

## Sierra Club Candidate Questionnaire – Scott Lanier Jameson for U.S. Senate

1. Realizing twenty years ago that I needed to recycle in my own household and then making the effort to actually start doing it every day.
2. Sustainability is the keyword. Energy independence and protection of our natural heritage is where I will focus my policy efforts. I will lead a return to the use of non-partisan, peer reviewed science to make political decisions.
3. Absolutely
4. Production from energy reserves in the United States peaked in the 1980's. Exxon-Mobil's own recent quiet announcement that production from North American reserves will peak within the next ten years should have come as a sobering pronouncement. It is clear that we can not as a country drill ourselves to energy independence and to purchase energy from international sources will continue to weaken us both economically and strategically. Renewable sources of energy are our future.
5. We lost a great imperative as a world leader by abandoning Kyoto. The Kyoto Accord was flawed in several aspects but it was an import step in the right direction to curb global warming. The United States should lead by example, not point fingers at other countries and use that as an excuse to continue unsustainable practices in the name of profit. Looking at both sides of the equation – use and conservation - it is imperative that we begin to seriously examine how we can reduce energy consumption in the United States. In capitalism, often the true costs of environmental degradation are not included in consumer pricing - and they should be. Peer reviewed science and not economics or politics should drive our policy on global warming.
6. The "Clear Skies Initiative" is as ill named as it is wrong. There is already efficient, clean burning technology for coal fired power plants and within reasonable time limits, all plants should be required to employ this technology. The US is to coal as the Middle East is to oil. Given the massive stores of coal in the US, clean burning coal technology could provide the United States with both financial and strategic security as we transition to renewable sources of energy.
7. Wetland ecosystems and riparian habitats are some of the most important, species diverse ecosystems in our country. Whether these wetlands are contiguously navigable or not has nothing to do with their ecological value. Not protecting these diverse bodies of water would further fragment and degrade adjacent habitat.
8. I oppose the Bush administration's desire to change the requirements under the current law to allow sewage that is only partially treated to be "blended" with fully treated sewage during rainstorms and then dumped into waterways. Sewage infrastructures that, in some areas are over 100 years old are in serious need of upgrade. Not upgrading threatens both human health and near shore fisheries.
9. The BLM's own assessment has shown the futility of drilling in ANWR as a panacea for our energy needs as well as the likely environmental damage that would result. The American people have clearly shown time and again that they do not support drilling in ANWR. Despoiling our National Wildlife Refuges will not gain us energy independence. For the same reason, I strongly oppose H.R. 4761 which would rescind the 25-year bi-partisan moratorium against offshore drilling.
10. Critical habitat designation is the only way to recover a species. Clearly, we can not recover a species without recovering its habitat. This is why I strongly oppose any weakening of the Endangered Species Act. Since 1973, the ESA has been our greatest tool in not just preserving and recovering species but in preserving ecosystems. While an ecosystem approach is much more scientifically valid than a species approach, it is easier and therefore more effective to designate a species as endangered than an ecosystem. I also oppose any efforts to weaken NEPA.
11. I was pleased to see that a US Magistrate Judge reinstated protection for some 50 million acres of roadless National Forest land on September 19<sup>th</sup>. However, this protection needs to be codified by legislation rather than an executive rule so it is not at the whim of whatever administration is in the White House at any give time. I am adamantly opposed

- to the "Healthy Forest Act" which I view as a tremendous giveaway to many timber companies. This giveaway is at the expense of true protection for the thousands of homeowners across the West whose homes are still gravely in danger from wild fires.
12. Yes. The current administration's policy to withhold family planning funding for foreign countries unless they omit information relative to contraception is unconscionable given the rate of HIV in many African countries.
  13. I would support sex education in the United States to lower the incidence of unplanned teenage pregnancy. Also, we must repeal the personal federal income tax so that parents could spend less time growing the federal government and more time educating their children. This will decrease crime, promiscuity, and drug use.
  14. I oppose any process that does not allow the U.S. Congress to have time to fully debate and act on a measure in which it has lawful jurisdiction.

*Scott Lanier Jameson*

Libertarian Party Candidate for U.S. Senate