



# THE RIVER EXCHANGE NEWS

NEWS AND INFORMATION ABOUT THE UPPER SACRAMENTO RIVER WATERSHED AND THE PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR IT

VOL. 15, NO. 2, FALL 2011

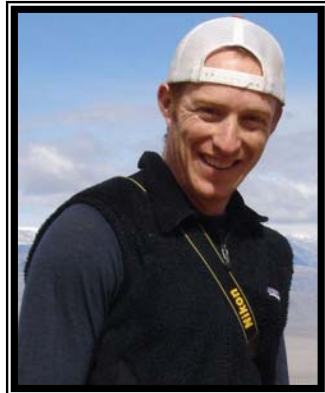
## INTRODUCING NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR DAN OLSTEIN

Dear Friend,

As the newly-appointed Executive Director, I am incredibly grateful to have the opportunity to lead the River Exchange and work closely with our dedicated staff and Board members.

For most of the past 12 years I have worked for The Nature Conservancy in Florida, North Carolina, and California. The opportunity to be part of an organization that is respected for its collaborative approach to promoting healthy watersheds was an opportunity I could not pass up. This is an exciting time for our organization as we complete some big projects and begin new ones.

In Mt. Shasta, City Park staff have put the final touches on improvements to the Sacramento River Headwaters site. This project has restored the riparian area, added additional interpretive materials, and provides greater access, allowing more people to learn about this area's unique natural resources.



As you will read inside, our Board of Directors adopted the organization's new Vision 2020 Strategic Plan. I am deeply impressed with the thoughtfulness and effort with which this plan was developed and eagerly embrace the challenge of working with our partners to make this Vision a reality.

Looking ahead, we are embarking on an ambitious project to develop an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan for the Upper Sacramento River Region. The River Exchange will lead this two-year effort that will foster discussion among stakeholders and incorporate differing perspectives from across the region to identify opportunities for joint effort in managing our precious water resources. Development of an IRWM Plan, funded by the State, opens the door to bring financial resources from outside the area to implement projects locally (read more inside about the next steps in the IRWM process).

I am deeply appreciative of the Board and staff, and especially outgoing ED, Dea Knox, for making my transition as smooth as possible. Dea has left a lasting impact on the organization through her dedication and service. I wish Dea all the best in her future endeavors.

Lastly, I want to thank all who have welcomed me and my wife, Megan, to the community. I look forward to meeting many more of you soon.

With thanks for all of your support, Dan

### FAREWELL TO DEA KNOX

After serving as our brave Executive Director for the past year, Dea Knox left the River Exchange in October. We will miss her dearly, but wish her well as she takes on new opportunities. Dea's efforts with the River Exchange as a volunteer, Board member, Project Director and Executive Director since 2007 has made a large impact on several projects. The list of programs and projects below was initiated or completed during her time with us:

- Springs Mapping of the Upper McCloud Watershed: Inventory, status, and Opportunities for Restoration (funded by Bella Vista Foundation)
- Sacramento Headwaters Restoration and Trail Project (funded by the California Natural Resources Agency River Park ways Grant Program)
- Managed development of the River Exchange's Vision 2020 Strategic Plan
- Oversaw completion of the Castle Crags Wilderness Recreation Inventory (funded by the National Forest Foundation)
- Co-authored Integrated Regional Water Management Planning grant and initiated planning process (funded by the California Dept. of Water Resources)

**Our Mission Statement:** Promoting Healthy Watersheds Through Community Involvement in Stewardship, Restoration and Education



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# STATE OF THE WATERSHED

## BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT: PHIL DETRICH

We are delighted to introduce Board member Phil Detrich. Phil joined our Board of Directors in June 2011, after retiring from his 25-year career as a wild-life biologist.

Early in his career, he researched birds of prey on Shasta Lake and in the forests of the Mt. Shasta region. During the 1990s, he led the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (USFWS) Forest Species program in California, and helped complete the public acquisition of several thousand acres of privately-owned old-growth redwood groves in Humboldt Co. From 2001 until 2010, he supervised the USFWS office in Yreka, CA, negotiating on Klamath River hydroelectric dam relicensing, irrigation deliveries, and salmon harvest.



Phil has lived in Mt. Shasta for 15 years, and enjoys birding, rafting, and fly-fishing. His enthusiasm and experience have already had a tremendous positive impact on the River Exchange, and we couldn't be happier to have him join us. Welcome aboard Phil!

## A MESSAGE FROM RENE HENERY

With respect and deep appreciation, I wanted to share the news of my resignation as Research Director with the River Exchange. As some of you may be aware, last year the opportunity for my wife Tatiana to pursue graduate education inspired us to relocate to the Bay Area. For me, the move offered the potential to re-engage with California's complex water dynamics from a new perspective, framed by the landscape of the central portion of our state. With this in mind, when I was recently offered the opportunity to join Trout Unlimited as coordinator of their CA Science Program, including assuming a role as a lead fish ecologist on the Technical Advisory Committee for the San Joaquin River Restoration, I accepted it enthusiastically.

I am grateful for my time with REX and all of the opportunities it afforded me to learn, grow, connect with people, and be of service to the watersheds and communities in the greater Mt. Shasta region. Supported by a new strategic plan, and at the outset of their role as lead agency in the Upper Sacramento Region Integrated Regional Watershed Management Process, this is an exciting time for REX.

I look forward to watching REX's work expand and flourish as they continue facilitating partnerships, building trust, and enabling collaborative stewardship towards healthier watersheds. Should life lead me back to Siskiyou County, I hope to re-connect with REX. For the time being, I support REX as a member, collaborator, and friend from our new outpost in Berkeley.

## RIVER EXCHANGE VISION 2020 STRATEGIC PLAN ADOPTED

After over a year of hard work visioning the future of the organization, the River Exchange Board of Directors voted to adopt the new **Vision 2020 Strategic Plan in June**. The plan outlines the Mission and Purpose that will guide the organization through the next decade, as well as strategic goals in support of that mission and the specific objectives necessary to achieve them.

In the course of developing the plan, we collected input and feedback from our membership and community, as well as our Board and staff, synthesizing it all into a strategic framework. Grounded in this broad pool of perspectives, we believe that the plan will guide us to serve the health of the region's watersheds and communities even more effectively in the years to come. The new strategic plan not only serves as a roadmap for the organization, but also provides interested parties with the most comprehensive window into the River Exchange's approach and priorities.

Whether you are a long-term supporter of the River Exchange, or in the process of learning about us, the Vision 2020 plan can serve as an informative resource that we encourage you to explore. The complete plan is available for download from our website [www.riverexchange.org/about.html](http://www.riverexchange.org/about.html). As we enthusiastically embark on the next decade of watershed coordination and stewardship, we would like to offer a sincere thank you to all of you who supported the development of this exciting next step in our organization's evolution.

# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

OCTOBER 2011 — FEBRUARY 2012

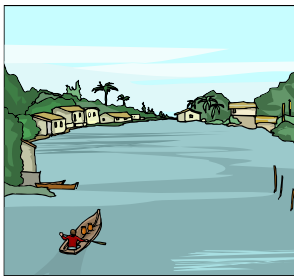
## November/December

### Sustainable Watershed Series

Topic and Date To Be Announced

We would like to hold a Sustainable Watershed Series event this fall. Do you have a idea for a water-related forum or film? Give our office a call and let us know!

When the Series event is finalized, details will be emailed to members and will appear in local newspapers.

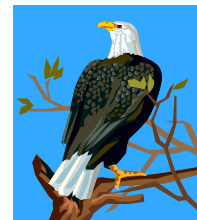


## February

### Bald Eagle/Winter Water Fowl Field trip

Saturday, February 25, 2012 9am-4pm  
Driving Tour

Chris Stromsness will lead an all-day trip to the Klamath Basin area. We'll carpool to strategic viewing locations in the basin to observe bald and golden eagles, hawks, snow geese, owls and much more. We meet at Hwy 97 & A-12 (10 miles north of Weed). Bring warm clothes, walking shoes, lunch, water, binoculars and walkie-talkies (if you have them). There is a \$5.00 outing fee; please call us to register.



## January

### Member Appreciation Party

Tuesday, January 17, 2012 5pm-7pm  
Dunsmuir Community Resource Center  
5740 Dunsmuir Avenue, Dunsmuir



Our members are crucial to the work we do, and we want to show our gratitude! Join us for appetizers, door prizes, wine and networking as we thank you for your generous support. The evening will include a presentation of our annual accomplishments, current programs and projects.

All members and partners are welcome! No RSVP needed.

**Are you on our  
email list?  
If not, give us a call or  
email us to receive our  
event reminders!**

## BOARD OF DIRECTOR UPDATES

Over the years, our Board has consisted of a variety of local and regional river lovers who lend their unique skills to our mission to promote healthy watersheds. Our selfless Board members make time from their busy lives to keep the River Exchange on a course of success.

Our Board has seen a few changes since our last newsletter that we want to share with our members.

Goodbye to Fred Gordon: Local fly fishing guide, artist and educator Fred Gordon has left our Board to spend more time on his artistic pursuits. Fred has been a delight to have on our Board, and will continue to lend us a hand throughout the year when his talents are most needed. Thank you, Fred, for all the hard work you have given to the River Exchange since 2006!

Welcome Phil Detrich and Nora Silber: As mentioned on the previous page, Phil Detrich joined our Board of Directors in June. We also welcome long-time River Exchange volunteer, Nora Silber, to our Board of Directors as of July. Watch for our next newsletter, which will feature a Spotlight on Nora.

### REX Board of Directors

Chris Stromsness, President  
Nora Silber, Vice President  
Gene O'Rourke, Secretary & Treasurer  
Richard "Rico" Tinsman  
Carol Winston  
Mike Dean  
Mary Ellen Colberg  
Phil Detrich

### Contact Information

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**Office:** 5937 Dunsmuir Avenue, Dunsmuir  
**Phone:** (530) 235-2012  
**Fax:** (530) 235-2439  
**E-Mail:** mail@riverexchange.org  
**Website:** www.riverexchange.org

### REX Staff

Daniel Olstein, Executive Director  
Robin Singler, Administrative Director  
Phyllis Skalko, Finance Director

# WATERSHED PROJECTS

## IRWM PLANNING PROJECT UPDATE

In January 2011, we were awarded \$590,000 in new grant funding to oversee the development of an Integrated Regional Water Management Plan (IRWMP) for the Upper Sacramento, Lower Pit and McCloud River region. The funds stem from voter-approved Proposition 84, and is administered by the California Dept. of Water Resources (DWR).

The first stakeholder meeting was held in June; people from various organizations, agencies and the general public participated to give their input towards developing a steering committee charter that will guide the planning group's activities for the next two years and beyond. The completion of the charter will be the focus of the next meeting, which will take place in January.

As of October 21st, the grant agreement between the River Exchange and the California Dept. of Water Resources has been finalized. We expect to hire a Program Director, Lead Consultant and facilitator by the end of the year. We will be announcing these developments in the Mt. Shasta Herald and through our IRWMP group contact list.

## TAUHINDAULI RIVER TRAIL UPDATE

The condition of the half mile trail between Dunsuir City Park and Tauhindauli Park has not changed since our spring update. The middle section of the trail that traverses steep terrain above the Sacramento River remains closed. The Department of Fish & Game (DFG) advises the public to avoid using this hazardous segment of the trail as it is not safe.

The initial grant funds that helped to install the trail have been exhausted, and there are no DFG grants available at this time to cover the additional construction costs to permanently remedy problems with unstable soils, erosion, and threats to the large Douglas fir tree that stabilizes a very steep region of the trail. DFG staff surveyed the trail in May, and have been evaluating various options for the trail that will provide the best stability for the site and maintain the trees and vegetation, while not presenting a safety risk to trail users.

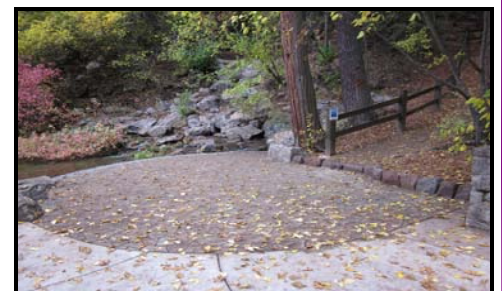
Due to DFG availability of staff, budget considerations, and uncertainty in contracting options, this section of the trail will remain closed into spring of 2012, and perhaps longer. DFG is keeping us informed as they work to find a solution, and we will continue to inform the public with updates as we receive them.

## SACRAMENTO HEADWATERS RESTORATION: MISSION ACCOMPLISHED!

If you have been to the gorgeous Sacramento River Headwaters site in Mt. Shasta City Park since last summer, we hope you noticed some changes! We have been completing improvements to the Headwaters site, in a partnership with the Mount Shasta Recreation & Parks District. The grant to fund the improvements was provided by the California Natural Resources Agency River Parkways Program (Prop 50).

The project included restoration of the riparian area and stabilization of the degraded spring wall. The viewing platform was also improved, and a wheelchair-accessible, paved trail has been completed from the playground parking lot to the viewing platform. An additional trail meanders downstream from the Headwaters to the southern parking lot, and a new interpretive sign has been installed near the viewing platform (see upper photo).

We completed all of this work without needing extra contingency funds, so the California Natural Resources Agency granted permission to use those funds to complete additional improvements. As a result, additional old park furniture has been replaced with new, recycled-content benches and picnic tables. Also, additional plants have been placed at the spring outlet to further stabilize the area and to re-establish native species that once flourished there. We ask visitors to please stay off the rocks above the spring outlets so the plants can thrive. We again thank Marrone Construction, Alan Pardee Landscape Architect, Tracy Tuttle, Sousa Ready Mix and the Mt. Shasta Recreation and Parks District for making this project a success!



# THANK YOU TO OUR 19TH ANNUAL GREAT RIVER CLEAN-UP "BUSINESSES THAT CARE" SPONSORS

## Event Sponsors (\$500+)

City of Dunsmuir  
CJ Berry Foundation  
Chris & Sharon Stromsness  
Dunsmuir Rotary Club  
Ted Fay Fly Shop

## Golden Rock Sponsors (\$250+)

Aiello, Goodrich & Teuscher  
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California Trout  
Chitwood Energy Management  
Cross Petroleum  
Starlight Productions

## Stewardship Partners (\$125+)

Aldous Landscaping  
Confluence Outfitters  
Edward Jones Investments  
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Mt. Shasta Area Newspapers  
Mt. Shasta Resort  
Pusher  
Shasta Mountinn Retreat & Spa  
SpiritualSingles.com  
Streamwise  
Thriftway Foods  
Wayne Eng Fly Fishing

## Watershed Restorers (\$75+)

Leslie Andrews, M.D.  
Aqua Terra Consulting

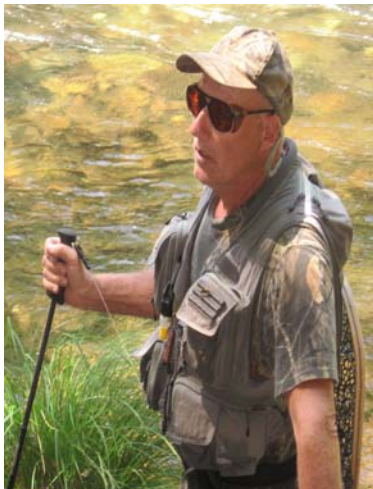
Best Western Tree House  
Cartwright Rentals  
Clemens Waste Removal  
Cornerstone Bakery & Café  
Churchill Insurance  
Thomas Clifton, CPA  
Gary's Pizza Factory  
Dave Holst, M.D.  
Marrone Construction  
Hon. Laura Masunaga  
Meyer & Sons Heating  
Micki's Better Burger  
Mt. Shasta Ski Park  
Mt. Shasta Supermarket  
Pepsi Bottling Company  
PremierWest Bank  
Scott Silber  
Scott Valley Bank  
Shasta Visions  
Tri-Counties Bank; Mt. Shasta Branch  
Workforce Connection

## River Friend (\$35+)

Alpine Realty  
Ammirati's Market  
Andaman Healthy Thai Cuisine  
Boxcar Gallery  
Burger Barn  
Burger Express  
Café Maddalena  
Cave Springs Motel  
Cedar Lodge Motel  
Chris Schneider Design

Cold Creek Inn  
Couch Critics Movies & Games  
Dunsmuir Brewery Works  
Dunsmuir Hardware  
Dunsmuir Lodge  
Gene Erickson Trucking  
Healthy Gardens  
Ken's Payless  
Kim Solga  
Lake Siskiyou Resort  
Law Office of Timothy Stearns  
Manfredi's Market  
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Mt. Shasta Tire Company  
James Parker, M.D.  
Petals Flower Shop  
Personnel Preference  
Poncho & Lefkowitz  
Red Door Gallery/ StudioLiink  
Say Cheese Pizza  
Shasta Base Camp  
Shasta Yoga Center  
Soul Connections  
Spring Hill Nursery  
The Fifth Season  
Village Books  
Wayside Grill  
Weed Chiropractic  
Wise Mountain Botanicals

## INTRODUCTION TO FLY FISHING CLINIC



Our Introduction to Fly Fishing Clinic on August 21st was a fun and educational event, and we couldn't be more thrilled to plan on having another clinic next year. Students of all abilities took away a lot of practical tips from local fly fishing gurus Wayne Eng and Fred Gordon, who were both entertaining and full of knowledge about the Upper Sacramento River and its inhabitants.

Thank you to all of our students, and to Wayne and Fred for volunteering their time for the community! Thanks also to Bob Grace of Ted Fay Fly Shop, who donated flies to give to our students.



# YES; I WANT TO SUPPORT THE RIVER EXCHANGE!

Gifts can be mailed to The River Exchange, P.O. Box 784, Dunsmuir, CA 96025



- \_\_\_\_\_ Other
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$250 River Sponsor
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$125 Stewardship Partner
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$75 Watershed Restorer
- \_\_\_\_\_ \$35 River Friend

**Thank You!**

NEW

RENEWAL

Supporter Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

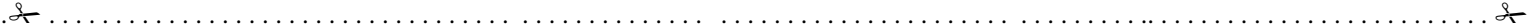
Address: \_\_\_\_\_

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*The River Exchange is a registered 501(c)(3) non-profit organization. Your contribution is tax-deductible as allowed by law.*

*Fed. I.D. #91-1818846*



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE RIVER EXCHANGE  
P.O. BOX 784  
DUNSMUIR, CA 96025

