



The Sequoia

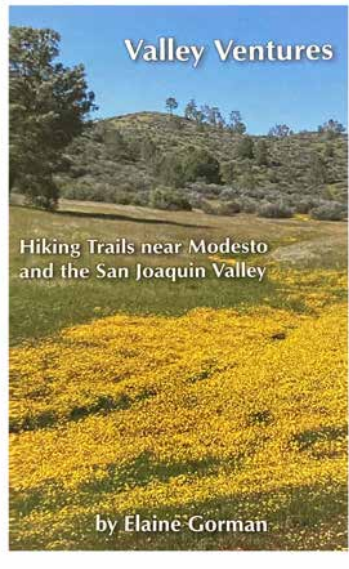
Learn More About Hiking Trails in the San Joaquin Valley & Sierra Foothills with Author Elaine Gorman Oct 22 at the Library

INSIDE

GIANT FOREST PROJECT
MOVES AHEAD

NATIONAL CONSERVATION
POLICIES TARGETED

2026 CLUB CALENDAR SALE



Cover of Valley Ventures, Hiking Trails Near Modesto and the San Joaquin Valley by Elaine Gorman

right: author Elaine Gorman

far right: West Side Trail near Tuolumne City

JOIN US AT 7PM WED, OCT. 22ND at the Sonora Library to welcome author, teacher, and naturalist Elaine Gorman as she shares images and excerpts from her book; *Valley Ventures – Hiking Trails Near Modesto and the San Joaquin Valley*.

Elaine taught science at Mark Twain Jr. High School and Roosevelt Jr. High School in Modesto, retiring in 2009. She has been a Yokuts Group Sierra Club outings leader for over 30 years, and is a Certified California Naturalist. She is an avid hiker and backpacker, and spends as much time as possible in the Sierra Nevada, Sierra foothills, Bay Area, and the San Joaquin Valley, exploring the wilderness and nature with her hiking pals.

VALLEY VENTURES offers 20 hikes that are easily accessible from Stanislaus and San Joaquin counties in the San Joaquin Valley of California. The narrative hike descriptions include natural and cultural history, mileage, special attractions, directions/drive time, and hiking tips. All hikes are within a two-hour driving range of the Modesto, and include hikes in the San Joaquin Valley, the foothills, and eastern Bay Area. The book is available for sale at the Local Collective in Sonora, Bookish in Modesto, the McHenry Museum, the Great Valley Museum, and from the author. You may contact Elaine at vevado@yahoo.com.

7pm Wednesday, October 22nd at the Sonora Library, 480 Greenley Rd.

Space is limited. Come early for best seating. Doors open at 6:30pm



Giant Forest Service MAC Project Moves a Step Closer to Approval



The Tuolumne Group provided comments that generally supported the consensus agreements for the project that were developed over years of negotiations by diverse stakeholders.

Think about a forest area that covers 200 square miles. That is the amount of national forest that is currently planned for thinning logging treatments in the huge MAC Project. Located on the Calaveras District of the Stanislaus Forest and the Amador District of the Eldorado National Forest, the 250,000-acre project area is slated to have logging, fuel breaks, mastication of brush and small trees, and other actions approved in order to reduce wildfire risk. The project proposes the highest amount of treatments that have ever been proposed in a single plan.

The Tuolumne Group provided comments that generally supported the consensus agreements for the project that were developed over years of negotiations by diverse stakeholders in the Amador Calaveras Consensus Group (ACCG). The Central Sierra Environmental Resource Center, timber interests, water agencies, businesses, Fire Safe Council representatives, and others spent countless meetings coming to agreement with the Forest Service over how the giant project should be designed.

In mid-September the Forest Service released the proposed action for the Project, which mostly sticks with the ACCG consensus agreements to protect large trees, keep logging out of roadless areas, minimize herbicide use, and allow prescribed fire throughout the project area. There may be an additional public comment period for the MAC Project in late October or November, and a decision on the plan may be finalized near the end of the year or early in 2026.

Our Group Needs Your Financial Support

Our group's management committee (ExCom) donates their time working together to keep the local Sierra Club functioning. But the Tuolumne Group still needs enough funds each year to pay for basic expenses. Most of Sierra Club membership dues now go to the national and chapter level.

This includes printing and mailing this newsletter (so that we can communicate about local activities and issues), our bulk mailing permit, website hosting, public presentations and program expenses, and other related costs.

Rather than ask our members to hold a yard sale, or to organize a raffle that depends upon getting donated prizes, or to sell candy bars at

events to raise money, we are simply asking for a donation. Your contributions can help defray our basic costs of keeping the local Sierra Club group active. Go to sierratuolumne.org/donate

Please consider making a one-time donation (any amount is appreciated).

**By sending a check made out to:
Tuolumne Group of the Sierra Club**

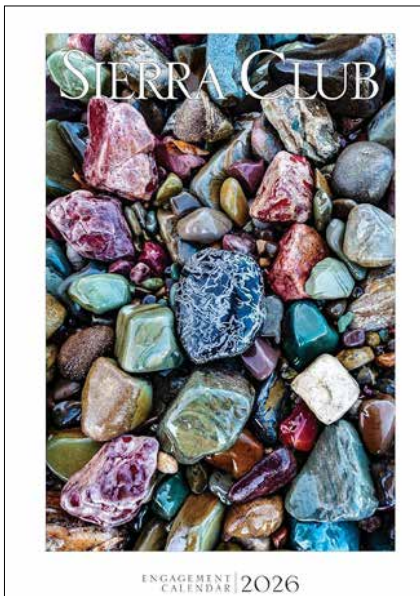
Mail to:

**Tuolumne Group – Sierra Club
C/O P.O. Box 947
Twain Harte, CA 95383**

Please do not send annual membership renewals to this address. To renew your membership in the Sierra Club, visit the NATIONAL Sierra Club membership renewal page.

2026 Club Calendars Available Now

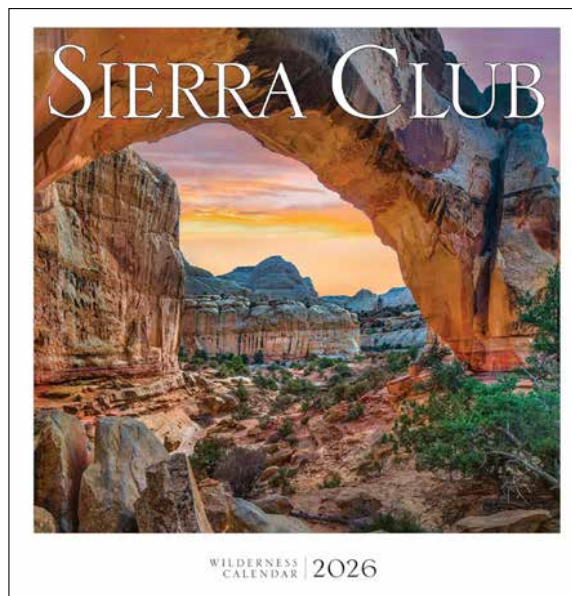
The Perfect Holiday Gift - Calendar Sales Help to Support Our Group



2026 Engagement Calendar - \$20

2026 Sierra Club Calendars are available for purchase again this year. Our Tuolumne group directly benefits from the sale of these calendars because we get to keep 60% of the sale price!

Loaded with the best nature photography, Sierra Club calendars are both beautiful and functional. They really make great and affordable holiday gifts.



2026 Wall Calendar - \$19

To purchase calendars email Jennie Moiso at johnjen47@hotmail.com, or call 209-533-9417.

In Groveland, you can email Bob Asquith at bobasquith@gmail.com. We can mail your calendars, or arrange to drop them off in person. Calendars will also be for sale at our Oct. 22 event at the Sonora Library. *Thanks for helping to support our Tuolumne Group.*



National Level Conservation Policies Continue to Be Targeted

In addition to the plan by the new Administration to throw out the Roadless Rule that has protected wild, roadless areas on national forest lands for the past 25 years, there are numerous other current threats to national environmental policies. On federal lands, the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) has required agencies to evaluate whether projects would cause significant harm to resources. Now there are Administration plans to weaken that policy and limit public involvement in federal projects.

Many other actions are underway to eliminate policies that were adopted under previous administrations to attempt to slow or reverse climate change. Incentives to promote solar or electric vehicles are being halted and oil and gas exploration is ramping up.

To voice your concern about these threats to our environment go online to: sierraclub.org/take-action



**SIERRA
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TUOLUMNE GROUP

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**SIERRA
CLUB**
TUOLUMNE GROUP

The Tuolumne Group Executive Committee meets by Zoom eight times each year. For information on how to participate in the next ExCom meeting, email membership chair Elaine Hagen at elainehagen@att.net

Secretary-Treasurer

Joanne Mccullough, californiacountrymcc@gmail.com

Outings Keith Martin, keithwmartin@sbcglobal.net

Chapter Delegate Keith Martin, keithwmartin@sbcglobal.net

Membership Elaine Hagen, elainehagen@att.net

News Editor Joe David, jd@daviddesign.com

We welcome your input and feedback.

NOTES & UPDATES

CONNECT WITH YOUR SIERRA CLUB TUOLUMNE GROUP

Want to put your support for the environment into action?

Consider joining our Executive Committee. Have a great idea for a local Sierra Club presentation? There are many ways to engage with our group. Interested members are invited to attend one of our ExCom meetings. Contact Membership Chair, Elaine Hagen at elainehagen@att.net.

INTERESTED IN HIKING TRAILS IN THE VALLEY AND FOOTHILLS? ATTEND OUR NEXT LIBRARY PRESENTATION OCTOBER 22

Tuolumne Sierra Club will host author, naturalist and accomplished hiker Elaine Gorman for a presentation on Wednesday evening, October 22nd at 7pm at the Sonora Library. - Come early for best seats! See page 1 for details.

RATHER RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER VIA EMAIL?

If you would like to receive this newsletter via email either instead of, or in addition to our printed edition, email your request to mail@sierratuolumne.org

GROUP ENJOYS AWESOME RAFTING HISTORY PRESENTATION

If you were lucky enough to attend our September presentation at the library you learned the unique story of the beginnings of California rafting. If not, you can still purchase Tyler Childress' award winning biography; *Bail! Bail! - Bryce Whitmore and the Birth of Whitewater Rafting* online at www.tychildress.com

