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TEHIPITE CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB

RECORDS, 1979-2009  
1.4 linear feet

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ACCESS: The records are open for research.

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## **History**

The Sierra Club, the United States' oldest and largest environmental organization, was founded by John Muir on May 28, 1892. Since its establishment, the organization has been devoted to studying and protecting national scenic resources, demonstrating a particular interest in the conservation of mountain regions. Its specific purpose is:

To explore, enjoy, and protect the wild places of the earth; to practice and promote the responsible use of the earth's ecosystems and resources; to educate and enlist humanity to protect and restore the quality of the natural and human environment; and to use all lawful means to carry out these objectives. (*Report on the Kings River Cañon and Vicinity: to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of Agriculture, and to the Forester*, p.1. Woodward F868.K48 S53 1907)

Although the Sierra Club has taken a global interest in the environment, it primarily concentrates on regions within the United States.

The Tehipite Chapter of the Sierra Club was established to accomplish the Sierra Club's mission within its boundaries, which includes all of Fresno, Madera, Mariposa, and Merced Counties as well as segments of Tulare and Tuolumne Counties. The chapter has an executive committee and several committees such as Awards, Membership and Outings. There is also an affiliate group in Merced with its own officers and activities. The Tehipite Chapter focuses its conservation efforts on this region, with a particular interest in Yosemite and Kings Canyon National Parks, but is also involved in statewide, national and global issues. The chapter holds monthly meetings and hosts an annual banquet, in addition to offering several hikes and other outdoor outings each month, which are open to the public.

## **Scope and Content Note**

The Tehipite Chapter of the Sierra Club records measure 11 linear inches and date from 1979 to 2002. The collection is arranged in eight series: Correspondence, Financial, Meetings, Membership, Organization, Political issues, Publications, and Photographs.

The **Correspondence** series (1987-1993, 1997-2000 and undated) consists primarily of letters from former chairmen of the Tehipite Chapter. The correspondence covers a variety of topics, including club outings, legal proceedings and environmental programs. There is also a short mailing list.

The **Financial** series (1985-1991, 1996-2000 and undated) consists of detailed information regarding the Tehipite Chapter's financial accounts. This includes balance sheets, income/expense registers, cash flow reports and account statements. There are also more general budgetary items, specifically, proposed budgets and treasurer's reports. In addition, there are

**Scope and Content Note** (cont.)

copies of financial contracts between the Tehipite Chapter and the Unitarian Universalist Church for the use of church facilities for chapter events.

The **Meetings** series (1985-1992, 1994-2000 and undated) contains information regarding meetings held by the Tehipite Chapter as well as those conducted by the chapter's Executive Committee.

The Chapter subseries contains annual calendars that list, by month and day, all meetings for the chapter. This includes listings of Sierra Club conventions, general chapter meetings and meetings of chapter committees. These schedules also provide information regarding special events, including banquets and outings. The subseries also contains minutes of general chapter meetings.

The Executive Committee subseries primarily consists of agendas and minutes of Executive Committee meetings. Many of the documents are in both rough draft and final draft form. In addition, the subseries contains two resolution requests proposed by the Tehipite Chapter's Conservation Committee for consideration by the Executive Committee. Both resolutions ask the Executive Committee to oppose potential legislation. One involves an anti-water meter initiative in Fresno and the other involves the proposed construction of a toxic waste incinerator at Kettle Hills.

The **Membership** series (1983, 1986-1991 and undated) contains information regarding membership in the Tehipite Chapter and its committees. This includes chapter activity reports, which tabulate and list the total membership in the chapter, and chapter change reports, which list individual members by name. The series also contains committee membership registers, which list those serving in committee positions.

The **Organization** series (1982, 1986, 1988-1990, 1992-2000 and undated) contains information helpful to understanding the Tehipite Chapter as well as the Sierra Club as a whole. There are bylaws, directories, information regarding leadership responsibilities and member resources. The elections section of the series details elections held within the Tehipite Chapter. This consists of ballots, candidate statements and documents related to the Tehipite Chapter Nominating Committee, including correspondence with candidates, polling outcomes and procedural guidelines. There is also fundraising information, including general requirements and specific information regarding banquets held by the Tehipite Chapter. Also within this series is a data sheet, which compiles detailed information regarding the Sierra Club and its chapters, including leadership, governance and activities.

The **Political issues** series (1979-1980, 1986-1992, 1997-2000, 2007-2009 and undated) consists of information regarding the political involvement of the Tehipite Chapter. The series contains

**Scope and Content Note** (cont.)

information, including correspondence, pamphlets and policy statements, regarding the Sierra Club's interest in political issues. Most of the topics involve environmental legislation. This includes information about air and water quality, deserts, forestry, wetlands, wildlife and the Yosemite National Forest. Other topics include education, transportation and urban development.

The **Publications** series (1980-1981, 1984, 1987, 1990, 1992, 1998, 2002 and undated) contains newspaper clippings, flyers, notices and copies of *Tehipite Topics*. The clippings are from the *Fresno Bee* and contain information on both the Tehipite Chapter and the Sierra Club. The flyers give information on Sierra Club activities and interests. The Sierra Club and its Tehipite Chapter distributed the notices, many of which ask for donations or inform members on events and policies. *Tehipite Topics* is a publication issued by the Tehipite Chapter that addresses the club's political involvement and activities.

The **Photographs** series (undated) contains photographs of members of the Tehipite Chapter as they take part in club events, including outings, dinner and political presentations. Some specific events included the Save the Kings River Canyon picnic and an outing to the Cottonwood Pack Station.

**Related Collections**

Mineral King Collection

This collection contains information on the Sierra Club's involvement in an attempt to stop development of a road through the Mineral King Valley. There are Sierra Club bulletins, correspondence, legal documents and newsletters, including copies of *Tehipite Topics*. See Box 3, Sierra Club, 1961-1996.

FACETS (Fresno Area Citizens for an Effective Transportation System) Records

*Tehipite Topics*

The latest six months of this newsletter are kept in the current Periodicals section of the Library.

**Works Published by the Sierra Club in the Woodward Collection**

Adams, Virginia and Ansel Adams. *Illustrated Guide to Yosemite: The Valley, the Rim, and the Central Yosemite Sierra and Mountain Photography*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, 1963. (F868.Y6 A39)

**Works Published by the Sierra Club in the Woodward Collection** (cont.)

Farquhar, Francis P. 1965. *History of the Sierra Nevada*. Berkeley: University of California Press in collaboration with the Sierra Club, 1965. (F868.S5 F18)

Le Conte, Joseph. *Ramblings through the High Sierra*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, 1900. (F868.S5 L4)

Muir, John. *Gentle Wilderness: The Sierra Nevada*, edited by David Brower. San Francisco: Sierra Club, 1964. (f F868.S5 M88)

Sierra Club. *Base Camp, 1953*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, [1953]. (f F868.S5 S565 1953)

Sierra Club. [*Collection of Sierra Club Bulletins on Yosemite and the Sierra Nevada*]. San Francisco: Sierra Club, [1915-1937]. (F868.Y6 S5)

Sierra Club. *Report on the King's River Cañon and Vicinity: To the President of the United States, to the Secretary of Agriculture, and to the Forester*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, [1907]. (F868.K48 S53 1907)

Sierra Club. *Sierra Club Base Camps, 1954*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, [1954]. (f F868.S5 S565 1954)

Sierra Club. *Sierra Club Base Camp Outing, July 28-August 10, 1940*. San Francisco: Sierra Club, [1940]. (F868.S5 S55)

Sierra Club Outing, 1927. [Photograph album assembled by W.K. Webber] (F868.S5 S5)

Wheelock, Walt, ed. *Desert Peaks Guide: Part I, Being that Great Ridge Lying East of Owen's Valley: The Mono, White, Inyo, Coso and Argus Ranges*. Los Angeles: Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter, Desert Peaks Section, 1962. (F868.I6 W5)

**Box no.   Description**

Box 1

**Correspondence**

Evenhart, Donna, 1992  
Markham, Brenda, 1997-1999 and undated  
Redmond, Don, 1987-1988 and 1997-1998  
Salcido, Barbara, 1990  
Whitmore, George, 1989  
Wiebe, Richard, 1991, 1993 and 1998-1999  
Miscellaneous  
    Correspondence, 1989-1990, 1992, 1997-1998, 2000 and undated  
    Mailing list, undated

**Financial**

Balance sheets, 2000  
Cash flow reports, 1996-1997  
Category detail reports, 1996-1997  
Category summary reports, 1997-1998 and undated  
Field recruitment (FRIP) rebates, 1985-1988  
Income/expense registers, 1990-1991, 1996 and undated  
Profit/loss, 2000  
Proposed budgets, 1985-1991  
Statements, 1985-1989  
Treasurer's reports, 1998-2000 and undated  
Unitarian Universalist Church contracts, 1997-1999  
Miscellaneous, 1986

**Meetings**

Chapter  
    Meeting schedules, 1986 and 1991  
    Minutes, 1990-1992, 1995 and undated  
Executive Committee  
    Agendas  
        1987-1988, 1992, 1995-1996  
        1997  
        1998  
        1999  
        2000

**Box no.   Description**

Box 1 (cont.)

**Meetings (cont.)**

Executive Committee (cont.)

Minutes (cont.)

Minutes

1985-1986

1987 (2 folders)

1988

1989

1990

1992, 1994-1995

1997-1998

1999-2000

2007-2009

Resolution requests, 1990

**Membership**

Chapter activity reports, 1987-1990

Chapter change reports, 1988-1989 and undated

Committee membership registers, 1983, 1986-1991 and undated

**Organization**

Bylaws, 1982 and undated

Directory, 2000

Elections

Ballots, 1992-1993, 1995-1996 and 1998

Candidate statements, 1990, 1993-1995 and undated

Nominating Committee

Correspondence with candidates, 1988-1990

General, 1986, 1989-1990, 1992, 1999 and undated

Fundraising

Banquets, 1989 and undated

General, undated

Leadership, 1989 and undated

Member resources, 1982, 1986, 1989, 1997, 1999 and undated

Sierra Club groups

California section chairs, 1999

National

**Box no.   Description**

Box 1 (cont.)

**Organization (cont.)**

Sierra Club groups (cont.)

Accredited and unaccredited groups, 1988-1989

Chapters, 1999

Governance Committee, 1999

Group and chapter listings, 1999

**Political issues**

Air quality

Air Pollution Management District, 1989

Clean Air Act, 1989-1990 and undated

General, 1989-1990

Mariposa Downwind Association, 1989

Deserts

Caliente Resource Area, 1989

California Desert Protection Act, 1990 and undated

Education

Environmental education (Roosevelt High School), 1990 and 1992

University of California, Merced, 2000

Forestry

Ancient forests, 1988-1990 and undated

Forest and Wildlife Protection Initiative, 1990 and undated

General, 1989, 1992 and undated

Giant Sequoia National Monument, 2000

Public Lands Forestry Policy, 1990

Sequoia National Forest Settlement, 1990

Sequoia TV Tower, 1989 and undated

Sierra GIS Implementation, undated

Western Sierra Nevada Committee, 1992 and undated

Transportation

Fresno Area Citizens for an Effective Transportation System (FACETS), 1999

Herndon Bike Path, 1998

Urban development

Anti-sprawl campaign, 1999

Concerned Citizens of the Copper-San Joaquin Area (CCCSJA), 1992

Millerton New Town Development Company, 1988-1989



**Box no.   Description**

Box 1 (cont.)

**Political issues (cont.)**

Water quality

- Friant water use, undated
- General, 1979, 1988-1989 and undated
- Irrigation, 1989-1990
- Kings River Special Management Area, 1990 and undated
- Oakhurst Water Treatment Facility, 1999
- Pinedale Area Groundwater IWP Investigation, 1990
- San Joaquin River Parkway, 1991 and undated
- San Joaquin Valley Drainage Program, 1989
- Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, 1990, 2000 and undated

Wetlands

- Campaign to Save California Wetlands, 1992 and undated
- General, 1990
- Wetlands Reform Act, 1990-1992 and undated

Wildlife (see also Political issues; Forestry; Forest and Wildlife Protection Initiative)

- Arctic National Wildlife Refuge, 1989 and undated
- California Wildlands Program, 1990 and undated
- General, 1980, 1989, 1998 and undated
- Habitat Conservation Plan, 1998
- McKenzie Tables Reserve, 1992
- Roadless areas, 1997

Yosemite

- Hetch Hetchy Valley restoration, 1998-1999 and undated
- Weather Modification Program, 1989
- Yosemite Task Force, 1990
- Yosemite Valley Plan, 1989 and 1999-2000

Miscellaneous

- Candidate endorsements, 1990, 1992, 2000 and undated
- Energy (power generation), 1980 and 1990
- Ethnic Diversity Task Force, 1992
- Lemoore Naval Air Station, 1998
- Mining, 1998 and undated
- Parks and recreation, 1998 and 2000
- Pesticide/herbicide use, 1987, 1989-1992, 1999 and undated
- Title 2200–Range management, undated (6 folders)
- Tropical Forest Campaign, 1990

**Box no.   Description**

Box 1 (cont.)

**Political issues (cont.)**

Miscellaneous (cont.)

Waste management, 1980 and 1986

**Publications**

Clippings, 1992 and undated

Flyers, 1980-1982, 1984, 1987 and undated

Notices, 1998 and undated

Box 2

*Tehipite Topics*

1982-1983

1984

1985

**Publications (cont.)**

*Tehipite Topics (cont.)*

1986

1987

1988-1989

1990, 1992

2002

**Photographs, undated**