Volunteers Needed for Utah Chapter of the Sierra Club

I. General Support for Chapter Activities

a. Fundraising Committee

The chapter raises funds from members and donors to support its environmental campaigns.

Contact: Ian Wade ianwade@adventuresafety.org

- Approach and identify prospective partners for Sierra Club Love Utah / Give Utah campaign.
- Identify and approach prospect donors (corporate and individual) who would provide annual support to the Sierra Club.
- Assist in writing compelling messages for regular solicitations.
- Assist in writing thank-you cards for chapter donors.
- Identify and approach prospective businesses for the chapter’s fundraising from employees through payroll deduction. The chapter is a member of Community Shares/Utah’s workplace giving campaigns.

b. Communications Committee

Contact: Jeff Clay (jclay@clayhaus.net) or Mark Clemens, mark.clemens@sierraclub.org, 801-467-9294 x102

- The chapter needs to effectively and efficiently communicate about its various conservation and political campaigns and other activities. For this we employ a number of platforms, both in print and electronically.
- Agree to contribute to Letter to the Editor and Op-Ed campaigns by writing letters and/or opinion pieces.
- Take an active, co-admin role in social media campaigns by contributing timely and frequent posts.
- Become the Chapter’s video maven by shooting, collating, editing and/or posting videos of selected outings and events.
- Develop and/or design collateral content (brochures, information pieces, etc.).
- Help manage website content by assuming an editor role on the Drupal backend.

c. Political/Legislative Committee

The Utah legislature passes laws and allocates resources directly affecting the environment. Our political committee works primarily to support election of environmental friends and champions.

Contact: Turner Bitton (turner@turnerbittton.com) or Mark Clemens, mark.clemens@sierraclub.org, 801-467-9294 x102
• Help organize a network of citizen lobbyists in every legislative district in Utah. Help develop targeting materials on all representatives and senators to improve our messages.
• Help organize a Legislative Lobby & Training Day around the Clean Energy issue.
• Help track, analyze and post succinct information about bills during the Utah legislature’s General Session. This includes blogging, notifying members about significant bills, encouraging letters to the editor, etc.
• Help write and distribute candidate questionnaires and review the responses.
• Serve as a liaison with an endorsed candidate’s campaign.
• Phone bank or meet constituents and fellow Sierra Club members and supporters on precinct walks to support our endorsed candidates.

d. Membership and Social Committee

Retaining and recruiting new members helps to build our base of support and educate about critical environmental issues. And there’s no harm in having a good time along the way.

Contact: Nancy Cleveland nancycleveland1@yahoo.com, or Mark Clemens, mark.clemens@sierraclub.org, 801/467-9294 x102

• Contact new members with a phone call or postcard.
• Help organize socials, outings and issue forums that build esprit de corps while informing about environmental issues.
• Work with communications committee to generate email messages to members.
• Update membership information in our database from sign-up sheets collected at tables, rally events, fundraisers, etc.
• Write articles for the Utah Sierran newsletter.
• Distribute hard copies of the Spring and Fall issues of the Utah Sierran newsletter to schools, community centers, libraries, other public information outlets and retailers.
• UPCOMING SPECIAL EVENT: Chapter Jamboree – August 19-21, 2016. Contact Lindsay Beebe, Lindsay.beebe@sierraclub.org to find out how to help.

e. Outings

The Utah Chapter offers a wide variety of outings as part of the Sierra Club’s mission to “explore, enjoy and protect” our mountains ranges, forests, and canyon and desert lands. These range from easy evening walks in the Wasatch Mountain foothills to more challenging hiking, cross-country ski and snowshoe trips. We typically offer several car-camping trips to more distant locations each year, including the national parks. All trips are organized by volunteers, and we welcome your participation!

Contact Fred Swanson, fbswan32@msn.com

• We can use help with posting hike descriptions in the Utah Sierran and in our online schedules.
Stories and photographs from outings are always appreciated!
Become a trip leader by taking our Outings 101 introductory leadership course, available online or through 1- or 2-day workshops.

- Certified leaders are encouraged to organize outings which are posted online and in the Utah Sierran. Some outings are also advertised through our Meetup.com sites. We are especially interested in outings which feature a conservation theme (visiting places that are proposed for special protection as wilderness, parks, or monuments), or are otherwise threatened with development.

f. Service Outings

At least once a season our Sierra Club volunteers are involved in service projects on our public lands, doing everything from wildlife census-taking to trail maintenance. Projects are most often on weekends, and every summer we spend a week in a national park (the last week of July 2016 we will be doing Service in Great Smoky Mountains National Park). For more information or to be added to our Volunteer List please contact Par Rasmusson, 702-215-9119, parasmusson@gmail.com.

II. Conservation and Clean Energy

a. Beyond Fossil Fuels/Keep It in the Ground

Fossil fuel development, strip mining, potash and coal mining threaten our air and water quality, contribute to climate change and threaten our economy. Now, more than ever, we must expand our movement to transition Utah Beyond Fossil Fuels to an economy based on clean energy, air and water. As evidenced with the current drop in oil prices, Utah can ill afford to base our energy and economic future on fossil fuels, particularly at the expense of public lands and our recreation economy. The Utah Chapter submits comments to extractive industries, BLM, and other relevant authorities to protect our natural resources.

Contact: Dan Mayhew, drmayhew@comcast.net

- Contact chapter conservation leaders and assist with development of strategies and campaigns designed to move Utah Beyond Fossil Fuels.
- Urge public officials to support clean energy development and a “Keep It in the Ground” approach to Utah’s energy future.
- Write letters to the editor urging Utahns to support clean air, water and energy.
- Track energy development trends in surrounding states and assist the Utah Chapter in creating sound alternatives to fossil fuels.
- Co-Lead field trips to sites that demonstrate the irreversible damage caused by fossil fuel development.
- Attend and document public hearings.
- Tabling at events as needed.
b. **Keep Public Lands in Public Hands**

Our public lands are the heritage of all Americans. They contain some of the nation’s most scenic wildlands and some of its best wildlife habitat. This heritage is threatened by the efforts of Utah’s legislature to seize control of our public lands and dedicate them to industrial development. Put simply, the goal of the Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands Campaign is to confront and stop Utah’s proposed land grab.

Contact: Lawson LeGate, Lawson.legate@gmail.com, (801) 583-1650

- Urging local elected officials to publicly oppose the state land grab.
- Writing letters-to-the-editor and opinion pieces in support of Keeping Public Lands in Public Hands.
- Organizing phone calls to members and allies to contact local elected officials.
- Organizing rallies and other public events in support of campaign goals.
- Leading outings to special places among our public lands in Utah.
- Reaching out to other public land users sympathetic with our goals, such as hunters and anglers.
- Entering data to keep track of people who volunteer for the campaign along with their current contact information.
- Raising funds to help with campaign expenses.

c. **Citizen Science: Wildlife Protection and Climate Change**

Science provides some of the most powerful ammunition the environmental movement uses to protect special places. Join us to help collect the data we need to win in Utah.

Contact: Jim Catlin, jim@wildutahproject.org,

- Help conduct aspen regeneration surveys. Collect data in canyons next to SLC and in the mountains east of Ogden and Logan.
- Assist with riparian surveys, learn to think like wildlife. May be a day or overnight trip.
- Participate with sage grouse lek counts in the spring.
- Conduct grazing use and forage production surveys in the Duck Creek Allotment. Learn about range management and what the future might hold.
- Need a volunteer to work as Sierra Club representative on collaborative processes.
- Need a volunteer to help assemble all the key documents needed to work on the related air quality issue and post them on a Sierra Club campaign web site to share with other Club activists working on same issue.
- Help survey two trails up Big Cottonwood Canyon to measure ATV damage and erosion. Additionally, a volunteer is needed to help contact the Forest Service and gather any data they have.
d. Water Conservation

Unbridled development while denying the threats of climate change sum up Utah’s approach to water conservation. Oil, gas and tar sand development threaten the quality and quantity of drinking water of 35 million downstream users dependent on the Colorado River. Hugely expensive and unnecessary Great Salt Lake Bear River dam and Colorado River Lake Powell Pipeline diversions threaten the very survival of these water resources while adding billions of debt to Utah taxpayers. Working with our water coalition partners, the Utah Chapter seeks to avoid such wasteful projects by ensuring that planning for climate change and preservation become the rule rather than the exception.

Contact: Dan Mayhew, drmayhew@comcast.net

- Contact chapter conservation leaders and assist with development of strategies and campaigns designed to preserve and protect our water.
- Lobby civic organizations, community and city councils to endorse water conservation as an alternative to costly diversion projects.
- Urge Utah officials to abandon unnecessary and costly diversion projects in favor of preservation and conservation.
- Urge public officials to support clean energy development and a “Keep It in the Ground” approach to Utah’s energy future.
- Write letters to the editor urging Utahns to practice conservation and preservation of our precious water resources.

e. Utah Needs Clean Energy

The Utah Legislature voted for a 20% renewable energy standard by 2025 back in 2008, but on our current trajectory, we won’t come close to hitting it. The Utah Needs Clean Energy Campaign aims to work with a variety of groups to pass legislation giving us a guaranteed 20% renewable energy standard.

Contact: Ian Wade, ianwade@adventuresafety.org

- Lobby civic organizations, community councils, city councils and other bodies to endorse the Utah Needs Clean Energy resolution.
- Use social media to encourage signatures on the Utah Needs Clean Energy petition.
- Tabling at events as needed.
- Attend public hearings
- Write letters to the editor and submit them to newspapers
- Office help needed keeping our database current; develop membership lists for issues and campaigns

f. Clean Air / Regional Haze
Air quality problems are serious along the Wasatch Front which exceeds national safety standards more frequently than much of the rest of the country. But air quality violations are increasingly a problem in rural Utah too. Our campaign seeks to ensure all Utahns have the chance to breathe clean air.

Contact: Ian Wade ianwade@adventuresafety.org or Lindsay Beebe Lindsay.beebe@sierraclub.org 801-467-9294 x101

- Blog and use social media in support of clean air.
- Support city and county council resolutions in support of clean air.
- Collaborate with other groups that support clean air.

**g. Beyond Coal Campaign**

Utah’s abundant wind and solar resources could supply all our needs for electricity, but unfortunately Utah remains stuck in a 19th Century mindset of burning black rocks or tarry petroleum. The Beyond Coal Campaign is working to reduce coal’s impact while phasing it out in favor of renewable energy sources.

Contact: Lindsay Beebe, Lindsay.beebe@sierraclub.org, 801-467-9294 x101

- Tabling at events as needed.
- Attend public hearings.
- Write letters to the editor and submit them to newspapers.
- Use social media to spread the message and publicize events.
- Office help needed keeping our database current; develop membership lists for issues and campaigns.

**III. Geographic groups within the Chapter seeking volunteers**

**Glen Canyon Group (in and around Moab)**

The Glen Canyon Group represents members and volunteers in southeastern Utah.

Contact: Marc Thomas, marc_judi@frontiernet.net  435-259-2208

- Update club database for current and lapsed members’ contact information
- Help generate a plan to increase membership in the group
- Generate activities other than hikes.
- Assist with development of a political activist base.

**Salt Lake Group**
The Salt Lake Group represents members and volunteers in southern Davis, Salt Lake and Tooele Counties.

Contact: Will McCarvill will@commercialchemistries.com or Mark Clemens, mark.clemens@sierraclub.org, 801-467-9294 x102

- Generate social activities for SL members
- Establish a speakers’ forum to increase membership and generate activist interest
- Help with our Air Quality initiative
- Take part in Envision Utah projects
- Organize around SLC and canyon issues regarding resort expansion and transportation, Great Salt Lake preservation, and clean energy.
- Write letters to the editor on campaign issues.

**Ogden Group**

The Ogden Group represents members and volunteers in the Ogden area.

Contact: Larry Woolsey, landcrun@hotmail.com, 801 690-4335.

- Serve as Outings leaders.
- Help with trail cleaning and weed control.
- Serve as Ogden Group newsletter editor.

**Wasatch Back Network**

The Wasatch Back Network connects Sierra Club members and other interested citizens in Summit and Wasatch Counties. The WBN listserve provides information from the Utah Chapter about conservation events, issues, and opportunities of interest to the Park City area.

Contact: Marion Klaus, marionklaus@comcast.net or Amy Mills, amills3912@yahoo.com

- Assist with distribution of information, communications and social media. Revise, upgrade, and manage WBN Facebook page.
- Assist with organizing speakers and other informational programs.
- Tabling at events as needed.
- Write and submit letters to the editor.
- Attend public hearings, county council meetings, and other local meetings with environmental themes or consequences.