



Range of Light Group

Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club

Inyo and Mono Counties

P. O. Box 1973, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

Email: rangeoflight.sc@gmail.com

Website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/range-light>

 Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Range-of-Light-Group/464737966890277>

April 2015

TO RANGE OF LIGHT GROUP MEMBERS AND FRIENDS,

You are receiving this message because you are a member of the Range of Light Group, have recently attended one of our outings, or have requested our e-newsletter. If you wish to be removed from the list, click reply, and put "remove me from the ROLG list" in the subject line. Please ignore the spam block message you may receive - your message will get through. Thanks!

Visit our new website: <http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/range-light>

*****MONTHLY PROGRAM MEETINGS** – *“The difference between genius and stupidity is that genius has its limits.” Albert Einstein*

General information (subject to change – check details): *For all potlucks, bring a dish to share and your own non-disposable dinnerware. Potluck and program – you may attend either or both.*

- **Tuesday, April 21, Crowley Lake Community Center, 6:15 pm, social and Potluck 7:00 pm.**
Program: Researcher, David Lee, will present “Rock Art of the Eastern Sierra: Local Examples of a Global Expression.” More: Mary 805-217-5563, marymikeshore@gmail.com.
- **Tuesday, May 19, Crowley Lake Community Center, 6:15 pm, social and Potluck 7:00 pm.**
Program: Patrick Hayes, General Manager of the Mammoth Community Water District, will give a current report on “Measuring Water.” More: Mary 805-217-5563, marymikeshore@gmail.com.
- **Tuesday, June 16, White Mountain Research Center, 3000 E. Line St., Bishop, 6:30pm, social and announcements. Program, 7pm: Fran Hunt, conservation advocate, and Eastern Sierra Organizer for the Sierra Club, will discuss the Inyo National Forest Draft EIS and Draft Forest Plan. More: Mary 805-217-5563, marymikeshore@gmail.com.**

*****Please submit suggestions for program topics and/or speakers. We always need fresh ideas!*****

*****OUTINGS, ACTIVITIES** – *“Another glorious Sierra day in which one seems to be dissolved and absorbed and sent pulsing onward we know not where.” John Muir*

Spring Outings. Prepare for a variety of conditions. Bring water, lunch and snacks, layered clothing, hats, gloves, sunglasses, sunblock, appropriate footwear or ski/snowshoe equipment. All outings include conservation education activities! Watch for information on ROLG WEBSITE

(<http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/range-light>), FACEBOOK (<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Range-of-Light-Group/464737966890277>), OUTINGS MEETUP (<http://www.meetup.com/ROLG-SierraClub-Outings-Meetup/>), and LOCAL MEDIA (although occasionally our submitted information gets published incorrectly).

- **Sunday, April 12 Destination TBA, depends on weather conditions**, could be ski/snowshoe or hike. Meet 9am, ML Union Bank parking lot. Leader: Mary K. 769-934-0335, mkp@npgcable.com.
- **Saturday, April 18, Blue Diamond workday**. Meet at Shore's (call for directions), 10am, weather permitting. Leader: Mike 805-217-5563, marymikeshore@gmail.com.
- **Sunday, April 19 Destination TBA, depends on weather conditions**, could be ski/snowshoe or hike. Meet 9am, ML Union Bank parking lot. Leaders : Dick and Joanne 760-709-5050, rhahn@skidmore.edu.
- **Saturday, April 25, Blue Diamond workday**. Meet at Shore's (call for directions) 10am, weather permitting. Leader: Mike 805-217-5563, marymikeshore@gmail.com.
- **Sunday, April 26 Destination TBA – this will be a hike**. Meet 9am, ML Union Bank parking lot. Leader: Maurica, 760-932-7175, MauricaAnd@yahoo.com.
- **Sunday, May 3, Destination TBA, depends on weather conditions**, could be ski/snowshoe or hike. Meet 9am, ML Union Bank parking lot. More: Dick and Joanne 760-709-5050, rhahn@skidmore.edu.
- **Sunday, May 10, June Lake Loop**. Snow Ponds - turned to snow meadows in our 4th year of drought - is a 3 mi loop with short but steep sections at trail's beginning and end. Options to explore the plateau and climb a restored trail to Reverse Peak. Meet 9am, ML Union Bank parking lot or 9:30am, June Mountain Parking lot. Leader: Jean Dillingham, 760-648-7109.

******TAKE ACTION** – “*We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence is not an act but a habit.*” Aristotle

- **Travel Analysis Process (TAP)** public meeting to share the Draft Travel Analysis Report, April 21, 6-8pm, Cerro Coso College, Bishop. TAP is required by the 2005 Travel Management Rule and requires forests to provide a safe, financially, and environmentally sustainable road system that can realistically be maintained. More: Debra Schweizer, debraaschweizer@fs.fed.us, www.facebook.com/inynof. Instruction on TAP available prior to meeting, 4:30 PM, 819 North Barlow. More: Fran Hunt fran.hunt@sierraclub.org , 760-873 6500.

******CONSERVATION** – “*When we try to pick out anything by itself we find it hitched to everything else in the universe.*” John Muir

- Mammoth Community Water District has been concerned about **possible effect on the Mammoth water supply** from the new wells planned doubling of Ormat's current geothermal plant capacity. MCWD's lawsuit against the GBUAPCD is currently being argued in court. More: <http://www.sierrawave.net/?s=approval+of+Ormat+expansion&submit=Search>
- ROLG has submitted to the CA Fish and Game Commission a letter supporting designation of the area around the Mono Basin as a "**no bobcat trapping**" area, to be considered at their meeting on April 8-9. More: Malcolm wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com, 760-924-5639.
- The DEIR on the Inyo County Renewable Energy General Plan Amendment (REGPA) was approved by the Inyo Co Board of Supervisors in March. The greatly revised plan (the original plan was opposed by an ROLG lawsuit in 2011, and massive public protest in 2013-2014) shrinks or eliminates areas originally designated for solar development and removes wind development. Detailed report on the meeting at: <http://www.basinandrangewatch.org/REGPA-Supervisors.html>
- In Feb., Sen. Feinstein reintroduced her Desert Protection Act, which within Inyo Co, would make additions to the Death Valley Wilderness, establish the Great Falls Basin Wilderness, add to

the Wild & Scenic River designation portion of the Amargosa River, and establish 18,840 acres as the Alabama Hills NSA. More: <http://www.feinstein.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/press-releases?ID=9d92ada0-21eb-44c7-8f4e-6146bca26e37>

- **Inyo Forest News** - a monthly newsletter for people who love to explore and enjoy the Inyo National Forest. More: Fran Hunt, fran.hunt@sierraclub.org.
- For desert news read the **SC Desert Report**: <http://www.desertreport.org> (new issue now on-line). More: tombudlong@roadrunner.com. For wilderness news read **SC Words of the Wild**: <http://www.sierraclub.org/ca/wilderness/wow/>. More: vicky.hoover@sierraclub.org.

**** **OF INTEREST** – “To know that we know what we know, and that we do not know what we do not know, that is true knowledge.” Henry David Thoreau

- **Saturday, April 11, 4:00pm, Cerro Coso College, Mammoth Lakes.** Join in remembering Shirley Blumberg, long-time Sierra club member, community activist, author, gardener, and dedicated music lover. The Felici Trio will play in her honor. More: Felici@aol.com, wilma88bryce@gmail.com, marshall@earthlink.net.
- **Saturday, April 11, 9am-3pm,** ROLG will have a table at the 4th Annual Alabama Hills Day, Lone Pine. Come by, and if you would like to participate, contact Fran Hunt fran.hunt@sierraclub.org, 760-873 6500.
- **Saturday, April 18, 10-3,** ROLG will have a table at the **Bishop Rotary Earth Day celebration** in the City Park. Come by, and if you would like to participate, contact Fran Hunt fran.hunt@sierraclub.org, 760-873 6500.
- **Sunday, April 19, 10-2,** ROLG will have a table at the Bishop Paiute Earth Day celebration, Bishop Paiute Shoshone Cultural Center. Come by, and if you would like to participate contact Malcolm wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com, 760-924-5639.
- Wildlife biologists are celebrating the reintroduction of North America's largest land animal, the **wood bison**, to its native habitat in the southwestern Alaskan wilderness. [Read the rest.](#)
- A federal court ruled that U.S. Navy training exercises off the coasts of So California and Hawaii **illegally harm whales**, dolphins and countless other marine mammals. [more about this](#)
- Following the **lowest snowpack ever recorded**, Gov. Jerry Brown announced new water conservation actions. More: www.sierrawave.net, or <http://www.nytimes.com/?action=click&contentCollection=U.S.®ion=TopBar&module=HomePage-Button&pgtype=article>.
- Both Mammoth Lakes Community Water District and the City of Bishop have **increased water restrictions** effective in April. A record low snowpack water content measurement on Mammoth Pass stands at 98% below normal. More: www.sierrawave.net
- A multiagency operation returned two herds of **endangered bighorn sheep** to locations in Yosemite and Sequoia National Parks. More: www.fs.usda.gov/inyo, Deb Schweizer 760-873-2427, Pete Bartelme 415-664-1503, or www.sierrawave.net.
- Saturday, May 2, **Bodie Hills Conservation Partnership Open House** (new office) 11-3, 158 Kingsley St., Suite #1. More: Jeff Hunter at jeff@bodiehills.org, 423-322-7866
- The Obama administration issued the first federal **mandates governing hydraulic fracturing** on public land, triggering a lawsuit from oil industry groups, and a pledge by congressional Republicans to undo the regulation (*SF Chronicle*, 3/20/ 2015). More: <http://bit.ly/1FVVliq>
- Los Angeles-based Cadiz Inc. has created a 7,400-acre sanctuary in the eastern San Bernardino County desert for **protection of desert tortoise** and its habitat-the largest such set-aside in California. (*The Sun*, 3/21/ 2015) More: <http://bit.ly/1HooTfX>
- [Climate Tools Seek to Bend Nature's Path](#) It's called geoengineering, and its possibilities, like reflective droplets in the sky and rocks that remove carbon dioxide, are gaining momentum.
- Mono Lake Committee met with LADWP to conduct the official annual April 1 reading of the

lake level which now **stands at 6379.01 feet above sea level**, and, by the terms of the State Water Board's rules, automatically reduces LA export by 70%. [more](#)

******GREEN LIFE** (From the SC National) – “We do not inherit the earth from our ancestors, we borrow it from our children.” Native American Proverb

- Can You Compost Shredded Paper? [See what Mr. Green has to say!](#)
- Read more green ideas on [The Green Life blog](#).

******YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE** – “If your actions inspire others to dream more, learn more, do more, and become more, you are a leader.” John Quincy Adams

- We ask all **ROLG members on Facebook** to "Like" our Facebook page. <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Range-of-Light-Group/464737966890277>
- **ROLG now has a donate button up and running on the website.** Tax deductible donations go to the ROLG Foundation account, non-deductible donations go directly to the ROLG as unrestricted funds. Check it out! More: Dick, 760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu.
- The **ROLG ExCom quarterly meetings** – usually Jan., Apr., Jul., Oct. are open to all members – next meeting, Apr. 22, 4pm. Send any items requiring formal action by the ExCom to Dick, 760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu at least four days before the meeting. Any non-action items may be brought to the meeting or submitted for the agenda.
- **Next deadline** for submissions to the Chapter newsletter, *Toiyabe Trails*, June 1. More: Dick, 760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu, or Lynne, lfoster@schat.net.

******FROM SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL** – “The clearest way into the universe is through a forest wilderness.” John Muir

- **David Scott, SC president:** monthly **Open House conference calls**. Call-in # 1-866-501-6174, conference code 455-0000-1892#. More: dave.scott@sierraclub.org
- Upcoming conference calls with the SC’s **executive director, Michael Brune**, michael.brune@sierraclub.org. Read [Michael Brune's blog](#) “Coming Clean.”

******VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES** – “The probability that we may fail in the struggle ought not to deter us from the support of a cause we believe to be just.” Abraham Lincoln

- **Outings Leaders Wanted:** Always room for additional leaders! Certification available. More: Joanne, 760-709-5050, jhphotos73@gmail.com.
- **Join Our Conservation Team and help save your favorite Sierra places!** More: Malcolm wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com; 760-924-5639.
- Join the team of people who make the Range of Light Group work – the **ROLG Executive Committee**. More: Dick, 760-709-5050, rhihn@skidmore.edu.

******VISIT OUR WEBSITE** – “...rose the mighty Sierra, miles in height, and so gloriously colored and so radiant, it seemed not clothed with light but wholly composed of it, like the wall of some celestial city.... Then it seemed to me that the Sierra should be called ... the Range of Light.” John Muir

- For **outings and other information**, ROLG website, <http://www.sierraclub.org/toiyabe/range-light> or <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Range-of-Light-Group/464737966890277> or <http://www.meetup.com/ROLG-SierraClub-Outings-Meetup/>