

The Roadrunner

A bimonthly publication of the Kern-Kaweah Chapter of the Sierra Club — May/June 2007

Inch by inch? Not on your life!

Mile by mile, ever more miles are the reality.

CENTRAL VALLEY LANDS BEING EATEN UP BY DEVELOPERS.

IS THIS NECESSARY? IS THIS WISE?

What can you do? Become aware of what is happening!

SPRAWL HOUSING PLUS IN OUR CHAPTER AREA

Kern Cty: Tejon Industrial Complex, 1000 acres, valley floor (approved)

Tejon Mtn Village, 3000+ on 36,000 acres (proposed)

Tulare Cty: Yokohl Ranch Co. submits 10,000-home, 36,000-acre plan

**King Cty: Quay Valley Ranch: 50,000 homes, 42,000-seat motor speedway,
water park, resort hotels and a convention center**

HOPE???

Chapter's actions in BKSF area improve developments, recover \$\$

Kern county planners said NO to some proposed housing developments.

WHAT TO DO TO CURB THE SPREAD OF THIS UNWARRANTED SPRAWL?

Learn Basic Facts, Analyze:

Central Valley is one of the best areas in the country for producing the vegetables and fruits that come to our tables and tables around the world—good soil, benign all year around climate (usually), regulated water supply.

Central Valley has some of the worst air pollution in the country.

Question

Why are we allowing, even encouraging, developer after developer to come forward with plans to build hundreds and hundreds of houses as well as industrial transportation centers on incomparable valley lands and nearby mountain areas?

Answers

Money, Money, Money: Profits for developers, speculation, tax money for government

High cost of housing in established big cities on the coast

Cheaper land in our area

Feeling that smaller communities are safer

Little considered “side effects”

Long, long commutes for many workers
 Increased impacts on air quality from traffic
 Impact on water supplies, especially groundwater
 Need to build much connecting infrastructure and provide extensive, expensive services to isolated pockets of housing developments
 Pressure to build, expand more roads to deal with congestion, with costs on all taxpayers
 Dramatic negative impacts on total environment such as losing open space, destroying natural ecosystems
 Failure to require regulations to reduce impacts on natural resources (clean air, water, etc.)

Some general solutions?

Work to make cities more liveable—more parks, safety, develop public transportation
 Insure that unused lands in cities are fully developed
 Make proposed developments more compact, close to established cities
 Require rules that aid in reducing energy use, saving water, protecting natural environments

What can YOU do as an individual?

Join up with others in our groups to take political actions in our counties
 Begin or continue to monitor proposals, expressing opinions and ideas to our city and county officials
 Become very familiar with our counties’ general plans, making sure that proposals are in sync with those plans, and ask for changes in the plans if they do not protect our land from unbridled sprawl
 Cooperate with other groups who share the same concerns as we have, especially in terms of cumulative impact that spreads beyond county lines
 Be ready to dialogue with developers AND be ready to litigate if we have to do that

For your convenience, here are the listings of the present county officials whose votes will decide the fates of projects in your/our areas. Establish contact with these persons in as many ways as you can.

KERN COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Jon McQuiston, District 1; Don Maben, Chairman, District 2; Mike Maggard, District 3;
 Ray Watson, District 4 (this is the district the Kern County projects are in); Michael J. Rubio, District 5
 Send correspondence to Clerk of the Board, 1115 Truxtun Avenue, 5th Floor Bakersfield, CA 93301.

LOS ANGELES COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS,

The address below applies to all supervisors. Just note that the room numbers are different.
 Gloria Molina, 1st District 213.974.4111; Yvonne B. Burke, 2nd District 213.974.2222;
 Zev Yaroslavsky, 3rd District 213. 974.3333; Don Knabe, 4th District 213.974.4444;
 Michael D. Antonovich, 5th District 213.974.5555
 Att. Bd of Sup./ Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration, 500 West Temple St, Los Angeles, CA 90012.
Antonovich most influential re: Centennial, Gorman Ranch as proposed developments are in his district.

TULARE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Allen Ishida, District One; Connie Conway, District Two;
 Phillip Cox, District Three; Steve Worthley, District Four; Mike Ennis, District Five
 Address 2800 West Burrel Avenue, Visalia, CA 93291

KINGS COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

Joe Neves, District 1; Jon Rachford, District 2 ; Tony Oliveira, District 3; Tony Barba, District 4;
 Alene Taylor, District 5 [Send mail to: 1400 West Lacey Blvd, Hanford, CA 93230](mailto:1400WestLaceyBlvd@hanfordca.gov)

KERN KAWEAH ROUND-UP

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY IF YOU PLAN TO PARTICIPATE IN SIERRA CLUB HIKES: Everyone is welcome, Sierra Club members and non-members, to join in any of the outdoor activities. Requirements: You must be in condition for type of hike, equipped appropriately for the activity, and prepared to sign a Sierra Club release from liability. You must be willing to follow leader's directions. Be sure to bring any personal medicines you might need. Customary appropriate equipment includes good hiking shoes, plenty of water, snack, sunglasses, suntan lotion, layered clothing. Long pants recommended. Unprepared for the prospective hike? It will be a no-go for you. Please let the leader know ahead of time that you are intending to participate. As unexpected change of plans may be necessary, it is *recommended that YOU call the hike leader the night before to assure that the hike is still going to happen.*

Buena Vista Group More info? Call Donnel Lester, 661.831.6784 or Isabel at 661.246.6195

Buena Vista Group monthly program meetings are held on the first Saturday of each month, 8:30 AM at the Hill House, 700 Truxtun Ave. Breakfast is optional and costs about \$7.

Tuesday Conditioning Hikes. 7 PM, 4–5 miles. Corner of Highways 178 & 184. Gordon 661.872.2432 or Larry 661.873.8107.

May 5 (Sat) Brenda Turner will be our presenter. She is from San Joaquin Valley Air Pollution Control District. We will post additional info on our website.

May 19, June 19 (Sat) Adopt-a-Highway Cleanup. 9 AM. We meet at the Monte Carlo Club parking lot at xing of Hwy 119, Old River Road. Bring water, gloves, hat. 1½ hr. More info 661.831.6784.

June 2 (Sat) “Who Killed the Electric Car?” (movie) More info? contact Isabel at 661.246.6195.

Publicity person needed who can give 2–3 hours monthly to contact local newspapers, radio and TV stations, etc. regarding upcoming Sierra Club events. **Webmaster** sought to maintain the Buena Vista Group website. **Battery Recycling at BVG Meetings** – bring us your old batteries, lithium ion, nickel metal hydride, NiCad, small sealed lead-acid batteries and from cordless & cell phones, power tools, laptops, etc. No car batteries, please.

Condor Group Hikes? Call Ldr. Dale Chitwood, 661.242.1076. Meets Pine Mountain Club. More info? 661.242.0432 or email: jmal@frazmtn.com

May 12 (Sat) Noon to 4 PM **NATURE FEST.** FREE! Tracks, butterflies, birds, wildflowers, condor tracking, bears, Smokey, llamas and more will be featured in booths and activities designed to help all comers, young and old, become more knowledgeable about the natural world. Fest to be held on the Tait Ranch (Turn off I-5 at Frazier Park Exit, go west on Fraz Mtn. Road. Look for a Fishing Pond sign on your left. Turn in. Blinking red light? You have gone too far.) More info? call 661.242.0432

May 26 (Sat) 8 AM. Tecuya Canyon. Wind Wolves Preserve. Hike along the Tecuya Creek into one of the most scenic canyons in the Preserve. View some of restoration efforts of West Fire damage. Wear good hiking shoes (wet feet a strong possibility; we will cross the creek many times during the course of the hike). Bring lots of drinking water and a snack. Meet at the PMC tennis courts at 8 AM. Out of the area? Meet at the Laval Rd. Starbucks, off I-5 at 9 AM.

You Must Make Reservation Prior To THURSDAY MAY 24 If You Wish To Participate. Wind Wolves Preserve requires a participant count before the hike. NUMBERS LIMITED. Call Ldr. Dale Chitwood, 661.242.1076, to make reservations.

June 2 (sat) Connecting Links, Sierras to the Coast. Can they be protected? Presented by Ileene Anderson, CBD ecologist. 6 PM potluck, 7 PM program. Pool Pavilion Room, PMC Clubhouse.

June 23 (Sat) Three Falls and Lily Meadows. Meet at PMC 8 AM or intersection of Cuddy Valley and Lockwood Valley Roads, 8:30 AM. A wonderful hike with sugar pines, lots of birds, and more as we leave Lockwood Valley floor and ascend toward Mt. Pinos. To Three Falls site (there may be no water) flatlands mainly, 1½-hr walk. Add another 1½-hr walk into Chumash Wilderness on steeper trail before we turn around. Usual garb, gear needed. Call Ldr. Dale Chitwood, 661.242.1076, to sign on.

Kaweah Group *More info?* call Pam, 559.784.4643 or Diane, 559.781.8897.

June 9 (Sat) Mark your calendars now. Potluck Time. Come join us at Zalud Park in Porterville for a great get-together. Time: 4 PM plus. Please bring a dish to share. Call Pam for further info.

Mineral King Group. *More info?* Call Chair Kim Loeb, 559.798.1764. Please visit <http://mineralking.sierraclub.org> for more info on group events and activities.

May 18 (Fri) 6:00 PM. **Dinner Social at the Wildflower Café, 121 South “E” St., Exeter.** Please RSVP Bev at 559.732.3785 or garciamachine@comcast.net by noon the day of the social.

May 19 (Sat) **Outing – Hike to Mist Falls in Kings Canyon.** This is a strenuous 8 mile hike. Call LDR Joanne Dudley at 559.733.2078 or 559.906.6189 for details.

May 22 (Tue) 5:30 PM **ExCom Meeting.** All members are welcome. Please contact Bev at 559.732.3785 or garciamachine@comcast.net to RSVP and for meeting location.

June 9 (Sat) **Hike in Sequoia Park.** We will hike from Marble Fork Bridge on the Crystal Cave Road to Sunset Rock in Giant Forest of Sequoia National Park. This is an approximately 6 mile moderate hike. Call Ldr Joanne Dudley at 559.733.2078 or 559.906.6189 for details.

June 23 (Sat) 10:30 AM **Social at Anne Lang’s Emporium, 41651 Sierra Dr. Three Rivers.** Please RSVP Bev at 559.732.3785 or garciamachine@comcast.net.

June 26 (Tue) 5:30 PM **ExCom Meeting.** All members are welcome. Please contact Bev at 559.732.3785 or garciamachine@comcast.net to RSVP and for meeting location.

Owens Peak Group *For further information call Dennis Burge, Chair 760.375.7967 Jim Nichols, Hikes 760.375.8161 email: dennis93555@yahoo.com* Maturango Museum, Ridgecrest

May 19 (Sat) Owens Peak (Highpoint at the NW end of Indian Wells Canyon, W of Inyokern, 8453 ft, 3000 ft elevation gain, 6 mi RT) We will climb our namesake peak from Indian Wells Canyon via the use trail. Some of us climb this peak as a workout peak, but the trail is a bit tricky and this is a chance for all our climbers to become acquainted with the vagaries of the route. The sandy down route, Rockwell's shortcut, is even harder to find and this is your chance to learn the whole circuit. This is a short, steep hike, and the route is rocky in a few places. This will be a moderate hike due to altitude gain and terrain. Meet Sat, May 19 at 7:30 AM at the Ridgecrest Cinema parking lot. Call Dennis Burge at 760.375.7967 or Jim Nichols at 760.375.8161 for more info.

Jun 23 (Sat) Trail Peak (S of Horseshoe Meadows at the end of the Cottonwood road SW of Lone Pine, 11623 ft, 1700 ft elevation gain, 5.3 mi RT) This is a fine peak with great views of the Kern Plateau to the S and of the Cottonwood area and Langley to the N. Climbing Trail Peak gives us our first workout at altitude for the summer. We will ascend the easy N ridge, and descend the W ridge to Poison Meadow and thence back. By closing with the route of a hike from Poison Meadow to Cottonwood Pass of a few years back, we add another sector to our continuing project of circumnavigating Horseshoe Meadows. Although the hike is not too long, this will be a moderate hike due to the altitude. Meet Jun 23 at 7:30 AM at the Ridgecrest Cinema parking lot. For more info, call Dennis Burge at 760 375.7967 or Jim Nichols at 760.375.8161.

KERN KAWEAH CHAPTER OFFICERS for 2007:

Chair: Arthur Unger (Bksf), 661.323.5569. *Vice-chair:* Gordon Nipp (Bksf), 661.872.2432. *Secretary:* Georgette Theotig (Tehachapi), 661.822.4371. *Treasurer:* Lorraine Unger (Bksf) 661.323.5569. Jan de Leeuw (PMC) 661.245.1725. Richard Garcia (Min King), 559.592.9865. Mary Ann Lockhart (PMC), 661.242.0432. Ara Marderosian (Kernville), 760.378.4574,

Meetings: All Sierra Club members welcome to attend. Future meeting date: *June 16 (Sat)*. Call 661.323.5569 or e-mail alunger@juno.com to check for location.

Midgebuzzings

WHEN I WAS A child our lawn consisted mostly of clover. In summer a carpet of scattered white blossoms was my playground, but also a favorite haunt for bees. Like all children in the neighborhood I was barefoot most of the time. I would tiptoe with great care, determined not to be stung again. But missteps resulted in howling and tears and several hours with my foot in a bowl of warm water and Epsom salts. Even so, I never felt hostility for the little creatures and continued to regard them with awe and respect.

One winter endless rain forced all the children to amuse themselves indoors for many weeks. Cabin fever plagued us and we longed for the sun. On the first bright day I was delirious with joy, and set out in high spirits for my piano lesson across town. White clouds drifted overhead, and mustard, seeming to have sprung up over night, was in full bloom. About half way on my walk, swaying on its stem above a large rain puddle and mirrored in it, a mustard blossom was being plundered by a bee as greedy for nectar as I was for light. Suddenly the whole meaning of spring and the contrast of seasons came clear to me. I have never forgotten the physical shock of pleasure and gratitude.

In 1978, after a hurricane wind in December and flooding rains in January and February, we had the wildflower display of the century. One morning I drove with my German shepherd up Rancheria Road to take it all in. Flowers were as gloriously abundant as they must have been when the first settlers found this valley. Since no one else was there, we ignored a "No Trespassing" sign and ducked under a fence to walk a blossom-lined trail to a place far from the road where we sat down to revel in the excess. After a little while we heard a distant noise, very like an old truck. It grew louder. The shepherd stood up, alert and ready. Oh dear! Trespassing and discovered! I was composing a defense when I looked up to see a dark and voluminous form slowly approaching us. The sound increased to a roar. It was bees! They passed over our heads and on until they were out of sight, drawing the last of the sound after them.

A week ago when my orange trees were in full bloom and the air was redolent with incomparable sweetness, I stood listening to such a commotion, softer, but no less intense. As in the "bee-loud glade" made famous by Yeats, hundreds of bees were assisting in a spring rite of death and resurrection. White petals of spent blossoms drifted to the ground, jostled by the fervor, and bright green life shone out in their place.

Now the bees are dying. Like polar bears, they are swimming away in an ocean of air which is consuming them in darkness and mystery. This is a new world in which, unless we find a solution to the terrible loss, children may grow up with no memory of bees and may have to find a way to live without the fruits of their labor. Bless those children, and may they thrive. But I would not trade my memories of earth for theirs.

Ann Williams

GREAT NEWS from the COURTS *It seems incredible*

NO NO TO MOUNTAINTOP REMOVALS. A federal judge in West Virginia ruled that permits issued by the Army Corps of Engineers for four mountaintop removal mines in that state violate the federal Clean Water Act. The ruling could have an impact on dozens of pending permits throughout Appalachia. After years of strip mining finally coming to an end in the 50s, the Bushies allowed this monstrous destruction on tops of the mountains compounded by letting all the rubble run into the streams. A truly reprehensible act of our government, now challenged.

BUSHIES MUST FOLLOW THE AIR RULES. Supreme Court says global warming emissions must be controlled by EPA and emissions from motor vehicles are pollutants. Thus the Bush administration **MUST** follow the Clean Air Act and regulate CO2 emissions from cars, etc. EPA had argued that it had no authority to do so under the Clean Air Act, and that even if it did, such regulation would run afoul of other administration plans to combat climate change. The Supreme Court rejected those arguments. The administration says it's "studying" the ruling (in order to get around it?). Keep your fingers crossed.

BUSHIES PRUNED ONCE MORE. Management Forest Plans must be prepared for public lands. National Forest rules can't be arbitrarily discarded by Forest administrators when the laws say otherwise.

NO NO FISHY ACTION IN REGARDS TO FISH. Many scientists objected strongly to the attempts of the Federal Administration to rewrite rules dealing with protection of salmon in the northwest. The courts said no no, Bushies, you can't do that! Another great win.

A BIT OF A TURNABOUT. Caltrans, long regarded as a desecrator of the land, has become a fellow user of California environmental laws. One such law says that developers must mitigate impact of their projects on traffic. Caltrans says mitigation includes providing more money for freeways and other congestion relief projects. Hmm.

MAYBE THE RESULT WILL BE NEW LEGISLATION? Leadfree ammunition will be required by Tejon Ranch for participants in their hunting program—at last. State is now considering legislation requiring leadfree ammunition for all hunting in the state.

BUT WE MUST CONTINUE TO BE ALERT—

The efforts to reduce or eliminate the Endangered Species Act are still on the front burner.

Attempts will continue to be made to avoid allowing public input on projects with environmental impact.

Attempts to continue to allow logging in Sequoia Monument need ceaseless monitoring.

OTHER SIERRA EVENTS of interest

Sat May 5 Traditional Wind Hike. A double-whammy experience as you will have the opportunity to walk part of the Pacific Crest Trail enjoying fantastic views over the Mojave and viewing a portion of the 3500 wind turbines in the Tehachapi Pass. Approx 6 miles in length, a car ferry takes you back to the starting point. Call Tony Swan at 661.363.5106 or Ldr. Gordon Nipp 661.872.2432 for more details.

Aug 8 (Wed) – Aug 14 (Tue). Buena Vista Group Special Week Long Sierra Backpack Dusy Basin Base Camp. Mules will carry our packs to and from lower Dusy Basin. In between, we will day hike to lakes and peaks and enjoy the flowers. Trip size limited to 10 qualified participants. Leaders: Gordon & Eva Nipp, 661.872.2432, gnipp@att.net.

Sierra Club Desert Committee Hikes

May 19–20 (Sat–Sun) Lone Pine Lake, Alabama Hill & Manzanar. Call Jean Noud, 714.841.8798, for more information.

May 26–28 (Sat–Mon) Bird Spring Pass – Service And Hike: Meet at 6 PM Saturday east of Ridgecrest and south of Lake Isabella.

June 29–July 2 (Fri–Mon) 8th Annual Ruby Mtns Wilderness Area Rendezvous, Car-Camp: Call Allen Tatomer, allentatomer@hotmail.com, 925.439.0434.

Cruising

July 20–23, August 25–29, Sept 15–19. Visit the Channel Islands by ship. Enjoy cruise, island explorations, life at sea and support Sierra Club at the same time. More info? Call Joan Holtz, 626.443.0706, jholtz@aol.com

CALIFORNIA OFF-HIGHWAY VEHICLE (OHV) PROGRAM

EXPIRES JANUARY 1, 2008. REVISIONS ON THE WAY

IF WE DON'T SPEAK UP, THE RESULTS WILL BE REPULSIVE REVISIONS.

California's wilderness and wildlife are increasingly threatened by unmanaged off-road vehicle damage. Our state's OHV program pays for important law enforcement and habitat restoration work to protect California's natural splendor from illegal and inappropriate off-road vehicle use.

The State OHV program is set to expire on January 1, 2008. Off-road vehicle industry groups are working to undermine environmental programs that prevent and repair off-road vehicle damage to California's wildlife habitat, waterways and wilderness.

This year, your state legislators will cast critical votes in regard to OHV use on California's public lands. We need local residents to express support for protecting California's wilderness and wildlife.

CONTACT YOUR REPS TO TELL THEM THAT OUR LANDS NEED PROTECTION

More Places To Go

May 5 (Sat) Carrizo Plain Monument meeting. The Carrizo Plain National Monument recently made news when the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors and Taft City Council voted against naming it a world heritage site. Further discussion of the management plan for the monument is to be held at the California Valley Community Services District building on Soda Lake Road. The center is located approximately three miles south of Highway 58 adjacent to the California Valley Fire Station 42.

May 5 (Sat) Tour of selected Day Fire burned areas south of Lockwood Valley Road. Day Fire was the huge fire that burned for a month south of Frazier Park area in September 2006. Tour leaves at 10 AM, approx. four hours in length. Call Chuchupate Ranger Station, 661.245.3731 for more details, register for trip.

May 6th (Sun) and later. California Native Plant Society tours. Visit various special flower spots of interest, including three trips to Horse Meadow at different times of the summer to view the flowers that appear at different altitudes at different times of the summer season.

E-mail Lucy Clark at lucyg391@gmail.com for more details.

May 12 (Sat) Volunteer Work Party at Wind Wolves Preserve. Help to plant oaks. *Time* 9 AM. You need to bring your lunch, a water bottle to keep hydrated, leather work gloves, sturdy boots, a good hat, and layered clothing. If you care to spend the night, you will be able to join a Sunday tour of the Preserve. Call 661.858.1115 for more information as to location, etc.

July 12 to 15 (Thu-Sun) National Lepidopterists Society of America will be holding its annual meeting in Bakersfield. There *may* a hike up on Mt. Pinos during this occasion. More details later.

SPECIAL THANKS TO ALL OF YOU WHO RESPONDED TO THE MARCH APPEAL.

YOUR GENEROSITY IS TRULY APPRECIATED.

The use of these funds is always carefully considered in terms of the goals of the Sierra Club: to explore, to enjoy and protect the wild places of the earth, to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources, to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment . . ."

Read the Roadrunner and more—on the web!

Put Sierra Club Home Page into your search engine.
Follow the directions from there.
Easy as pie, really it is!

Want to give up paper copy of Roadrunner?

Contact Art Unger at alunger@juno.com

Need to change your address for Sierra Club publications?

Call 415.977.5653 and listen to menu.

We are not able to do it locally. Good luck!

Want to contact Roadrunner editor?

Mary Ann Lockhart,

jmal@frazmtn.com or 661.242.0432

The Roadrunner is printed on 100% recycled paper.

Yes, I want to join the Sierra Club. Check enclosed.

Name _____

City _____ State _____

Zip _____

Indicate one:

Intro \$25 _____ Sing \$39 _____ Joint \$47 _____

Send to Sierra Club, PO 52968, Boulder, CO 80322

F94Q W 6000-1

Endangered Species Day

May 18th

Celebrate success in
endangered species
protection and recovery!



We owe you.



Who? All your fellow Sierra Club members who do so much to unite members of the Kern-Kaweah Chapter through the Roadrunner.

Here they are—

Reporters who regularly turn in the news of their Groups

Buena Vista Gp., Isabel Stierle; *Condor Gp.*, Dale Chitwood; *Kaweah Gp.*, Pam Clark;

Mineral King Gp., Kim Loeb; *Owens Peak Gp.*, Dennis Burge, Jim Nichols

Reporters who write regularly on special topics

Carla Cloer, Harry Love, Ara Marderosian, Art and Lorraine Unger, Ann Williams, Harold Wood

On the Web

Harold Wood, webmaster for the Kern-Kaweah Chapter website

For your Mailboxes

Eva Nipp, who heads up the group (and sometimes has done it all herself) which meets to collect the printed copies of the RR from the printer (about 1600 copies), put the addresses on each individual copy (the same 1600 copies) and finally takes the load (again 1600 copies) to the post office.

We thank you all for your splendid work, great effort, and never-failing support that makes The Roadrunner a reality. All you do is truly appreciated by us all.

California State Legislative Priorities

Here is the latest from our state staff in regards to action in the legislature at this time (Spring, 2007). Read over carefully, feel free to contact your representatives in regards to these issues. For more basic information contact Annie Pham <pham@SIERRACLUB-SAC.ORG>.our new legislative aide in Sacramento.

Support:

AB 70 (Jones) Would put flood liability on state and local public entities that participate in the design, construction, operation, or maintenance of a flood control project.

AB 224 (Wolk) Would enact the Climate Change and Water Resource Protection Act of 2007 which will make California better prepared for the effects of climate change on the state's water supply.

AB 233 (Jones) Would improve enforcement of protections against toxic diesel exhaust.

AB 1109 (Huffman) Would implement a plan to substantially increase the energy efficiency of lighting products, while reducing toxic and other pollution resulting from electricity generation.

AB 1193 (Ruskin) Would establish a shared responsibility program for recycling of mercury thermostats.

AB 1459 (Levine) Would prohibit motels/hotels in the coastal zone to be converted into timeshares or condominiums.

SB 207 (Padilla) Would establish the Outdoor Education and Recreation Program in the Department of Parks and Recreation that would award grants to increase access to outdoor experiences for at-risk and underserved populations.

SB 466 (Steinberg) Would enact mitigation requirements for the conversion of forestland to other uses.

Oppose:

AB 719 (Devore) Would create the California Zero Carbon Dioxide Emission Electrical Generation Act of 2007 that prohibits land use in the state for nuclear fission thermal power plants or, where applicable, the plants from being certified by the State Energy Resources Conservation and Development Commission.

SB 59 (Cogdill) Would put a \$3.95 billion bond act before the voters in order to fund two new dams.

SB 303 (Ducheny) Would requires cities and counties to zone 10 years of housing at once and would limit the ability to deny any housing project and would limit the impact of the use of the California Environmental Quality Act.

SB 670 (Correa) Would prohibit the use of fees on sales of homes; these fees are used to fund preservation of habitat, open space, farmland, and affordable housing.