



P.O. Box 993777 • Redding, CA 96099 • [ecoshasta.org](http://ecoshasta.org)

## **Shasta Environmental Alliance Newsletter September 2020**

### **Shasta Lake Planning Commission Approves Weak Tree Conservation Ordinance**

The Shasta Lake Planning Commission approved a disappointingly weak and inadequate Tree Conservation Ordinance at its September 3 meeting. Now the ordinance will go to the Shasta Lake City Council for approval, rejection or revision.

While the ordinance does require mitigation for removal of oak trees, it is greatly inadequate. It will require the planting of three trees of any species for each oak tree removed, whether the trunk has a diameter of 10 inches or 40 inches. This would allow the planting of any trees, for example, three crape myrtles, or a small mitigation fee.

Shasta Lake hired Jim Hamilton, a private consultant, to rewrite the ordinance. Hamilton was previously head of the City of Redding Development Resource Department and oversaw the rewrite of the current Redding Tree Management Ordinance. Many of the Shasta Lake Planning Commissioners are new and relied on Hamilton for advice on their questions about the ordinance. One of those questions was the low fine for cutting down a tree without a permit. He implied that this was all the City could charge, although other cities charge more; for example, the City of Chico has a \$5000 fine.

The only persons opposing the new ordinance were Shasta Lake activist Pat Lind, SEA Tree Committee member Rico Montenegro, and SEA President David Ledger. SEA will put out a

notice before this reaches the City Council so that SEA supporters can attend.

If you would like to see a stronger Shasta Lake Tree Conservation Ordinance, especially if you live or work in Shasta Lake, we urge you to attend the meeting and comment or send your written comments to: [publiccomments@cityofshastalake.org](mailto:publiccomments@cityofshastalake.org)

### **SEA Sulphur Creek Cleanup Trash Cleanup on October 17**

Shasta Environmental Alliance will be leading a creek cleanup on October 17 in a section of Sulphur Creek where the rare Sulphur Creek Brodiaea grows. This will be a COVID-safe event, following social distancing safety guidelines, with the group cleanup limited to a maximum of 10 people.

A second option will be offered to individuals and family units to clean up a section of Sulphur Creek in the Redding Arboretum area. You will have a form to fill out listing the types of trash you collected and the approximate weight. We are asking that you place the trash in your own curbside carts, although we are seeking permission from the City for free dumping of the group cleanup.

We will have some cleanup supplies such as trash bags, gloves and five-gallon buckets available. There will be a prize of a \$25 gift certificate from Sports LTD for the person or party collecting the most trash. For more information, email [ecoshasta@gmail.com](mailto:ecoshasta@gmail.com).

## **SEA Awarded Bower Charitable Foundation Grant**

Shasta Environmental Alliance is proud to announce that we have been awarded a grant from the Bower Charitable Foundation in Trinity County, which will give us funds to buy fencing and some concrete barriers to block parts of the 380 acres in Oregon Gulch in southwest Redding to prevent further erosion from OHVs. We will also be doing some erosion repair work. Board member Jim Milestone has done similar work in Golden Gate National Recreation Area and will be in charge of the project. In addition, they gave us other funds to help with projects such as our Sulphur Creek Cleanup. A big thank you to the Joseph Bower Foundation.

## **SEA Welcomes New Board Member Aleta Carpenter**

SEA is proud to announce that Aleta Carpenter was recently elected to our board of directors. We feel fortunate to have this talented person on our board.

Aleta is a North State native and earned a M.A. in Communication Studies. Aleta has a background in governmental and public relations, journalism, and editing. As a lobbyist, she represented several environmental organizations *pro bono* and facilitated the acquisition by the California State Park system of properties held in private ownership. A lifelong environmentalist, Aleta hopes to someday see Redding rival Sacramento as a true "city of trees."

## **Still No Action by Planning Department on Oak Tree Removal Near McConnell Foundation**

We are still waiting for the Redding Planning Department to respond to our complaint of May 5 regarding the removal of trees on a large lot near the McConnell Foundation Churn Creek trails. According to the Planning Department, no tree removal permits were issued for the lot in question, but no action has been taken by Planning as yet. It increasingly appears that

the Redding Tree Management Ordinance is a paper tiger in preserving any trees in Redding. SEA has recently turned in several other lots where it appears the owners may have jumped the gun and removed trees without a permit.

## **Fountain Wind Project Comment Period extended to October 5 on Draft EIR**

Shasta County Planning Commission recently sent out a notice that the deadline to comment on the Fountain Wind Project near Montgomery Creek has been extended to October 5.

The approximate 4,464-acre proposed project site is located within an approximately 29,500-acre section consisting exclusively of private property operated as managed forest timberlands. The project will have 72 wind turbines, each 679 feet tall, located approximately one mile west of the existing Hatchet Mountain Wind Farm

The project would have a maximum total generating capacity of up to 216 MW. Copies of the Draft EIR are now available for public review at [www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm/planning/eir](http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/drm/planning/eir) or you can request a free thumb drive from Shasta County Planning Department.

There is a grassroots organization opposed to the project: Citizens In Opposition to the Fountain Wind Project (CIO FWP) whose website is [www.stopfw.com](http://www.stopfw.com). Until COVID-19 they had been holding regular community meetings. They continue to speak out at Shasta County Supervisors and Planning Commission meetings.

## **Happy Birthday: Bea Currie**

SEA has not previously celebrated anyone's birthday in our newsletter; however, in the case of 95-year-old environmentalist and SEA supporter Bea Currie, we make an exception. She is a longtime member and previous president and current corresponding secretary of Wintu Audubon and is also active with AAUW, Democratic Women of Shasta County,

and serves on the Redding Library Advisory Board. She is a retired teacher, starting her career as the only teacher at the North Cow Creek School, and taught in Redding area schools for 25 year.

### **Climate Change Class Offered at Shasta College Community Education October 8, 15, & 22**

Global Warming: Causes, Effects and Solutions. Global warming is a huge, complex issue, and a lot of the debate can become discouraging. This series will explore the scientific realities of greenhouse gases and their impacts; but most important, will focus on the many solutions that are just as positive for the economy as they are for the environment in which we live and thrive.

Instructors: Pete Marsh and Dan Greaney  
For further information and to register go to:  
[Community Education Catalog](#)

### **Fall Native Plant Sale, Shasta Chapter, CNPS**

Shasta Chapter of CNPS is excited to announce that they will be holding their 2020 Online Fall Native Plant Sale for the public from Tuesday, Oct 20, through Thursday October 29. They have 163 species to choose from!

Due to COVID-19, this year's native plant sales will be online. There will be two Saturdays for customers to come and pick up their orders at an off-site location. The observance of all COVID-19 protocols is encouraged and appreciated.

The income from the sales supports the Shasta Chapter's grants and scholarships. These benefit the public and students while supporting part of the CNPS mission to increase understanding, appreciation, and horticultural use of native plants.

A Current Plant Availability List will be available at the Shasta Chapter's website later in September: [www.shasta-cnps.org](http://www.shasta-cnps.org). A list of the 163 available species is available at this link:

<https://shasta-cnps.org/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/List-of-Online-2020-Native-Plant-Sale-Plants.pdf> Details will be available in October for placing your order!

### **Recycling Batteries, the How and Where** By Christina Piles

Most people know that household batteries should not be disposed of in the garbage. They contain many different hazardous metals and have been banned from the landfill. Fortunately, there are several options for Shasta County residents to properly recycle their used household batteries.

The City of Redding Household Hazardous Waste Facility accepts household batteries from residential customers in Shasta County, Tuesday - Saturday from 9 am to 4 pm. County residents can also drop off their batteries at any one of the three Ace Hardware stores in Redding. Batteries can be dropped off for recycling in any type of container or bag if you use any of the above recycling locations. As a result of these programs, 33,986 pounds of batteries were recycled in 2019.

If you are a City of Redding Solid Waste customer, you can also recycle your batteries by placing them in a special, heavy-duty orange bag that is available at ten locations within the city and placing the filled bag inside your blue recycling cart. Please do not use any other type of bag, as they will break during the sorting process, preventing the batteries from being recycled. The orange battery recycling bags can only be used in City carts, not carts serviced by Waste Management. A list of locations and addresses for both the bags and Ace Hardware stores that accept batteries can be found by going to <https://www.cityofredding.org/departments/solid-waste/special-waste> and going to "Household Hazardous Waste".

Since lithium-ion batteries can heat up and catch fire if damaged, they should never be placed into your curbside carts. We recommend that you keep them separate from other batteries and bring them to the

Household Hazardous Waste Facility. 9V alkaline batteries should have the terminals taped as these can also cause fires if the terminals come into contact with other 9V batteries. If you generate button batteries, such as the types that are used in hearing aids, please place the spent batteries back into the packaging they came in before dropping them off to be recycled.

### **SEA is Seeking New Board Members!**

Shasta Environmental Alliance is looking to increase its board membership and is looking for persons concerned about our local environment. Meetings are once a month and currently are done by video conference. Previous environmental board or related volunteer or work experience and willingness to spend at least four to six hours of volunteer time per month in addition to board meetings. We can use your enthusiasm and new ideas. We are seeking diversity on our board and people of color are encouraged to apply. An application is on our website [ecoshasta.org](http://ecoshasta.org), or you can email us at [ecoshasta@gmail.com](mailto:ecoshasta@gmail.com).

### **USFS seeking Committee members for Forest funding.**

The US Forest Service is seeking volunteer members for the Shasta County Resource Advisory Committee (SCRAC). Committee members are responsible for choosing which locally developed projects get funded for work on our local National Forest lands.

They are seeking representatives from various sectors of the public, such as teachers, unions, forestry, environmental groups, grazing permit holders, and the general public. It will involve about three meetings per year and one field trip. With COVID, meetings may be held via Zoom or similar programs.

The funding is provided by The Secure Rural Schools Program (SRSP) and committee members will assign points to various grants in Shasta County that are submitted, ranging from trail building, outdoor education, to tree

planting. About \$200,000 in funds will be allocated by the committee

If you are interested in serving on the committee, contact Lejon Hamann at [Lejon.Hamann@usda.gov](mailto:Lejon.Hamann@usda.gov) or [ecoshasta@gmail.com](mailto:ecoshasta@gmail.com) and we will forward you the information.

### **We Still Need Your Financial Support**

**Please consider making a donation to Shasta Environmental Alliance; we can use your support for future actions. Go to our website at [www.ecoshasta.org](http://www.ecoshasta.org) You can donate to SEA by mail at PO Box 993777, Redding, CA 96099 or going to our website at [www.ecoshasta.org](http://www.ecoshasta.org).**

**Thank you to the following individuals who are helping us with our work!**

#### **\$25 to \$99**

Jim & Gayle Citta, John Livingston, John Springer, Steve and Cathy Callan, Gary Lauben, Ellen Suggs, Sharon Kennedy, Andrea Hughes, Janice Hunter, Jeff Morrow, John Deaton, Bob Madison, Daryl and Penny Harris, MaryAnn McCray, Belinda Higuera, Collette Streight, Tricia Hamelberg, Karen Hazeltine, John Livingston, Allen and Terry Craig, Kathy Grissom and Buck and Sue Lang,

#### **\$100 to \$249**

Connie Word, Aleta Carpenter, Anonymous, Karen Foss and Shelly Swanson, John Lefler, Doug Mandel, Dave Korman, Ron Dykstra, David Zoll, Bill Oliver, Doug Craig, David Ledger, George and Darlene Horn, Linda Materson, Mark and Molly Wood, Judy Salter, Bob and Diane Madgic, Shasta County Green Party, California Oak Coalition, Muffy Berryhill,

#### **\$250 to \$499**

Bea Currie, Lang Dayton, Bea Currie, Ray Pfister and Lisa Ross, Dave and Barb Klasson, Peter Waller

#### **\$500 to \$999**

Chris and Billie Harvey, Shasta Chapter, California Native Plant Society, Don and Laurie Burk, Shasta Group of Sierra Club, Wintu Audubon.

#### **\$1000 & Up**

Bob and Diane Madgic, Karen Little