



Friends of Five Creeks (www.fivecreeks.org, f5creeks@aol.com) presents:

Bay Currents

Talks on Bay Area nature and environmental issues, emphasizing positive solutions
Edith Stone Room, Albany Community Center, 1249 Marin (at Masonic).

7-9 PM (Refreshments 7 PM, talks begin promptly at 7:30)

Free -- but seating is limited.

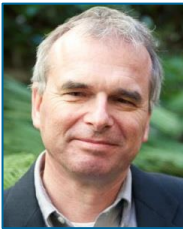
Monday, Jan. 6: Redwoods: Hope in a Changing Climate

Our iconic Coast redwoods, the world's tallest trees, evolved in the age of dinosaurs, so they have seen many change. Join **Dr. Emily Burns**, science director for the Save the Redwoods League, for a slide talk on these giants' long history, how modern climate change is affecting their foggy coastal homes, and the surprising ways that trees a thousand years old or more are responding to current changes. Plus, learn how you can collect important scientific data while just talking a walk in a redwood forest!



Dr. Burns studied redwood-forest communities while earning her PhD from UC Berkeley and doing postdoctoral research at UC Santa Cruz. She heads the Redwoods and Climate Change Initiative for the Save the Redwoods League, which has protected these ancient forests for almost a century.

Monday, Feb. 3, 7-9 PM: Mud Matters



Lowly mud is vital to San Francisco Bay. It builds marshes and mudflats, and profoundly affects water quality, plants, and animals. But mud seems to be growing scarcer at the same time that changing climate and sea level threaten both natural wetlands and our manmade communities.



Jeremy Lowe, Senior Coastal Geomorphologist at ESA in San Francisco, will talk about both the historic and current role of mud in the bay, what controls its availability – and how, in the face of sea-level rise, undervalued resources like mud and wastewater can be critical in creating new, more sustainable shorelines. Lowe's projects on tidal-wetland restoration and sea-level-rise adaptation have taken him from Venice, Italy, to Venice, California. His current work focuses ecosystem-based adaptation to climate change in San Francisco Bay.

Monday, Mar. 3, 7-9 PM: New Safe Havens for California Sea Life

California's new Marine Protected Areas protect sea life within their boundaries, with the aim of enriching much larger areas of ocean. Working with the state, Reef Check California trains scuba



divers as citizen scientists, monitoring these exhilarating new protected places and understanding how they are working. This beautifully illustrated talk will discuss encouraging signs of recovery in Central California's rich marine life – and how volunteer divers can help!

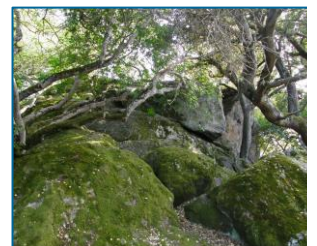


Dr. Jan Freiwald studied marine ecology and evolutionary biology at UC Santa Cruz, and has researched the ecology of California's rocky reefs and kelp forests for a decade. He heads Reef Check California, which trains volunteer scuba divers to monitor these rich communities.

Monday, April 7, 7-9 PM: Our East Bay Geoheritage



Our East Bay rocks and landforms are libraries of "deep time," bearing stories of the fascinating structure and surprisingly active geologic history of our remarkable region. With examples of rock exposures, fossils, and landforms in our neighborhoods, this talk will explore how we can better recognize and celebrate our geoheritage and see the "deep present" around us.



Andrew Alden, formerly with the US Geological Survey, has been geology expert for About.com since 1997. He also is a regular contributor to the KQED web site and author of the Oakland Geology blog, winner of "Best of the East Bay" from the East Bay Express.