

## Greetings!

We hope to see you at our Compost Bin workshop on Tuesday night! There are some Action Items to check out and also our new 3rd Saturday Field Trips.

## PROGRAMS

**1. Tues, Feb 10 – Workshop: Make a Compost Bin with Red Wiggler Worms.** Wonder Worman Laurie will help us get ready for spring gardening! This is a hands-on workshop to make your own compost bin with Red Wiggler worms. Composting creates wonderful, nutrient-rich soil for your plants, plus it keeps waste out of landfills. Learn what foods to feed your worms, how long it takes to compost, where to keep your bin and how to harvest the compost.

**What to bring:** A plastic storage bin and a small stack of newspapers and/or peat moss (a combo works best) for the bedding. Red Wiggler worms will be available to buy from Wonder Worman, \$7.00 for one-third pound, to get you started. If possible, RSVP to [gbvalido@yahoo.com](mailto:gbvalido@yahoo.com) so we know how many Red Wigglers will be needed. 6:30 pm gathering, 7:00 workshop. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas (cross street Lava Road), Bend.

**2. Tues, March 10 – Diane Reed Photography, Landscapes and Wildlife of the Arctic.** Diane will present compelling slides of her September trip to the Arctic. 6:30 pm gathering, 7:00 workshop. Central Oregon Environmental Center, 16 NW Kansas (cross street Lava Road), Bend.

## NEW - FIELD TRIPS

**3. 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Field Trips to Key Central Oregon Sites –** We are very excited to kick off our new 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday Field Trips, and invite you and other interested Oregonians to join us in learning first-hand about key places of concern in the region. As Eastside Forest Organizer Asante Riverwind said, "Spreading awareness of the good, the bad and the ugly of what's going on in local conservation is the first step towards protecting what we all love about the region." All outings depart at 1:00 p.m. from COEC, 16 NW Kansas in Bend and will combine car touring and hiking. Wear appropriate clothing and boots, bring water. Transportation is by voluntary carpooling. Field trips will conclude with optional stop for pizza, beer, coffee/tea or other goodies and discussion of what we've seen. Planned return time is 5:00 p.m. Let us know you're coming! [asante.riverwind@sierraclub.org](mailto:asante.riverwind@sierraclub.org) or 322-4065. Check the website for updated information about snow conditions, etc., <http://oregon.sierraclub.org/groups/juniper/index.asp>

**a) March 21 - Glaze Meadow Restoration**, west of Sisters along US-20

**b) April 19 - Pringle Falls**, on the Deschutes River approx. 5 miles downstream of Wickiup Reservoir. Since Earth Day is the 18<sup>th</sup>, we've changed the date to Sunday.

**c) May 9 – West Tumball proposed fuels reduction project**, 5 miles west of Bend

**d) June 20 – Whychus Creek restoration**, Sisters area

## ACTION ITEM: METOLIUS RIVER BASIN PROTECTION HEARINGS

**4. Wed, Feb 11 and Thurs, Feb 12 – Protect the Metolius.** Next week the Land Conservation & Development Commission will hold field hearings in Sisters and Madras on a proposal to make the Metolius River Basin an "Area of Critical State Concern (ACSC)." These hearings are an important opportunity to tell state officials to protect the Metolius.

### Where and When:

- **Wed., Feb. 11th** at Sisters High School at 5:00 pm, 1700 W McKinney Butte Rd., and

- **Thurs., Feb. 12th** at the Madras Senior Center at 5:00 pm, 860 SW Madison

Two controversial destination resorts are proposed in the Metolius Basin. Recent studies indicate that these resorts would have a negative impact on the Metolius River. Current state law is inadequate to protect water flows and wildlife in the Metolius Basin from destination resorts.

The ACSC designation would include special management rules governing resort and other large-scale and residential development around this Central Oregon treasure. Please show up to support the need to protect the Metolius from all proposed resorts.

If you can't make one of the hearings, call your state legislators to let them know you support protection of the Metolius and other areas from Destination Resorts. Enough resorts already!  
Judy Stiegler, [rep.judystiegler@state.or.us](mailto:rep.judystiegler@state.or.us), 503-986-1454 (Bend)

Chris Telfer, [sen.christelfer@state.or.us](mailto:sen.christelfer@state.or.us), 503-986-1727 (most of Deschutes County)

Gene Whisnant, [rep.genewhisnant@state.or.us](mailto:rep.genewhisnant@state.or.us), 503-986-1453 (much of Central Oregon, not Bend)

John Huffman, [rep.johnhuffman@state.or.us](mailto:rep.johnhuffman@state.or.us), 503-986-1459 (Jefferson County)

Ted Ferroli, [sen.tedferroli@state.or.us](mailto:sen.tedferroli@state.or.us), 503-986-1950 (Jefferson County)

George Gilman, [rep.georgegilman@state.or.us](mailto:rep.georgegilman@state.or.us), 503-986-1455 (Crook County)

Doug Whitsett, [sen.dougwhitsett@state.or.us](mailto:sen.dougwhitsett@state.or.us), 503-986-1728 (includes parts of Crook, Deschutes and other counties)

More information about the hearings and background on the Metolius is available at the Department of Land Conservation web site...[CLICK HERE](#).

[http://www.lcd.state.or.us/LCD/metolius\\_river\\_basin\\_acsc.shtml](http://www.lcd.state.or.us/LCD/metolius_river_basin_acsc.shtml)

#### **ACTION ITEM: WEDDING AND EVENT IN RURAL FARMLAND - HEARING**

**5. Thurs, Feb 12 – Weddings and Events in Rural Areas?** – The Deschutes Planning Commission is hearing the issue of allowing Weddings and Commercial Events in EFU zoned rural areas, 5:30 p.m., Deschutes Services Center, 1300 NW Wall Street, Bend. Also call your state representatives, listed above, to say NO to statewide legislation allowing commercial events which impact the nature, privacy, solitude and wildlife habitat of rural areas.

#### **ACTION ITEM: BADLANDS AND SPRING BASIN WILDERNESS VOTE**

**6. Wed, Feb 11 – Vote is scheduled in the U.S. House of Representatives on Badlands and Spring Basin Wilderness, S.22.** Please call or email Rep. Greg Walden to ask him to vote YES for S.22 and NO for any motion to recommit the bill back to committee. 202-225-6730 or 541-389-4408, email at his website <http://walden.house.gov/ContactGreg.Home.shtml>.

#### **COMMUNITY EVENT**

**7. Thurs, Feb 19** – The City Club of Central Oregon will welcome John Allen, Forest Supervisor on the Deschutes National Forest, and Sierra Club member Kreg Lindberg, Associate Professor in Tourism and Outdoor Leadership at OSU-Cascades Campus, for a discussion about the challenges of sustaining the region's natural resources when demand (or use) is rising and management resources are declining. Discussion will include how to make natural resources available for residents, the tourism industry, development and agriculture while balancing the preservation of the land for future generations. All are critically important and citizens have widely varying views on what the priority should be. The Forum will begin at 11:30 and conclude at 1:00 p.m. and includes lunch. City Club Forums are conducted at St. Charles Center for Health and Learning, 2500 NE Neff Road in Bend. Pre-registration is required by February 16th at 5:00 p.m. City Club members \$13.00; nonmembers \$25.00. [Online registration](#) information and related materials.

#### **NATIONAL GEOGRAPHIC GEOTOURISM PROJECT**

**8. By Sun, March 29** – The National Geographic Society is asking for prime visitor sites to feature in a map about the Northwest. This is a fantastic opportunity to get added exposure/protection for our favorite areas, such as areas that are threatened by resort development like Camp Polk Meadow Preserve or the Metolius River. The nomination process is easy; you can do it in a few minutes online. And your efforts could have lasting impact, by creating new advocates for and boosting ecotourism at these treasured places. Go to <http://www.thecentralcascades.com/>

After the nomination phase ends on March 29, 2009, NGS's local stewardship council will review and nominate a selection of the public's stories that best represent the Central Cascades and convey why its unique natural and cultural assets are so important to protect. Help us celebrate what makes our region special with the world!

#### **OREGON CHAPTER LEGISLATIVE BILL TRACKER**

**9. Legislative Tracker** – Oregon Chapter Sierra Club staff are tracking state legislation online again this year and we have three bills listed so far. This will be updated frequently as information changes. The tracker will follow progress on bills that are evolving and may need support or not from us in this session. Some bills are doing fine on their own, such as some of the energy bills, and are not targeted. <http://www.oregon.sierraclub.org/tracker>.

### **JUNIPER GROUP WEBSITE**

**10. Questions? Find answers at the Juniper Group website**, your updated resource for information on programs, committees, National Forest and Wilderness advocacy, volunteer opportunities, Wild Juniper Journal articles, contact information and more, at <http://oregon.sierraclub.org/groups/juniper/index.asp> Larry Pennington, Webmaster.

### **Welcome new and transferring members!**

We welcome you to the Juniper Group! Please join us at an upcoming workshop or program night and Field Trips.

### **Sierra Club--Explore, Enjoy, Protect.**

Gretchen Valido, Co-Chair  
[gbvalido@yahoo.com](mailto:gbvalido@yahoo.com)

\* Add my email to your address book to prevent spam blocks. If you do not wish to receive this newsletter, please email me at [gbvalido@yahoo.com](mailto:gbvalido@yahoo.com).