

# Range of Light Group

Toiyabe Chapter, Sierra Club  
Inyo and Mono Counties  
P. O. Box 1978, Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546

\*\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*\*NEW\*\*\*\*NEW \*\*\*\*

## T-SHIRTS!

We now have **Range of Light t-shirts available**, beautifully designed by John Muir Laws, \$20 (includes tax). Get yours at monthly meetings or call Mary K, 760-934-0355.

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## \*\*\*\*YOUR EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The **Range of Light Group Executive Committee** (ROLG ExCom) meetings are usually the first Monday of the month and are open to all members. You may bring or submit items for discussion at any time. To join the ExCom as an elected officer or committee member to help with membership, conservation, outings, administration, or any area you find interesting, contact Malcolm, 924-5639, [wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com](mailto:wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com). ROLG ExCom officers and Committee Chairs are listed on the website <http://nevada.sierraclub.org/rolgroup>.

It is not too early to **consider serving on the ROLG ExCom**. Nominations are required by October and elections are in December. If you are interested in joining the ExCom, please contact our Nominating Committee: Shalle Genevieve – [marshalle@earthlink.net](mailto:marshalle@earthlink.net), Malcolm Clark – [wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com](mailto:wmalcolm.clark@gmail.com), or Wilma Wheeler – [wilma.bryce@verizon.net](mailto:wilma.bryce@verizon.net).

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## \*\*\*\*FROM SIERRA CLUB NATIONAL

**America needs more clean energy jobs** and less pollution -- and President Obama's EPA already has the power to act. We need rules that cover all pollution fairly -- no exemptions, no bailouts, and no special treatment for coal or anything else. This will put us on the path to cleaner technology that boosts economic growth, creates jobs and protects the planet. Your Senators should be representing you by telling EPA to protect us all from polluted air and water and to preserve our earth for the generations to come. Go here to sign a petition:  
[http://action.sierraclub.org/bigpicture\\_petition](http://action.sierraclub.org/bigpicture_petition)

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## \*\*\*\*TAKE ACTION

- Join in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the **Devils Postpile National Monument** and help plan for the next 15 to 20 years. Topics include the San Joaquin River watershed, the challenges of climate change, and how to protect the ecological importance of the biodiversity and migratory corridors of the Monument. Comments sought for both positive and negative feedback. Attend an open house September 9 or 10. More: Deanna Dulen, 760-924-5505, or [depo\\_gmp@nps.gov](mailto:depo_gmp@nps.gov)
- **Inyo National Forest is proposing to change recreation fees at Reds Meadow.** This summer the Forest Service is actively seeking comments and feedback on a proposal to change the fees that are charged to recreate in Reds Meadow Valley. The changes are proposed to take effect in 2010. In 2004, Congress passed the Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act which allows the Forest Service to keep 95 percent of the fees collected at certain recreation sites and to use these funds locally to operate, maintain, and improve facilities and programs at the sites where the fees are collected. **It is important to note that the Reds Meadow/Devils Postpile Shuttle will remain mandatory for most visitors and that this proposed**

**change will not affect the transportation fare visitors pay to ride the shuttle. The proposed fee change will only apply to the “exception vehicles” that are allowed to drive into Reds Meadow during shuttle operation,** and it may apply to all visitors during the times of the season when the shuttle is not in operation (early June and after Labor Day.) The existing fee is \$7/adult and \$4/child. The Forest Service is proposing to change the fee to \$10 per vehicle for an Inyo Day Pass. In addition to the Day Pass, the proposal includes an Inyo 3-day pass for \$20/vehicle and an Inyo Season Pass for \$35/vehicle. Comments due by September 7 to Matt Peterson, Inyo National Forest, 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA 93514, or [comments-inyo-fee-change@fs.fed.us](mailto:comments-inyo-fee-change@fs.fed.us), or drop at any Inyo National Forest Visitor Center. More: Matt Peterson, 760-873-2494 or [mbpeterson@fs.fed.us](mailto:mbpeterson@fs.fed.us).

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#### \*\*\*\*A QUICK MENTION

- The USDA Forest Service, Inyo National Forest, has finalized the *Programmatic Agreement among the USDA Inyo National Forest and the Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer, Regarding the Process for Compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act for Designating a National Forest Transportation System on Inyo National Forest Lands in Nevada* (Nevada PA). The Nevada PA describes how the Inyo National Forest will complete the identification and evaluation of historic properties as described at 36 Code of Federal Regulations §800.4(b)(2) in the designation of a transportation system on Inyo National Forest lands in the State of Nevada. Access electronically at: <http://www.fs.fed.us/r5/inyo/projects/ohvroute5.shtml#stepfour>, under the heading “Other Documents.” Hard copies and more information: Sarah Johnston, Heritage Program Manager, Inyo National Forest, USDA Forest Service, 351 Pacu Lane, Suite 200, Bishop, CA 93514, or 760-873-2522.
- Recycle CDs by mailing to the CD Recycling Center of America or find a new home for your tunes by giving them away on [Freecycle](http://www.freecycle.org). You can find local recycling centers at Earth911.
- **August 22nd, 2009 - Geology Tour of the Eastern Sierra. 9am to 1pm.** Join ESLT and geologist Terry Wright for a tour of the Eastern Sierra. Come experience this unique opportunity to learn about the fascinating variety of our local geology. Spend the morning visiting geologic highlights, including the Owens Valley, the Long Valley Caldera, Mono Basin, and a hike at Panum Crater. The trip will end with a lunch of local foods at DeChambeau Creek overlooking Mono Lake. Fee: \$75 includes your lunch of local foods. More: Serena 760-873-4554, [www.eslt.org](http://www.eslt.org), [serena@eslt.org](mailto:serena@eslt.org)
- **The Forest Service asks cooperation in staying on designated roads in Forks Fire burn area.** The Forks Fire in Bishop Creek Canyon in the Inyo National Forest, burned approximately 3000 acres of vegetation dominated by Pinyon Pine Woodland. It is critical that the burn area not be further disturbed by vehicle use off of designated Forest Service roads. The Inyo National Forest will be keeping open all of the roads that were accessible to the public before the fire and will be monitoring and patrolling the burn area frequently to provide information to the public and to enforce off-road use regulations. If this monitoring detects that vehicular use is occurring off of designated roads, the Forest Service will consider more restricted use or possibly closure of the Forks Fire burn area. More: Mary Beth Hennessy 760-873-2404.
- From the Worldwatch Institute a great reference book – [Climate Change Reference Guide and Glossary](http://www.worldwatch.org) – Now available for free download. More: [www.worldwatch.org](http://www.worldwatch.org)
- **Alabama Hills group seeks input on designation for famous rocks** (Inyo Register, 7/7/09). The Alabama Hills Stewardship Group is gathering input about possible designations for the 30,000-acre recreation area that includes the jumble of famous, dark and rusty-red rocks at the foot of Mount Whitney. Potential designations include a National Monument, a Scenic Recreation Area, an area of Outstanding Natural Resource, a Conservation Area or the current designation as a Special Recreation Management

Area. These are all possible under the Bureau of Land Management's National Landscape Conservation System. More: <http://www.inyoregister.com/content/view/121002/1/>

- **Inyo and Mono County Community Wildfire Protection Plans** (BLM-California news release, 7/13/09). The Inyo and Mono County Community Wildfire Protection Plans have been completed and will be available to the public beginning July 17. The CWPPs help the communities apply for more funding to create and maintain fuel breaks, emergency evacuation routes, and other fuel load reduction tactics. These plans serve as a working document and will be updated annually. More: <http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/newsroom/2009/july/CC-09-77.html>
- **Salazar: Time has come to reform outdated mining law** (Department of the Interior news release, 7/14/09). As part of President Obama's agenda for reform, the time has come to update the nation's 19th century mining law to ensure reasonable royalty payments for extracting gold, silver, and other minerals from federal land and to provide more effective regulatory, clean-up and reclamation tools. More: [http://www.doi.gov/news/09\\_News\\_Releases/071409.html](http://www.doi.gov/news/09_News_Releases/071409.html)
- **Students work, learn on public lands** (News.bytes Extra). Eight students from the Eastern Sierra are gaining experience in resource management while improving public lands through work with the Youth Conservation Corps. YCC crew members from the Owens Valley are working on community projects, including projects on public lands for six weeks with BLM-California's Bishop Field Office. More: [http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/newsbytes/2009/390\\_extra-youth-bishop.html](http://www.blm.gov/ca/st/en/info/newsbytes/2009/390_extra-youth-bishop.html)
- **Panel urges huge increase in outdoor spending** (Associated Press in San Francisco Chronicle, 7/6/09). Despite the recession, a blue-ribbon panel says the federal government should increase by tenfold its spending on outdoor recreation and conservation. At least \$3.2 billion a year -- up from current funding of about \$255 million -- is needed to conserve and protect the nation's outdoor heritage, including parks, wildlife refuges, and open space, the group says. More: <http://sfgate.com/cgi-bin/article.cgi?f=/n/a/2009/07/06/national/w154426D93.DTL>
- **Volunteer opportunity:** The Yosemite association and Yosemite Fund seeks volunteers to greet visitors and collect park-supporting donations on fee-free weekend, August 15-16, 10am-2pm. More: [jfriedrich@yosemitel.org](mailto:jfriedrich@yosemitel.org).