



# MEADOW NEWS

High Sierra Meadows Property Owners Newsletter

March 2018

## 2018 State of the Meadow High Sierra Property Owners Association

Now that the 2018 season is about to begin, I wanted to let everyone know what your Board of Directors has planned. During the winter break, your Board voted on and approved two major projects for the 2018 season. The first, and most likely the most noticeable project will be the installation of culverts and road work on the dirt road entering the property from Lower Chiquita Campground area (more commonly known as the "back gate") as well as the steep 'S' curve about a half mile out the front gate. Over the very wet winter of 2016-17 this road took a beating with the watershed, and there are now several large areas where a large portion of the road has deep ruts and large rocks, making the trip in the back gate quite difficult. The Board solicited quotes from several vendors, and selected the lowest responsive bidder to complete the project. The work will begin as soon as the crew can safely get their equipment and supplies up to project site. We will be posting more information to the website on that project's start date and time line.

The other project currently being worked on is the standardization of the water main valves at each property. Over the years the aging water mains at many lots have become problematic. The Board is currently soliciting quotes for the replacement and standardization of all water mains. This project will include installing the proper enclosures for the main valves and marking of each property's main water valve location. We believe this will be a multi-year project that will take a few years to complete. More information on this project will be provided on the website as we get the scope, cost and time line more defined.

It appears that mother nature is not going to be providing much needed rain and snow to the meadow area this year. Winter still is not over, so let's all keep our fingers crossed for more rain and snow. As many of you already know, there was a large scale plan to burn many of the logs removed from several lots due to the removal of the dead bark beetle killed trees. We have large

piles of logs in the meadow, and we are just waiting for more snow pack to be able to safely burn them this year. We are still very hopeful this will happen before spring officially starts and the weather warms up. We will continue to keep everyone informed on the progress of that project.

We have made some major progress in our clean-up efforts to help mitigate the fire dangers. The vast majority of property owners have stepped up to do their part. The Board will continue to pursue voluntary cooperation from all property owners to help with that effort, and if voluntary cooperation cannot be achieved, the Board will do everything possible to bring properties into full compliance with the Boards Directives and HSPOA CC&R's. Your support and con-

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## 2018 State of the Meadow High Sierra Property Owners Association

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tinued efforts are very much appreciated. We hope to be able to bring this project to full closure during the 2018 season. We did have an unattended fire get out of control late in the fall, which did cause damage to more than one lot. Fire risk is still very high, so we encourage everyone to be vigilant and make sure fires are completely out when leaving the area.

As you can see your Board of Directors continues to work very hard for HSPOA. We meet via conference call on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:00pm. We encourage everyone to call in and participate in the discussions. We are looking forward to a great fun-filled 2018 spring and summer season at the Meadow.

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## Do You Know SoYo?

By Rick Edgeworth

A few years ago, while camping with friends over the hill in Yosemite, I overheard some people talking about a place they were calling SoYo. Their descriptions of the rocks, ridges and domes sounded oddly familiar for some reason. I finally had to butt in and ask – who, what and where is this “SoYo”?

Turns out “SoYo” is all around “us”.

Within the community of avid Rock Climbers – the area surrounding High Sierra Meadows is known as the Southern Yosemite – abbreviated as the SoYo.

What they were describing to me that day was that our Meadow sits in the middle of a range of famous rock climbing areas on all sides of us. It is the variety and quality of rocks, walls, slabs, and domes that roughly circle our Meadow like a southern version of the Yosemite Valley, hence the name SoYo.

To our west are the granite walls, domes and peaks of the Shuteye Ridge with climbing route names such as Eagles Beaks, High Eagle, Electric Eagle Wall, Queens Dome and the Big Sleep.

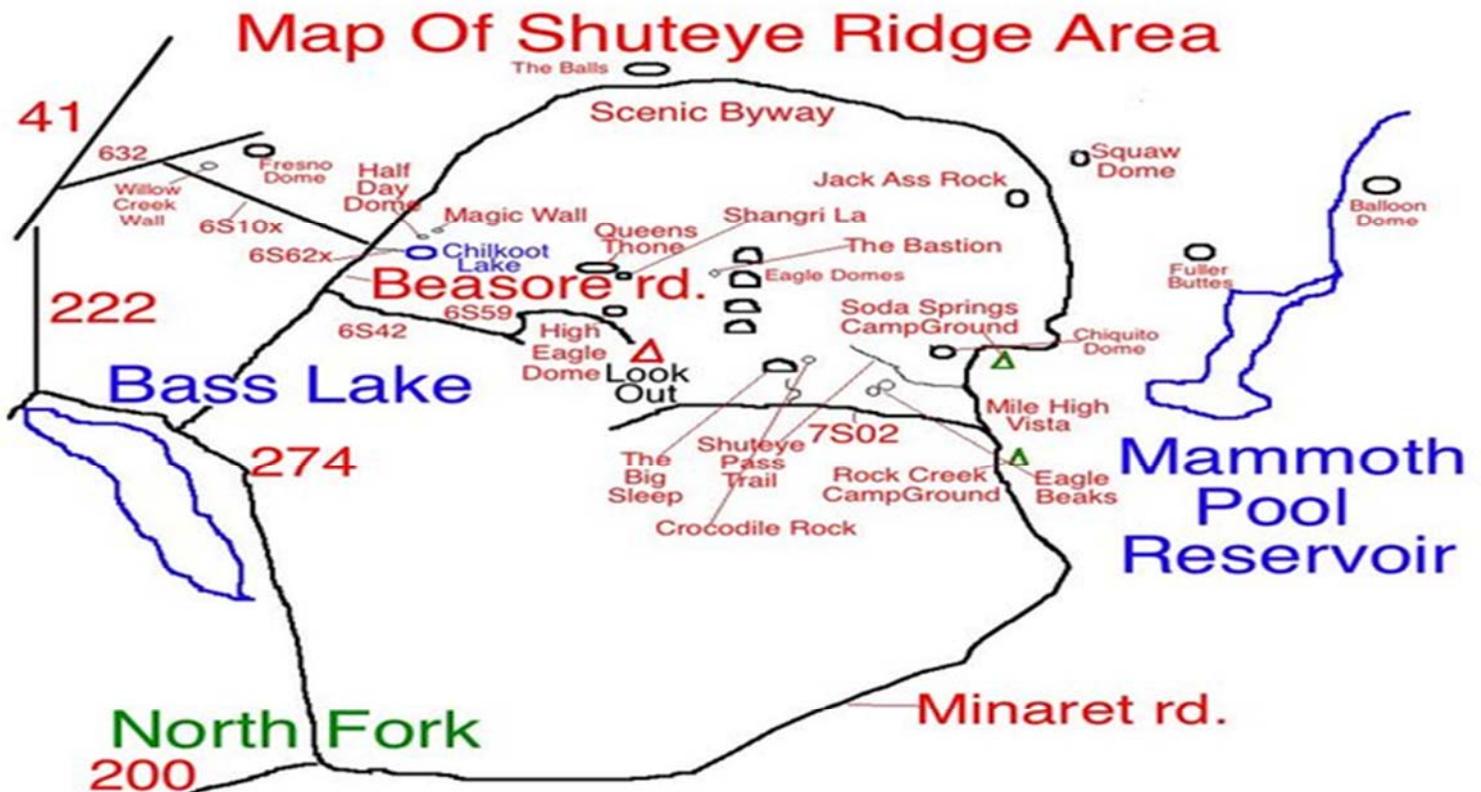
To our east along Minarets Road lies the Jack-ass Rocks complex with Squaw Dome further up Minarets Road.

## Fire Clearance update

*Fire Clearance Update: The third and final scheduled compliance date for lot clearance (tree trimming to 8') has come and gone – 11/1/17. Some owners requested hardship extensions and presented their reasoning to the Board. Some requests were approved and given extensions to 7/1/18. Lots out of compliance have been fined \$500 and have until 7/1/18 to become compliant or face an additional \$500 fine. Those lots that are on 'Jesse's List' or have made arrangements with alternate tree services have been given extensions to 7/1/18 as well. The goal is to have all lots compliant by 7/1/18. Any lots remaining out of compliance by this date are subject to clearance by the HSPOA and having a special assessment recorded on their property. \**

## Do You Know SoYo? (cont'd from pg. 2)

Follow Minarets up and around where it becomes Beasore and you will see the Balls Walls (also called Portuguese Overlook). These slabs are directly across the road from the Jackass Meadows parking lot. Finally, off to



### High Sierra Meadows Board Meetings

Board meetings are held the second (2<sup>nd</sup>) Tuesday of every month @ 7:00 pm except September which is held at the Meadow, the Sunday before Labor Day. All of the Board meetings except Labor Day weekend are held via conference call. To participate in the conference call, dial 1-641-715-3286 and enter the passcode 618478# at the prompt. Please announce yourself. Meeting agendas can be read/downloaded from the HSPOA website at <http://www.highsierrameadows.com> under 'Official Business' / "Meetings and Agendas". \*

the southwest sits the Fresno Dome and the Willow Creek Wall.

Looking into the history of Rock Climbing around our neighborhood, the development of named climbs or "routes" dates back to some of the early Yosemite Pioneer climbers of the 1950's and '60's. Names like Doug Robinson and Royal Robbins were some of the first recorded serious climbers to explore our area.

For most of the next few decades, rock climbing shifted back to the more public Yosemite Valley itself, leaving the rocks around us for locals from North Fork and Bass Lake to explore and claim as their own.

## Do You Know SoYo? (cont'd from pg. 3)

Beginning in the early 1990's, spurred mostly by local climbers trading stories over the Internet, the Shuteye Ridge and SoYo areas saw a resurgence of interest that continues to this day. Turns out that on any given weekend of summer day, while we toil away with our bark beetle trees, there are hundreds of folks scaling the rocks that comprise what we call Shuteye. So, it seems that there is more to the Peak than just the Lookout after all.



Want to know more about Rock Climbing the SoYo?

Websites such as [www.southernyosemiteclimbing.com](http://www.southernyosemiteclimbing.com) list hundreds of climbs and amazing photographs. Based in Oakhurst, the Southern Yosemite Mountains Guides ([www.symg.com](http://www.symg.com)) will teach you how to climb this area. For DIY climbers, Oakhurst local Graham Doe wrote the most recent guidebook to the area titled "Shuteye Ridge: A Rock Climber's Guide to California's Shuteye Ridge".

Did you also know that Shuteye Ridge was supposedly named in the late 1800's for a local Mono Paiute Indian Guide in the area who was missing one eye? \*