



SIERRA CLUB

SAN GORGONIO



Palm and Pine

A PUBLICATION OF THE SAN GORGONIO CHAPTER OF THE SIERRA CLUB
SERVING RIVERSIDE AND SAN BERNARDINO COUNTIES

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PROTECT AMERICA'S ENVIRONMENT FOR OUR FAMILIES... FOR OUR FUTURE

JANUARY/FEBRUARY 2024

In This Issue

2024 Election Year

1

Chapter Planning and Strategy Meeting

2

Lytle Creek Improvement Project

3

Introducing the Community Advocates Program

4

December Awards Celebration and Zero Waste

5

Trail Talk February and March, Message from Our Director

6

Court Sides with Sierra Club and Clean Air

7

Welcome New Members, Chapter Election results

8-9

Moreno Valley Group News

10-11

New Senior Field Organize

12

Volunteer with us, Contact info

13

Chapter Strategic Planning

Saturday, January 27
9 am - 4 pm

SB County Museum
2024 Orange Tree Ln,
Redlands 92374

bit.ly/2023ChapterCelebration

Happy New Year 2024

It's 2024 and a Presidential Election Year

As we embark on a new year, we find ourselves in the midst of an important presidential election year. Here in California, we have the privilege of an early primary, giving us a unique opportunity to make our voices heard and ensure that the environment remains a central focus.

The stakes are high, and it is crucial that we recognize the significance of this election. **The future of our planet and the urgency of addressing the climate crisis hang in the balance.**

Environmental sustainability needs to be on the ballot, and we must elect leaders who will prioritize the health of our planet at every level of government.

Our chapter's commitment to environmental protection and conservation remains stronger than ever. Together, we have made tremendous progress, but now is not the time to rest. This year, we must unite and reaffirm our dedication to

the fight against climate change, striving for a better future for ourselves and generations to come.

As members of the Sierra Club, we have the power to shape our collective destiny. Let's engage in grassroots organizing, raise awareness, and support candidates who champion environmental justice. It is within our reach to transform our communities and foster a sustainable world for all.

Stay tuned for upcoming events, initiatives, and volunteer opportunities, as we work to create a greener, more resilient California. We invite you to join us, collaborate with fellow activists, and make a lasting impact.

2024 is a year of both challenges and opportunities. Together, let's build a movement that demands and facilitates comprehensive action on the climate crisis. The time to act is now, and we honor the responsibility that comes with being part of the Sierra Club.

JOIN OUR POLCOM

@ VOLUNTEER CONNECTION

The San Gorgonio Chapter Political Committee (PolCom) guides Sierra Club political activities at municipal and county levels of government and seeks to foster strong and sustained engagement in electoral activities as a key driver in accomplishing our mission.

2024 Chapter Planning & Strategy Meeting

WHO? All interested members are welcome to attend

WHERE? San Bernardino County Museum Learning Annex

Join us for the highly anticipated **2024 Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter Planning & Strategy Meeting**, marking the beginning of a new era for our esteemed chapter. With our first chapter director at the helm, we are eager to dive into the urgent challenges and opportunities that lie ahead for environmental leadership in the Inland Empire region.

WHEN? Saturday, 1/27/2024
8:00 AM - 4:00 PM

Fun, food, camaraderie and strategy!
Continental breakfast and lunch provided.

As advocates for the conservation of our natural surroundings, this pivotal gathering serves as a call to action for our members and all environmentally conscious individuals to unite and discuss transformative strategies that will shape the future of our chapter's impact.

By attending the 2024 Sierra Club San Gorgonio Chapter Planning & Strategy Meeting, you become an integral part of the force that will shape the future of environmental advocacy in the Inland Empire region. Together, we can build a healthier, more sustainable future for generations to come.

Kindly RSVP by January 24 to ensure your participation in this essential planning and strategy meeting.

REGISTER NOW >



www.sangorgonio.sierraclub.org

For any inquiries or further information - or if you'd like to provide assistance at the event, please contact Bobbi Jo at 909.262.2880.



Please note: This event will follow all recommended safety guidelines and may be held in-person, virtual, or in a hybrid format, depending on prevailing health conditions. Detailed information regarding the format and necessary precautions will be communicated closer to the event date.

WHAT?

You can expect the opportunity to:

- **Meet our chapter director:** Get acquainted with our dynamic leader, whose vast experience and passion for environmental conservation will drive the chapter towards new horizons.
- **Participate in a Comprehensive discussion on pressing environmental issues:** Engage in thought-provoking conversations surrounding the challenges faced by our beloved region, and explore potential solutions that can make a significant impact.
- **Join Breakout sessions and brainstorming:** Participate in interactive sessions designed to harness your unique perspectives and expertise. Collaboratively generate innovative strategies to tackle environmental challenges head-on.
- **Help with Action planning for the future:** Develop actionable goals and initiatives that will drive our chapter's strategy over the coming months and years. No idea is too small—your input is invaluable in shaping our collective destiny.
- **Embrace Networking opportunities:** Connect with like-minded conservationists, climate advocates, and community leaders who share your passion for preserving and protecting our environment. Strengthen existing partnerships and forge new ones for greater collective impact.

WHY? We need YOUR help and expertise and passion to make a difference for the environment as a vital member of the San Gorgonio Chapter!

Lytle Creek Improvement Project

Thanks to Congresswoman Judy Chu and the Great American Outdoors Act

For many generations, the North, Middle and South Forks of Lytle Creek have been a traditional and popular recreation destination for families in the surrounding areas including San Bernardino, Fontana, Rialto and Colton. Along the shaded streams, families enjoy water play, fishing, and picnicking along the canyon bottoms of the Middle and North Forks. The area provides a much-needed respite from the hot and smoggy days of summer.



Lytle Creek wash near where the construction is happening. Photo Credit: John St. Clair.

Heavy use during summer months has resulted in dangerous traffic conditions, and unmanaged recreation has led to stream degradation, erosion, pollution and trash. Lack of basic visitor amenities such as safe parking, restrooms, trash receptacles, multilingual signs, access trails and interpretive sign boards adds to the impact of high visitation.

The US Forest Service (USFS) has a management draft plan in place that includes conceptual maps for improvements at eleven project sites. With passage of the Great American Outdoors Act, construction has finally begun on one of the most impacted areas. The Hidden Acres project includes additional off-highway parking, restrooms, graded paths down to the creek, and trailhead for the popular Bonita Falls hike. This project was awarded in late November and completion is expected in June of 2024 in time for the summer recreation season.

Access to nearby nature is one of the pillars of both the California and US goals for conserving 30% of land and waters by 2030. Providing basic recreation amenities along with interpretation and community engagement will improve visitor experiences in Lytle Creek, as well as protect the habitat from damage.

Funding for improvements in USFS managed areas has been scarce, even non-existent and the Great American Outdoors Act provides funding for this first step in implementing the Lytle Creek draft plan. We thank Congress Member Judy Chu, District 28, which includes the Lytle Creek area, for bringing this funding to our region. We hope to see more of these projects funded and appreciate Congress Member Chu for recognizing the importance of equitable access to nature right here in the east end of the San Gabriel Mountains. (This portion of the San Gabriel Mountains is not included in the San Gabriel Mountains National Monument)



We encourage all members to join us in thanking
Rep. Chu for her leadership and support.

Rep. Judy Chu
415 W. Foothill Blvd, Ste 122
Claremont, CA 91711
Phone: (909) 625-5394



Community Advocates Program

We have a once-in-a-generation opportunity to drive transformational change.

[Get Involved](#)

The Inflation Reduction Act Can Help Our Community

The Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) is full of programs and investments for states, Tribes, municipalities, electric utilities, and more. The IRA includes more than 100 programs that will invest about \$370 billion in climate action, clean energy jobs, and environmental justice

Together, we achieved the largest investment in our climate and clean energy in US history through the passage of the Inflation Reduction Act. Now, it's up to all of us to ensure this landmark law lives up to its promise and creates meaningful, long lasting change across the country.

[Learn More About Inflation Reduction Act](#)

[See how the Inflation Reduction Act can make a difference in your community.](#)

- Benefits of the Inflation Reduction Act's Historic Climate Investments
- Understanding the IRA Home Energy Rebates
- Understanding the IRA Greenhouse Gas Reduction Fund
- Cities and Towns Can Reach Clean Energy Goals Thanks to the IRA
- Public Power Utilities and the Inflation Reduction Act
- Inflation Reduction Act Benefits for Energy Communities
- Leveraging the Inflation Reduction Act for the Outdoors

The Sierra Club has launched a **Community Advocates** program to build teams of volunteers to harness federal funding at the state and local level, especially in communities most impacted by climate and environmental injustice.

Participants will learn how to support implementation, whether it's working alongside local businesses and schools to apply for grants, spreading awareness about rebates, or holding elected officials accountable.

They'll organize with others in their communities and will be supported with training, toolkits, coaching and more.

Become a Community Advocate

The Sierra Club Community Advocates program will train and support volunteers to access this federal funding at the state and local level, especially in communities most impacted by the climate crisis and pollution.

[Get Involved](#)

December Chapter Meeting Celebration

Our December chapter meeting at the San Bernardino County Museum was held on Tuesday, December 5th to celebrate our successes over the past few years and recognize staff, volunteers and community allies for their efforts.



Pictured above - Yassi Kavezade and Moises Cisneros. Both work as Sierra Club National Field staff in our region. Yassi is a California Field Manager leading Field Organizers in various campaigns. Moises is a Senior Field Organizer working in the San Gorgonio Chapter geography with the Our Wild America Campaign. Both received awards from our Chapter for their collaboration and partnership working with us.



Community allies Mike McCarthy, Susan Phillips, Amparo Miramontes and xx were recognized for their tireless efforts to publish the "Region in Crisis" report detailing the harmful impacts the logistics industry has on our communities.

We hope to see you next year to recognize our efforts, celebrate our wins, and honor YOUR participation.



At our year-end meeting, we took sustainability to a whole new level by hosting a near-zero waste experience. We were proud to present a greener alternative, as we said goodbye to single-use disposables.

Guests were treated to an elevated dining experience with glass dishes, metal utensils, and cloth napkins. By choosing these **sustainable options**, we significantly reduced our impact on the environment while adding an elegant touch to the event.

But our commitment to sustainability didn't stop there. We went the extra mile by **implementing composting**. All food waste generated during the event was carefully collected and diverted towards composting efforts. By turning waste into a valuable resource, we contributed to a healthier planet.



The event was a guilt-free celebration, allowing everyone to contribute to a truly sustainable future. Together, we made a positive impact and enjoyed a near-zero waste experience where every choice counted.

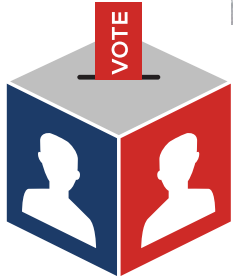
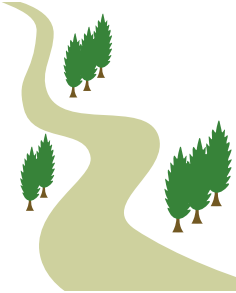
Find out more!



SIERRA CLUB
CALIFORNIA

California Conservation

Zero Waste



FEBRUARY TRAIL TALK: HITTING THE 2024 CAMPAIGN TRAIL
 Wednesday, February 21, 2024; 7:00 PM, via Zoom

Our own Juliann Anderson will briefly summarize the key federal, state, and local elections in the San Gorgonio Chapter. From the presidency to city council races, the result of these campaigns will have a deep impact on the Sierra Club's conservation and outdoor activities. We will also talk about the Sierra Club's endorsement process.

[RSVP HERE](#)

MARCH TRAIL TALK: BUILDING AN OUTDOOR COALITION -- OUR PUBLIC LIBRARIES AND THE STATE PARKS PASS PROGRAM

Wednesday, March 20, 2024; 7:00 PM, via Zoom

Librarians Wess Garcia of the City of Rancho Cucamonga, Marianne Perez of the City of Riverside, and Julie Warren of the City of Palm Springs will describe California public libraries' recent outdoor equity efforts -- similar to the Sierra Club's -- including the State Parks Pass Program, the "library of things" (including backpacks, guidebooks, compasses, and even kayaks [!]), children's programming, and lecture series. The libraries' "outdoors for all" efforts provide an opportunity to build coalition between them and the San Gorgonio Chapter.



Message from our Chapter Director, Joz (Jocelyn) Sida

There are tons of exciting things in this newsletter and happening in the chapter! We are building coalitions and starting off the new year with optimism that more and more communities are standing up against warehouse development and protecting our outdoor spaces. I'm extremely proud of the momentum we share as a community of leaders that care about our quality of life.

Thank you to all of our members for their dedication and support.

Sincerely,



Support Your Passion for a Just and Sustainable World

Create a legacy that protects and restores the natural world for future generations by naming Sierra Club's San Gorgonio Chapter in your will or trust. Or, name Sierra Club Foundation as the beneficiary of your retirement plan for the benefit of your local chapter and leave less highly taxed assets to your loved ones.



To learn more about the advantages of making a planned gift and to become a member of the Rachel Carson Society, please contact us.



Julia Curtis • (800) 932-4270 • giftplanning@sierraclub.org • myplan.sierraclub.org

Court Sides with Sierra Club and Clean Air, Requiring Warehouse Pollution Cuts in Southern California

Ruling Secures Health Protections For Millions Of Residents

A federal district court judge denied an effort by the trucking and airline industry to derail a regulation on Friday requiring warehouses across the Los Angeles region, including the Inland Empire, to clean up pollution stemming from these facilities. The decision delivers a major legal victory for clean air advocates.

The Warehouse Indirect Source Rule, passed in 2021 by the South Coast Air Quality Management District (SCAQMD), mandates approximately 3,000 facilities cut pollution by adopting electric trucks and equipment. A trucking lobbying group sued to block the rule, but SCAQMD prevailed in court.

Several entities intervened on behalf of SCAQMD in the lawsuit, including the State of California — represented by Attorney General Rob Bonta — in addition to several environmental justice and environmental NGOs including Sierra Club and the People’s Collective for Environmental Justice, and East Yard Communities for Environmental Justice, Communities for a Better Environment, Natural Resources Defense Council and the Environmental Defense Fund.

“This ruling secures vital health protections for over 17 million Californians breathing dirty air, and represents the culmination of years of tireless organizing by Sierra Club and our environmental justice partners,” said **Yassi Kavezade, Field Manager with the Sierra Club.** “Warehouses can no longer pollute with impunity, poisoning our most vulnerable communities.”

The South Coast AQMD is responsible for improving air quality across Los Angeles, Orange, Riverside and San Bernardino counties. The region has some of the nation’s worst smog, largely driven by warehouses and trucking emitting lung-damaging soot.



A vast industrial area that includes numerous logistics facilities near homes in Rancho Cucamonga and Fontana.

Photo by David McNew/The New York Times

“We breathe some of the most polluted air in the nation, which is driven by the massive and ever-expanding warehouse operations near our schools and up against our backyards,” said Andrea Vidaurre, senior policy analyst with the **People’s Collective for Environmental Justice.** “The Indirect Source Rule is essential for protecting our community’s health, so we’re grateful to see environmental protections prevail over polluters with this decision.”

“In the face of a mega warehouse boom in California so large you can actually see it from space, it is critical that our air quality regulators rein in goods movement pollution,” said Adrian Martinez, deputy managing attorney on **Earthjustice’s Right To Zero** campaign. “The Indirect Source Rule is proving to be a strong model that communities from coast to coast should consider adopting to bring in zero emissions equipment and clean their air. We’re grateful to see it stand up in court.”

The judgment means warehouses will continue to be subject to the rule, which requires they reduce emissions by choosing from a menu of 30 items ranging from installation of solar panels to installing electric truck chargers to using electric yard trucks at their facilities. Sierra Club is urging rapid state-level action to support infrastructure and funding needed for warehouses to fully adopt zero-emission technologies.

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS!

OCT 2023

Jason Almqraz
David Armendariz
Robert Barradas
Clayton Blackburn
Felecia Butler
Stanley Chapin
Jeff Cooper
Tami Desborough
Ryan Farrell
Seth Frisbee
Darrell Gardner
Rick Hayden
Yesenia Hinnaoui
Jameel Hussein
Nadine Khoury
Rachel Kinard
Hailey Matthews
Omari Montgomery
Seth Munson
Jennifer Nelson
Kara Peterkin
Angela Ragland
Zachary Rinehart
Paul Ring
Jocelyn Sida
Carla Taylor
Thomas Thomas
Dylan Waggy
Konrad Wangler
Emma Weinberg
Jeffrey Wells

NOV 2023

Estrella Aledia
Ashley Baker
Mark Benson
Daniel Berhane
Ramona Bienkowski
Rachel Celizic
Sana Christos
Landell Collins
David Dexheimer
Bernard De La Garza
Sean Grega
Carrie Gregory
Alicia Grove
Brandon Gutierrez
Leroy Hall
Barbara Huffman
Laszlo Negyessy
Free Nicoloff
Andres Ornelas
Kristina Price
Vereena Sayed
Caitlynn Shaw
Marilyn Spear
David Spink
Jeanette Tabor
Eva Terekhova
Charlotte Terry
Robert Then
Ryne Torres
Tyler Williams

DEC 2023

Basil Baddour
Lisa Barraza
Karina Becerra
Saralee Boretz
Lucy Bosneanu
Teresa Burchett
LaTanya Busby
Robin Campos
Michael Carreon
Richard Coury
Bernice Curtis
John Davey
Al Dawson
Judith Debor
Geri Dominguez
Michelle Eisenberg
Steven J Elie
Jeffrey Erway
Zachary Figueroa
Amy Gabay
Guy Gabriel
Rene Giron
Norman Gold
Jenny Goslee
Robert Grammer
Marvin Green
Les Greenberg
Jeri Greene
Raymond Greenidge
Joanne Van Hook
Ivonne Howard
Dennis Hunt
Edward Ivanov
Moris Jacobo
Paige Johnston
Brenda Jordan
Dean Kawasawa
Wilbur Knudsen
Jonathan Lavergne
Maximo Lerma
Jacob Matias
Carolyn Logan
Stuart Mann
Kenny Martin
James Nabors
Jeanie McCrary
Rebecca Miller
Michael Norton
Cristy Olson
Jesse Pedro
Gregory Ramirez
Eduardo Rangel
Sharon Regalado
Maria Renoos
Dana Rusnak
Hemant Saini
Alejandra Sanchez
Steven Schoenfeld
Kathryn Schofield
Kenneth Snell
ki soberanis
Sebastian Sotelo
Edward Thorpe
Philip Toppenberg
Greg Tortoreti
Jordana Treadwell
John Vanni
Chad Weston

2023/24 Chapter & Group Election Results

Each year, our members elect leaders for the Chapter Executive Committee. This committee is made up of 9 at-large, elected members, who serve 2-year terms. Each group has one representative appointed by the group as a voting member, for a 16-member board.

The ExComm makes decisions regarding chapter priorities - where we direct our energy and resources. Running for ExComm is an excellent way to share your skills, knowledge and commitment to Sierra Club and our communities here in Riverside and San Bernardino County.

The Executive Committee is the representative leadership team for the chapter, and is responsible for four key outcomes:

- **Advance the Club's Mission**
- **Provide service to members, supporters and the public**
- **Build Local Resources**
- **Exercise Effective Governance and Fiduciary Oversight**

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Amparo Muñoz Miramontes
Joan Taylor, Pam Nelson

Appointed to Bobbi Jo's 2024 term:
Mary Ann Ruiz

We are excited to welcome new members to the Sierra Club community! Our organization is committed to working towards a sustainable future for all and we are thrilled to have your support in that mission. We encourage you to explore our website and get involved in our various campaigns and initiatives.

Thank you for joining us in the fight for a better world!



Groups Executive Committee Leadership

Santa Margarita Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Pam Nelson, Caren Hansen
Shea Millan, Rod Kellhy

Continuing term through 2024:

Margaret Meyncke, Cathy Peterson
David Marrett

Tahquitz Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Kim Floyd, Jim Karpiak
David Melton

Continuing term through 2024:

Gary Gray, Noel Ragsdale
Joan Taylor

San Bernardino Mountains Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Enrique Flores
Debby McAllister

Continuing term through 2024:

Steve Farrell, Karla Kellems
Marianne Gomes, Bob Sherman

Los Serranos Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Brian Elliott, Mark Rush
Rachel Wilkins

Continuing term through 2024:

John St. Clair
Mary Ann Ruiz

Big Bear Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Linda Garcia, Randy Carroll-Brad
Peter Michelsen, Marv Cira

Continuing term through 2024:

Ed Wallace, Ellen Kesler
Judy Atkinsont

Moreno Valley Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Ann McKibben, Christina Torres,
Manya and Steve Jiammino

Continuing term through 2024:

Stan King, George Hague

Mojave Group

Elected to new 2 year terms:

Carol Wiley, Quintin Lake
Vesna Lazic Polovina

Continuing term through 2024:

Bryan Baker, Norman Bossom
Jeff Cooper

Moreno Valley Group News

Compiled by Christina Torres, Moreno Valley Outings Leader, George Hague, Conservation Chair, & Ann McKibben, Secretary

From the Outings Chair: Hello fellow hikers and nature lovers, our group has a few hikes planned to start out the new year. I love to hold my winter hikes out in the greater Palm Springs area. In January we will begin on the 9th with a fairly easy hike in the Mission Creek Preserve. Also, in January we'll have a hike at the Thousand Palms Oasis followed in February with the La Quinta Cove Trail and the Randall Henderson Trail. You will find this and other updated chapter outings on our Chapter website where you can register for them online and check on their current status as cancellations and rescheduling are always a possibility due to rain and adverse trail conditions. If you are interested in becoming a certified outings leader (COL) for our group, please contact me (cmt.teck@gmail.com) for more information. Training sessions are normally held in June every year, so you have some time to think about it and get prepared! Hope to see you out on the trails soon. Christina

BIG WIN at Compass Danbe Centerpointe Warehouse: Thanks to your donations our lawsuit was successful! The judge ruled in our favor on all points our attorneys argued on our behalf. The Sierra Club and the Center for Community Action and Environmental Justice (CCA EJ) <https://www.ccaej.org/> filed our lawsuit on this project on February 17, 2023 and were in court Friday, September 29 arguing our case. The 389,603 square foot project site is located south of Alessandro Boulevard between Frederick Street and Graham Street. After the court victory we held a press conference in front of City Hall which was covered and reported on by ABC News and the Press-Enterprise:

<https://www.pressenterprise.com/2023/10/23/396000-square-foot-warehouse-project-in-moreno-valley-blocked-by-judge/>

Settlement reached with Moreno Valley Business Center (MVBC) developer and attorney general to protect nearby residents and environment located at NE corner of Alessandro Blvd and Day St in a census tract with poor air pollution and socioeconomic conditions. Lawsuit was filed on January 5, 2023. Settlement includes:

- \$32,000 for HVAC/air filtration system in 20 nearest homes (money may also be used for dual pane windows to reduce noise)
- limitations on lighting, backup beepers, solar installation, electric/zero emissions equipment, all-electric building, electric Auxiliary Power Units (APU) plug-ins, and surrounding walls of evergreen trees
- 10% of big rig parking spaces and 10% of car parking spaces must have electric infrastructure
- Weekly graffiti, trash, and litter removal required
- additional points not required by the city.

Moreno Valley Sierra Club volunteers are reviewing new documents and planning next steps for minimizing the **Moreno Valley Business Park Warehouse (MVBWP)**'s impact on families and the environment. Project is proposed at southeast corner of Ironwood Ave and Heacock St. Lawsuit filed almost two years ago, administrative record prepared; developer caused delay by introducing more information to the record and is working on another environmental document for similar project on same lands



https://www.sierraclub.org/san-gorgonio/groups/moreno_valley

Current Projects We're Watching

Aquabella Specific Plan to be amended by developer for

15,000 residential units/apartments on 770 acres located south of Alessandro Blvd and west of Nason St which could be a model for environmentally friendly large-scale housing projects

- Planner Oliver Mujica at planningnotices@moval.org

The Village of Moreno Valley (VMV):

Project located at busy intersection northwest corner of Nason Street and Fir Avenue on about nine acres, includes 8 buildings with retail, restaurant, fueling station, car wash, and drive-thru restaurants; adding over 6,000 daily trips; Aquabella's project is adjacent to area

- Planner Danielle Harper-Scott at planningnotices@moval.org

Project maps and planning documents available at:

<https://moval.org/cdd/documents/about-projects.html>



Ready for some epic adventures? Lake Perris State Recreation Area is calling your name! Check out their [web page](#) for all the juicy details on park passes (psst, January 2024 is the perfect time to snag the Golden Bear Pass for those 62 or older, only \$20 for a whole year of fun!). Plus, if you [visit their Facebook page](#), you can stay tuned for upcoming events, bird-watching escapades, hikes, and kids' activities.



But wait, there's more! Want to learn how to save the planet like a superhero? The Riverside County Department of Waste Resources has got your back! They offer free classes online or in person on all sorts of cool topics, like Environmental Justice, Green Cleaning, Green Gardening, Climate Change, Zero Waste, and Composting. [Get your green on and check it out!](#)

Volunteers Needed

Have you ever considered joining volunteer team at the Moreno Valley Group?

We're offering an opportunity to invest your time in meaningful work.



If you're a web wizard, we have a spot for you on our team to help maintain our website.

Don't fret if you're not yet a pro, we'll provide all the necessary training. The primary responsibility would be keeping the website current.

We also have the need for a newsletter editor and communications guru for last-minute notices and calls to action.

Email us at movalleygroup@yahoo.com to join the squad and make a difference together!

VOLUNTEER CONNECTION



CONTACT BOBBI JO

bobbijo.chavarria@sierraclub.org
909.262.2880

New Senior Field Organizer

Bobbi Jo Chavarria, who was serving as the Chapter Chair for our the San Gorgonio Chapter, has taken on a new role as the **Senior Field Organizer for the Clean Transportation for All (CTFA)** campaign as of January 8th. This campaign aims to transition heavy-duty trucks, rail, and ports to zero-emission (ZE) vehicles, a crucial step in combating climate change and improving air quality; as well as helping community members join the EV revolution, fight for public transportation and walkable communities!

We are excited to announce that Bobbi Jo's transition to this new position reflects her dedication and knowledge in the transition to zero emission vehicles. Her passion for sustainable solutions and her ability to mobilize communities will undoubtedly contribute to the success of the CTFA campaign. As we continue to work towards a cleaner and more sustainable future, we look forward to sharing more updates and good news from the national team. Together, we can achieve a significant reduction in emissions from heavy-duty trucks, rail, and ports, and contribute to a healthier planet for generations to come.

[Click here](#) to read about our 2023 Clean Transportation Wins

Update from the Clean Transportation for All Campaign (CTFA) by Katherine Garcia

READY FOR 100% CLEAN TRANSPORTATION

As we shift to 100% renewable sources of electricity, plug-in vehicles become 100% clean. By reducing vehicles miles traveled, increasing and cleaning up public transit, and accelerating a switch to electric cars and buses, cities are reducing their dependence on oil and clearing the air.



HELP US FIGHT FOR THESE PROGRAMS:

- Pedestrian
- Biking
- Municipal EV Fleet
- Zero Emission Buses
- Transit Oriented Development
- EV Charging Installation

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funding Implementation: Electric School Buses

On Monday, January 8th, the EPA announced \$1 Billion in grant awards for clean school buses, 95 percent of the funding will go towards electric school buses. The grants will help selectees purchase over 2,700 clean school buses in 280 school districts serving over 7 million students across 37 states.

Here are a few posts with links to press statements: [National](#), [Massachusetts](#), [New Jersey](#), and [Utah](#) and supportive posts from chapters in Illinois and Virginia (this is not an exhaustive list).

Sierra Club was mentioned in several articles including in the [Washington Post](#), [The Hill](#), and [CBS News Boston](#).

Special thanks to everyone who helped promote the Clean School Bus Program, the State Lobbying & Advocacy team, and our Communications team.

EPA and State advocacy: Advanced Clean Cars II Standards

On Wednesday, Sierra Club staff and volunteers testified at the EPA hearing in support of the Advanced Clean Cars (ACC) II waiver. This is an essential hearing to ensure that all the states that have adopted ACC II can enforce the standards.

Huge thanks to everyone who testified or helped recruit testifiers, and Larisa Manescu for live-tweeting the hearing and creating graphics for many of the participants. Awesome posts promoting the excellent testimony here: <https://twitter.com/SierraClubLive>

Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funding Implementation: EV Chargers

On Thursday, the U.S. Department of Transportation announced \$623 Million in grants to continue building out the EV Charging Network. These grants will fund 47 EV charging and alternative-fueling infrastructure projects in 22 states and Puerto Rico, including construction of approximately 7,500 EV charging ports.

Special thanks to the advocates that supported projects for the charging and alternative-fueling infrastructure (CFI) application process and the attorneys in the Environmental Law Program who helped support our advocacy on CFI.

Visit: <https://www.sierraclub.org/transportation>



**SIERRA
CLUB**

SAN GORGONIO

**Send a NEW YEAR
contribution today to
celebrate nearly a
century of work.**

Sierra Club San Gorgonio
Chapter
P. O. Box 5425, Riverside,
CA 92517-5425

Volunteer With Us!

We use people power to fight for safer communities and a healthier planet. Find out how you can use your talents and your desire to improve our environment by checking our [Volunteer Connection](#) page for the many opportunities for you to make a difference here in Riverside and San Bernardino Counties. Watch for more positions to be added after our January Planning Meeting!



Contact us: San Gorgonio Chapter Website: <https://sangorgonio.sierraclub.org>



Editor

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Mary Ann Ruiz
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909.215.9379

Chapter Director

Joz (Jocelyn) Sida
jocelyn.sida@sierraclub.org
773.627.0229

The outings and event calendar is at our website:
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