



A MONUMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT EBMUD'S 20-YEAR COMMITMENT TO THE MOKELUMNE COAST TO CREST TRAIL

BY KENT LAMBERT

This October will mark the completion and opening of the final segment of 29.2 miles of Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail (MCCT) that travels across East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) lands in the Mokelumne area. This new piece of trail is the Middle Bar-Independence Flat segment and is sure to be known as one of the most scenic and popular sections of the MCCT. The opening celebration for this last segment of trail is a good opportunity to acknowledge the major challenges and accomplishments that led up to this monumental achievement.

In the early 1990's, the EBMUD Board of Directors recognized the important role that EBMUD was positioned to play in the creation of the MCCT, which was envisioned to extend from the "Coast" of the San Francisco Bay in Martinez to the "Crest" of the Sierras at Ebbetts Pass. The Board officially approved the MCCT on watershed lands with the passage of Resolution #32652 in August 1992. Because this endorsement came with minimal funding and staffing, numerous creative steps were required in order to move the project forward. Later in 1992, a volunteer group known as the Mokelumne Trailbusters was formed in order to allow folks who planned to use the trail an opportunity to participate in its construction and maintenance. To date, more than 14,000 volunteer hours have been devoted to work in the Mokelumne Area, with the great majority going toward the trail construction.

Two separate grants (Proposition 12 and Proposition 84) were obtained with the funds being used to enlist the strong backs of California Conservation Corps crews. In addition, local California Youth Authority and California Department of Corrections (CDC) crews contributed countless hours over the course of the 20-year effort. In particular, CDC's Vallecito Crews dedicated more than 3,200 hours over the last 12 months to make it possible for us to meet our goal of opening the final trail segment in 2012. Other important steps included a \$70,000 grant from the California State Trails Program to fund trail bridges at Finnerty Gulch and Spanish Gulch in the mid 1990's, and EBMUD's capital funding of a third bridge at Poorman's Gulch in 2009.



CDC crews spend a day "brushing" the trails in 2005. ²

Some of the biggest accomplishments have come through collaboration with partners. In 2002, an arrangement was made with Camanche Recreation Company to convert 16 tent camp sites into equestrian camp sites, and Turkey Hill Equestrian Group Campground was born. Turkey Hill is the only equestrian campground in western

(continued on page 8)

Fall & Winter 2012 - 2013 Trailbuster Schedule

■	October 20	Mokelumne River Cleanup ▲ 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM #
✧	November 3	Native American Cave Paintings Tour # (Reservation Required) (See page 12 for details.)
	November 17	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
▽	December 1	Heritage Garden Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM # (See page 13 for details.)
	December 15	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
	December 17	Eagle Tour Reservations Open
	December 29	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
❖	January 12	Bald Eagle Tours ▲ (Reservation Required) (See page 6 for details.)
❖	January 26	Bald Eagle Tours ▲ (Reservation Required) (See page 6 for details.)
	February 9	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
	February 23	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
	March 9	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
	March 23	Trailbuster Work Day 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM #
■	April 6	Longest Mile Wildflower Hike # (Reservation Required) (See page 14 for details.)

TABLE OF CONTENTS

<i>A Monumental Achievement.....</i>	<i>1</i>
<i>Trailbuster Schedule</i>	<i>2</i>
<i>Stories of the Cook Family Pioneers</i>	<i>3-5</i>
<i>Eagle Viewing 2013</i>	<i>6</i>
<i>More Bird Viewing Information.....</i>	<i>7</i>
<i>A Monumental Achievement (continued).....</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Another Achievement</i>	<i>8</i>
<i>Meet In The Middle Event.....</i>	<i>9</i>
<i>Cleanup News</i>	<i>10</i>
<i>Mokelumne River Cleanup.....</i>	<i>11</i>
<i>Native American Cave Paintings Tour</i>	<i>12</i>
<i>Heritage Gardens Workday</i>	<i>13</i>
<i>The Longest Mile Wildflower Hike</i>	<i>14</i>
<i>MCCTC Update</i>	<i>15</i>
<i>Mokelumne Area Map.....</i>	<i>Back Page</i>



Schedule Symbols

- # Please RSVP Steve Diers at (209) 772-8260 or sdiers@ebmud.com for meeting location and details.
- ▲ Ideal for families and youth groups
- ☺ Meet @ EBMUD Office, 15083 Camanche Parkway S., Valley Springs..... (#3 on map)
- ✧ Meet @ Camanche South Shore Recreation Area (#4 on map)
- ▽ Meet @ Campo Seco Staging Area..... (#9 on map)
- Meet @ Middle Bar Take Out Parking Lot (#11 on map)
- ❖ Meeting location will be provided upon reservation.

Stories of the Cook Family Pioneers

Compiled by Steve Diers and Kathy (Cook) Hansen* from oral history given by Cyril Cook**

John Cook and Johanna McLaughlain (or McLocklin) Cook were both born in Ireland; John in 1824 and Johanna in 1831. Together, they traveled to California around 1856 or 1857. Their first child, Thomas Cook, was born in 1857 in California prior to the family moving to Lancha Plana. Their second child, Mary Cook, was born in Lancha Plana in 1859 after the family settled there (around 1857 or 1858). At the time, the family was told that Mary was the first "white child" born in Lancha Plana.

It's not known if Thomas Cook, John's brother, came to California with John and Johanna or later. However, Thomas was born in Ireland in 1835, and his wife Bridget was also born in Ireland, but not until 1851. If John and Johanna traveled to California in 1856-57, Bridget would only have been five years old. Therefore, it is presumed that John came over first and Thomas followed some time later with Bridget.

Thomas and Bridget and their family lived in a home that was built some time in the early 1870s; situated north of the old Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Ranger Office.

Thomas made a lot of money from the gold that he extracted from a pit southwest of his home. The house was eventually sold to East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) by John E. Cook, and his sisters Rose E. Keating and Agnes L. Stong, the last surviving children of Thomas and Bridget Cook.

Thomas Cook 1835-1905 Galway, Ireland
m. Bridget b. 1851 Waterford, Ireland
Children:

Thomas	1878-1955
Francis	1879-1914
Minnie L.	1883-1953
Rose E.	1885-1970
John E.	1887-1967
Agnes L.	1890-1974
Joseph W.	1892-1958 (twin)
Adele	1892-1951 (twin)

John and Johanna built a new home in the 1860s at a location between the old Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Administration Office and the intersection of the south fire road at Camanche Parkway. They moved their young family into the new home and would eventually have 13 more children (and lose a set of twins in childbirth); 15 total! They would eventually amass a total of 1600 acres in the Campo Seco area.

John and Johanna also built a barn of hand hewn timbers (probably in the mid 1860's after building the house). The barn was located in what is now the

John Cook 1824 from Galway, Ireland
m. Johanna (McLaughlain or McLocklin) 1831
Children: 15 children (Twins Died at Birth)
Thomas 1857-1901
Mary 1859-
Honorah 1860-1934
John 1861-1916
Mark 1862-
James E. 1865-1931
Alice 1866-1939
Patrick Henry 1867-1946
m. Annie
Child: ****Cyril Cook** (b. January 19, 1919)
m. June Thomas
Children:
William Cook
Patricia (Cook) Miller
***Kathy (Cook) Hansen**
Robert Cook
Kate 1868
Margaret 1869-1949
Theresa 1874-1898
George 1878-1904
Lillian 1880

Cyril related a story passed on by his father or grandfather that Joaquin Murrieta* would take fresh horses

from this barn and leave his horses in their places. Joaquin Murrieta is supposed to have camped at Spanish Ranch (now referred to as Cook Mesa) which is located between the Finnerty Gulch Bridge and EBMUD's south fire road.

John Cook Jr. (son of John and Johanna) built a two-story home south of the barn (site of the new Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Headquarters). He owned many teams of horses and wagons and hauled copper from the Penn Mine to Valley Springs. He never was married and died in 1916. Cyril Cook, John's nephew, said this house eventually burned down.

Patrick Henry and his brother James E., sons of John and Johanna, bought a home and acreage in Chili Camp from Mary Grillo on December 27, 1904. Patrick made a living hauling supplies and wood to Penn Mine. He married Annie Cullinan on December 31, 1914 at the Pan American Exposition in San Francisco and they moved into the Chili Camp home. The home still stands in Chili Camp today.

Patrick Henry let the Alan Mining Company build a small building to use as a machine shop near the old Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Administration Office. A portion of that admin office building was also built by the Alan Mining Company using lumber taken from the John and Johanna Cook home site. Once completed, the building was used by the Alan Mining Company as a "clean up room" in their gold recovery process. At that time, it housed a shaker table and furnace to burn the mercury from the gold. The gold was then shipped to San Francisco. At some point, there was a blacksmith shop located behind this building, as well.



Patrick and Annie's wedding photo.⁵

In the 1930s, the Alan Mining Company went broke and the Pacific Placer Company came in with a dragline to mine Finnerty Gulch up to Chili Camp. Located behind the admin building, in the gulch, is a rock dam – originally built to manage the water supply for the mining operations. However, the Lancha Plana and Poverty Bar Ditch, which took water from the river at Diamond Bar (just above present day Pardee Dam) and transported it on the south side of the river to Poverty Bar, also supplied the Cook families with water prior to 1914.



Inscription on back of photo reads: "Cyril & wife June Cook & son on leg of Cyril (Billy Cook) in front of their Campo Seco, CA home. Looking north."⁵

Cyril Cook, the only child of Patrick and Annie Cook, was born January 19, 1919, in San Francisco. He married June Thomas of Stockton on September 26, 1943, in the Camanche Catholic Church. They built their home in 1946, which would later be purchased by EBMUD and put into use as the Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Ranger Office. The carport of the home (which was eventually converted to the rangers' locker room) and the mother-in-law house (bunkhouse before it was torn down) were built in 1950. The bunkhouse was demolished in 1995, and the ranger office and locker room were torn down in early 2012.

Rock for the fireplace, which wasn't built until 1959, came from a bluff located southwest of the house. Caves on the same bluff were once claimed to be used by Joaquin Murrieta[✧].

continued on next page

EAGLE VIEWING

2013



During the winter, hundreds of bald eagles migrate south from Northern California, Washington, British Columbia, and even Alaska seeking the warmer climates of Oregon and California. Northern lakes and streams ice over in the winter, cutting off the eagles' food source. Eagles follow the migrations of waterfowl to Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs where fish and waterfowl are plentiful. These reservoirs are perfect for the eagles because in the winter months the lakes offer a good food source and minimal human interaction. In 2006, for the first time on record, bald eagles stayed all year at Camanche and Pardee, nested, and produced young!

January 12, 2013

9:00 AM – Noon

1:00 – 4:00 PM



January 26, 2013

9:00 AM – Noon

1:00 – 4:00 PM

RESERVATIONS REQUIRED – SEATING IN THE BOAT IS LIMITED

Reservations fill quickly, so contact Lisa or April at (209) 772-8204 starting

Monday, December 17, 2012 at 8:00 AM to reserve your seat.

Active Trailbusters can reserve early by calling the number above and leaving a message, beginning at 5:00 p.m. on Friday, December 14, 2012.

- Wear warm, layered clothing, (insulated boots and mid-thigh parka, long underwear, extra socks, gloves, and hat), as it can get extremely cold in a moving, open boat on the water, in the winter!
- Don't forget your binoculars and camera (no tripods)!
- You can bring water and/or hot drinks and snacks.
- Please note: We welcome children who are age 7 or older (younger children tend to become bored and extremely cold). Guests under 18 must be accompanied by an adult.
- There is no charge for this event.

Reprinting any portion of this announcement in any way without permission from EBMUD is strictly prohibited; including posting of the event on any calendar, whether electronic, printed, etc. For permission see contact information on front cover.

More Bird Viewing Information

The sheer number and species of water birds utilizing local reservoirs during the winter is astounding and always a sight worth seeing. By conducting tours each January at Camanche and Pardee reservoirs, EBMUD can accommodate approximately 150 guests on our Bald Eagle Tours. The reason that EBMUD's Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Division offers these tours is to show our appreciation for the communities in which we live and work; to increase the public's awareness of wildlife and other watershed resources and the District's efforts to manage these resources for sustainability and public enjoyment; and to promote the Mokelumne Trailbusters Volunteer Program. The Trailbusters are a dedicated group of volunteers who are helping to build a valuable segment of the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail. For more information on the Mokelumne Trailbusters program contact Steve Diers at (209) 772-8260 or the admin staff at (209) 772-8204.

These tours are extremely popular and fill up quickly, but if you are unable to attend an eagle tour, you can still venture out on your own. Bring your boat, or rent one at either reservoir, and look for winter birds. For information on boat rentals, call Camanche North Shore Marina at (209) 763-5166, year-round, and Pardee Marina at (209) 772-1472, February through October.

Just remember, there are a few precautions and considerations to keep in mind when bird-viewing. When going out on boats in the winter it is imperative that you wear warm, layered clothing, (insulated boots and parka, gloves, hat, and extra socks), as it can be extremely cold in an open, moving boat. Weather can change in a moment, thus varying the wind chill factor and the potential for hypothermia.

Also, please don't disturb the eagles. The birds will fly away when disturbed by humans, but seem to tolerate boat traffic, especially when the boats stay at least 330 feet away. Since only 1 out of 18 attempts that an eagle makes to secure prey is successful, they need to rest when not hunting to conserve energy. Your consideration is important to ensure that these majestic birds will continue to return to Camanche and Pardee annually.

Below are photographs of some of the various birds that can be found at Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs during the winter months. All of these pictures were taken and shared by Eagle Tour participant Gary Hughes.



Sub-adult Bald Eagle



Osprey



Mergansers

A MONUMENTAL ACHIEVEMENT

continued from front page

Amador and Calaveras counties and was designed and built by EBMUD staff to be a first-class facility incorporating the best elements of other equestrian camps in Northern California.

In 2006, when it became clear that the least expensive and most scenic route for the trail (that was also the most palatable to the local residents in Campo Seco) was the river canyon route, agreements were reached with the Bureau of Land Management to route approximately one mile of MCCT through their parcel. An agreement was also made with the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail Council to adopt, construct, and maintain a one-mile section of trail across privately owned land in the Penn Mine area.

Finally, in 2008, as we approached construction of the final and most environmentally sensitive segment of the MCCT (in the Middle Bar area), local groups and agencies including Calaveras County Park and Recreation, Amador County Recreation Agency, and the Foothill Conservancy combined with EBMUD to form a Trails Focus Group. This ultimately helped to shape the plans for the Middle Bar to Independence Flat segment and facilitated its passing the California Environmental Quality Act public comment phase without a single negative comment.

Since the very first segment of the MCCT on EBMUD's Mokelumne lands opened to the public in 1992, more than 58,000 trail users have enjoyed the trail. Where the trail once had to be lined with rocks to define the route through open fields, the trailway is now distinguished (as it was always meant to be) with thousands of hooves and hiking boots having worn the hard soil into a soft, sandy, weed-free, and welcoming pathway.

We hope that you will be able to join us now, 20 years later, to leave your own mark on the history of this trail. On October 6th, 2012 we will assemble at different locations to collectively walk, run, or ride the various segments of the 29.2-mile trail. Then we will gather together at a very special place along the trail to dedicate a monument to the many folks who have made this day possible and who will enjoy it and maintain it for years to come. (See opposite page for event details.)



Ranger Naturalist II Steve Diers sights in the grade on the final 100 feet of the Middle Bar-Independence Flat segment of the MCCT, as a crew from Vallecito Conservation Camp cuts in the new trail behind him.¹

ANOTHER ACHIEVEMENT

Coinciding with the opening of the newest, easternmost segment of trail, EBMUD will be issuing a brand new trail map: a full-color, full-sized guide for hikers and explorers of the Mokelumne Coast to Crest and China Gulch trails.

The new map will include detailed descriptions of scenic and historic sites as well as local flora and fauna you may see along the trail routes. Using new geographic information system data, the map's expanded scale will show trail distances and elevations, and will include information on camping, equine facilities, and recreation areas.

The maps are currently in production and will be issued just in time for the October 6th commemoration celebration! Once printed, the maps will be available wherever you can purchase a trail permit in the Mokelumne Area: Camanche Recreation Area gates, Pardee Recreation Area gate, and the Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Office. Pick up your map at any of the locations listed or call (209) 772-8204 and have one mailed to you.

MEET IN THE MIDDLE

The MCCT 20-Year Anniversary Celebration and Commemoration Event!

October 6, 2012

WHAT: To commemorate the completion of the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail (MCCT) portion that crosses EBMUD's Mokelumne lands and to celebrate the 20-year anniversary of the opening of the first MCCT segment in the Mokelumne area, two distinct events will occur. A "Total Traverse" relay followed by a commemoration event at the midpoint of the trail. Come join the fun!

REGISTRATION: Reservations are required for both events. Due to logistics, several of the Total Traverse legs will have limited participation slots. For information and registration, please contact Lisa or April at (209) 772-8204.

Total Traverse Relay: Several groups and/or individuals will participate in a relay, hiking, running, or on horseback, negotiating the various segments of trail simultaneously. Each of the following relay legs are carefully planned so that everyone can be at the Wildermuth House around 11:30 to join the noon commemoration festivities. **Therefore, each leg has specific limitations and requirements (see notes in bold at end of each segment).**

- Western Terminus to Cooks Mesa
Distance: 5.3 miles – Start: 8:30 a.m. – Trail time: 2.5 hours – **Filled by staff only**
- Penn Mine to Cooks Mesa
Distance: 4.3 miles – Start: 9:00 a.m. – Trail time: 2.0 hours – **Limited space available**
- Penn Mine to Campo Seco Stage Area
Distance: 4.7 miles – Start: 9:00 a.m. – Trail time: 2.0 hours – **Limited space, open to equestrians only**
- Campo Seco Staging Area to Wildermuth House
Distance: .6 miles – Start: 11:00 a.m. – Trail time: 0.5 hours – **Open to all**
- Rich Gulch to Wildermuth House
Distance: 11 miles – Start: TBD – Trail time: self-paced – **Limited space, open to runners only**
- Rich Gulch to Middle Bar
Distance: 2.1 miles – Start: 7:30 a.m. – Trail time: 1.0 hours – (Joins next leg) **Limited space available**
- Middle Bar to Independence Flat Loop
Distance: 3.8 miles – Start: 8:30 a.m. – Trail time: 2.5 hours – **Open to all**

Commemoration: A plaque recognizing the collective efforts of all the volunteers, crews, and staff, will be unveiled at the midpoint of the trail! The commemorative event will be held at noon, allowing for all Total Traverse teams to make their way to the Wildermuth House, where all are welcome to join the celebration. Light refreshments will be provided.

INFORMATION: Participants under 18 must have written permission from a parent or guardian and an adult must accompany those under 16. No pets or alcohol are permitted. There is no charge for this event.

CLEANUP NEWS

By Dave Johnson



During the past three years, more than 11,200 volunteers have committed time to the Great Sierra River Cleanup and have removed over 526 tons of trash and recyclables from watersheds throughout the Sierra Nevada; and the numbers continue to grow! Hundreds of community groups, spread across 22 counties and 1,052 river miles, have pulled appliances, cigarette butts, beverage cans, baby diapers, tires, furniture, and more from the rivers and streams that supply the State of California with 65 percent of its water. This effort, in partnership with the California Coastal Cleanup Day, serves to promote good stewardship on all of our waterways, from the source to the sea.

Over the past several years, I have had the pleasure of coordinating cleanup sites along the Mokelumne River for East Bay Municipal Utility District. We have grown from having one or two cleanup sites to having five separate cleanup sites spanning three counties. Since 2007, volunteers have removed over 18 tons of trash and recyclables from the Mokelumne River, Camanche Reservoir, and Pardee Reservoir. Over 25 miles of river and shoreline have been cleaned by dedicated volunteers. These volunteers have removed broken hazard markers, anchors, rims, propane tanks, car parts, batteries, window frames, and more.

While we are cleaning up the lower part of the Mokelumne River, the Foothill Conservancy is busy coordinating cleanup sites including Blue Hole on the North Fork in the Mokelumne Wilderness, North Fork Mokelumne River crossing on Highway 26, along Electra Road, and at Big Bar near Highway 49 Bridge. The Foothill Conservancy has been cleaning up the Mokelumne River for more than twenty years. This year EBMUD and The Foothill Conservancy will host two cleanup events; so if you missed the first one in September, please join us for the second cleanup opportunity on October 20th.

The first event this year, held in conjunction with The Great Sierra River Cleanup and the California Coastal Cleanup Day, cleaned up Pardee and Camanche Reservoirs, and the lower Mokelumne River below Camanche Dam, as well as a sight near Salt Springs along the upper Mokelumne River. The second cleanup, being held on October 20th from 9:00 a.m. to noon, will take place on the Mokelumne River from the top of Electra Road down to the Middle Bar Bridge.

Working together, the Foothill Conservancy and EBMUD hope to make twice the cleaning impact this year! To sign up for the October 20th cleaning event, see the flyer on the opposite page.

Finally, the September cleanup event wouldn't have been the success it was without our wonderful sponsors. I would like to acknowledge and thank: Brian Bressel and Camanche Recreation Company for providing staff, rental boats, free camping, and for catering the BBQ; Kerry and Richard Cooper and Pardee Lake Recreation for providing free camping; Dave Vaccarezza and California Waste Recovery Systems for donating the 20 yard waste bin and for separating the trash from the recyclables; Bill Ferrero and Mokelumne River Outfitters for the site captain support on the river below Camanche Dam; Pete Peterson and Lockeford Meat and Sausage for donating food to the Stillman Magee BBQ; Brittany Juergenson and Sierra Nevada Conservancy for Cleanup Coordinator support and supplies; Mike Regan and Jackson Signs for the banners; and Jeff Reed of George Reed Inc. and 711 Materials for donating tee-shirts for the volunteers.





MOKELUMNE RIVER CLEANUP

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2012 🍁 8:30 to NOON

WHAT: A fun and productive day of cleaning along the banks of the Mokelumne River! Cleaning waterways has been proven to improve the water quality and help identify negative impacts to rivers and streams, as well as educate the participants on the value of watersheds for recreation and fish and wildlife habitats – all while having fun!

WHERE: Middle Bar

REGISTRATION: Advanced registration is required. Contact Steve Diers at (209) 772-8260 or sdiers@ebmud.com.

INFORMATION: Event liability forms must be completed prior to participating and will be available at sign-in. Participants under 18 are welcome but must have liability releases signed by a parent or guardian and be accompanied by a responsible adult.

WHERE: North Fork/Hwy 26, Electra, & Big Bar

REGISTRATION: Advanced registration is required. See www.foothillconservancy.org or contact Randy Berg at (209) 295-4900 or randy@foothillconservancy.org.

INFORMATION: Event liability forms must be completed prior to participating and will be available on our registration page online or at sign-in. Participants under 18 are welcome but must have liability releases signed by a parent or guardian and be accompanied by a responsible adult (one adult for every four minors, please).

Organized groups are welcome!

BRING: We'll provide drinking water and trash bags. Just bring your family, work gloves, canteen, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Please wear closed-toe walking shoes or boots and a hat (long pants are recommended). Flotation devices are strongly recommended for children working close to the water's edge. No pets or alcohol permitted.

Photos¹ from previous cleanup events:



Native American Cave Paintings Tour

Saturday, November 3, 2012
9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

WHERE: Camanche South Shore Staging Area (#4 on map)

ACTIVITIES: We will take the “ankle express” (walk) to the Canal Cave site, stopping periodically to view the local fauna and talk about Native American plant uses. The location of the canal caves is rich in natural history; this area was used by both Native Americans and the subsequent gold mining community. Come experience the beautiful pictographs, learn their origin, and the history of the area. Round trip is 2-3 miles and this hike has been upgraded to “difficult” due to the last ¼ mile incline. Because this site is behind locked gates and is not accessible to the public without a ranger, we will arrive together and leave together.



Fred Velasquez provides a pre-tour orientation in 2005.⁴

BRING: Please bring a bag lunch, long pants, comfortable hiking shoes, backpack, canteen, sun screen, insect repellent, poison oak ointment, binoculars, and a camera.



Ranger Naturalist II Steve Diers points out pictographs during a previous tour.⁶

REGISTRATION: Advance registration is required as space is limited. Please RSVP beginning October 19, to Steve Diers at sdiers@ebmud.com or (209) 772-8260.

MINORS: We welcome children who are age 7 or older (younger children tend to become bored). Those under 18 must have written permission from a parent or guardian; an adult must accompany those under 16.

NOTE: You may encounter poison oak. Please take the appropriate precautions.

INFORMATION: There is no charge for this event. No pets or alcohol permitted.

Reprinting any portion of this announcement in any way without permission from EBMUD is strictly prohibited; including posting of the event on any calendar, whether electronic, printed, etc. For permission see contact information on page 2.

Heritage Gardens Workday

December 1, 2012 ✂ 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Meet at the Campo Seco Staging Area (# 9 on the map)

WHAT: Under the tutelage of Rosarian/Master Gardener Judy Dean and Master Gardener and long time Trailbuster Lorraine Morrison, we will conduct the annual pruning and fertilizing of the plants in the Wildermuth gardens and make repairs to the drip irrigation system. Bat guano, collected at the artificial bat cave inside one of the spillways on the north arm of Pardee Reservoir, will be used to fertilize the plants in the garden. Protective fencing and mulch are added around heritage roses to protect them. This work is accomplished by using hand tools to prune vegetation, repair drip system, and move clippings. We will take our lunch break next to the wood stove inside the Historic Wildermuth House.

REGISTRATION: Advance reservations required as space is limited. Contact Steve Diers at sdiers@ebmud.com or (209) 772-8260 beginning November 1, 2012.



Weeding around a rosebush at the Wildermuth House.²



Pruning the lilac bush at the Wildermuth House.²

BRING: Please bring a bag lunch, drinking water, sunscreen, and insect repellent. Also, wear sturdy work shoes and a hat (long pants are recommended).

INFORMATION: Participants under 18 must have written permission from a parent or guardian and those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. This event is not recommended for children under 7 years old. There is no charge for this event. No pets or alcohol permitted.

Reprinting any portion of this announcement in any way without permission from EBMUD is strictly prohibited; including posting of the event on any calendar, whether electronic, printed, etc. For permission see contact information on page 2.

The Longest Mile Wildflower Hike

April 6, 2013 ✕ 9:00 AM – 3:00 PM

Meet at the Middle Bar Take Out Parking Lot (#11 on the map)

WHAT: Here is a chance for you to see this magnificent portion of the Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail with native plant experts as guides! After meeting at the Middle Bar Take Out parking lot, we will carpool/caravan to the jump off point (since this starting point is behind locked gates, there is no vehicle access to the public without a ranger – we will all arrive together and leave together). Then we will take the “ankle express” (hike) from James Bar west to Patti’s Point on one of the most beautiful and challenging segments of the MCCT on EBMUD watershed, “The Longest Mile”.



A photo taken during the 2009 wildflower hike.³

For 10 years, California Conservation Corps, Mokelumne Trailbusters, and California Youth Authority wards worked on this remote one-mile segment of the MCCT between Patti’s Point and the Log Boom. **Difficulty:** The route between Spanish Gulch and Patti’s Point is very rugged and steep because of property boundaries and topography. The elevation change in this half mile is 550 feet. Stone stairs, landings, and retaining walls have been constructed to mitigate these steep grades. Round trip is about 2-3 miles and much of the route is a difficult grade. The hike, one way from James Bar to Patti’s Point, takes about 2 hours.



The type of “photo-opp” available during a wildflower hike!³

BRING: *Bring a bag lunch*, comfortable hiking shoes, backpack, canteen, sunscreen, insect repellent, long pants (to protect against stickers and insects), binoculars, and camera.

REGISTRATION: Advance registration is required as space is limited. Call or email Steve Diers after March 5, 2013 at (209) 772-8260 or sdiers@ebmud.co for information and registration.

INFORMATION: Not recommended for children under 7 years old. Participants under the age of 18 must have written permission from a parent or guardian and those under 16 must be accompanied by an adult. No pets or alcohol permitted. There is no charge for this event.

If you would like to bring along a field guide, one of these beautifully illustrated guides are all you’ll need to locate and identify hundreds of native plants that grow in California’s Gold Country and both are available in Sutter Creek at Bubble Gum Book Store:

Wildflower Walks and Roads of the Sierra Gold Country by Toni Fauver
Peterson Field Guide to Pacific States Wildflowers by Nichaus/Ripper

Reprinting any portion of this announcement in any way without permission from EBMUD is strictly prohibited; including posting of the event on any calendar, whether electronic, printed, etc. For permission see contact information on page 2.

MCCTC UPDATE

Please visit www.mc2ct.org for news, maps, trail planning tips, to make a donation, or to learn more about how you can become involved in Mokelumne Coast to Crest Trail efforts.

East Bay/Contra Costa County Segment: By John Mercurio, Segment Coordinator (No changes to report.)

San Joaquin County/Delta Segment: By Louise Hogerheide, Segment Coordinator & Terri Marchesseault, MCCT Council

The Delta Segment of the MCCT has received some important attention since its inclusion in the CA State Parks' recreation plan for the Delta. The result was increased visibility of our trail corridor research efforts and subsequent meetings and networking with agencies involved with managing the Delta. On May 17th, Louise met with Kristal Davis-Fadtke of the Delta Conservancy. Possible routes and the myriad challenges of creating public access adjacent to the Mokelumne River were discussed. The challenges remain the same: extensive private property, no singular land management agency or entity to manage the project and very little local grassroots support for land-based recreational access to the river corridor. However, networking and collaboration with Delta agencies continues. The trail council was invited to participate in the Stakeholder's Advisory Committee of the Delta Protection Committee. Mary Boblet attended a meeting with this group and contributed insights into the need for recreational opportunities in the Delta.

Camanche/Pardee Watershed Segment: By Steve Diers, Segment Coordinator

In addition to the Independence Flat loop trail (Middle Bar to Highway 49), EBMUD plans to develop some river access spurs off the narrow gauge section of this trail. These spurs will provide general waterfront access. Remaining consistent with EBMUD management of Pardee Reservoir and the surrounding watershed lands, there will be no body contact with the water at these points. There are a few "landing" sites that staff is currently evaluating. There is no formal timeline or particulars on how EBMUD will proceed with these trail elements, but they anticipate development activity to begin within a year's time. Right now, everyone's attention is on the MCCT (Independence Flat section) trail construction activities. The development of the Cook Mesa Trail Access Point (next to the Mokelumne Watershed and Recreation Division Office) will take place after the completion of the Independence Flat loop trail.

Middle Mokelumne River Canyon Segment (MMRC): by Steve Diers, Trail Council Director

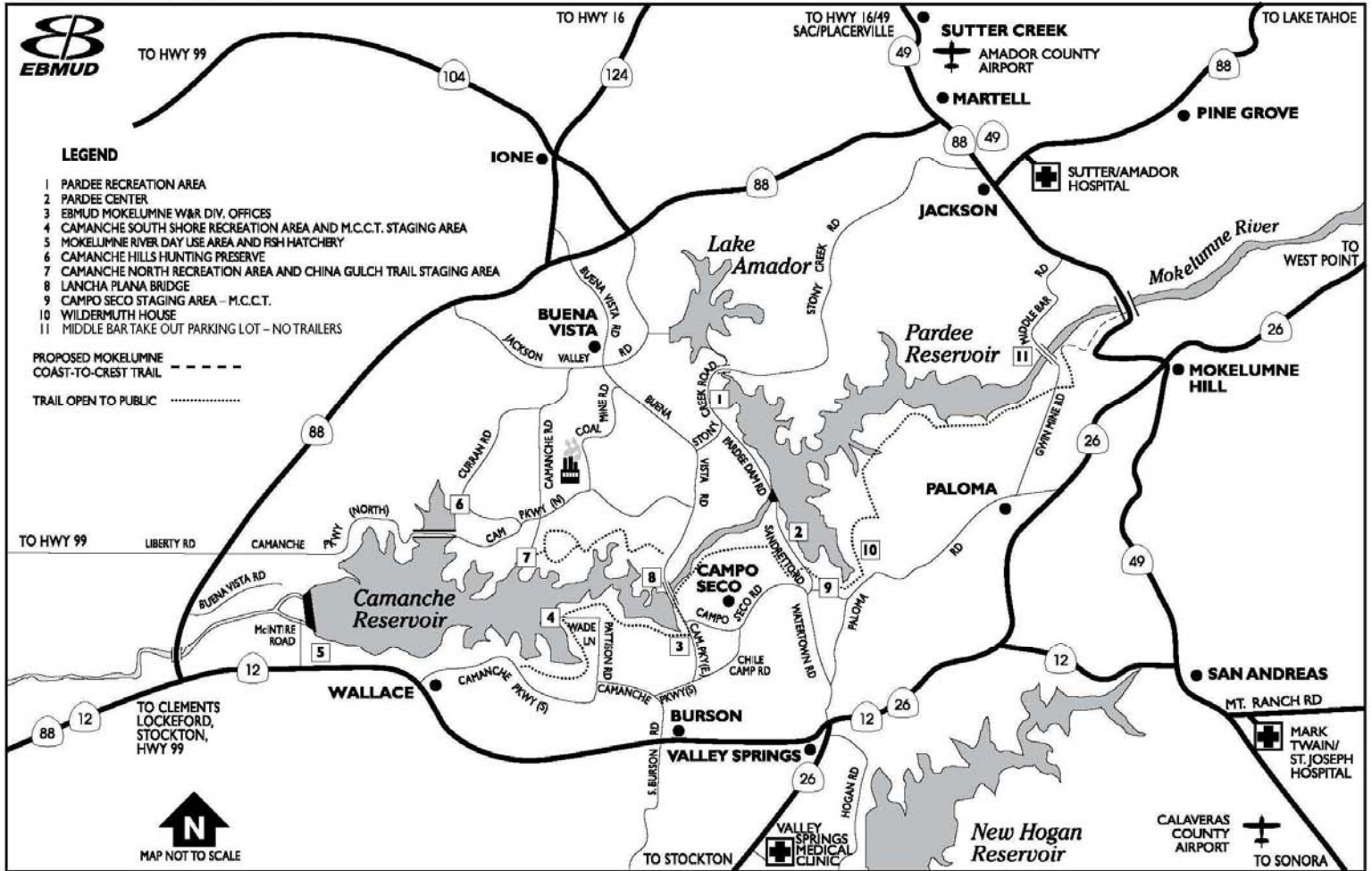
Paul Plath and other volunteers plan to start surveying from Spanish Bar east to Watkins Bar on government lands starting in September. The MCCT Council approved the funds to purchase tools to accomplish this task. A meeting will be set up with the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) to seek approval of the potential route on BLM lands once the data is collected. Exploration and mapping of historic roads and ditches in the Mokelumne Canyon from Watkins Bar to Salt Springs Reservoir for a potential trail route on government lands continues.

Upper Mokelumne River Canyon Segment (UMRC): Patricia Clarey, Public Service Program Leader, Calaveras Ranger District, Stanislaus National Forest Service

The Forest Service will be evaluating various route options for the Mosquito Lakes to Pacific Valley this Fall with our trails specialist. The segment may, or may not follow Highway 4. If a viable and affordable route is found that can avoid Hwy 4 we will do so. Once the trail gets to Pacific Valley, it will follow already established trails within the Carson Iceberg Wilderness. This will intersect with the PCT near ASA Lake. Bicyclists will need to stay on Hwy 4 and intersect the PCT at Ebbetts Pass. The segment from Chickaree to Mosquito Lake will be signed this Summer/Fall. The existing trail from Garnet Hill to Calaveras Dome is scheduled for major maintenance summer of 2013. I expect that this will be done by Forest Service Trail crew. The segment from Moore Creek to Tiger Creek scheduled to be reconned by our trail crew in the fall of 2012. NEPA will need to be completed prior to construction. Construction may occur in 2013/14/15.

MCCT Council (MCCTC): By Mary Boblet, Trail Council Director (No changes to report.)

MOKELUMNE AREA



MAP 205A - 6/09

MOKELUMNE TRAILBUSTERS

East Bay Municipal Utility District
Mokelumne Watershed & Recreation
15083 Camanche Parkway S
Valley Springs, California 95252

Volunteer Newsletter Staff:

Production: Lisa Stuart

Editing: Kent Lambert, Chris Swann, April Hughes

Trail and Volunteer Coordination: Steve Diers

Article Contributors: Chris Swann, Steve Diers, Dave Johnson, Kathy (Cook) Hansen

Photo credits: ¹Kent Lambert, ²Steve Diers, ³Gary Hughes, ⁴Pete Silva, ⁵Cook Family Historical Photo, ⁶EBMUD

Archival Photo