

# Bay Currents Spring 2017

*Free talks on natural history and environmental issues, emphasizing positive solutions.*

*Second or third Tuesdays at St. Alban's Parish Hall,  
1501 Washington, Albany (one block north of Solano)*

*Refreshments 7 PM, talks 7:30 to 9 PM*

*Free -- but seating is limited! Sign up [here](#) to get email notices of upcoming talks.*

## Tues., Jan. 10: Welcome Back Otters

Megan Isadore, head of the River Otter Ecology Project, brings the latest news of these lithe and charismatic carnivores' Bay Area comeback. How are populations and ranges changing? How do otters live and eat through the seasons? Learn about fascinating techniques used to research elusive, secretive mammals that slide into the water and disappear -- as well as the role of citizen science.



Co-sponsored with [Bay Nature Magazine](#) and [California Center for Natural History](#). Read Bay Nature's [article on river otters](#) in the fall 2016 issue of Bay Nature Magazine!

## Tues., Feb. 14: Love Letter to Mt. Diablo

Seth Adams, longtime Land Conservation Director for Save Mount Diablo, tells first hand the fascinating story of "Re-assembling the Diablo Wild Lands" -- one of the Bay Area's most significant conservation efforts.



By championing this landmark and its many ecosystems, Save Mount Diablo has expanded protected lands from 6800 acres to a network of over 110,000 acres of open space -- one of the Bay Area's most significant conservation efforts. Breathtaking images will bring to life the mountain's importance and its rich natural and cultural history.



## Tues., Mar. 14: Stopping the Coal and Oil Trains

Citizen efforts to prevent shipment of coal and oil through Bay Area ports and refineries have been part of similar efforts throughout the West, from Canada to Long Beach to the Dakotas. Environmental-justice groups have worked alongside main-line environmental organizations, against climate change and in favor of disadvantaged groups. Under new conditions, what is the future for these and similar citizen efforts? Andres Soto, Bay Area native and longtime organizer for Communities for a Better Environment, brings us up to date on the saga of citizen engagement against risky shipping of fossil fuels.



## Tues., Apr. 18: How California Rivers and Lakes "Work"



Dr. Vince Resh of UC Berkeley vividly explains the interplay of chemistry, geology, hydrology, and biology in our water bodies. Why, for example, can many plants and animals live in either lakes or streams but not both?



Dr. Resh has taught at UC Berkeley since 1975, in a career that has included restoration of Strawberry Creek on the Berkeley campus, working with international agencies on West African river blindness, and studying effects of Chinese dams in South-east Asia. He remains involved in water policy, and will also talk about the role of monitoring in assessing water quality.

*Short descriptions of Friends of Five Creeks' previous Bay Currents talks [here](#).*