

# The Sierra County Prospect

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Posted on [March 25, 2020](#)

## SYRCL News 3/25/20

Dear SYRCL Family,

We're writing to check in during this stressful time for our community and the world. We sincerely hope you and everyone in your family are taking good care. We want you to know that we are thinking of you and all our members who belong to the SYRCL family.

Nature heals and eases restlessness and feelings of being overwhelmed. Birdwatching, wildflower gazing, river walks, and sweaty hikes – these can help us get through this public health crisis together.

We wanted to let you know that SYRCL is fully operational.

We've just had to be more creative about it. Most of the staff are working from home and we've closed the office to the public. This was the best option to protect those of us who need to be here to bring in the mail, use the printer, check our server, pay the bills, etc., to keep operations going smoothly.

What are we doing? We're still moving forward critical projects in meadows restoration, forest health, and lower Yuba restoration. We've just held our first River Monitoring weekend of the season, with modifications for social distancing. The need for meetings doesn't stop, either, so Zoom (an online meeting platform) has been the best coping tool for coordinating with funders, stakeholders and project partners.

Some of our work involves adapting to the effects of COVID-19. We had to reschedule Quiz Night – the fundraiser for our Environmentalist of Year Scholarship – hopefully for May. We're postponing our new Fly Fishing 101 class, too, as well as several public talks, workshops, and restoration projects (i.e. our Scotch Broom Challenge); everything through the end of April.



— Melinda Booth,  
Exec.Dir.

Which includes our April 22nd State of the Yuba open house event, sadly. Also top of mind is the impact to our events planned for May and June. Our Wild for the Yuba fundraiser is tentatively set for June 20 ... will we have to push this? We're trying to stay positive and flexible and act in good measure. If there are significant changes, we're posting them in real time on the website and social media.

How are you doing? Seriously, we want to know because your well-being is important to us. Feel free to reach out—you can reach me online at [melinda@yubariver.org](mailto:melinda@yubariver.org). Other staff you may want to connect with are here for you, too—emails can be found here.

Thank you for your commitment to SYRCL and the Yuba. Having a beautiful river system during this stressful time is a blessing. Please know we're working hard to safeguard it even now. It's our mission and now it's our stress therapy, too.

Thinking of you, Melinda Booth Executive Director