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www.becnet.org

**For Immediate Release: Free Community Event
March 23rd, 2015**

Contact:

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Citizen Science Outings

A scientific exploration of the Big Chico Creek Watershed

Butte Environmental Council invites the community to join in for a scientific exploration of Big Chico Creek. During three field outings in April, May, and June we'll be headed on an upstream migration along Big Chico Creek; beginning at the confluence with the Sacramento River, through the valley and urban section, and ending with a hike to the forested spring headwaters. Each event will focus on the scientific wonders from two fields of study to deepen our understanding and appreciation of the creek that runs through our lives. These field trips are for everyone awed by the wonders of nature and who have a spirit for learning. This is a free event, however space is limited and participants need to register at www.becnet.org or by calling 891-6424.

Mouth of Big Chico Creek

Sunday April 12th 10-1pm

Hydrology and Ornithology (water and birds)

Activities: Birding, exploring, picnicking, and dipping our feet in the river.

Scientists: Lucas RossMerz, Sacramento River Preservation Trust and Jennifer Patten, Altacal Audubon Society

The Meandering Middle

Sunday May 24th 9-12pm

Ichthyology and Botany (fish and plants)

Activities: Strolling, seeing the creek through the eyes of a salmon, investigating plant adaptations, and looking under rocks and in microscopes.

Scientists: Gabriel Kopp, FishBio and Kristina Schierenbeck, CSU, Chico

Pilgrimage to the Headwaters

Sunday June 7th 8-5pm

Ecology and Meteorology (wild interactions and weather)

Activities: An 8-mile hike by a lake, through a forest, and to a spring.

Scientist: Randy Senock, CSU, Chico

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For information and to register visit www.becnet.org/watershed-program or call (530) 891-6424