



BUTTE ENVIRONMENTAL COUNCIL'S

EnvironmentalNEWS

Fall 2006

Volume 12 Number 3

Stealing Ground Water

*Will Butte County
Let it Happen?*

What you should know about
the Sacramento Valley
Integrated Regional
Water Management
Plan

Page 10

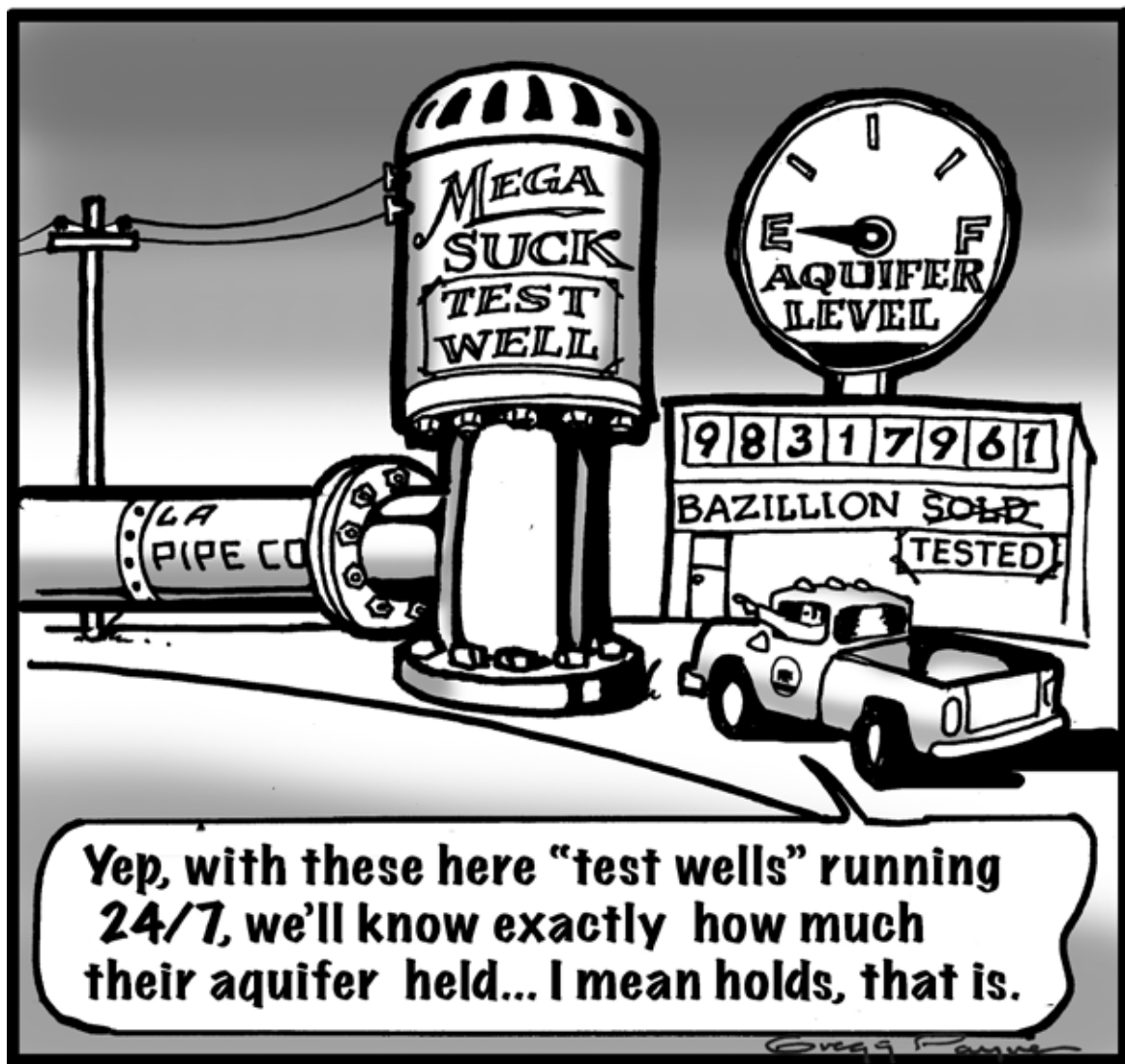


Illustration by Gregg Payne

**BEC to Begin Toxics
Education Program**
.....Page 2

Salmon 101
.....Page 7

**Feather River Watershed
Protected from Clearcutting**
.....Page 14

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 temptra@tempraboard.com. All articles submitted to the *Environmental News* should be sent via e-mail to temptra@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.

The *Environmental News* is a publication of the Butte Environmental Council, copyright 2006, all rights reserved. No part of this publication may be reproduced, stored in a retrieval system or transmitted in any form by any means—electronic, mechanical, photocopy, recording or otherwise—without the prior written permission of the publisher.

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.

BEC Board of Directors

Peter Hollingsworth, *Chair*
Patricia Puterbaugh, *Treasurer*
Tempra Board, *Secretary*
Rex Stromness, *Member*
Lynn Barris, *Emeritus*
Sierra Grossman, *Emeritus*

BEC Staff

Barbara Vlamis, *Executive Director*
Maggi Barry, *Administrative Assistant*

BEC Technical Committee

Lynn Barris, *Water Policy*
Tempra Board, *Grantwriting, Newsletter*
James Brobeck, *Forestry, Ground Water*
Peggy Gray, *Preservation Chair*
Chuck Lundgren, *Computers, Website*
Jennifer Oman, *Water Quality Education*
Paul Persons, *Law*

FROM THE BEC BOARD

BEC to Begin Community Toxics Education Program

The California Wellness Foundation Makes Three-Year Grant to BEC

BEC is thrilled to announce that we have been awarded a three-year grant from The California Wellness Foundation to implement a new toxics education program in Butte County. We will address the lack of public awareness and advocacy on toxics issues in our region. Through our *Community Health and Environment Program*, we hope to better protect human health and reduce exposure to toxics, specifically targeting underserved areas of Butte County. We are modeling the program after our successful Chico USA (Urban Streams Alliance) project, which educates residents about how to reduce pollutants flowing into our creeks and rivers.

Some of the major issues this program will focus on include dioxin levels in the soil of low income, multi-ethnic South Oroville neighborhoods that resulted from the Koppers wood treatment plant, as well as potential toxics in Hamilton City due to the old Holly Sugar factory. Not only has no adequate testing of actual toxic levels been done in the areas, little has been done to alert residents of potential threats to their and their families' health.

This environmental justice program will include research into the contamination and threats, community-wide surveying to test residents' knowledge, and a multi-media and community outreach campaign to educate residents and encourage community leadership and activism. We will, in part, be targeting Spanish-speaking and Hmong populations.

BEC's Community Health and Environment Program is a new project, and we are honored by The California Wellness Foundation's commitment to improving the health and wellbeing of residents across the state, in part through this grant. BEC continues to implement our other important environmental programs, such as

our vernal pool habitat protection, ground water protection, creeks and Park cleanups, Chico USA, and other community education and advocacy issues. Many of these projects are still

underfunded and we continue to depend on the community's support. For more information, contact BEC at 530-891-6424.

Meaningful Words From a BEC Member Thank You!

Dear BEC friends,

If the newsletter mailing label indicates my last donation was on 7-1-05 I thank you for continuing to send me "BEC Environmental News." Please apply half of the enclosed donation toward the Vernal Pool Defense Fund and the rest toward the renewal/continuation of my membership.

As an "employee" of [name removed] Contracting, I see up close on a daily basis the actions and impacts of the construction industry in Butte County and neighboring areas and I very much appreciate your efforts and caring regarding environmental issues.

Finger pointing and hypocrisies abound on both sides of the environmental issue fence, but I strongly believe the advocacy of BEC is desperately needed to balance and help keep in check the arrogant and self-serving agendas of those who would profit through the degradation of, or at the expense of, our natural environment.

Even though I consider myself a "whore" of sorts in that I am only at this "job" for the "money," I nonetheless feel somewhat vindicated in my position by, on many occasions, being able to alleviate or diminish the impact and damage of hazardous wastes generated by the use and maintenance of heavy equipment employed at construction sites. I see few, if any, in the past or present that care as I do, that are in a position similar to mine, to prevent even the smallest hazardous material, (e.g. oil, diesel, engine coolants, etc.) threat.

I spent 15 years teaching...which I miss very much, and felt compelled to leave it in pursuit of a decent living "wage" with health care, etc.

Consequently, now I am "earning" ten times the annual amount taking care of machines rather than children, and it is not because I do not do a good job at one job and not the other.

I think this speaks volumes concerning the priorities and values of the current system functioning in this country.

Thank you for all that you are doing.

Most Sincerely,

[name removed – Ed.]

This Year, Our Creeks and Park are 12,200 Lbs Lighter

Thanks to the energetic and dedicated crowd of volunteers that spent Saturday, September 16th at Butte Environmental Council's Bidwell Park and Creeks of Chico Cleanup 2006, we removed over 12,200 lbs. of trash and recyclables from Bidwell Park and Comanche, Little Chico, Big Chico, Lindo, and Sycamore Creeks.

We found refrigerators, mattresses, TVs, car batteries, tires, and lots of glass beer bottles in our beautiful park and waterways. The volunteers toiled over four hours to make our wildlands healthier places for the community to enjoy and our animal friends to dwell in.

We encourage you to strive to keep Bidwell Park and all of our waterways clean throughout the year, and since it continues to be necessary, to join your neighbors in the fall next year when we return to host the Bidwell Park and Creeks of Chico Cleanup 2007.

Hope to see you there!



(above) One of many dumpsters of scrap metal and other recyclables removed from Chico's downtown creeks. (below) One of the clean-up crews after a hard day: (from left to right) Matt Woods, Maggi Barry, Trish Puterbaugh, Jennifer Oman, and Tempra Board.



Thank You to Our Clean-up Sponsors!

BEC deeply appreciates the numerous sponsors that made the event possible: Butte County Public Works Dept., California Coastal Commission, Chico News and Review, City of Chico, DWR Sutter Maintenance Yard, Ed's Printing, Food Systems Project, Foster's Old Fashioned Freeze, Friends of Bidwell Park, Grilla Bites, KZFR Radio, Little Chico Creek Watershed Group, Mount Shasta Spring Water, Inc., Mountain Sports, Sierra Nevada Brewery, Torres Shelter, and Upper Crust Bakery.

Leave a Legacy For the Land, Air, Water, and Future Generations

A legacy gift to the Butte Environmental Council will not only ensure that some of our most beautiful and important resources in the northern Sacramento Valley and foothills are protected and preserved, but could also provide you with income for life, a reduction in capital gains taxes, and other benefits.

There are many ways that you can be a part of our environmental legacy:

- Remember BEC in your will or living trust
- Name BEC as a beneficiary of your IRA or Qualified Retirement Plan
- Name BEC as a beneficiary of a life insurance policy

If you currently have a will, you can easily add a codicil (an amendment) to include a bequest (a gift in your will) to BEC. An example of appropriate language for inclusion in your will or living trust is:

"I give, devise and bequeath to Butte Environmental Council, a California nonprofit public benefit corporation with the mailing address of 116 West Second Street, Suite 3, Chico, California, 95928, the sum of \$ _____ dollars [or otherwise describe the gift or asset] for its general purposes and use at the discretion of Butte Environmental Council's Board of Directors."

If you are interested, please contact your personal financial planner or attorney. For basic information, please contact Butte Environmental Council at 530.891.6424.

Court Invalidates U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Exclusion of Nearly 900,000 Acres of Vernal Pool Critical Habitat

Developers' Efforts to Strip Protections Rejected

On November 2, Federal District Court Judge William B. Shubb issued a major ruling overturning the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (FWS) decision to omit 900,000 acres in 11 counties from its 2005 final rule designating critical habitat for 15 imperiled vernal pool plants and animals. Vernal pools are seasonal wetlands found throughout California. Judge Shubb also rejected industry's attempt to overturn the protections for more than 800,000 acres that FWS did protect as critical habitat.

The court agreed with the six conservation organizations involved in the case that FWS failed to look at whether its decision to eliminate critical habitat protections for vernal pool grasslands in Butte, Fresno, Madera,

Merced, Monterey, Placer, Sacramento, Shasta, Solano, Stanislaus, and Tehama counties affected the future recovery of the vernal pool species.

In sending FWS back to the drawing board, Judge Shubb accepted the central argument of the conservation organizations that in excluding vernal pool critical habitat within 11 California counties, FWS continued its long history of failing to consider the essential importance of such

designation to the ultimate recovery of the vernal pool species. With more than 90 percent of California's vernal pool wetlands already destroyed, meaningful habitat protection is essential to ensuring that the species not only avoid extinction, but recover to the point where they can be taken

off the endangered species list. FWS has 120 days to issue a new critical habitat rule.

"This is a big victory in the long-standing effort to protect and recover vernal pool grasslands," stated Kim Delfino, California program director of Defenders of Wildlife. "This decision makes it clear that Fish and Wildlife Service cannot ignore the recovery needs of species when designating critical habitat."

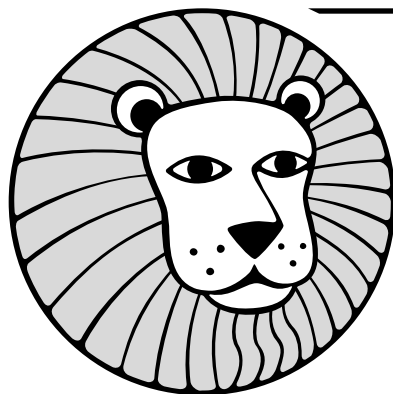
The court also rejected almost every single argument by the building industry's challenge to FWS's decision to designate more than 858,846 acres of vernal pool grasslands as critical habitat. Ironically, the court did agree with the builders that FWS failed to explain

adequately why it excluded UC Merced and a Highway 99 project in Tehama County from critical habitat—both of which were 11th hour exclusions directed by Department of Interior political appointee, Julie Macdonald. Macdonald—a civil engineer by training—was recently the subject of a major expose in the *Washington Post* for her consistent rejection of staff scientists' recommendations to protect imperiled wildlife. Macdonald has a history of improper meddling in vernal pool issues, and a previous critical habitat rule had to be redone after she inserted economic analysis that vastly exaggerated the potential costs of designation.

Continued on next page.

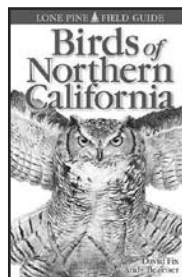
"...the developers will have to ensure that their projects will not undermine the future recovery of these 15 imperiled plants and animals."

-Barbara Vlamis



LYON BOOKS

Lyon Books has a great selection of field guides and other books about our precious environment.



lyonbooks.com

121 W.5th Street 891-3338

History of Federal Vernal Pool Litigation

In 1995, the Butte Environmental Council (BEC) intervened in a lawsuit with the Department of the Interior (Interior) to support the endangered and threatened listing of four shrimp species found in vernal pools. At that time, the Building Industry Association (BIA) was attempting to remove them from protected status through the courts. After repeatedly winning on the merits of the listing case in favor of the shrimp, BEC sued Interior in April 2000 over a point initially brought forward by the BIA: the need to designate critical habitat for the species. On February 9, 2001, the District Court for the eastern district of California ordered the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) to complete a final critical habitat

rule. Under terms of the settlement agreements that provided the Service with two extensions to finish the rule, BEC was able to expand the critical habitat rule to include 11 plants, require a final recovery plan for the species by December 15, 2005, initiate review of the languishing petition to list the mid-valley fairy shrimp, and conduct two vernal pool research projects for Butte County meadowfoam and grazing impacts. Intervention by political appointees in Washington undermined the 2002, 1.7 million acre critical habitat rule. Two subsequent cases filed in 2004 and 2005 were favorable for the species, requiring new critical habitat rules, and were supported by the involvement of additional plaintiffs

Planning Projects Need Citizen Input

Two planning projects are taking place that will help decide the direction of growth, development, and conservation in Chico and Butte County.

Butte County General Plan Update

The Butte County General Plan Update process has begun. The General Plan contains eleven separate documents or elements, including land use, housing, conservation, open space, agriculture, and recreation, among others. Each element sets forth the County's adopted goals, objectives, policies and standards for various issues affecting Butte County. Butte County's General Plan has never been updated comprehensively and some of its elements are so old that the plan is unenforceable and illegal.

The Board of Supervisors is leading the update effort, and has seated a 30-member Citizens Advisory Committee. Unfortunately, this committee currently has no environmental representation, so it is vital that the community get involved in public meetings whenever possible

to ensure that environmental and conservation concerns are addressed by the new plan.

The next general public/Citizens Advisory Committee meeting is on Thursday, December 7, from 5:00 to 9:00 at the Butte College cafeteria (main college campus, building 24). For a draft agenda, map and directions to the meeting, and other information, visit the General Plan Update website at www.buttgeneralplan.net.

City of Chico Sustainability Task Force

Thanks to the leadership of Mayor Scott Gruendl, Councilmember Ann Schwab, and other progressives, the City of Chico has signed on to the U.S. Conference of Mayors Climate Protection Agreement. This is the public's opportunity to support sustainable city practices and growth policies. A Chico Sustainability Task Force is now being formed, and citizen input is needed. Watch for updates on the process and public meetings on the Chico City Council website, at www.chico.ca.us, and contact the City Clerk for a copy of proposals and staff reports.

Vernal Pool Habitat Victory!

Continued from previous page.

"We are elated that the court rejected the challenge to FWS's decision to designate more than 800,000 acres of vernal pool grasslands as critical habitat," stated Barbara Vlamis, executive director of the Butte Environmental Council, lead plaintiff in the case. "At least for those grasslands, the developers will have to ensure that their projects will not undermine the future recovery of these 15 imperiled plants and animals."

This recent decision is only the latest in a decade long effort to protect vernal pool grasslands under the Endangered Species Act. In August 2003, the Bush Administration issued a final critical habitat rule for vernal pools in which it excluded more than one million acres and six counties on economic grounds. In January 2004, the conservation groups successfully challenged the 2003 rule resulting in the court ordering FWS to reconsider its exclusions. In August 2005, FWS issued its new final rule excluding nearly 900,000 acres of grasslands. In December 2005, the conservation organizations filed suit challenging FWS's exclusion of the five counties.

"As vernal pool grasslands are ripped up, they are replaced by sprawl," stated Carol Witham of the California Native Plant Society. "Designating vernal pool grasslands as critical habitat will not stop sprawl, but it will make developers and local governments think hard about how their land use decisions impact the future recovery of these unique 15 imperiled plants and animals."

The court ordered FWS to reconsider its decision to exclude the nearly 900,000 acres and eleven counties and issue a new critical habitat rule in 120 days. The current critical habitat designation of more than 800,000 acres of vernal pool grasslands remains intact.

"Now that FWS must consider the benefits to the recovery of the 15 vernal pool plants and animals from designating critical habitat, we believe that the Fish and Wildlife Service will no longer be able to justify its decision to exclude half the vernal pool critical habitat acreage," stated Lydia Miller of the San Joaquin Raptor and Wildlife Rescue Center.

Protein-rich invertebrates and crustaceans, as well as the roots and leaves of vernal pool plants provide an important seasonal food source for waterfowl as well as other non-migratory bird species. According to the California Academy of Sciences, Pacific Flyway migratory birds and 19 percent of all wintering waterfowl in the continental United States take respite in vernal pools.



www.shocking.com

shocking.com
1.888.860.1300

Dial up access, hosting, colocation, domain services,
and more. Fast and friendly customer service.



WATER

WATERWAYS

Part one in a three-part series

Butte Creek, the West Branch Feather River, Salmon, and PG&E

By Rex Stromness

In an area of Mediterranean climate, (long, hot summers and six months of drought) Butte County is blessed with abundant waterways. The gradual rise of the west slope of the Sierras causes storms moving east from the Pacific to drop their bountiful moisture in the form of rain and snow at higher elevations. The result is many year round streams, creeks and rivers running through our area, providing beauty and recreational opportunities.

Three of the major arteries (besides the mother of them all—the Sacramento River) are Butte Creek, Big Chico Creek and the West Branch of the Feather. Smaller but significant are Little Chico, Mud, Sycamore, Little Butte, Dry, Rock, Pine and Honcut creeks. They rise in the mountains to our east and all ultimately empty into the Sacramento. Two take a detour—the West Branch joins the North, Middle and South Forks of the Feather River to form Lake Oroville and Honcut Creek which flows into the Feather (which joins the Sacramento). Together they provide most of the “surface” water in Butte County and, like most water ways, have been greatly altered by dams, levees, mining and the intrusion of human beings on their shores.

In upcoming installments of this newsletter, I will be exploring these drainages, focusing on some general background information and issues surrounding them...starting with Butte Creek and the West Branch of the Feather River.

Because they arise in the same area and their waters intertwine, Butte Creek and the West Branch can be considered brother and sister streams, with PG&E being their stern, controlling father. Summit Lake near the Humbug Summit of upper Butte Meadows is considered the source of Butte Creek. It flows down through the length of Butte Meadows, forms and flows through Butte Creek Canyon, empties out into the valley flowing southwest, and eventually joins the Sacramento near Colusa in its natural state (during high flow periods) and near the mouth of the Feather in its diverted state.

The West Branch rises out of the High Lakes just over the hill from Summit Lake and flows down along Humbug Road, below Inskip and Sterling City, forms the beautiful, deep canyon that is the eastern border of Paradise, then meets Oroville Reservoir near Lime Saddle. A good chunk of the West Branch's water is diverted at the

“We’re not sure if any un-natural manipulation of the creek is a good thing,” Harthorne says. “The salmon were doing just fine without us.”
-Allen Harthorn



Butte Creek from the Covered Bridge in spring 2006.

Hemick Dam to the DeSabra Reservoir, where it is shot down a hydro-electric producing tube and turbine, ending up in Butte Creek. Another large portion is diverted below Coutelink Road into the Miocene Flume, ending up in Kunkle Reservoir. With all the diverted water, at times during the summer a mere 16 cubic feet per second (CFS) flows down the final stretch of the West Branch.

The yearly Chinook salmon runs have been at the mercy of PG&E's diversions and much controversy has arisen over the quantity of water diverted, which greatly affects the all important statistic—water temperature. Butte Creek has the largest run of spring run salmon in the state, averaging approximately 9,000 fish annually for the last 11 years. Along with the salmon, other forest and aquatic creatures such as Bald Eagles, osprey and bear are affected by the quality and quantity of water. In 2003, a disastrous die-off of salmon occurred when approximately 11,000 salmon perished because of high water temperatures.

According to Allen Harthorn of Friends of Butte Creek, the critical area is between the Centerville Powerhouse,

just above the Centerville Bridge, and the Centerville Head diversion dam eight miles up canyon.

“This is very rugged private land with no easy access...perfect conditions for the salmon to be undisturbed,” he says. “But with the diversion and resulting low water and higher temperatures, the salmon are at great risk in this area now. And of course, the salmon are also greatly disturbed by the high recreational use, tubers and other boaters, between Centerville and Covered Bridges.”

Below the powerhouse, the creek becomes much larger with the addition of both the Head Dam diversion water and the water from De Sabla reservoir. It would seem that the increased flow would be a good thing...but it's controversial.

“We’re not sure if any un-natural manipulation of the creek is a good thing,” Harthorn says. “The salmon were doing just fine without us.”

Through the work of a coalition of environmental organizations, a yearly ritual has arisen. Every May PG&E is served a 60 day notice of “intent to sue”

Continued on next page.

Chinook Salmon 101 By Rex Stromness

One of the truly remarkable phenomena in all of nature is the life-cycle of Chinook salmon—the salmon that inhabit our nearby streams. Their life journey is one of courage, strength, stamina, adaptability and an overwhelming instinctual drive to return to their original home, against all odds, after years at sea.

Chinooks are by far the largest salmon, often exceeding 40 pounds and known to weigh in at up to 120 pounds. For you students of Biology, they belong to the family *Salmonidae*, one of eight species of Pacific Salmonids in the genus *Oncorhynchus*.

On the west coast, Chinooks are found between the Bering Strait

in the far north and as far south as the Ventura River in Southern California. They have the unique characteristic of being anadromous—the adults migrate from fresh water to the sea and back to the freshwater streams of their birth. They are also semelparous, meaning they spawn once and die.

Starting in Butte Creek, their lives go something like this: Adult female Chinooks deposit eggs in four to five nesting pockets in an area of suitable gravel. The eggs are deposited in time to ensure that the young salmon “fry” emerge during the following spring. They hatch between 90 and 150 days later. The young salmon spend from three months to two years in fresh water before entering estuarine areas



Illustration by Gregg Payne.

as “smolts.” They then make their way out through the Golden Gate to the open sea where they feed and mature for two to four years before making the arduous return journey, upstream through the Golden Gate, up the Sacramento, back into Butte Creek and home to the same spawning gravel from which they started.

The terms spring or fall runs refer to when adults return to freshwater to begin their spawning migration. Freshwater entry and spawning times are believed to be related to local temperature and water regimes.

Even with all the facts, figures and statistics, the lives of Chinook salmon remain a magical-mystery-tour if ever there was one.

WATERWAYS

Continued from previous page.

by Earth Justice if water temperature rises to dangerous levels. With the coalition’s money and clout, the water temperature issue has been a non-issue the past few years; PG&E has more closely monitored the flow and temperature.

Downstream, Butte Creek flows by a few more diversion dams including the Parrot/Phelan Dam (otherwise known as Okie Dam), Durham Mutual Water district Dam, Rancho Esquon Dam and a few others. It flows through duck clubs in Butte Basin before joining Dry Creek (which flows out of Paradise) and into the Sutter By-Pass which takes it into the Sacramento River. It receives “drainage” water from rice fields and other agricultural sources along the way. The quality of the drainage water is questionable.

As you can see, both of these drainages are greatly altered and exploited by PG&E and private entities. But, more than 30 million dollars has been spent on Butte Creek in recent times to maintain and improve conditions for the salmon and watchdog groups such as Friends of Butte Creek, Sacramento River Preservation Trust, BEC and others are steadily monitoring both waterways.

Recreationally speaking, both Butte Creek and the West Branch of the Feather offer plenty. Besides being a famous, class V kayak run in certain spring flow conditions, the West Branch has numerous beautiful swimming holes that can be reached from the Dean Road parking lot and the view hiking along the Miocene Flume Trail can be breath-taking. Butte Creek also has great kayaking, swimming and tubing. Both are Butte County Gems.

Greenfeet
Natural Home Store

**1360 E. 1st Ave. • Chico, CA
894-5255 • www.greenfeet.com**

**Sustainable, ecological, and recycled items to
create healthy, non-toxic homes. Bed & Bath •
Kitchen • Yard & Garden • Gifts • Home Decor**

“More Hip Than Hippie”

**Shopping at Greenfeet helps BEC AND the planet!
BEC says “Thank you, Greenfeet, for your donations
and support!”**

WATER

Restoration in the Flood Plain *River Partners' O'Connor Lakes Project on the Feather River*

By Dr. Tom Griggs
River Partners' Senior Restoration Ecologist



Why is O'Connor Lakes an ideal restoration site? Successful riparian restoration must take place in a location that experiences the physical river processes of flooding, bank erosion, sedimentation, and channel movement. Without the annual influence of these river processes our restoration planting will eventually evolve into a patch of invasive weeds that do not serve wildlife needs. Creating viable habitat for wildlife is the goal of restoration. In California's Great Central Valley, with dams and levees on the floodplain's rivers, river processes now occur only

between levees or in the floodway. Thus, if we desire quality wildlife habitat in the future, riparian restoration projects must take place within the Central Valley's flood-control system.

River Partners' O'Connor Lakes project meets this criterion. The project is located about six miles south of Marysville-Yuba City along the Feather River on a unit of the California Department of Fish and Game's Feather River Wildlife Area. The Feather River has a long history of levee breaks and floods, most recently in 1955, 1986, and 1997. Consequently, flood-control managers are very concerned about any activity in the floodway that could influence the behavior of the floodwaters.

When engineers designed the Feather River levee system, it had a "design flow"—i.e. maximum flow—that could be conveyed safely through the system. At the design flow the elevation of the floodwater is one to three feet below the top of the levee. Any changes to the floodplain between the levees have the potential of raising the elevation of the design flow or of locally increasing the velocity of the flow against a levee causing it to erode. Vegetation can

High water on the Feather River in January 2006 flows through a portion of River Partners' recently restored site just as planned. The water is moving through an area that had been cleared for flood conveyance, protecting the planting of elderberries on other portions of the site, which will provide habitat for the endangered Valley Elderberry Longhorn Beetle.

cause both of these to occur.

If we desire quality wildlife habitat in the future, riparian restoration projects must take place within the Central Valley's flood-control system.

River Partners hired MBK Engineers, specialists in flood management engineering, to evaluate the pattern of the floodflows on the O'Connor Lakes project and to give us guidance for the plant design, or how to arrange the trees, shrubs, and grasses such that the design flow is not altered. Using a complicated two-dimensional computer model, MBK determined where in the restoration area the high velocity floodwater would flow, and where the slow-moving backwater areas would be during a hypothetical design flow flood. Using the same model MBK tested various configurations of trees, shrubs, and grasses until we developed a planting design that made no changes

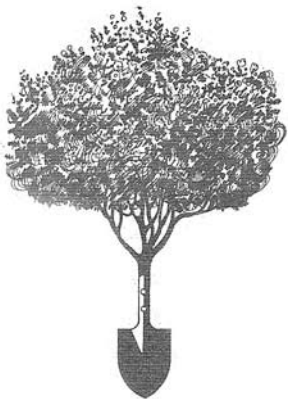
to the design flow, in other words, a "flood-neutral" design.

Developed with the aid of the computer model, here is the plant design we followed. Field One is planted with the full complement of trees and shrubs because it lies in a backwater area of very slow moving water. Field Two is planted with only creeping rye grass because this is an area of high velocity flows. Field Four is planted with rose and blackberry and no trees and no large shrubs so that floodwater can pass easily (trees in this field could deflect water into the levee).

The O'Connor Lakes project exemplifies how River Partners is working with flood control engineers to develop riparian restoration projects that benefit wildlife and people, especially in our flood-prone Central Valley.

FLORAL NATIVE NURSERY

2511 Floral Avenue
Chico, California
530.892.2511
cohasset@shocking.com



Published on Monday, October 9, 2006 by the Independent / UK

The Human Race is Living Beyond Its Means

By Andrew Simms

In a market economy, the only constraints on what we consume are what we may legally buy and what we can afford.

The result is, as the great environmental economist Herman Daly warned, that we end up treating the planet as if it were a business in liquidation. If you were managing a business, you would be considered grossly negligent if you had no idea of your assets or cash flow. Yet this is how we manage our environmental resources.

When we deplete oil in the North Sea and push fish stocks to the edge of collapse, it is treated as free income to the economy. It is shockingly easy for politicians, economists and planners

to forget that the economy is a wholly owned subsidiary of the environment. And, on our island planet, that Earth itself is subject to fuzzy but very real limits.

One of the defining features of life in the UK, the world's fourth-largest economy, is the sheer scale of our material consumption, and the ease with which we ignore the burden that it exports around the globe.

Our high-consuming lifestyle is only possible because the rest of the world supports us with large supplies of their own natural resources.

No individual country has to be self-reliant. We trade what we can't produce locally, and positively enjoy

exotic goods that come from all around the globe.

The world as a whole is living beyond its ecosystems' capacity to regenerate, and, looked at in terms of a calendar year, starts living beyond its environmental means on 9 October. Looking back, if the whole world had wanted to share UK lifestyles in 1961, the Earth would just have managed with its available resources - one planet would have been enough. Today we would need 3.1 planets to support them. To live within our overall environmental budget, the UK will have to reduce the burden its lifestyles create; such as the massive growth of leisure flights and subsequent CO2 emissions.

And while our consumption grows, with everything from 4x4s to energy hungry wide-screen TVs, all the academic research shows that consuming more will not make us happier. The same research shows that getting-off the consumption treadmill, finding more time for friends and family, reflection and creative pastimes, can.

Mainstream economics says that nothing must get in the way of economic growth and competitiveness. But in doing so we are inadvertently waging war on the environment, forgetting that, if we win, we will find ourselves on the losing side.

Andrew Simms is policy director at the New Economics Foundation



River Partners was formed in 1998 as a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit public benefit corporation with the mission of creating wildlife habitat for the benefit of people and the environment. Since that time we have grown to become one of the leading riparian restoration organizations in the Central Valley. We have restored more than 4,000 acres of land and planted half a million native trees and shrubs along Sacramento and San Joaquin Valley rivers and streams.

We believe that a balance must be struck between human and wildlife needs. We understand our community needs for open space, recreational opportunities, and flood protection. Our successful projects not only provide wildlife habitat and restore ecological processes, but they benefit our neighbors as well.

River Partners has 19 current restoration projects throughout California's Central Valley, from Redding to Modesto, along the Sacramento, San Joaquin, Feather, and other rivers and tributaries.

We work with a host of State and Federal agencies, conservation organizations, schools, and Universities. To learn more, please visit our website at www.riverpartners.org

River Partners
Chico Office
580 Vallombrosa Avenue
Chico, CA 95926
(530) 894-5401

To learn more, visit our website
at www.riverpartners.org



Great egret. Photo by USFWS Digital Library.

WATER

Stealing Ground Water Will Butte County Let it Happen?

By Jim Brobeck

NOTE: As this issue of the *Environmental News* was going to press, the Department of Water Resources released their draft funding recommendations for Integrated Water Management Plans across the state, and the Sacramento Valley Implementation Plan (see below) was NOT included in the list. We are guardedly optimistic that this decision will stick, however, a public comment period is opening and the final determination of grants will take place in December. BEC is sending a representative to the next DWR hearing on this issue in November to advocate for local stakeholders. We must remain vigilant and educated about plans such as this one that target the Tuscan aquifer, as they will no doubt continue to surface. —Editor

At a May 10, 2005 meeting, the Butte County Board of Supervisors approved a letter of support for the Northern California Water Association's (NCWA) leadership in the development of the Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (SVIRWMP). BEC warned the Supervisors that NCWA represents the interests of water districts that have a history of selling their surface water entitlements. We were concerned that NCWA would push for programs that would integrate Butte County's groundwater into the districts' supply of water available for sales. The Supervisors promised that they were not abdicating local control of our groundwater through the submittal of

this letter of support.

Who participated in the formulation of the SVIRWMP? NCWA includes 32 attorneys representing Sacramento Valley water purveyors, and 38 representatives from engineering and consulting firms working with Sacramento Valley water purveyors. Butte County has not been represented by its county council, county water commission, or supervisors.

Now that NCWA has presented its plan it is clear that their clients expect to sell their surface water entitlements and bolster their water rights by developing 12 massive production wells that pierce

NCWA includes 32 attorneys representing Sacramento Valley water purveyors, and 38 representatives from engineering and consulting firms working with Sacramento Valley water purveyors.

the precious lower Tuscan Aquifer. Groups actively opposing the NCWA plan as it is currently written include the Sacramento Valley Environmental Watershed Caucus (SVEWC), the state Environmental Water Caucus (EWC), Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance (BCCWA), the Butte Sutter Basin Area Groundwater Users

(BSBAGU) and the Northern California Council Federation of Fly Fishers.

SVEWC notes that NCWA has created a veneer of public meetings to present drafts of their SVIRWMP. The plan they are proposing was created without consulting the environmental groups that have consistently expressed interest in preserving the quality of life of the Sacramento Valley and shaping water management policies that improve creek, river and groundwater related environments.

The EWC explains that "Groundwater



Illustration by Mike Gomez

transfers may overdraft groundwater resources and lower the water table that may produce significant environmental effects."

The Federation of Fly Fishers wrote that the use of the Tuscan water could be used for environmental and fishery support "downstream" through the Environmental Water Account (EWA). They feel that the EWA has become a vehicle for water users to increase water diversions, and has not benefited the environment as intended. To justify use of Tuscan water as a way to help the environment would simply be a distortion of current fact. The fisheries the EWA was intended to help have gone downhill faster since its inception than before the EWA existed.

The BSBGUA wrote that there is no aquifer protection, there is no guarantee of funding for methods to catch overdraft, no triggers to halt pumping if overdraft is occurring, and no mitigation (or funding) for those who are harmed by excessive lowering of the water table. This situation is analogous to having the fox guard the chickens, with the added feature of the fox being the individual tasked with reporting on how well the chickens are doing. **This Plan is a declaration of war on every domestic well owner and every**

farmer dependent on groundwater in the Northern Sacramento Valley.

BCCWA wrote, "The proposed groundwater wells in the Plan present potential for significant environmental, social and economic impact resulting from groundwater level drawdown."

On the evening of October 2, NCWA presented the plan to about 130 citizens in the Durham Library. The standing-room only crowd was nearly unanimous in their impatience with NCWA's well worn PowerPoint presentation and demanded some answers. Bob Hennigan, a Butte County orchardist who is totally dependent on groundwater, insisted that NCWA provide the names of the individuals and agencies who are on their technical groundwater advisory group. NCWA's director refused to identify the state-wide power brokers who are attempting to usurp Butte County's oversight of the lower Tuscan aquifer.

NCWA refused the invitation from BEC to convene a meeting in Chico explaining that, "at the last several meetings, rather than providing input on how to make the plan better, you made personal and insolent attacks against the people that have been working to protect and manage Northern California

Continued on next page.

The Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan Points to Consider

Water purveyors are creating the Sacramento Valley Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (Plan) in nine months with extremely limited public involvement in an attempt to secure funding for projects that will extract water from the lower Tuscan aquifer and insert it into the state water supply. Until there is adequate science available to analyze the surface and subsurface hydrologic flow processes in Butte, Glenn, and Tehama counties, it is premature to create a plan with a list of implementation projects to export water. We have been down this path before in 1994, when the aquifer was drained too vigorously for too long in Butte County resulting in numerous individual dry wells, the loss of one municipal well, lost crops, and an undetermined impact on the environment. Please keep in mind that over 80% of Butte County's

residential users rely on ground water as do all orchardists.

In reading the document, the majority of the implementation programs are intended to "create" water that can be used for water sales. This will not benefit the public, but will provide millions of dollars to a few hundred members of big water districts with surface water entitlements. There is not a water shortage in California as claimed by the Northern California Water Association (NCWA), the pushers of this Plan. 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.

Overarching concerns:

Issue: There has been inadequate involvement of interested parties in development of the grant proposal and Plan.

Response: The Plan is presented as a "grassroots, bottom-up program comprised of many projects, plans, and partnerships with common objectives and a long-term vision," but it is anything *but* grassroots. The partnerships are with the same NCWA entities, surface water districts, and the objectives and vision are tied to water contractors voluntarily meeting Phase 8 agreements (water quality standards) and making money. The Plan also uses classic language to sound congenial and respectful of regional priorities and concludes that the water districts, and the counties if they follow the districts' lead, will adequately plan for the local population, family farmers, and the environment. As history and the current planning process illustrates, this is a plan driven by the interests of surface water elites. There has been completely inadequate outreach to the public in general and the exclusion of environmental interests in all steps of the pre-planning, grant-writing, and Plan process.

Issue: The Plan implies that the aquifer is in a balanced state, "... groundwater levels associated with the Sacramento Valley have remained steady, declining moderately during extended droughts and generally recovering to their pre-drought levels during subsequent wetter periods."

Response: In reality the Butte Basin Groundwater Status report 2006 notes that groundwater levels in many of Butte County's groundwater dependant sub-areas have steadily declined since the late 1990's in spite of several years of "normal" precipitation. Science is needed to understand the hydrologic processes that created and maintain the aquifer in Tehama, Butte, and

Glenn counties including a frame of reference that includes data pertaining to natural precipitation regimes through periods of drought that persist over 100-400 years. www.yosemite.org/naturenotes/paleodrought2.htm http://ceres.ca.gov/snep/pubs/web/v1/ch01/v1_ch01_02.html

Issue: Since the Plan incorrectly assumes the health of the aquifer, it concludes that all that is needed to implement conjunctive use activities is adequate monitoring. "An important part of the Sacramento Valley IRWMP is the conjunctive management of surface water and groundwater resources. Regional leaders recognize that to successfully implement conjunctive management, participating agencies must have a monitoring and assessment program to ensure that the region's groundwater resources are protected and can sustain long-term beneficial uses."

Response: Without an holistic, reputable analysis of the system that creates this great aquifer, additional well monitoring is window dressing.

Issue: The Plan fails to adequately analyze, even on a programmatic level as required in the grant guidelines, the impacts and benefits if the Plan is implemented.

Response: The Plan is replete with deficiencies and this is one major omission. How can the public, policy makers, or agencies reach a conclusion without a thorough assessment of costs, impacts, and benefits?

Additional Information

NCWA IRWMP - www.norcalwater.org/int_program/irwmp.shtml • NCWA Grant Proposal - www.norcalwater.org/int_program/irwmp.shtml • NCWA Grant Evaluation - www.grantsloans.water.ca.gov/docs/planning/4764.pdf • California Water Plan - www.waterplan.water.ca.gov/cwpu2005/

Stealing Ground Water

Continued from previous page.

water rights and supplies. We are therefore not confident that another forum with personal attacks will serve to provide any meaningful input to further the plan."

In spite of the very vocal public opposition, Butte County staff continue to push the Supervisors to adopt the plan. The Assistant Director of the Butte Department of Water tried several times to get the water commission to forward a recommendation of support to the Board, but the commission was deadlocked with deep concerns about the plan and the process. Several commissioners were upset that staff had forwarded an implementation grant request with NCWA to the state without informing the commission of the wide range of projects that included the publicly funded Tuscan production wells.

On October 24 county staff asked the Supervisors to overlook the water commission's controversial lack of consensus, to ignore the furious public opposition to the plan, and to accept the assistant director's recommendation to approve the resolution in support of the NCWA plan.

While four out of five of the supervisors seemed to join the public in their skepticism of the benefits afforded to Butte County citizens by the plan, they failed to reject it outright, or to move forward with a plan of their own. The supervisors approved a list of modest modifications to the wording of the NCWA plan and delayed overall approval until the November 21 meeting.

It remains to be seen if the Supervisors will live up to their 5/10/2005 promise not to abdicate local control of the aquifer system to water purveyors.

EDUCATION

Storm Drain Gang Murals Completed



Storm Drain Gang Chico USA mural on 4th St., at the corner of Main St. in downtown Chico. Jennifer and Anders Oman admire the newly completed mural.

Two Chico USA storm drain gang murals are now completed, and you can find them in downtown Chico at the corner of 4th St. and Main St., and on 3rd street between Main and Broadway. Local artist, Gregg Payne has produced the two murals that include a thank you letter from your favorite creek critters, a.k.a. the Storm Drain Gang. The letter reads: "Thank you Chico!! for keeping your

crud, chemicals and cigarette butts out of the gutters that flow into the creeks where we live." - Signed "the Storm Drain Gang"

These creek critters, a.k.a., "The Storm Drain Gang", have a message for YOU! How can you help local wildlife? Remember that whatever drains into our gutters, ends up in our creeks, rivers and eventually oceans.

Clean Carpets, Clean Yard, Clean Creeks

After holding two breakfast meetings in August for landscape contractors and carpet cleaners at the City Hall, Chico USA has formed eight new Clean Water Business Partnerships (CWBP) with the following local carpet cleaners and landscape contractor-related businesses.

Carpet Cleaners

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

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*)

So, now you know which businesses to use to get your carpets cleaned, or landscape your yard. Let's support them and get the message out to local businesses that clean water business practices can pay off.

The Clean Water Business Partner program is part of a team effort to prevent runoff pollution through our storm drainage system. Runoff water, from lawns, driveways and streets, which collects in our gutters, drains directly into our creeks and streams untreated. This causes pollution of our waterways. Urban runoff pollution can be prevented through using best management practices in both the private and business sectors.

CWBPs make a commitment to properly dispose of their wastewater, reduce the amount of pollutants and chemicals that enter the storm drain system, and educate customers about how they can help. By doing this, they help to ensure that future generations can use and enjoy our most valuable natural resource...water! CWBPs also receive promotional benefits as incentive for employing Best Management Practices.

Other types of businesses are encouraged to join as a CWBP. For example; nurseries, power washers, bars and restaurants, etc. may qualify to become Chico USA Clean Water Business Partners.

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.

10 Things You Can Do to Make a Difference:

- Use fertilizers sparingly and sweep up driveways, sidewalks, and roads
- Never dump anything down storm drains
- Vegetate bare spots in your yard
- Compost your yard waste
- Avoid pesticides; learn about Integrated Pest Management (IPM)
- If you smoke, use ashtrays
- Take your car to the car wash instead of washing it in your driveway
- Check car for leaks, and recycle motor oil
- Pick up after your pet
- Hire a Clean Water Business Partner to landscape your yard and clean your carpets.

EDUCATION



Jennifer Oman explains how pollution can enter our creeks at the Chico USA booth during a teen awareness outreach campaign at the Chico Mall.

Thank you Chico USA Citizen Monitors!

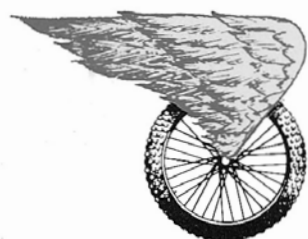
Volunteers for the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance's part of the Chico USA project just finished another season of collecting data on what is making its way into our Big Chico Creek. Thank you! The data helps us to understand which urban pollutants are causing problems for water quality, and collecting the data is actually fun. The Alliance provides training in methods that are specifically intended for citizen volunteers. Recent data will be made available on the Chico USA web page by January, 2007.

Over time, this information will be used to observe changes resulting from natural trends and human activities, including both land use changes and restoration projects, and it takes a snapshot of creek health from the mountains to the River on one day each month. Timmarie Hamill is the Citizen Monitoring Coordinator for BCCWA. Please contact her if you are interested in volunteering next season.

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

Chico USA is Famous!

**PULLINS
CYCLERY**



Steve & Katy O'Bryan

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

Listen for the Chico USA radio announcement on KZFR this month. California State University Chico students Erick McLain and Lindsay Buckley produced it, and it is catchy and informational. Check it out online in Spanish too! www.becnet.org (Click on the Chico USA logo and then the media tab.)

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!

The Chico Urban Streams Alliance (Chico USA)



The Chico USA *Clean Creeks Project* is a collaborative effort of the City of Chico, the Butte Environmental Council, the Big Chico Creek Watershed Alliance, and Kennedy/Jenks Consultants. It is a project that includes a public awareness campaign on urban runoff pollution, citizen monitoring of our local creeks and streams, and a study of urban runoff pollution control structures for the City of Chico.

Chico USA formed with funding from a grant under the Proposition 13 Watershed Protection Grant Program. Funding support has been provided by the California Bay-Delta Program (CALFED) which has as an objective to restore ecological health and improve water management by working with the community at a watershed level. The State Water Resources Control Board awarded the grant to the City of Chico.

FORESTRY

Environmental Groups Win Lawsuit, Protecting Feather River Watershed from Clearcutting

By Patricia Puterbaugh

The Feather River Watershed was spared more degradation when a coalition of environmental groups won a lawsuit against the U.S. Forest Service this August. Lassen Forest Preservation Group, Yahi Group Sierra Club, and the Sierra Nevada Forest Protection Campaign filed the suit to protest the huge “Creeks” timber sale in the Lassen National Forest. The “Creeks” logging project is in the Butt, Yellow and Grizzley Creek watersheds near Humbug Valley in the Almanor Ranger District. This is an excellent hunting, fishing and hiking area.

All these streams, and much of the wildlife habitat in this area would have been severely impacted by 10,000 acres of logging including clear cuts, heavy forest thinning and more roads. This forest is home to Spotted owl, Goshawk, Marten, deer, and bear; it is also important summer habitat for migratory song birds. There were to be clearcuts and

serious thinning adjacent to the Pacific Crest trail and other popular hiking trails. **Our attorneys successfully argued...that the USFS violated environmental laws in approving the project.**

Our attorneys successfully argued before the courts that the USFS violated environmental laws in approving the project. The Judge ruled that the forest service failed to consider other alternatives; our groups are constantly asking the USFS for less intense, more sustainable logging projects on our national forests. He also ruled that the forest service did not adequately look at the project's impacts on the California spotted owl and American marten, that the Forest Service failed to insure the viability of these species. We are hopeful that this ruling will help us in other challenges to misguided Bush administration logging plans.

Lassen Forest Preservation group (LFPG), Sierra Club, and Butte Environmental Council continue to monitor the Lassen National Forest

and surrounding private lands in our watersheds. We are hopeful the Forest Service will present us with a project on the Creeks lands that will protect water quality, old growth forest, wildlife, AND reduce fire danger. The large Willow project adjoins the Creeks project, and is already in the design phase. “Willow” is in the Butte Creek/Chico Creek Watersheds and will log around Snag Lake, Philbrook, Jonesville and Cherry Hill. LFPG advises the Forest Service to design logging plans that thin more heavily around communities and do a lighter thinning in more remote forests. Hopefully, with the ruling in our favor on the Creeks project, the Forest Service will listen!

We consistently support plans for logging and thinning around forest communities. There is one in progress right now around the community of Jonesville. Several more projects, called “Defensible Fuel Profile Zones”

(DFPZ's) have been started around Lake Almanor, Mineral, Silver Lake and Warner Valley.

Many more are planned for communities surrounded by the Lassen National Forest and LFPG will be monitoring to assure the ecosystem is protected while fuels are reduced.

We were saddened this summer to see what we consider to be “over zealous” logging by the Forest Service in the Silver Lake campground and home sites. Dozens of huge, old growth red fir were cut down, as they were “hazardous” and may fall or break. The Forest Service insisted the trees were a “danger to the public” and had to be felled. We disagree and believe the public specifically goes to campgrounds, picnic areas and recreation sites to SEE and LOVE these beautiful old giants. Many of these trees could live for decades providing habitat and joy! The Almanor Ranger District is planning a district wide “hazardous



A hillside proposed for clearcutting, viewed from the Ruffa Ranch.

tree removal” in the next years. Our group will be talking and trying to plan with the Forest Service for safe yet reasonable cuts.

Another development on the Lassen National Forest (LNF), and throughout the country is the plan for wind farms on public lands. The LNF is in the process now of developing their policy on wind development. The first “monitoring towers” have been approved for the Lassen and Plumas NF near Diamond Mountain, south of Susanville. These towers will monitor wind speeds to ascertain if the area would be suitable for a future wind farm. Generally the environmental community supports alternative energy policy and wind farms are “clean power”. However, wind turbines have heavily impacted birds and bats, and the Forest Service will be monitoring for migration patterns etc. during the three year permit process. Wind farms could potentially be a huge source of clean energy, but the environmental impacts will have to be closely studied before building.

BEC and LFPG also work with the California Department of Forestry on private logging plans around our area. Private land logging is administered by completely different rules and unfortunately; they are not adequate to protect our forests. California Native Plant Society, California Alternative to Toxics, Sierra Club and other groups

have been successful in adding and changing some rules to protect native plants, endangered species and water quality, but in general it is an extremely slow, frustrating process. LFPG and BEC have procured small changes in specific timber harvest plans to decrease fire danger and protect creeks. If you drive up Highway 32 you can see all the clear cuts in the Chico and Butte Creek watersheds. Often the clear cuts go right down to the creek. This is happening all over our state on private land. There is movement in the environmental community to stop the clear cutting – we’ll keep you posted!

We are also very active in the Butte Fire Safe Council. Jim Brobeck is an integral member of this group lending his expertise in forestry and fire to the California Department of Forestry. The Fire Safe Council is active in instigating and carrying out thinning projects around our local foothill communities for fire prevention.

Lassen Forest Preservation Group, Butte Environmental Council and the Yahi Group Sierra Club want to thank the Chico environmental community for all your support over the years. Your support of our work has been invaluable. Lassen Forest Preservation Group has been monitoring your Lassen National Forest and local forests since 1997 and it has been extremely interesting, challenging and rewarding!

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

Saturday, November 25 – Native Plant Garden Workday at the Chico Creek Nature Center. 9 am to noon. Bring garden tools. For more information, contact Judi at 345-3245. Sponsored by the California Native Plant Society, Mt. Lassen Chapter.

Monday, November 27 – Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meeting in Council Chambers, starting at 7 pm. The public is invited to attend. Visit the City of Chico website for agenda.

Wednesday, November 29 – Arboretum Tour at CSU Chico and

Bidwell Mansion. 10 – 11 am. Meet in front of Bidwell Mansion (parking provided) for a tour of 20-30 plants. Additional tours featuring other native and exotic plant species. For more information, contact Wes Dempsey at 342-2293 or the Bidwell Mansion State Park at 895-6144.

Saturday, December 2 - Bidwell Park Fall Trail Days in Upper Park. 9 am to noon. Volunteers will meet at Parking Lot B (near Easter Cross) Community volunteers will help provide trail repair and maintenance work to the Middle Trail. The work day will last until noon

or longer for volunteers who wish to continue. Volunteers should wear sturdy shoes, weather appropriate clothing, a hat, and bring snacks and drinking water. The City Park Division will provide tools. Volunteers under 18 need a release form signed by a parent or guardian prior to beginning work. For more information, call the Volunteer Coordinator at 530-896-7831

Monday, December 18 – Bidwell Park and Playground Commission meeting in Council Chambers, starting at 7 pm. The public is invited to attend. Visit the City of Chico website for agenda.

Ongoing Sierra Club Outings for December:

Tuesday Power Walks. (grade 2, class A). Meet at Chico Park & Ride each Tuesday evening until October 24th at 6:30PM for a 1½ hour brisk walk along the creek. Wear tennies/walking shoes and bring water and a flashlight. Leader: Jeanne, 899-9980.

Tuesday Volleyball. Join 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: \$4 per night. Free lessons included. For more information call Karen, 899-8305 or Betty, 345-7205.

Cross-Country/Downhill Ski List: Join Sierra Club's more than 60 cross-country ski enthusiasts this winter as we explore the backcountry of Butte Meadows and Lassen Park and enjoy the groomed trails of the Mt. Shasta and Royal Gorge. Downhill skiing also available. All levels welcome. If you'd like to be added to our cross-country ski list, please contact Jeanne, 899-9980.

Sunday, January 14 - Bidwell Park Day Hike. Take a mostly flat 10 mile trek along the south side of Big Chico Creek. Meet at One Mile's Caper Acres parking lot at 10:00 AM. We'll return to Five Mile to eat lunch and return to parking lot by 2-3 PM. Bring water and lunch, (or buy at golf course). Rain cancels. Sierra Club. Leader: Gene, 873-1552; Asst. Leader: Carla, 891-6977.

Saturday, January 20 - Cross Country Ski Lessons. For beginners and intermediates. Fee of \$10 per lesson. Bring ski gear, gloves, lunch, water, appropriate clothing and \$ for drivers. Sierra Club. Call leader for more info. Leader: Larry, 342-7998.

Saturday, January 20 - Hike Along Feather River in Oroville. A pleasant 4-5 mile stroll along the Feather River to the Nature Center and back. Afterwards we will have a group lunch at Tong Fong Low Chinese Restaurant in downtown Oroville. Meet at Chico Park & Ride at 9 AM or at trailhead in Oroville at 9:40 AM. Please bring water, snack and carpool \$\$\$. Heavy rain cancels. Leader: Alan, 891-8789 or ajmendoza@prodigy.net.

Volunteer Fridays in the Park -- 2:00 to 4:00 pm

Come learn first hand about Bidwell Park's natural habitat and the impact of invasive, non-native plants in various locations of the Park. Volunteers should wear sturdy shoes, and weather appropriate clothing. The City Park Division will provide tools and water. Volunteers under 18 need a release form signed by a parent or guardian prior to beginning work.

- **December 1, 8 & 15** – One Mile Restoration Area—remove invasive plants and replant natives. Volunteers meet at the One Mile Group Picnic site next to Sycamore Baseball Field at 2:00 pm

- **January 5, 12, 19 & 26** – Annie's Glen – weeding around Oak and Sycamore trees; removing invasive, non-native plants. Volunteers meet at west end of Annie's Glen at 2:00 pm (near the Camelia Way bridge).

- **February 2, 9, 16 & 23** – Cedar Grove and World of Trees – Oak Regeneration project; removing of invasive weeds. Volunteers meet at Cedar Grove parking lot off of East 8th Street just east of Parkview Elementary.

Help Row the BEC Boat!

The local environment needs your contribution!

You can make a difference. If you can volunteer your time (no matter how little) and/or have a special skill to share, please fill out the coupon below. Thank you!

Mail this form to: BEC, 116 W. Second St., #3 Chico, CA 95928

Name _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

Times that are usually most convenient for me to volunteer:

- ☐ Weekday mornings ☐ Weekday afternoons
☐ Weekday evenings ☐ Weekends

I am interested in helping with the following activities (please check all that apply):

- ☐ Artwork (graphic art, illustrations, etc.)
☐ Various Creek Cleanups
☐ Annual Endangered Species Fair
 ☐ Publicity
 ☐ Soliciting sponsors/donations
 ☐ Booth construction & set-up (the day before the Faire)
 ☐ Clean-Up
☐ *Environmental News*, BEC's quarterly newspaper
☐ Fundraising
☐ Office work
 ☐ Mailings ☐ News clippings (cutting & filing)
 ☐ Phones ☐ Research
☐ Photography (taking photos of our events and activities; nature photography)
☐ Writing letters to elected officials and regulatory agencies

Slice of Time, Land, and Sky

By Tempra Board

November 8, 2006

Today is a migration day. Thousands of geese pass overhead—giant undulating chevrons pass in wave after wave right over my head. Lower, bands of local birds take flight in scattered directions. Buzzing humming birds dance and call to each other. And wave after wave of purposeful, gentle flight, continues up above. My neck is craning, starting to ache. I can't keep a smile off of my face. This is what I call an "air show."

I grab a chair, more coffee, and a notebook and head back outside. As I lean my head back, and wait for the next sound of cackling, "winged migration," I notice the depth of the garden—the riparian strip along Big Chico Creek on which I am lucky enough to be sitting. The fall colors bring shadows to life like no other season. Beyond the evergreen camellia stands a spreading dogwood, decked in radiant orange and rose leaves. To its right and further back is a dark green redwood castle, its boughs like spires. But beyond it—I'd never even noticed it till now—a walnut with bright yellow leaves is lighting up the misty patch of forest along the creek. Brown stems and branches blend into the shadows, leaving iridescent yellowing leaves dangling in mid-air, suspended in jeweled webs. Wild grape drapes the larger tree boughs in shimmering, exquisite beauty.

The migration goes on...

Gently curving "Vs," undulating and charged, as each bird adjusts to its neighbor in flight. The rounded edges like the curving outline of a larger body. Suddenly a squabble erupts between two robins in the dogwood, drawing my attention momentarily back down towards earth. But as the latest feathered wave moves south, I finally become aware of the negative space—a fracture in the light gray clouds that provided a backdrop to the geese, shows the air is moving quickly in the opposite direction. The entire sky is alive with movement and sound—a sea of air and wings, percussion and trumpet—and leaves gently brushing one another, then breaking free to sway, float, twirl, and summersault their way to earth.

They gather around my feet. Leaves of all sizes and shapes. Flat, curling sycamores with lemon-yellow stems; tight, sharp willow spears; jagged wedges of orange birch; a conundrum of brown oak, looking like the remnants of a big round leaf with arches cut out all around it until just the narrow places along the major veins are left. Among this, the never-ending march of bright green, invasive ivy as it advances across the patio—attempting to claim the entire yard for its own—and breaking me out of my backyard wilderness reverie.



Autumn Equinox

By Karen Laslo

September,
and the old Sycamore knows
the shorter days,
and lengthening nights,
of light slanting low
through shedding branches.

The mornings come now
sharp and brittle,
where dropping leaves,
gather below the tree
in heaps of yellow,
dry and thick.

But beneath the waste
of Summer's end,
living roots
sleep,
warm,
through the long
dark winter.

***Send us your creative
writing on nature and
the environment***

Poetry, short essays, photography,
and other visual art works are
welcome. See page two for
submission address and guidelines.

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
asenvironmental@csuchico.edu

Altacal Audubon Society

PO Box 3671, Chico, CA 95927
530/824-0253
www.altacal.org; Jacksons3@aol.com

American Lung Association

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

Arboretum Management Club, CSUC

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

Bidwell Environmental Institute

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

CSU Chico launches new sustainable future website.

Go to www.csuchico.edu/sustainablefuture

Bidwell Park Endowment Fund

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
coordinator@bigchicocreek.org
Susan Strachan, Chair

Butte Creek Watershed Conservancy

PO Box 1611, Chico, CA 95927
530/893-5399
www.buttecreekwatershed.org
creek@inreach.com
Chuck Kutz

Butte Environmental Council, Inc.

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

Butte Humane Society

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

California Bat Conservancy

530.642.2731
californiabats@savebats.org
inquiry@savebats.org
www.savebats.org

California Conservation Corps

2345 Fair St., Chico, CA 95928
530/895-4336 pager: 916/592-6500
www.ccc.ca.gov

California Native Plant Society

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

California Native Plant Society, Mount 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; fax: 510/208-4435
www.californiaoaks.org
oakstaff@californiaoaks.org

California Sportfishing Protection Alliance

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

California Wilderness Coalition

1212 Broadway, Suite 1700
Oakland, CA 94612
510/451-1450 fax: 510/451-1445
www.calwild.org; info@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
Terry Givens, Market Manager

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
avenues@infostations.com
Kasey Merrill

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
ed@chicovelo.org

Community Legal Information Center, CSUC

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

Environmental Action & Resource Center

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

The Esplanade League

PO Box 4868
Chico, CA 95927-4868
www.esplanadeleague.org
eleague@shocking.com

Farm Sanctuary

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

Friends of Bidwell Park

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

ENVIRONMENTAL DIRECTORY

Friends of Butte Creek

PO Box 3305
Chico, CA 95927
530/879-0887
www.buttetecreek.org
friends@buttetecreek.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
info@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
roxannebaxter@sbcglobal.net

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
jhubbell@csuchico.edu

Middle Mountain Foundation

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

Mill Creek Conservancy

PO Box 188, Los Molinos, CA 96055
530/595-4470 fax: 530/595-4470
milcrk1@aol.com

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
ncrlt@shocking.com

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
info@riverpartners.org

Sacramento River Preservation Trust

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

Sacramento River Watershed Program

500 Orange Street
Chico, CA 95928
530/879-0887
www.sacriver.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
sbpna00@yahoo.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
laz@chiconet.com

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
Woodleaf@Woodleaf.YoungLife.Org

Donate Your Used Vehicles

To Butte Environmental Council!
Running or not, and get a tax deduction...

Call toll free (have title with you)

(877) CARS-4-US Ext. 1865

**Cars, boats, trucks, RVs, motorcycles, snowmobiles,
vans, jet-skis, motor homes, and even buses.**

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

Return Service Requested

Non Profit
Organization
U.S. Postage PAID
Permit No. 118
Chico, CA 95928

Are You A BEC Angel Yet?



Earn Your Wings Here!
and a set of beautiful etched goblets—
in time for the holidays

*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.

They allow us to spend less time fundraising, and more time doing the advocacy, education and referrals that you want BEC to do.

You may pay by check, credit card, or electronic funds transfer and it is all tax deductible. **New or upgraded Angel members will receive a set of cobalt blue goblets etched with a special BEC emblem.**

Become a BEC Angel!

I would like to become a "BEC Angel" by pledging \$ _____ per ☐ month or ☐ quarter to BEC. Enclosed is my first payment.

Method of payment

- ☐ Electronic Funds Transfer now available. Call BEC at 891-6424 for details.
- ☐ Check, made payable to BEC.
- ☐ Credit card (circle one) Visa Mastercard Amex Discover

Credit Card No. _____
Exp. _____

Signature _____

Name _____

Address _____

City & Zip _____

Telephone _____

Email _____

- ☐ Please don't share my name with other groups.
- ☐ I prefer not to be thanked in the *Membergram* for my donation.

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).

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 to the right.

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 | | |