be in the best interests of the County, and incorporated cities and towns.

The Scientific Advisory Committee (SAC) must become a respected member of the team working toward an HCP. The conclusion of the description of the SAC's role severely diminishes the importance of this committee: *Recommendations of the Science*

Advisory Panel will be in written reports. These recommendations are advisory and incorporating the Science Advisory Panel recommendations into the HCP/NCCP would be at the discretion of the Steering Committee. The Steering Committee lacks comprehensive representation. Until that membership is changed, the Science Advisory Committee's recommendations should have more weight than the Steering Committee's decisions.

Process

Steering Committee meetings are closed to the public. This is not acceptable. Not only should the Steering Committee be reconfigured to appropriately represent the broader range of interest groups (described above), but the Steering Committee meetings must be open to the public. Moreover, the agendas and minutes of the meetings held to date by this committee should be made available to the public immediately.

Interim protection must be put in place for the habitat and species that are included in the HCP. This would demonstrate to Butte County residents, wildlife agencies, and the environmental community that this effort is more than just a symbolic planning activity (such as the Butte County's 16 year general plan update) and would encourage serious interest in completing the HCP.

- A comprehensive grading ordinance for Butte County should be adopted by June 30, 2007.
- Oak Protection ordinance and monitoring program for Butte County and the cities and town

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should be established before the end of 2007.

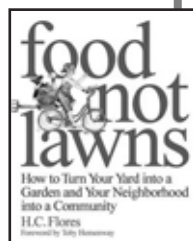
- A comprehensive vegetation removal ordinance for Butte County should be adopted by the end of 2007.
- Vernal pool and aquifer recharge protection overlay zone for Butte County and Oroville (Chico already has one for valuable habitat) by October 2007.
- Riparian habitat buffer ordinance should be adopted by March 31, 2008 for Butte County and the cities and town, if they do not have one already.
- Immediate protection of all remaining Butte County Meadow-foam habitat should be in place.
- Consistent standards and a mitigation monitoring program by Butte County and the incorporated cities and town should be initiated immediately and completed before the end of 2007.

It is our hope that the Board of Supervisors and City Councils will take our suggestions for improving the structure, process, and outcome for an HCP/NCCP. If there is a planning agreement, we would like a copy of it and if one has not yet been created, we would like to participate in its formation. The integrity of the effort and the outcome hinges on implementing these significant improvements and interim measures.



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A New Chapter for Bidwell Ranch

By Dan Efseaff, Restoration Ecologist, River Partners

Sitting on the doorstep of upper Bidwell Park, the environmentally rich Bidwell Ranch property has been in the public eye for decades.

River Partners recently began work for the City of Chico to develop a conservation and mitigation bank on the Bidwell Ranch property. Exploration of the site as a conservation and mitigation bank stemmed from a directive from the Chico City Council to staff in 2006.

We are hopeful that the River Partners' work begins a new chapter that resolves several issues on the property.

mitigation bank. Once the agencies authorize the bank, it will be up to the City to decide on whether to move forward with the mitigation bank.

Conservation or mitigation banks set aside land for environmental benefits in exchange for allowing development or improvements in public infrastructure in other areas. Habitat credits are sold to entities to mitigate for unavoidable environmental impacts associated with land development or infrastructure improvements.

As a city-owned mitigation bank, Bidwell Ranch would be permanently protected as habitat and open space, and would keep the profits of the



Bidwell Ranch. Photo by Dan Efseaff.



Butte County Meadowfoam, an endangered vernal pool-dependent plant found on Bidwell Ranch.

Photo by Butte Environmental Council.

Working closely with City of Chico staff, agency partners, and the community, River Partners will develop the technical information necessary to submit to federal and state agencies to establish the site as a conservation and

bank for the citizens of Chico. The bank would provide the means to mitigate for environmental wetland impacts associated with key City capital projects, as well as streamline mitigation requirements for new local development.

River Partners is committed to an open, transparent process, and will establish a citizens and stakeholders advisory group to focus on the development of the property as a mitigation bank. The group will provide opportunities for citizens to become familiar with the process and project,

and to provide input.

During River Partners' project, opportunities for public access will be thoroughly examined. Not all recreational activities that people enjoy in upper Bidwell Park are likely to be compatible with the property as a conservation or mitigation bank, but we will work with the agencies to find compatible uses.

The project is in the early stages and much of the available information will be refined over a two-year process. However, we believe that this project provides an extraordinary opportunity to protect the environment and Chico's open space, which will partially offset the costs of the property, and streamline local mitigation issues.

The opportunity for public input begins with the first public workshop on the project on March 29 (see box).

As the project progresses, information will be shared on the River Partners website: www.RiverPartners.org.

Dan Efseaff works for River Partners and has called Chico home since 1993. Comments or questions may be submitted to him by email (defseaff@riverpartners.org) or mail at: River Partners, 580 Vallombrosa Avenue, Chico, California 95926. He may also be reached at (530) 894-5401.

History Note

By Butte Environmental Council

In 1988 BEC leaders Michael McGinnis, Kelly Meagher and Steve Evans led a successful referendum with the *No Way San Jose* campaign. An impressive 58 percent of Chico voters overturned the adopted specific plan in a referendum, even though the project proponents outspent the project opponents \$275,000 to \$10,000.

After more than two decades of the local community trying to protect the sensitive vernal pool savanna adjacent to Bidwell Park, the Chico City Council majority opted to rezone the Bidwell Ranch property and rejected last minute offers from developers.

Groups such as the Butte Environmental Council, Stop Bidwell Ranch, and the Chico community prevailed on May 17, 2005 with the City Council voting 4-3 to rezone the 750 acre Bidwell Ranch property to open space.

Get Involved

The first public meeting for River Partners' Bidwell Ranch mitigation project will be held on Thursday, March 29 at the City Council Chambers at 5:30 p.m.

WATER

Find Out What's Going on with Pesticides in Your Water

By Jennifer Oman, Education & Outreach Coordinator

The Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB) held a public scoping meeting in Yuba City on February 15, 2007 on the control of pesticide discharges within the Sacramento and Feather Rivers. The comment period on the management plan is open until March 15, 2007. There will be other opportunities for the public to comment throughout this process, but this is the chance to comment at an early stage, at the scoping level. Decisions are being made on water quality objectives, and now is the time to make important comments on which pesticides will be tested, and other concerns from a general California Environmental Quality Act perspective. Comments are required to be submitted in a very specific format. Please visit the following website link for detailed information on the power point that was given, which lists the proposed amendments to the plan, as well as info on how to write your comments:

www.waterboards.ca.gov/centralvalley/programs/tmdl/sac_feather_diaz/index.html

If you have any questions about this information, contact:

Paul Hann, Environmental Scientist
Central Valley Regional Water Board
11020 Sun Center Drive #200
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670
Work: (916) 464-4628
Fax: (916) 464-4779
phann@waterboards.ca.gov

Issues of Concern

- Even if individual pesticide levels fall within a compliance range, and are not exceeding their individual limits, the combined effect of all the different pesticides may be a problem for our water quality, and the wildlife and plants in our river systems. This is being addressed in the current amended plan, but needs to be looked at carefully. (Compliance allows for acceptable limits to be exceeded once every three years.)

- If there is testing for only two pesticides (diazinon and chlorpyrifos) then other types of pesticides used may increase. Testing for those other types of pesticides (for instance pyrethroids) should also be included.

On a positive note, agricultural trends for diazinon have been steadily decreasing, and the sale of both diazinon and chlorpyrifos for residential use has been phased by the EPA. Also, new diazinon labeling, in effect since 2004, that informs agricultural workers about buffer strips, awareness of taking into account weather conditions, using only when needed, operational requirements and worker awareness of how to protect themselves, has been helpful. Unfortunately, the agricultural use of chlorpyrifos has been increasing.

The Average Food Eater Should Know:

Diazinon is used mainly in the dormant period for plums, peaches and

almonds. During the irrigation period it is used on walnuts and tomatoes and plums.

Important Dates

An important date to note is April 2nd. There will be a public workshop to discuss the staff report, at the Sacramento office, which will involve much more detailed information. An outline of the process is as follows: The hearing before the Central Valley Water Board is scheduled for May 3rd or 4th. State Board Approval will happen in late 2007, and approval by the Office of Administrative Law is scheduled for mid 2008. The final step in the approval process, which is the US EPA approval, is scheduled for late 2008.

History of the Process

- Regional Board resolution R5-2003-0148 approved a Basin Plan

Amendment establishing TMDL (Total Maximum Daily Load) and implementation plans for diazinon in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers.

- The amendment established water quality objectives for diazinon in the Sacramento and Feather Rivers of .080 ug/L (one hour maximum) and .050 ug/L (four day average).

- Compliance date is June 30, 2008

- The amendment included the requirement to review the diazinon allocations and the implementation provisions in the Basin Plan by June 30, 2007 and every 5 years thereafter.

- A review of the water quality objectives is also required by the Sacramento Superior court as a result of the case *Makhteshim Agan of North America v. State Water Resources Control Board; Regional Water Quality Control Board-Central Valley Region, Sac. Cty. Sup. Ct. – Case No. 04CS00871*.

Tuscan Aquifer Still Threatened: SVIRWM Plan Revived

The Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management (SVIRWM) Implementation Proposal scored poorly in the grant review process, but is being looked at again by the Department of Water Resources. DWR proposes to provide \$12 million for the SVIRWM Implementation Proposal, half of the requested amount. There is no indication which parts of the proposal will be selected for funding from the list of projects, but the majority of the plan establishes tools for water exports.

BEC sent out an action alert in early February urging community members to write to DWR. Here is an overview of some of the problems with the SVIRWM.

Comment Points

1. The majority of the plan's implementation projects are detrimental to Butte County's residents, economy,

and the environment (20+ production wells tapping into the aquifer). The SVIRWM Plan was developed without full input from the entities that will be most impacted by the projects and strategies, such as the cities of Chico and Oroville, as well as those with private wells, and the public at large.

2. The Northern California Water Association (NCWA) and its Joint Powers Authority (JPA) do not represent Butte County nor does the SVIRWM Plan represent the public's interest. The Plan, which is necessary to apply for implementation grants, fails as a "grassroots, bottom-up program comprised of many projects, plans, and partnerships with common objectives and a long-term vision." The SVIRWM Plan should be rejected and implementation funding denied due to the absence of a genuine, regional plan and inadequate public input.

3. The SVIRWM Plan failed to provide an accurate assessment of the existing conditions of the aquifer, surface and subsurface hydrologic flow processes, and estimates of conditions under prolonged droughts. Until this level of analysis is conducted, funding the preliminary projects that are necessary for extraction and storage projects is premature.

4. There is not a water shortage in California as claimed by NCWA's JPA, the applicant. for the SVIRWM Implementation Proposal. The California Water Plan, released in 2005, indicates that water demand will decline in the next 25 years even with population increases. Using the same model the state used for its projections, the Pacific Institute found that California could actually *decrease* water use by 20% over the next 25 years while maintaining a vibrant economy (www.pacinst.org/reports/california_water_2030/index.htm).

WETLANDS

Court Orders CA Department of Fish and Game to Consider Imperiled California Tiger Salamander for Listing Under State ESA

By the Center for Biological Diversity

Judge Lloyd G. Connelly of the Sacramento Superior Court has overturned the California Fish and Game Commission's rejection of a petition filed by the Center for Biological Diversity (Center), the Butte Environmental Council, Environmental Defense Center, Defenders of Wildlife, Sierra Club Sonoma Group, Citizens for a Sustainable Cotati, VernalPools.org., Citizen's Committee to Complete the Refuge, and Ohlone Audubon Society to list the California Tiger Salamander under the state's wildlife protection law. The written opinion, issued Dec.

14, 2006, overturned the commission's 3-2 vote to reject the petition to list the salamander under the California Endangered Species Act.

"The thorough and well-reasoned opinion overturned the commission's decision because the commission ignored or misrepresented the overwhelming scientific evidence showing that the salamander is highly imperiled," said Kathy Trisolini of Chatten-Brown and Carstens, who represented the Center pro-bono in the lawsuit. "This decision soundly enforces the requirement that the

commission make listing decisions under the California Endangered Species Act based on the best available science."

The California Tiger Salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*) is an imperiled amphibian found only in California. Historically, the California Tiger Salamander was found throughout most of the Central Valley, adjacent foothills, and Coast Range, as well as in the Santa Rosa Plain in Sonoma County and in Santa Barbara County.

The majority of historic California Tiger Salamander habitat

already has been lost to urban and agricultural development. Extreme habitat fragmentation is increasingly isolating populations and causing local extirpations that will lead rapidly to extinction of the species. It is also threatened by interbreeding with non-native species, predation and other threats.

Judge Connelly ordered the commission to accept the petition, which will initiate the full status review and the second stage of the listing process.

River Partners Annual Dinner & Silent Auction: March 23

Celebrating Restoration and California State Parks

Time and Place

Friday, March 23, 2007, 6 pm to 9 pm
The Big Room at the Sierra Nevada Brewery
1075 E. 20th St, Chico, CA 95928

Program Highlights

Silent Auction & Hors d'oeuvres
No Host Bar
Dinner, Awards, & Multi-Media Celebration

Admission

\$40 per person for tickets purchased before March 16
\$45 per person for ticket purchased after March 16.



California quail.



For early reservations, call (530) 894-5401 ext 22. We accept MC and Visa payments. Additional program highlights will be posted on our website: www.RiverPartners.org

WATER

WATERWAYS Part two in a three-part series

Big Chico Creek By Rex Stromness

Two reasons for Chico being located where it is are its two main water ways—Big and Little Chico Creeks. They both run through the heart of town, are vitally important water sources and have been altered, re-routed and manipulated over the years. In this installment we will explore Big Chico Creek. We will focus on Little Chico Creek in the next *Environmental News*.

Big Chico Creek's headwaters are at Colby Mountain above Butte Meadows. A series of springs produce the year round flow which passes through Butte Meadows and forms the deep canyon north of Highway 32. It then flows through Upper Park creating a series of locally famous swimming holes and carving deep, starkly beautiful Iron Canyon out of the black Lovejoy Basalt. When it reaches Five-Mile, the main branch of the creek continues through Lower Park and the University campus. Part of the creek flow is diverted into Lindo Channel during high water and from Lindo into the Sycamore flood

control channel during flood conditions. The highest recorded flow of the creek was during the floods of 1997 when it reached 10,400 cubic feet per second.

After leaving Chico, it winds its way west and is joined by Lindo Channel (when it's running) and Mud Creek (which has merged with Rock Creek). Together, they empty into the Sacramento River at River Road, a 45 mile journey from beginning to end. But during dry years by late summer the creek doesn't make it to the river at all. It disappears into the gravel beyond Rose Avenue along Bidwell Avenue.

One question to be answered is: what was the original channel and did John Bidwell divert the creek to run past his mansion? The consensus seems to be that historically the creek had several channels as it left the foothills and entered what is now Chico. One main branch was the present course and another was Sandy Gulch (present day Lindo Channel).

Salmon

Although smaller than other local runs, the Big Chico Creek salmon run is significant—the spring run recently numbering up to 1,000 fish. According to Susan Strachan of the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, the two main issues surrounding the Creek these days are the dam at One-Mile (Sycamore Pool) and the aging fish ladder in Iron Canyon—both of which affect the salmon run.

Historically, Salmon were able to make it up to the cool water of Hennings hole in the University Reserve above Upper Park—but according to Strachan things changed in 1906.

“During the ‘06 earthquake (which destroyed San Francisco) boulders in the creek shifted, preventing salmon from getting upstream,” she says. “They

were stuck in warmer water where they couldn't thrive”

A fish ladder was built in the 50's to assist the salmon upstream into the cooler water but it has deteriorated and is in need of restoration. This has become a primary concern of the Watershed Alliance and others. So far a feasibility study has been done and now funding is being sought to build the ladder.

According to Roger Cole, Board member of both the Alliance and of Streaminders, restoration of the ladder would have a short term effect on Park aesthetics.

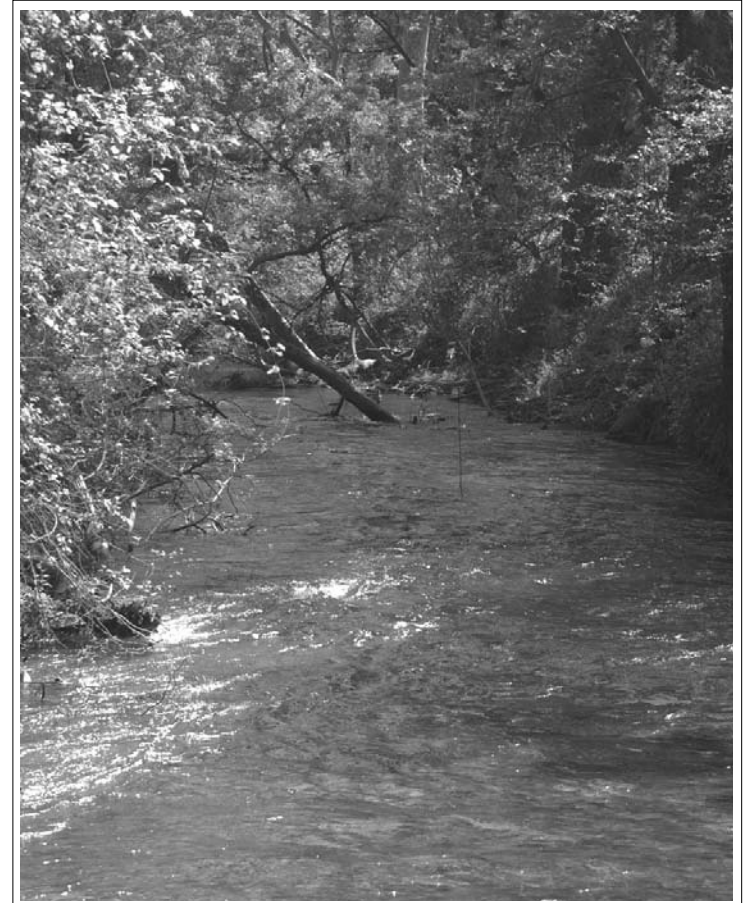
“Unfortunately, the ladder is deep in the canyon and a crane and some heavy equipment will be part of the Park for awhile,” he says. “But for a viable salmon population to continue, it is a necessary inconvenience.”

Gravel for spawning salmon has been an issue at both Five-Mile and

Mile. The diversions at Five-Mile have affected the gravel beds and the dam at Sycamore Pool has also affected the natural gravel flows, not to mention being a safety concern for the workers who have had to remove and replace the wooden boards during different water flows.

An inflatable dam is about to be put into place that will be easily adjustable and allow gravel to pass through in a more natural manner. The dam, funded by the City of Chico, is scheduled to be in place as soon as next summer.

Big Chico Creek (due to the foresight of Annie Bidwell and others) is accessible and provides recreation for body and soul to many. Organizations such as Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, Friends of Bidwell Park, Streaminders and BEC are watching over the creeks for us. They need and deserve our support.

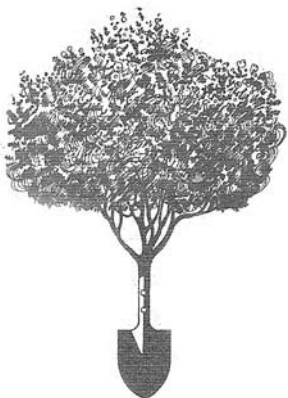


**Big Chico
Creek near
One-Mile.**

**Photo by
Stephanie
Bird**

FLORAL NATIVE NURSERY

2511 Floral Avenue
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530.892.2511
cohasset@shocking.com
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Everyone Lives Downstream from Someone

By Jennifer Oman, BEC Education & Outreach Coordinator

Living in an urban area, it's easy to forget that we live upstream of people and critters. The Chico USA Clean Creeks Project has been working to get the word out that we are connected to one another via our gutters (a.k.a the storm drain system)...and that whatever is in our gutters, is in our creeks.

One way to be a good upstream neighbor is to use your local Clean

Water Business Partners to clean your carpets and landscape your yard. If you offer to let your carpet cleaner empty their wastewater onto your lawn or yard, providing there is no runoff, you will be helping to keep our creeks clean.

Good news! The list of Clean Water Business Partners is growing. Check it out.

Carpet Cleaners

- Sunrise Carpet Cleaners
- SJS Carpet Cleaning
- Dean's Upholstery and Carpet Care
- Clean King by DeHart
- Chico Carpet Cleaning
- Service Master Select

Landscape Contractors

- Leslie Corsbie/Performance Design & Landscape
- KCL Custom Landscapes
- Sierra Landscape & Maintenance Inc.
- Gary Wheeler/Ewing Irrigation

(Ewing Irrigation is an irrigation supplier committed to providing Clean Water Business information to landscape contractors)

If you get a chance, let our Clean

Water Business Partners know that you appreciate their conscientious business practices and refer them to others. Also, you can encourage other businesses to join the Chico USA team.

Other types of businesses that are encouraged to join as a CWBP are, for example; Nurseries, Power Washers, Bars and Restaurants, etc.

Visit www.becnet.org and click on the Chico USA logo to learn more about the program, and download the Clean Water Business Partnership Application; or call 891-6424.

Remember that Creek Watch information is available 24 hours a day on our Hotline (530) 891-6459 and online, on the BEC website: www.becnet.org (just click on the Chico USA logo). If you see anyone dumping illegally in our creeks, streams or gutters, please call the Hotline!

Do You Live on the Creek?

If you live on the banks of one of our beautiful creeks or streams you can do much to help keep it healthy and lovely. The riparian zone is an area of amazingly diverse plant and animal life that acts as a buffer between a waterway and the land. It can extend 100 feet and needs to be protected. It is actually an extension of the creek life that we know and love.

Things that you can do to protect the Riparian Zone:

- Keep it Natural...Plants that are native to the area are important to the health of the zone and the creek itself. Letting them thrive by not bulldozing or planting invasive plants is helpful.
- Minimize irrigation in the area.
- Respect all wildlife in the creek area and avoid using poisons.
- Keep it Natural...Fallen branches and trees should be left as they are, if possible. They provide food and shelter for our creek critters.

- Only rainwater should be allowed to enter the gutters and storm drains.
- Domestic and feral pets should be controlled in the zone.
- Natural changes in the flow of the creeks and streams should be allowed to remain, within the limits of safety. High water flow is necessary for the health of the stream or creek.

Learn more about how to care for your home, lawn, and garden, while also caring for your waterways. Visit the following websites:

- Butte Environmental Council www.becnet.org and click on the Chico USA logo
- California Native Plant Society www.cnps.org
- Friends of Bidwell Park www.friendsofbidwellpark.org
- Integrated Pest Management www.ipm.ucdavis.edu



Volunteer Stream Monitoring

Thank you Chico USA Citizen Monitors! Volunteer and Have Fun!

If you are interested in volunteering to be a Citizen Monitor, then please contact Timmarie Hamill, of Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance to learn more about how you can help to collect Big Chico Creek data. **March 24, 2007 is the kick-off for the new monitoring season!** Come on out and get training on how to test our creek water. Volunteers will be meeting at 5-Mile, at 9 a.m. on the 24th. Families and individuals are encouraged to participate.

The data that you will collect helps us to understand which urban pollutants are causing problems for water quality. It is being used to observe changes resulting from natural trends and human activities, including both land use changes and restoration projects. It gives us a "snapshot" of creek health from the mountains to the River on one day each month. The data is made available to the public on the Chico USA web page at www.becnet.org

Timmarie Hamill, BCCWA, Monitoring Coordinator
thamill@bigchicocreek.org, 342-6620

Mark your Calendars!

The Big Chico Creek Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program will begin a new monitoring season in May 2007. New equipment has been secured and our Monitoring Plan has been updated to track the effects of land-use practices and restoration activities. Data collected will be analyzed and translated into public actions. Join us for our next training event and see if you would like to get involved.

- Stream Team training: March 24th and April 21st (9AM to 12PM), Five-Mile picnic area.
- Water Quality Monitoring: May through Oct. (First Saturday of each month)
- Storm Drain Marking: Saturday May 12th
- Aquatic Insect Surveys: September and October

For more information contact: thamill@bigchicocreek.org or call 342-6620

Will the M&T Gravel Mine Degrade Chico While Lining Out-of-State Company's Pockets?

By Maria Phillips

On January 25, the Butte County Planning Commission met once again to consider the M&T/Baldwin Contracting proposal to put a gravel mine on River Road. This project has been in the works for more than 10 years and is a major threat to air and water quality, prime farmland, and neighborhoods in Chico. It is up to the community to become educated and vocal to ensure that this mine does not come to town. The city of Chico has written a letter of concern related to traffic (their only real jurisdiction). The Butte County Farm Bureau has voted in opposition. The Executive Committee of the Yahi Group of the Sierra Club has voted to support the opponent's efforts against the mine. Nobody seems to want this mine, aside from the applicants and, apparently, the Department of Development Services, which sees it as a source of cheap gravel (ironically, at any cost).

The proposed M&T Ranch gravel mine near the Sacramento River just west of town will "generate thousands upon thousands of road-pummeling truck trips, most of them routed through Chico," reports the *Chico News & Review* (January 11, 2007). Everyday for the next several decades we will have to walk and drive amongst a steady stream of soot-belching, noisy, incredibly heavy gravel big rigs on such streets as 5th, Walnut, Park, 8th, 9th, and East.

Intersections along Broadway, Main, Esplanade, Park, and Walnut will be crossed many, many times per hour when the mine is in full operation. And all for no reason. There is plenty of gravel north, east, and south of town. Downtown Chico does not have to be a gravel truck conduit for MDU Resources, Inc. of Bismarck, N.D., which is a huge international corporation that owns Baldwin Constructing Co. through Knife River Corporation to whom it was sold by M&T in 1996.

The 8,000-acre M&T Ranch is near River Road and Chico River Road. It is

owned by Pacific Realty Associates of Portland, Oregon. The mining applicant is Baldwin Contracting, which is owned by Knife River Corporation, a wholly owned subsidiary of MDU Resources, Inc. MDU's subsidiaries deal in construction services, pipeline and energy services, natural gas and oil production, construction materials and mining, and independent power production. MDU's current annual revenues are about \$6 billion. Profits, growing toward \$1 billion annually, have increased 33% in the past year. Mining subsidiary Knife River Corporation, which houses Baldwin Contracting and 37 other mining and materials companies, generates about \$1.6 billion in revenue and sends about \$60 million in annual profits to MDU. *Forbes* magazine has named MDU Resources to its "Platinum 400" list of "best" big companies in America for a 6th consecutive year. *Fortune* rates MDU

Why Chico?

Baldwin Vice President and General Manager went on record saying that the company has plenty of other sources of gravel.

second among 1,000 energy companies in profits returned to shareholders. Clearly, neither MDU nor its subsidiary Knife River Corporation is depending on a big rig gravel route through the center of Chico for corporate survival.

M&T Ranch and Baldwin Contracting were both owned by Pacific Realty Associates until Knife River purchased Baldwin in 1996. Knife River not only purchased Baldwin, but also got a long-term lease on 627 acres of M&T Ranch for mining and construction materials operations. While Baldwin has withdrawn its application for a batch plant (concrete-making facility) at M&T, the company clearly wants to

Orchards and riparian wildlife near the proposed M&T Gravel Mine site.

Photo by Sharon Fritsch.



make concrete at the mine site as well as mine gravel—the language and details for a batch plant are still in the final environmental impact report (FEIR). So, somewhere down the road, look for an addition of a stream of cement trucks added to gravel mine traffic.

Corporate guidelines for Knife River Corporation include a goal of maintaining 30 years worth of mining reserves and this is probably the reason Baldwin's permit application indicates a 30-year mining time frame. We surmise that Baldwin Contracting would wish to fulfill its reserves obligation to MDU by adding to its Butte County gravel reserves what it mines from the original M&T mine site. It seems logical that the company would apply periodically for expansion of the original permit. And KRC/Baldwin has 627 acres to work with, not just the 200 acres referenced in the permit application.

The current application for a permit to operate a gravel mine at M&T Ranch specifies 11 hours of operation each working day. We know that 85% of trucks will be run through the City of Chico that many hours per day, five days a week, according to the FEIR. The consultants that wrote the EIR stated in their public presentation at the Butte County Planning Commission of November 30, 2006, that there could be additional days and hours of operation "in case of emergency." When confronted, they clarified that "Saturday operations may occur sporadically to meet customer demands."

Though Knife River Corporation

says it operates "in an environmentally safe manner," the draft environmental impact report (DEIR) and FEIR of the gravel mine at M&T state plainly that routing gravel big rigs through the center of Chico will cause "significant and unavoidable" additions to air pollution and traffic congestion. There are no mitigation alternatives, says the EIR.

The Planning Commissioners voted a "Motion of Intent" 3-2 to certify the EIR and approve the project. As of press time, the Planning Commissioners are meeting again to approve the motion, which we expect that they will do. After this, the project goes to the Board of Supervisors.

This is where *you* come in. The Supervisors have the discretion to not let this project go through. There is no clear benefit to the community. We have plenty of gravel already, and not even Baldwin Company needs this gravel. Rene J. Vercruyssen, Vice President and General Manager, went on record at the January 25 Planning Commission meeting saying that the company has plenty of other sources of gravel. While gaining almost nothing positive, Chico will instead gain increased, dangerous traffic and big rigs through town, and the associated accident risks and air pollution. Please call your supervisors (see page 18 for their contact information) and ask them not to approve this detrimental project.

For more information or to become involved, please contact Maria Phillips at mariaphillips05@comcast.net or BEC at staff@becnet.org.



It's Up To Us: Save Chico's Quality of Life by Stopping Wal-Mart's Expansion

Chico has a big decision to make in the coming months. World-wide behemoth Wal-Mart wants to expand its existing store into Super-Center (with twice the square footage) and build another one in the north of town on the Esplanade near Highway 99. Both of these would be more than 240,000 square feet (think *five* football fields) and would have discount groceries and gas, which would compete with established stores.

Many questions have arisen regarding Wal-Mart's multi-faceted impact on our town, including sprawl, traffic, pollution, habitat loss, closure of existing businesses, noise and Wal-Mart's labor history being just some of the concerns.

However, as big, powerful and persuasive as Wal-Mart is, the expansion and new store are far from done deals. As of press time for this publication, the environmental impact report (EIR) was being reviewed and public comments taken. More than 200 people packed the City Council chambers on January 30, with even the foyer at standing room only. According to those who were there, between 90 and 95% of comments were strongly opposed to the expansion, and many pointed out major weaknesses in the EIR.

And this is good, because according to a city staff person, the most effective way to influence the decision regarding Wal-Mart is to attend a Planning

Commission or City Council meeting where the decision makers are "looking at the faces" of people giving input.

We need everyone to write comments to the Planning Commission and the City Council. Points to make include:

- **Air Pollution:** An unavoidable impact would contribute to "non-attainment" of air quality standards.
- **Traffic:** Huge increases in traffic and delays at both sites.
- **Child Safety:** The north site is one quarter of a mile from Shasta

Elementary school where many children bike or walk to school.

- **Walkable/Bikable:** The north site threatens the existence of the Northwest Chico Specific Plan (already approved), which includes small retail outlets that can be walked to from homes planned for development in the area.
- **Economic/Urban Decay:** The economic consultant for the EIR

used old and inaccurate data. Ask the Planning Department to include an independent study by Economist Dr. Philip King (San Francisco State), which was provided to Patrick Murphy at the hearing.

Please stay involved and be patient. Actual hearings by decision makers aren't anticipated for a couple of months. We'll need everyone's help from now through those hearings.

True Colors

According to the January 2007 *Hightower Lowdown* (www.hightowerlowdown.org):

- The average Wal-Mart employee receives only \$8.23 per hour, usually working less than 40 hours per week – some as few as 24 hours per week – an annual gross income of less than \$10,000, and well below the poverty level.
- CEO H. Lee Scott Jr. received \$17.5 million last year in salary, incentive payments, stock and other compensation.
- Wal-Mart founder Sam Walton's widow and their children make up *five* of the 11 richest people in the United States.
- Fewer than half of Wal-Mart's employees

receive any healthcare benefits. If they do receive them, employees pay nearly half the cost of the premium for an extremely high deductible plan.

- Compare this with Costco, in which 80% of employees are covered under a good healthcare plan, and Costco pays 90% of the premiums.
- Wal-Mart has given more than \$44 million in campaign contributions to Bush and other Republican campaigns in the past seven years.

If Wal-Mart treats its employees this way, could it possibly care about how its expansion will harm Chico's environment and businesses?

Act Now

For information, important meetings to attend, and more about what you can do, please contact

Chico Cares
www.chicocares.org
P.O. Box 7647
Chico, CA 95927

LAND USE

A Rating System for the Human Habitat

By David Kim, Architect, New Urban Builders

The Merriam-Webster Online Dictionary defines “habitat” as “the place or environment where a plant or animal naturally or normally lives and grows.” Implicitly, the quality of environments and places significantly impact whether a species (plant or animal) merely survives or thrives. Like natural habitats, our physical places

Much of our built environment is still governed by single use zoning and a compartmentalization mindset. The results have been energy and land intensive development patterns that increasingly encroach on the natural environment.

(cities, neighborhoods, towns, etc.) are organisms with natural and observable order and complex relationships. The quality of this environment affects the quality of our communities and impacts the surrounding natural landscape.

With the rising cost of energy and an increasing awareness of our impact on the environment, regulatory bodies are raising efficiency standards as mandatory measures and increasing

incentives to encourage the maximization of resources relative to individual buildings. This is an encouraging sign, yet much of our built environment is still governed by single use zoning and a compartmentalization mindset. The results have been energy and land intensive development patterns that increasingly encroach on the natural environment.

One green building program that combines the science of green building technology with the art of urban design and sends a signal for better location, design, and construction of complete and connected neighborhoods and buildings is the LEED for Neighborhood Development (LEED-ND).

LEED-ND is a collaborative effort of the U.S. Green Building Council (www.usgbc.org), the Congress for the New Urbanism (www.cnu.org), and the Natural Resources Defense Council (www.nrdc.org). Representing the nation’s leaders

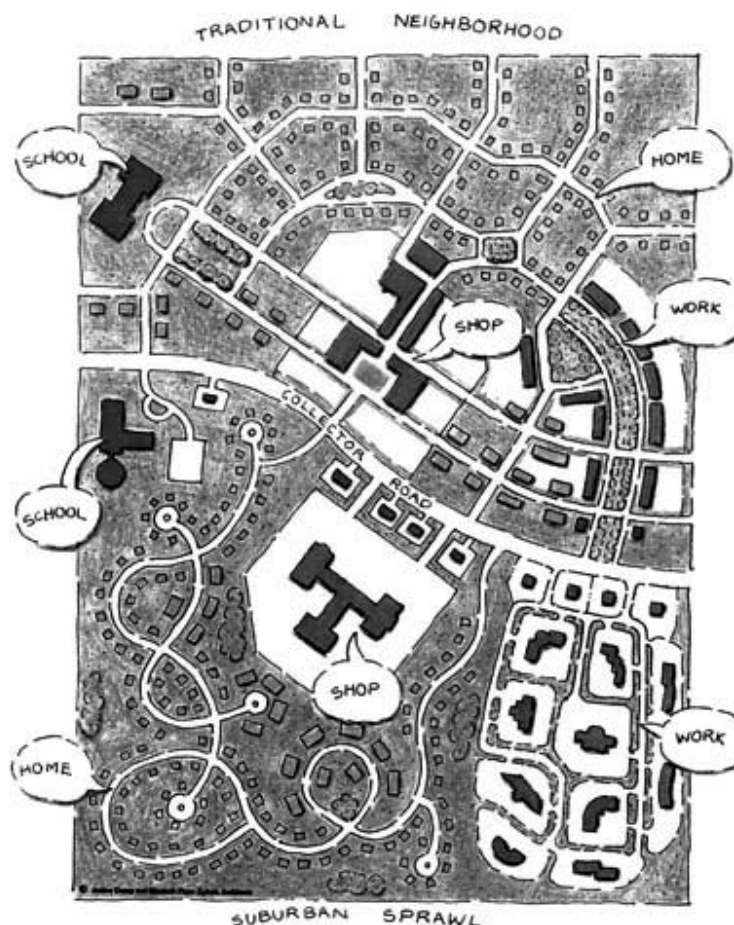


Diagram of two alternate development patterns. The “sprawl” pattern is highly segmented and individualized by use with access limited by way of the collector road while the “traditional” pattern is connected and transitions easily from one area to another.

Courtesy of Duany Plater-Zyberk & Co.

among progressive design professionals, builders, planners, developers, and the environmental community, the three organizations combined the principles of smart growth, urbanism, and green building into the first national standard applicable to the development sector. LEED-ND is suited for mixed use developments (civic, commercial and residential) that are developed by a single entity (“master developer”) intended for lease and/or for sale to multiple customers or, in the long view, “inhabitants.”

With the exception of some municipal and regional programs such as Portland’s “G/Rated” Green Building Program (www.portlandonline.com/osd/) and BuildItGreen’s GreenPoint Rating (www.builditgreen.org),

most “green” rating systems focus primarily on the individual building and its immediate site. They generally have few references to the building’s community and regional context and relationships. LEED-ND is created to encourage and incentivize compact design, proximity to transit, mix of uses, diversity of housing types, and pedestrian- and bicycle- friendly design. The understanding is that an integrated and interconnected development is a more sustainable pattern of growth than the prevalent single use, segregated pod development.

The LEED-ND pilot program launch is planned for February 2007 with a call for projects and the full implementation of the program anticipated sometime in 2008.

WOODWRIGHT CONSTRUCTION

Bill Yoskowitz

General Contractor #755794

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Chico USA Goes to School

The Chico Urban Streams Alliance team visited Chico Country Day School last fall and had a wonderful time with the 3rd and 4th grade classes. The students learned about their watershed, and helped demonstrate how runoff pollution occurs through our storm drain system. They used cool aid and hot chocolate mix to show the runoff effects of fertilizers, pesticides, auto oil, cigarette butts, and trash that wash down into the gutters

USA Big Chico Creek Volunteer Stream Monitoring Program where students and citizens are trained to conduct water quality surveys to track the health of our creeks. Chico Country Day School students tested the conductivity, PH, and Temperature of creek water utilizing their superb math skills to analyze their data!

In October of 2006, the Chico USA team also worked with a group of students from North County Community Day School and interns from Chico State University. Students learned to test the creek water out at the Big Chico Creek Ecological Reserve on a perfect fall day. When the students showed up they created a group drawing highlighting what they had learned about our local watershed, communed with wild turkeys, and became scientists for a day while conducting stream surveys. This was an awesome opportunity for our C.A.V.E. (Community Action Volunteers in Education)

and then directly into our waterways. This interactive demonstration was led by Jennifer Oman, of the Butte Environmental Council.

The students were also provided an overview of watershed function and other important ecological background from Timmarie Hamill, of the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance. Timmarie leads the Chico

university students to mentor high school students, and both groups learned about the importance of protecting water quality throughout our watershed.

The Chico USA team will continue to provide watershed education this spring, and if you would like to know more please contact us for further details on what we have to offer.

Alternatives to Toxics

By Jennifer Oman, BEC
Education & Outreach
Coordinator

Wellness

As part of the Butte Environmental Council's Wellness outreach effort we are beginning an "Alternatives to Toxics" column. Information will be provided in this column on various alternatives to toxic substances.

It's hard to give up toxics

Why would we even want to use a toxic substance? Because it works so well! In some ways, humans love hazardous products. They make our life easier—or at least that's what our predecessors were led to believe. But the present generation is now being inundated with the buzz word "sustainability." The concept that we can come up with handy products and substances for cleaning, picnicking, gardening, etc. that combine the best of both worlds—making life easier for us humans AND being responsible Earth residents—is taking off like wildfire. Alternative energy sources, alternative substances, and alternative solutions are all the wave of the future. We just might go down in history as the "Alternatively Sustainable" generation.

BEC has already been putting the word out through the Chico USA program for the past year about how our street gutters drain directly into our waterways, and we've been asking the public to cut back on pesticide use in their gardens and yards to prevent runoff pollution. Here's our first tip on a pesticide alternative. (The big, fancy phrase for this is "Integrated Pest Management"—or for those of us who love acronyms—IPM)

Pesticides

Ants are not "man's best friend." Although we appreciate ants' work ethic, and can marvel at their superhero qualities of being able to transport food that is 10 to 20 times their body weight, that does not mean that we can live WITH them in our homes and gardens. Listed below are some tips on how to admire them from a distance:

- Trace a line of ants and find out where they are entering the house and then seal it off. You can also try pouring a line of any of the following at the place where ants enter the house: cream of tartar, red chili pepper, salt, dried mint or sage, or cucumber peelings. (cinnamon works too)

- Ants can carry aphids (plant lice) into your garden. Keep them out with borders of steamed bone meal or powdered charcoal, or by spraying with a water and pepper solution.

- Keep sweet or fatty foods well covered.

- For heavy ant infestations, mix 1 tablespoon sugar and 1 tablespoon of borax with 2 tablespoons of water to make a thick syrup. Soak cotton balls in mixture and place the cotton balls on low lids or something flat so that ants can get to it. Place them in the middle of the ant infestations. Ants will eat it and take it back to the nest. Slowly but surely, the numbers will diminish. Have patience.

- Band sticky, adhesive materials (some brand names are Stickem and Tanglefoot) around the base of plants and trees to deter ants, which can carry and colonize aphids. Ants like the sweet secretion of aphids and protect them from natural enemies.

(This information provided courtesy of Barbara Vlamis, Executive Director of the Butte Environmental Council. You can also find information about alternatives to pesticides and other toxic chemicals at the website of Californians for Alternatives To Toxics —www.alternatives2toxics.org)

Share your ideas

If you are aware of any effective alternatives to toxic substances, please feel free to write in or call with your ideas. We welcome them and hope to begin a Wellness dialogue that can benefit all of us. We will print your ideas in future columns to share the knowledge with our community.



A C.A.V.E. university student conducts water quality tests with Chico Urban Streams Alliance.

TRANSPORTATION

Rights of Cars Exceed Rights of People By Donna Cook

"They thrust the poor off the road..."
Job 24:4a

The desire for speed in travel currently is pre-empting the right of people to travel safely, even within urban and residential areas. Chico has many areas posted with speeds from 30 to 45 mph despite their locations in and near high-use pedestrian zones, for the benefit of vehicular traffic.

There is a *prima facie* ("on its face") law in California that vehicles may drive no more than 25 mph in areas where residential and retail businesses are operating. The *prima facie* aspect is the argument that people outside of vehicles are not safe around vehicles traveling in excess of 25 mph....and we aren't. Only 5% of pedestrians die when struck by a vehicle traveling at 20 mph; 45% die at 30 mph; 85% at 40 mph. (Interestingly, this information is much easier to find on Canadian and UK websites, but with some sleuthing I also found it in a study done by the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration in the U.S.) Even worse, SUVs double pedestrians' risk of death. Notice that when construction crews are in the roads, the speed limit is set at 25 mph and double fine zones are posted.

There is a legal requirement by the State of California that the speed limit may only be higher than 25 mph if a study is done every seven

Only 5% of pedestrians die when struck by a vehicle traveling at 20 mph; 45% die at 30 mph; 85% at 40 mph.

years showing conditions that provide extra protections for pedestrians. But are the studies being done? That is questionable since many of the higher speed areas in Chico, such as on El Monte north of Highway 32 and only one block from Marsh Junior High, and along Manzanita near Hooker Oak Park and Wildwood Park (all areas are posted 35 mph though pedestrians and bicyclists are present), have no sidewalks provided. There are also areas with higher speeds allowed, even where the bicycle lanes just disappear as

the roads reach intersections where car traffic is expedited with left turn lanes. One of the factors that is supposed to be considered in a seven-year study is the statistics on deaths and injuries in the roads. But this does not account for the fact that many people will not use roadways that are not made safer for other ways of traveling. Parents do not allow their children to travel to school on roads that are unsafe. Death and injury statistics are not going to show that. However, the 20% of urban traffic that results from parents needing to take their children everywhere they go, is at least partly the result of the perception of unsafe roads.

One of the reasons generally given for why higher speed limits are reasonable within the city limits is that the roadway is part of a highway, and having a higher speed limit on some streets (arteries) encourages traffic to use those streets, rather than the nearby residential areas. Does this mean that the people who live or do business on those more dangerous streets are compensated in some way for the increased risks that they are assuming so that other people in other residential areas are safer? Is their healthcare for accidental injuries or increased respiratory problems

publicly funded by the citizens who are being protected? How does this provide for direct routes for pedestrians and bicyclists?

These arteries often are the most direct routes and using bicycles or walking requires not only slower travel but more circuitous routes.

The argument that people will travel too fast through neighborhood streets if they aren't given a more direct route with a higher speed limit ignores the basic danger of fast vehicular travel in *all* residential and retail areas. Studies and anecdotal evidence indicate that traffic enforcement *works* for slowing vehicular traffic. According to an FBI Law Enforcement Bulletin in 1999,



© Andy Singer. From the book *CARtoons*. Used with permission.

enforcement of traffic laws is one of the only areas of law enforcement that can actually be financially self-supporting.

The rights of human beings to be able to move about in their environment is one of the most basic of human rights. Recent stories of poor countries developing roadways for automobiles between cities might sound like progress, but how do people who are making \$2 a day going to get to markets to sell their produce or gather firewood? Obviously most poor and/or unemployed Americans make more than \$2 a day, however, 40% of jobs in the United States are unavailable to people who don't own a car because of the lack of transit options and roadways that are inaccessible or dangerous to any but vehicular traffic. Unfortunately in many areas, our transportation and tax dollars are poured into roads

that are unfriendly to bicyclists and pedestrians. If this continues, we'll have roadways that are crowded with cars and trucks, destroying our environment and contributing to obesity and respiratory problems at all age levels.

In addition, global warming is going to force us to look at what the use of fossil fuels for travel is doing to our climate and to our lives. Wouldn't the adjustment of our transportation system and streets on the local level be the most obvious and easiest place to begin?

If you think so, your help is needed! We are looking to form a group to discuss transportation issues and make our voices heard about how local transportation funding is being spent.

Please contact Donna Cook at djmac1010@sbcglobal.net, and include the word "transportation" in the subject line, to get involved.

RECYCLING

See businesses below by number	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19	20
CRV	\$	\$	◆	\$	◆	\$	\$		◆	\$	\$		◆	\$		◆	\$	\$	◆	\$
Glass		\$	◆	\$	◆	\$	◆			◆	\$		◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	
Metal																				
Bi-metal cans		\$	◆			◆	◆			◆			◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	
Tin cans		\$				◆	◆			◆			◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	
Aluminum foil/ pie pans			◆				\$			◆										
Scrap metals		\$		\$		\$					\$	F								
Plastics														◆						
#1 Plastic		\$	◆	◆	◆		\$		◆	◆	\$		◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	
#2 Plastic		\$	◆		◆		\$			◆	\$		◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	
#3-7 Plastic		\$	◆				◆			◆	\$		◆	◆		◆	◆			
Paper																				
Newspaper			◆		◆	◆	\$			◆			◆	◆		◆	◆		◆	
Magazines			◆				◆			◆			◆	◆			◆		◆	
Phone books			◆				◆			◆			◆	◆			◆		◆	
Cardboard			◆		◆	◆	\$			◆			◆	◆			◆		◆	◆
Mixed paper			◆				\$			◆			◆	◆			◆		◆	
Ledger paper			◆				\$			◆			◆	◆			◆		◆	
Hazardous Waste																				
Alkaline batteries			◆					◆	◆					◆						
Car batteries		\$				\$	◆	◆			\$	◆		◆						
Paint								◆						◆	◆					
Pesticides								◆						◆						
Fluorescent lights & ballasts							\$	◆						◆						
Used motor oil							\$	◆				◆		◆	◆		\$			
Anti-freeze								◆						◆	◆					
Miscellaneous																				
Appliances (no freon)		◆				F						F								
Appliances (with freon)												F		F						
Cars														F						
Yard waste												◆	◆							
Ewaste							◆	◆				◆		◆	◆		◆			

- ◆ **Accepts recyclables listed**
\$ **Cash paid for recyclables listed**
F **Fee charged to accept recyclables listed**
- 1) **20/20 Recycling Centers**
California Department of Conservation
Albertson's, 1050 Oroville Dam Blvd., Oroville
Albertson's, 146 W. East Ave., Chico
Safeway, 1596 Hwy 99, Gridley
Safeway, 1016 W. Sacramento Ave., Chico
Safeway, 690 Mangrove Ave., Chico
Safeway, 1366 East Ave., Chico
Safeway, 6020 Clark Rd., Paradise
T-F 11-5, Sa 8:30-5, closed 1:30-2
- 2) **Aldred Scrap Metals/Steel Mill Recyclers**
786 Oroville-Chico Hwy, Durham, 342-4930
M-F 8-5
- 3) **AS Chico Recycling Donation Center**
417 Cherry St., Chico, 898-5033
Sa 10-2:30, www.csuchico.edu/as/recycle
- 4) **Berry Creek Rental & Recycle**

- 10 Menzie Lane, Berry Creek, 589-4828, Tu-Su 9-6
- 5) **California Vocations (C.O.V.E.)**
Curbside recycling in Magalia, Paradise,
Paradise Pines, west side of Skyway to Nimshu
877-0937, M-F 8-4
- 6) **Chico Scrap Metals, Chico Scrap Metal South & Nor-Cal Recyclers**
Auto bodies (call first), 878 E. 20th St., Chico,
343-7166, M-F 8-12, 1-4, Sa 8-12; 766 Oroville-
Chico Hwy., Durham, 345-6241, M-F 8-4
1855 Kusel Rd., Oroville, 532-0262
M 8-4, Tu-F 9-4, Sa 8-12
- 7) **Chico Transfer & Recycling**
2569 Scott Ave., Chico, 893-0333, M-F 8-4, closed
12-1 for lunch. www.northvalleydisposal.com
- 8) **Butte Co. Household Hazardous Waste Collection Facility /AC Industrial Services**
1101 Marauder St. (at Chico Airport) 343-5488, Fri-
Sat. 9-1 Free to Butte County residents.
- 9) **Country Roads Disposal**
Curbside recycling in Bangor, Berry Creek, Feather
Falls & Palermo, 589-3680, M-F 8-5

- 10) **Fair St. Recycling-Work Training Center**
2300 Fair Street, Chico, 343-8641
M-F 9-4, Sat. 9-3:30, www.wtcinc.org/fsr.htm
- 11) **Joe Verni Recycling**
4980 Lincoln Blvd., Oroville, 534-7402
M-F 9-3:30, Sa 9-1
- 12) **Neal Road Landfill**
345-4917, Daily 7-4, www.northvalleydisposal.com
- 13) **NorCal Waste Curbside Recycling**
342-4444
- 14) **NorCal Waste Oroville Recycling Center & Household Hazardous Waste**
2720 S. 5th Ave., Oroville, 533-5868; Recycling
Center M-Sa 8:30-3:30; Hazardous Waste F 1-6
Free to City of Oroville residents.
- 15) **Ord Ranch Transfer Station & Gridley Household Hazardous Waste Recycling**
Ord Ranch Road, Gridley, 846-0810; Transfer Sta-
tion Sa-Su 9-4; Hazardous Waste 2nd Sunday of
month, Gridley residents only 9-4
- 16) **Paradise Elementary School**
588 Pearson Rd., Paradise; Drop boxes open 24 hrs.

- 17) **Recycle Paradise**
951 American Way, Paradise
Holiday Mkt, 14001 Lakeridge Cir., Magalia
(CRV, newspapers only); Stratton's Mkt.
5760 Sawmill Rd., Paradise (CRV, newspapers
only) 877-2777, M-Sat 10-4
- 18) **TOMRA Pacific**
Collins & Denny Mkt, 434 Plumas Ave., Oroville
Raley's Supermarket, 2325 Myers St., Oroville
(916) 381-6861, Tu-Sa 9:30-5, closed 1-1:30
- 19) **Waste Management-North Valley Disposal**
Curbside recycling in Chico (893-4777), Biggs,
Durham (by Appt), & Gridley (846-0810)
www.northvalleydisposal.com
- 20) **Westside Recycling & Wood Products**
2669 Hwy. 32, Chico, 892-2262, M-Sa 10-6, Su 10-4
- 21) **Earthworm Soil Factory**
704 Neal Rd., 895-9676 (accepts yard waste)

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES:
www.recyclebutte.net

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR

BEC's 2nd Annual Nature Photography Sale

Saturday, April 21



Lenticular Clouds Over Mount Shasta

© Jim Gregg

Support BEC and purchase quality environmental, nature, and wildlife photography prints. Also featuring wine, beer, Guzzetti's goodies, and music at the beautiful home of Armeda Ferrini. Featured artists include Jim Gregg, John Hendrickson, Charlie Osborn, Jeffrey Rich, John Peters, Dave Kelley, and more. Tickets are \$35.00. Contact BEC at 891-2464 or staff@becnet.org to RSVP.

Tuesdays – Volleyball. Join Sierra Club Yahi Group members and friends for friendly, co-ed volleyball every Tuesday night at 7PM at the Chapman Center (corner of E. 16th Street and B Street in Chico). Cost: \$3-4 per night. Free lessons included. For more information call Karen, 899-8305 or Betty, 345-7205.

Fridays in March – Invasive Plant Removal at Five Mile Recreation Area. Help remove invasive plants from 3 to 5 pm. Wear sturdy shoes and wear appropriate clothing. Tools, gloves and instruction provided. Meet at the south Five Mile parking lot. Sponsored by the Chico Park Division. For more information, call the volunteer coordinator, Lise-Smith-Peters, at 896-7831. Friends of Bidwell Park.

Fridays in April – Invasive Plant Removal in Lost Park. (See also information above) Meet at east end of the Chico municipal parking lot on East 1st St. For more information, call the volunteer coordinator, Lise-Smith-Peters, at 896-7831.

Fridays in May – Sycamore Restoration site in Lower Park. (See also information above) Meet at Sycamore Field parking lot on the south side of One Mile Recreation Area. For more information, call the volunteer coordinator, Lise-Smith-Peters, at 896-7831.

Saturdays, March through May – Upper Park Trail Maintenance. Community volunteers will help provide trail repair and maintenance work for Bidwell Park's extensive trail system. The work day lasts from 9 am until noon or longer for volunteers who wish to continue. Wear sturdy shoes,

weather-appropriate clothing, a hat, and bring snacks and water. The City Park Division will provide tools & gloves. Volunteers under 18 need a release form signed by a parent or guardian. Sponsored by the Chico Park Division. For more information, call Lise Smith-Peters, at 896-7831.

Thursday – Sunday, March 7-10 – The 25th Annual Salmonid Restoration Conference in Santa Rosa. This year's conference will reflect the progress made in the fisheries restoration field over the last quarter century, as well as highlight those areas where future efforts are most critical, especially since the closure of the Klamath fisheries. For more information, contact Salmonid Restoration Federation at 707.923.7501 or email srf@calsalmon.org.

Saturday, March 10 – Chico Creek Nature Center: Soils and Landforms of Bidwell Park. 9 am to 10 am (part 1), 10 am to 12 pm (part 2). NRCS Soil Scientist Andrew Conlin will lead a 2-part field tour in Bidwell Park, consisting of observing soils and landforms of the Sacramento Valley and Cascade foothills, then (optional) a 2-mile (total) walk from Horseshoe Lake to Bear Hole along the bottom of Chico Creek Canyon. Call the Chico Creek Nature Center at (530) 891-4671 to pre-register and get directions. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water, lunch, a hat and sunscreen

Saturday, March 17 – Altacal Audubon Society Bear Valley/ Greater Roadrunner Search. Meet at

the Park 'n Ride, west lot (near Rte 99) at 7:30 a.m. We'll head to Glenn County in our hunt for the elusive Greater Roadrunner, and into Colusa County to view one of northern California's hidden gems, Bear Valley. Bring water, a lunch, and binoculars. Rain cancels. Contact Jackson at 530-342-5144 or jackson_shedd@sbcglobal.net.

Saturday, March 17 – Chico Creek Nature Center: The Plants of Bidwell Park. Presented by John Dittes with the Mt. Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS). 10 am to 11:30 am. Fungi and Lichens, Liverworts, Mosses and Ferns; these "Lower Plants" are sometimes inconspicuous and under-appreciated, but they're an important part of our natural landscape. The best time to see them is coming up, and a great place to see them is along "Fern Wall" on the south side of Big Chico Creek in Bidwell Park. We will learn a little biology, ecology and some ethnobotany of this miniature biological community. Call the Chico Creek Nature Center at (530) 891-4671 to pre-register and get directions to the gate at the end of Centennial Drive on the south side of Big Chico Creek. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water and a magnifying glass if you have one.

Monday, March 19 – Altacal Audubon Society March Program Meeting. 6:30 p.m. at Chico Creek Nature Center. "A brief history of Wild Turkeys in Butte County and California." Presented by Altacal Field Trip Chairman, Scott Huber, who has spent almost 25 years

**Art^{etc}
etc
etc**
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Chico, California 95928
530.895.1161

BEC Membership

Keep BEC an independent voice for the local environment! Your membership gives you a voice for the land, air, and water you count on for your health, your soul, and future generations. Just 14 cents a day gives you a household membership. Please fill out the form below and return to BEC, 116 W. 2nd St., Ste 3, Chico, CA 95928.

Sign me up for a BEC membership!

- | | | | |
|--------------------------------|--|-------------------------------|------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$500 | Cougar Cadre (Receives 4 tickets to the Environmental Banquet) | <input type="checkbox"/> \$35 | Individual |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$150 | Energy Elite | <input type="checkbox"/> \$20 | Low income |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$100 | Wetlands Watch | | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$50 | Household | | |

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR

observing, studying and hunting this magnificent game bird,

Friday, March 23 – River Partners' Annual Dinner and Silent Auction. Celebrating Restoration and California State Parks. The Big Room at Sierra Nevada Brewery. 6 – 9 pm. Silent auction, Hors d'oeuvres, no host bar, dinner, and multi-media celebration. Tickets are \$40 before March 16. \$45 after the 16th. For reservations, call 895-5401, ext. 22

Saturday, March 24 – BLM guided Hike with the Sacramento River Preservation Trust through the beautiful Sacramento River Bend Area. 8am-2pm Call for information and reservations: 530.345.1865 or go to www.sacriverttrust.org

Saturday/Sunday, March 24-25 – Altacal Audubon Society Honey Lake/Sage Grouse Lek. This trip explores the wetlands of the Honey Lake Wildlife refuge for waterfowl, the surrounding uplands of the basin for raptors, and a known lekking ground of the Sage Grouse. We'll meet at the Chico Park 'n Ride (in the lot nearest Rte. 99) at 7:45 a.m. Saturday, head up Highway 32, stop at Almanor to bird, and continue on to the Honey Lake area for the remainder of the day. Sunday morning we will get up early to arrive at the Sage Grouse lekking grounds by 6:00 a.m. This trip can be extremely cold depending on weather conditions. Camp at refuge or stay at a hotel in Susanville on Saturday night. You must contact trip leader Phil Johnson at ptj64@sbcglobal.net or 570-7139.

Sunday, April 1 - Altacal Audubon Society Sutter Buttes/Peace Valley. Trip leader: Jennifer Patten - On this trip, we will visit an early California cemetery, a Wintun grinding rock site, an old homestead, and a beautiful side canyon deep within the Buttes. We hope to pick up early Spring migrants. We will meet at the Park 'n Ride (the lot closest to the highway) at 6:30 a.m. to carpool to the Live Oak Waffle Shop for breakfast. Then at 8:00 a.m. will meet with Ranger Tim Davis who will lead us into the Buttes and will return at approximately 3:30 p.m. Participants

who can't make breakfast should meet by 8 a.m. in Live Oak at the Waffle Shop. Bring hiking boots, binoculars, field guide, lunch, water, and raingear (if needed). There is a twenty-person limit and a \$20 donation. To secure your spot call Jennifer at 345-9356. 4

Sunday, April 8 – Altacal Audubon Society Teichert Pond. Chico's Hidden Wetland - The view from Rte 99 is enticing; a large pond surrounded by tules and ringed with willows and oaks. Trip leader Scott Huber will direct you through the maze of streets that lead you to the heart of Teichert Pond(s). Once in, you'll delight in the diversity of avian life found in this 'secret wetland' just blocks from downtown Chico. Explorers will meet at the Chico Park 'n Ride at 7:00 a.m. (the lot nearest Rte 99) and then carpool (parking at the pond is very limited) for the short drive. The trip is free and open to the public. Spring weather is iffy so bring a rain slicker in case of light rain (heavy rain will cancel). Bring water and binoculars and insect repellent. For more information contact Scott Huber at 899-5957 or Scott@ChicoHomesandLand.com.

Saturday, April 14 – Sacramento River Preservation Trust hike - Sutter Buttes, Peace Valley. All day. For more info and reservations: 530.345.1865 or www.sacriverttrust.org

Saturday, April 21 – Butte Environmental Council 2nd Annual Nature Photography Sale. Support BEC and purchase quality environmental, nature, and wildlife photography prints. Wine, beer, Hors d'oeuvres, and music. (See box, facing page). Tickets are \$35.00. Contact BEC at 891-2464 or staff@becnet.org to RSVP.

Saturday, April 28 – Chico Creek Nature Center: South Rim Wonders. Presented by Josephine Guardino with the Mt. Lassen Chapter of the California Native Plant Society (CNPS) 10 am to 12pm. The South-

Don't Miss the 28th Annual Endangered Species Faire: May 5, 2007

Gliding Giant Garter Snakes: Protect Their Wetland Home

Saturday, May 5, Cedar Grove. 10:00 am. – 4:00 pm. Join us for northern California's longest running environmental fair. Visit booths from local schools, non-profits, and agencies on topics ranging from composting to watershed protection. The main focus of the Faire is environmental education for kids, but everyone in the community can find something to entice, whether that be building bird feeders, getting your face painted, perusing unique local vendors or relaxing and enjoying quality entertainment such as live music and live native and endangered species. The Faire is free to the public due in part to the generous support of our sponsors: Sierra Nevada Brewing Company, Safeway Stores of Chico, East Avenue Raley's, and the CA Department of Fish & Game. We will again be raffling off a beach cruiser bicycle donated by Steve & Katy O'Bryan of Pullins Cyclery. Contact BEC at 891-6424 if you are interested in having a booth, would like to become a Faire Sponsor, or can volunteer. 891-6424 or staff@becnet.org. Check us out on the web at www.endangeredspeciesfaire.org



Rim of Upper Bidwell Park is one of Chico's most spectacular vantage points and it also showcases many of Bidwell Park's natural wonders. Come join Josephine Guardino, botanist and natural resource consultant, as we enjoy magnificent views, foothill woodlands, native perennial grasses, wildflowers, ferns, mosses and lichens. Call the Chico Creek Nature Center at (530) 891-4671 to pre-register and get directions to the South Rim parking area off Hwy 32. Wear sturdy shoes and bring water, lunch, a hat and sunscreen.

Saturday, May 5 – 28th Annual Endangered Species Faire. This year's theme is Gliding Giant Garter

Snakes: Protect the Wetlands Home. Cedar Grove. 10:00 am. – 4:00 pm. Free. (see box, above) Contact BEC at 891-6424 or staff@becnet.org, for more information. Or go to www.endangeredspeciesfaire.org

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801 Main St.
Chico, CA 95928
Ph.: (530) 342-1055
Fax: (530) 342-8224
E-mail: pullinsusa@aol.com

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTORY

A.S. Recycling Program

BMU 005, CSU Chico, Chico 95929
Drop off center: 417 Cherry St., Chico
530/898-5033 fax: 530/898-4978
www.aschico.com/recycle

A.S. Environmental Affairs Council

BMU 212, CSU Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0750
530/898-5701 fax: 530/898-6014
www.csuchico.edu/eac

Altacal Audubon Society

PO Box 3671, Chico, CA 95927
530/824-0253
www.altacal.org

American Lung Association

10 Landing Circle, Suite #1
Chico, CA 95926
530/345-5864 fax: 530/345-6035
www.lungusa.org/superiorbranch/index.html

Arboretum Management Club, CSUC

Big Chico Creek Restoration
First & Normal Streets
Chico, CA 95929
530/345-4542
www.csuchico.edu/amc

Bidwell Environmental Institute

CSU Chico
Chico, CA 95929-0555
530/898-6317 fax: 530/898-4363
www.csuchico.edu/bei

Bidwell Park Endowment

PO Box 3223, Chico, CA 95927-3223
530/345-7265
ptombarrett@sbcglobal.net

Bidwell Wildlife Rehabilitation Center

PO Box 4005, Chico, CA 95927
530/343-9004 (Wildlife Help Phone)

Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance

PO Box 461, Chico, CA 95927
530/894-1308; www.bigchicocreek.org

Butte Creek Watershed Conservancy

PO Box 1611, Chico, CA 95927
530/893-5399
www.buttecreekwatershed.org

Butte Environmental Council, Inc.

116 W. 2nd St. #3, Chico, CA 95928
530/891-6424 fax: 530/891-6426
www.becnet.org

Butte Humane Society

2579 Fair St., Chico, CA 95928
530/343-7917 fax: 530/343-3734
www.buttehumane.org

California Bat Conservancy

530.642.2731
www.savebats.org

California Conserv. Corps

2725 Hwy 32, ,Ste. F., Chico, 95973
530/894-0495; recruiter: 894-2313
www.ccc.ca.gov

California Native Plant Society

2707 K Street, Suite 1
Sacramento, CA 95816
916/447-2677; www.cnps.org

California Native Plant Society, Mt Lassen Chapter

PO Box 3212, Chico, CA 95927
530/342-6053
woodyelliott@digitalpath.net

California Oak Foundation

1212 Broadway, Suite 810
Oakland, CA 94612
510/763-0282; www.californiaoaks.org

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

users.rcn.com/ccate/CSPAPagerev0.html; 510/526-4049

Legislators Contact Guide

United States Congressman

Wally Herger, 2nd District
Washington, D.C. Office
2268 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515
(202) 225-3076
Chico Office
55 Independence Circle, Suite 104
Chico, California 95973
(530) 893-8363
www.house.gov/writerep

State Senator

Sam Aanestad, District 4
411 Main Street, 3rd Floor
Chico, CA 95928; (530) 895-6088
Capitol Office
State Capitol, Room 2054
Sacramento, CA 95814
(916) 651-4004

Assembly Members

Rick Keene, District 3
1550 Humboldt Road, Suite 4
Chico, CA 95928; (530) 895-4217

Capitol Office

State Capitol, Room 2158
Sacramento, CA 94249-0003
(916) 319-2003

Doug LaMalfa, District 2

2865 Churn Creek Road, Suite B
Redding, CA 96002; (530) 223-6300

Capitol Office

State Capitol, Room 4164
Sacramento, CA 94249-0002
(916) 319-2002

United States Senators

Barbara Boxer (D - CA)
112 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3553
Web Form to contact online: <http://boxer.senate.gov/contact>

Dianne Feinstein (D - CA)
331 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510
(202) 224-3841
<http://feinstein.senate.gov/email.html>

Butte County Board of Supervisors

Bill Connelly, District 1
5280 Lower Wyandotte Rd
Oroville, CA 95966
(530) 538-6834
bconnelly@buttecounty.net

Jane Dolan, District 2
196 Memorial Way
Chico, CA 95926
(530) 891-2830
jdolan@buttecounty.net

Maureen Kirk, District 3
196 Memorial Way
Chico, CA 95926
(530) 891-2800
mkirk@buttecounty.net

Curt Josiassen, District 4
1405 Lofgren Road
PO Box 385
Richvale, CA 95974
(530) 882-4447
cjosiassen@buttecounty.net

Kim Yamaguchi, District 5
747 Elliott Road
Paradise, CA 95969
(530) 872-6303
kyamaguchi@buttecounty.net

Chico City Council

PO Box 3420
Chico, CA 95927

Steve Bertagna
bertfam@sbcglobal.net
Mary Flynn
mflynn@ci.chico.ca.us

Scott Gruendl
sgruendl@ci.chico.ca.us
Andy Holcombe (Mayor)
aholcomb@ci.chico.ca.us

Tom Nickell
tnickell@ci.chico.ca.us
Ann Schwab (Vice Mayor)
aschwab@ci.chico.ca.us
Larry Wahl
lwahl@ci.chico.ca.us

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTORY

California Wilderness Coalition

1212 Broadway, Suite 1700
Oakland, CA 94612
510/451-1450 fax: 510/451-1445
www.calwild.org

Cherokee Preservation Society

530/534-0400; fax: 530/534-0400

Chico Certified Farmer's Market

305 Wall St., Chico, CA 95928
530/893-3276

Chico Creek Nature Center

In Bidwell Park; 1968 E. 8th Street
Chico, California 95928
(530) 891-4671 fax: 530/891-0837
www.chico.com/naturecenter

Chico Avenues Neighborhood Association

1627 Arcadian Ave.
Chico, CA 95926
530/343-8334; www.theavenues.org

Chico Tree Enhancement & Education Program

PO Box 68, Forest Ranch, CA 95942
530/895-0866; streamrc@earthlink.net

Chico Velo Cycling Club

PO Box 2285, Chico, CA 95927-2285
530/343-8356 fax: 530/342-4646
800/482-2453; www.chicovelo.org

Community Legal Information Center, CSUC

Chico, CA 95926
530/898-4354 x16 fax: 530/898-4911
www.csuchico.edu/clic/ea

Environmental Action & Resource Center

418 Ivy St., Chico, CA 95928
530/898-5676
www.csuchico.edu/earc

The Esplanade League

PO Box 4868
Chico, CA 95927-4868
www.esplanadeleague.org

Farm Sanctuary

PO Box 1065, Orland, CA 95963
530/865-4617 fax: 530/865-4622
www.farmsanctuary.org

Friends of Bidwell Park

PO Box 3036, Chico, CA 95927-3036
530/892-1666
www.friendsofbidwellpark.org

Friends of Butte Creek

PO Box 3305
Chico, CA 95927
530/879-0887
www.buttecreek.org

Friends of Plumas Wilderness

PO Box 1749, Quincy, CA 95971-0207
530/283-1230

Friends of the River

915 20th Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
www.friendsoftheriver.org
916/442-3155 fax: 916/442-3396

Habitat for Humanity

3880 Benetar Way #1,
Chico, CA 95928
Mailing address: PO Box 3073
Chico CA 95927
530/895-1271 fax: 530/895-0432
www.habitat.org

Humanity Rising

PO Box 528, Chico, CA 95927
530/899-7719
jomaha@sunset.net

Kids & Creeks

113 W. 19th Street, Chico, CA 95928
www.kidsandcreeks.org

Lassen Forest Preservation Group

1540 Vilas Road, Cohasset, CA 95973
530/342-1641

Little Chico Creek Watershed Group

Dept. of Biological Sciences, CSUC
Chico, CA 95929-0515
530/898-5684 fax: 530/898-4363

Middle Mountain Foundation

Sutter Buttes Naturalists
PO Box 483, Live Oak, CA 95953
530/634-6387
www.middlemountain.org

Mill Creek Conservancy

PO Box 188, Los Molinos, CA 96055
530/595-4470 fax: 530/595-4470

The Nature Conservancy, Northern Central Valley

500 Main Street, Suite B
Chico, CA 95928
530/897-6370 fax: 530/342-0257

Neighbors for Environmental & Fiscal Responsibility

2300 B Estes Road, Chico, CA 95928
530/345-7590; mike4pax@aol.com

Northern California Regional Land Trust

167 E. Third Ave., Chico, CA 95926
530/894-7738 fax: 530/894-7738
www.landconservation.org

Plumas Forest Project

PO Box 903, Blairsden, CA 96103
530/836-0461; John Preschutti

Protect Our Watershed

PO Box 1223, Paradise, CA 95967
530/873-6383; cont103@aol.com

River Partners

580 Vallombrosa Ave.
Chico, CA 95926
530/894-5401 ext 22,
www.riverpartners.org

Sacramento River Preservation Trust

631 Flume St., Box 5366, Chico 95927
530/345-1865 fax: 530/899-5105
www.sacriverttrust.org

Sacramento River Watershed Program

500 Orange Street
Chico, CA 95928
530/879-0887
www.sacrivert.org

Sierra Club, Yahi Group

PO Box 2012, Chico, CA 95927
530/824-2588
www.motherlode.sierraclub.org/yahi/

Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign

915 20th St., Sacramento, CA 95814
916/442-3155 x206 fax: 916/442-3396
Sierra_Campaign@friendsoftheriver.org

South Bidwell Park Neighborhood Association

P.O. Box 2057, Chico CA 95927
530/879-5339, www.sbpnassoc.com

So. Campus Neighborhood Assn

1405 West 3rd St., Chico, CA 95928
898-2623, southcampusneighborhood.org

So. Chico Neighborhood Assn

PO Box 3582, Chico, CA 95927
dguzzetti@hotmail.com

The Bidwell Conservancy

49 Forest Creek Cir.
Chico, CA 95928; 530/345-7205

Streaminders

Chapter of Izaak Walton League
PO Box 68, Forest Ranch, CA 95942
530/895-0866; streamrc@earthlink.net

TreeAction

530/896-1168; www.treeaction.org

Trout Unlimited

848 Morninghome Ct.
Chico, CA 95926; 530/893-3116
ep10@mail.csuchico.edu
or agroninja@yahoo.com

Valley Water Protection

7399 Hwy. 99, Oroville, CA 95965
530/343-0916 fax: 530/894-7829
cofarm@shocking.com

Vallombrosa Ave. Neighborhood Assn.

2096 Vallombrosa Ave. Chico, 95926

Young Life Woodleaf

PO Box 397, Center Country School
Challenge, CA 95925
530/675-2252 fax: 530/675-0458
www.woodleaf.yl.org

Return Service Requested

Leave a Legacy for the Land, Air, Water, & Future *Planned Giving Made Simple*

There are many ways that you can help BEC to be sustainable for another 30 years and more. Many of our contributors are asking about planned gifts and about an endowment for BEC. We are continually inspired by the dedication of BEC Angels and Members, and are pleased to let you know that you can make simple bequests to Butte Environmental Council (Tax ID # 94-2309829). In addition, BEC has laid the foundation for establishment of a special fund at the Sacramento Region Community Foundation. If you are interested in

making a special gift through such a fund, please give BEC a call at (530) 891-6424 and we can easily set this up. You should also consult your tax advisor or accountant. BEC is also establishing an endowment so that we can be truly self-sustaining for the land, air, water, and our children’s future. We will let you know once the endowment is established, and we will be looking for generous lead gifts from community members. We hope that you will be involved in this exciting project! Thank you for your support!

Your Gift	Bequest in Will	Revocable Living Trust	Outright Gift of Cash	Outright Gift of Securities	Outright Gift of Personal Property	Gift of Life Insurance	Gift of Retirement Assets	Gift of Real Estate	Gift of Retained Life Estate	Charitable Remainder Annuity Trust	Charitable Gift Annuity
Your Goal	Defer a gift until after your lifetime	Make a revocable gift during your lifetime	Make a quick and easy gift	Avoid tax on capital gains	Share your enjoyment of a collection or other personal item	Make a large gift with little cost to yourself	Avoid the two-fold taxation on IRAs or other employee benefit plans	Make a gift of an asset no longer needed and generate an income tax deduction	Give your personal residence, vacation home, or farm now, but continue to live there	Secure a fixed income and supplement your retirement goals	Supplement income with steady payments that are partially tax free
How you make your gift	Name BEC in your will (designate a specific amount, a percentage, or a share of the residual)	Name BEC as the beneficiary of assets in a living trust	Simply write a check	Contribute long-term appreciated stock or other securities	Donate tangible personal property used for our tax-exempt function	Contribute a life insurance policy you no longer need	Name BEC as the beneficiary of the remainder of the assets after your lifetime	Donate the property to BEC or sell it to BEC at a bargain price	Deed ownership of your home to BEC but retain occupancy	Create a charitable trust that pays you a set income annually	Enter into a charitable gift annuity contract with BEC that pays a set amount for the rest of your life
Your benefits	Donation is exempt from federal estate tax Control of your assets for your lifetime	You maintain control of the trust for your lifetime Gift in trust is exempt from federal estate tax	Immediate income tax deduction Removes property from estate	Immediate charitable deduction of full fair market value Avoidance of capital gains tax	Charitable deduction based on the full fair market value	Current income tax deduction Possible future deductions through gifts to pay policy premiums	Make the gift from the most highly taxed assets, leaving more for family Avoids income and estate tax	Immediate fair market value income tax deduction Reduction or elimination of capital gains tax	Valuable charitable income tax deduction Lifetime use of residence	Receive a variable income for life Immediate income tax charitable deduction	Immediate income tax deduction Fixed payments for life, often at a higher rate of return