



Sierra

MAY MEETING

**Tuesday,
May 26**

7pm at the
**HoChunk
Three Rivers House
at 8th & Main**

Sierra Club members and
non-members all welcome
Wheelchair accessible

Muraviovka Park, a Russian Nature Reserve

**Presenter: Barb Thompson, West Salem School District
School Forest Coordinator**

Muraviovka Park for Sustainable Land Use was created in 1994—the first non-governmental nature reserve in Russia since the revolution. It's located along a terrace overlooking the floodplains of the Amur River, which forms the boundary between Russia and China in the far east. Consisting of 15,000 acres, its wetlands provide nesting habitat for two species of endangered cranes: the Red-Crowned and White-Naped. Oriental White Storks are also commonly seen at the park. Nearly 300 species of endangered or threatened birds call the park home during some part of the year.

Every summer since 2002 environmental-based English camps have been offered to local children. These camps are very popular with both teachers and kids. Prior to the camp a teacher workshop will be held, which is mostly attended by Russian English and science teachers. Teams of American teachers are trained each year to work with the Russian teachers and children. Lessons are hands-on and outdoors—quite a difference from the typical lessons in local schools.

Barb has been involved in this project since 1996 and has experienced the frustrations and exultations of trying to put together an educational program in another country. Last summer was her 14th trip to the park where she directed over 20 camps—some strictly environmental and some environmental-based English. Her PowerPoint presentation will detail the progress the park has made in one small area of the Russian Far East.



Coulee Region Transportation Study

There's still time to be heard! Please attend Public Involvement Meeting #2 of the Wisconsin DOT's Coulee Region Transportation Study. It will cover expected future conditions in the study area. There are two opportunities to attend the meeting:

- **Wednesday, May 13, 5 to 7 p.m.**
at La Crosse Central High School Cafeteria
- **Thursday, May 14, 5 to 7 pm.**
at Eagle Bluff Elementary School Gymnasium

Thank you to all who attended the first public meetings on March 11 and 12. The turnout was good and many written and oral comments were turned in supporting the City of La Crosse's progressive transportation vision. Please add these new meetings to your calendar and try to attend.

For more information, go to <http://www.wisconsin.gov/projects/swregion/couleeregion/index.htm>

Save
Tues., June 30 • 6pm
for our Summer
Potluck/Picnic!
Hosts: Rick & Julia Komperud
3703 Brook Lane, Onalaska,
608 783-7778
More details
to come next month.



Coulee Region Sierra Club

Maureen Kinney
620 South 23rd Street
La Crosse, WI 54601

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Sierra Club River Touring Canoe Trip

May 23-25 Bois Brule

Class I-II; Car Camp. Join us for three day trips on the Bois Brule River near Superior, WI. On Saturday, we'll paddle from County S to Highway 2. Sunday, we'll paddle from Pine Tree Landing to Highway 13, including a series of Class II rapids. On Monday, we'll paddle from Highway 13 to Lake Superior, with fairly constant Class I rapids. We'll learn about the work to protect this trout stream. Helmets required for rapids.

Camping is available at the DNR campground south of Brule WI in Douglas County. The trip leader will reserve as many sites as possible. This is a busy weekend so please share your site with fellow Sierrans. Trip leaders: Pat & Bobbie Wilson, La Crosse, 608-788-8831, 608-397-2531 (cell), pbwilson@centurytel.net and Kevin & Carol Olson, Baraboo, 608-356-8992, olsonfam44@centurytel.net

Spring Bird Walks in Myrick Park and Hixon Forest

The annual spring weekday morning bird walks have started this year. They begin at 6:30 a.m. and last until about 8 a.m., or whenever you want to leave.

Marsh bird walks: Tuesday Mornings, May 5, May 12—Meet at Myrick Center.

Hixon Forest bird walks: Thursday mornings, May 7, May 14. Meet at Lower Hixon Trail parking lot.



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Coulee Region Sierra Club

