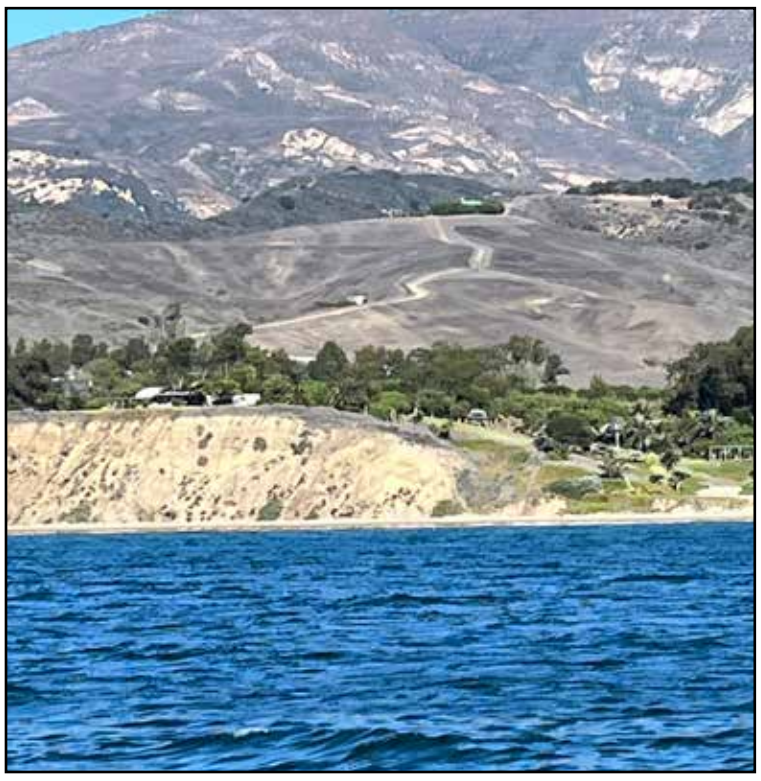


Hillsides shore along the Gaviota Coast north of UCSB during a boat trip that included Chumash members who pointed out that this stretch was once a Chumash village. Surfrider has informed the public that the federal government may meddle in our Coastal Act and ruin sites like this. See story below. (Photo by John Hankins)

Condor Call

Journal of the Sierra Club's Santa Barbara - Ventura Chapter

August - September 2026

THANKS, SIERRA CLUB

East Beach pollution abated!

Who knew that pollution was wending its way to the ocean off the popular East Beach for years?

A man named Tevin Schmitt knew after he started testing the waters, along with Jesse Swanhuyser, an attorney with Sycamore Law, Inc., who specializes in Clean Water Act cases. Tevin is also a Watershed Scientist at the Wishtoyo Foundation.

Tevin then approached Emily Engle of our club's Santa Barbara Group, who was very enthusiastic about the Sierra Club taking on the case, especially since her 11-year-old daughter Willow was adamant that we protect East Beach!

Member Deborah Williams also got involved and agreed to work closely with Swanhuyser on behalf of the Club, while member Katie Davis agreed to lead the liaison efforts with State and National Sierra Club attorneys.

"This is a great grassroots and collaboration story. It is what makes our club so powerful," commented Maureen Ellenberger, chair of the Santa Barbara-Ventura Sierra Club.

"The Sierra Club was concerned that the pollution was having adverse impacts on the environment, and so we decided to reach out and take action," said Engel, chair of Sierra Club's Santa Barbara Group.

It didn't happen overnight because water testing was happening for three years. When satisfied, attorney Swanhuyser and the Sierra Club used the Clean Water Act of 1972 to stop pollution at those sources through legal action and finally productive settlement talks.

The runoff accumulated not only bacteria but also metals — such as copper and aluminum—and other substances that can be detrimental to the health of humans and animals, notably a resident pod of coastal bottlenose dolphins off East Beach's shores.

FRONT COVER

A simple picture of a youth enjoying the trails at Harmon Canyon, giving us a sense of our nature and why we fight so hard to protect its flora and fauna . . . and especially our children. Or as John Muir put it: "Thousands of tired, nerve-shaken, over-civilized people are beginning to find out that going to the mountains is going home; that wildness is a necessity." (Photo courtesy of Ventura Land Trust)

The sources of stormwater flowing to the ocean were from MarBorg Industries, Lash Construction, and Kenny Construction, located on Santa Barbara's east side.

A responsive settlement was reached as a result of intense mediation efforts following a year of negotiations. Our Sierra Club and the three companies developed a plan to reduce bacteria and other forms of water contamination at East Beach.

In a joint statement, the club and the three companies announced they worked together to develop a better stormwater management plan. It also includes steps to reduce polluted runoff and increase water quality monitoring.

The agreements follow more than a year of negotiations stemming from water sampling conducted by the Sierra Club.

"Sierra Club will continue to monitor for metals and other pollutants that impact ecosystems and public health," said Williams, a Sierra Club leader who is also a lecturer in UC Santa Barbara's Environmental Studies program. She also emphasized that the three companies were willing to work toward solutions.

The agreement also includes $95,000 funding to support Heal the Ocean's local water quality initiatives and oversight to ensure the agreements are followed.

Other measures include the companies upgrading stormwater management, installing berms and filters, and ensuring liquid waste goes into the city's sewer system for treatment.



East Beach and its ocean are perfectly safe from pollution now thanks to the Sierra Club and its attorneys and activists. Three of the club members who are on the SB Group's executive committee were key players in the effort. They are (from left) Deborah Williams, Katie Davis, and Terry Quinn.

Fight for our coast!

By Jennifer Savage
California Policy Associate Director

Last month, the Surfrider Foundation warned us that the federal government had launched a review of California's coastal management program with the likely end goal of eliminating California's authority to push back on destructive offshore drilling and other federally regulated projects along our coast.

California's coastal magnificence and economic success aren't an accident, but the result of hard-won protections built, defended, and won over decades. We're not about to give those protections up now.

The review comment period has opened. Join us in fighting for California's right to protect our coast on Aug 10-12, see deadlines below.

On June 26, NOAA published a Federal Register notice formally kicking off the public input phase of its Section 312 performance evaluation. The notice confirms what we flagged last month: NOAA is soliciting feedback specifically on California's review of spaceport infrastructure, offshore oil production, pipeline maintenance, desalination projects, and undersea cables.

If NOAA finds California out of compliance, the consequences are real. Most importantly, a hostile review is the predicate for challenging California's federal consistency authority – the tool that stopped the Trestles toll road, that lets California object to offshore drilling in federal waters, and that requires federal infrastructure projects to account for coastal impacts before breaking ground.

Additionally, the Secretary of Commerce can suspend federal financial assistance to the Coastal Commission, the State Coastal Conservancy, and the San Francisco Bay Conservation and Development Commission. These suspensions would last a minimum of six months and can run as long as 36.

How to submit a comment:

NOAA is accepting input through three channels. Comments become part of the official public record, so anything submitted, including names, will be publicly accessible.

~ In-Person Public Meeting Aug. 10, 2-6 p.m. PT Pacific Ballroom, Hilton Santa Monica Hotel and Suites, 1707 4th Street, Santa Monica, CA 90401.

~ To speak, register by Aug. 8 email: czma.california-evaluation@noaa.gov

~ Write your comments with the subject line: "Comments on Performance Evaluation of the California Coastal Management Program. Deadline: Aug.26, at: czma.california-evaluation@noaa.gov

~ Virtual public meetings are Aug. 11 & 12, 2-5 pm each day via Adobe Connect: https://tinyurl.com/NOAAvirtual

The meeting will be recorded, and a transcript will be available by emailing the address above.

What to say:

If you live, work, surf, fish, or simply love the California coast, NOAA needs to hear from you directly. Tell them what California's coastal protections mean to your community. Point to the track record: a program that has concurred with most federal projects it reviews, while still catching the rare ones that pose real harm.

Remind them that this review follows directly on the heels of a 2024 evaluation that found California's program working exactly as intended.

If you have a printed Condor Call in your hand, you can tap into this QR code to get a full color version that has hot links! Try it.

Put your hands across the sands!

By Maureen Ellenberger

The Sierra Club in California is planning for a statewide (and perhaps nationwide) event on September 26th called *Hands Across the Sand*, and we are looking to get participation across cities/ towns/ beaches and parks across the state.

Just in time too, as a recent *LA Times* article warned about "oil-thirsty Trump spoiling celebration of Coastal Act" with the headline: *Undermining 50 years of shoreline protection*.

As for the event, you don't even need an ocean beach to participate. This is truly a grassroots effort so each area/district/region can make their own plan; but at the core, we are hoping to get lots of people at our beaches all at the same time with the same messages.

We are supported by Sierra Club California and Sierra Club National to:

~ Celebrate the 50-year anniversary of the Coastal Act.

~ Tell the world that we are fighting for our coast.

~ Protesting the 5-year oil lease plan and issuing the Call to Action to tell the Feds NO!

~ Push back on the administration's roll-back of endangered species protection and Marine Protected Areas.

Ideally, this would be a great coalition event, and we are looking for folks to partner with us. Please let me know if you are interested, and we will schedule a kickoff call for the first week of August.

Contact Maureen Ellenberger at: melle2007@gmail.com

Please spread the word to other folks and organizations that are not part of our current coalition. I think it would be amazing to see folks on multiple beaches across Ventura and Santa Barbara and even at our lakes and rivers.

The goal is to have 25,000 people in California all joining hands together at noon on Sept. 26th and sending a very powerful message that we love our coast, and we will fight to protect it.

And for more details, go to the Toolkit: https://tinyurl.com/SierraClubToolKit

EAVESDROPS

"The coast is never saved . . . It's always being saved."

~ The late Peter Douglas of the early Coastal Commission.



Win a trip with Sierra Club

Make a gift to Sierra Club by Aug. 14th, and you'll be entered to win a custom outdoor adventure for two, exclusive to Sierra Club Outings – the nation's oldest outfitter of environmental travel! As the winner, you'll get:

~ A guided trip of your choice (continental U.S. only)

~ $4,000 value per person

~ One year to redeem your trip

Every gift you make supports the Sierra Club's mission to protect public lands, clean air and water, wildlife and communities from corporate polluters and the impacts of climate change. Details here: https://tinyurl.com/SierraClubTrip

EAVESDROPS

"Sierra Club adventures offer tremendous quality at affordable prices. When we schedule a Sierra Club trip, we know we will get an in-depth experience wherever we visit."

~ Barbara R., a participant.

See all trips here: https://outings.sierraclub.org/

Developer wants housing on Carpinteria bluffs!

The so-called "Farm Project" is a 27-acre housing development that envisions building 191 total dwelling units, comprising 94 townhomes and 97 single-family dwellings on a section of the Carpinteria bluffs that would include the existing Tee Time golf driving range.

If the April public meeting is any indication, along with internet and newspaper comments, the residents are strongly opposed to it.

"There is something of a divine mandate to keep this land undeveloped — this is the soul of Carpinteria," said the landscape artist Arturo Tello, a member of the Citizens for the Carpinteria Bluffs who has fought to protect the bluffs for decades.

"I've been in love with the Carpinteria Bluffs for [more than] 40 years," he said, adding, "There have been many proposals here, and of all the proposals, this is the very worst one — it's the most dense."

On the other side was the development team, led by Paul Brenneke who bought the land for $15 million, and has since invested additional funds into the planning process. The developer envisions four acres of open space, recreational trails and habitat restoration.

A comment period was already held from June 11 to July 10, which would be part of an Environmental Impact Report.

The public can still stay involved by asking questions and keeping apprised of the project's progress. Send the email below for updates with the subject "interested party": TheFarmProject@CarpinteriaCA.gov

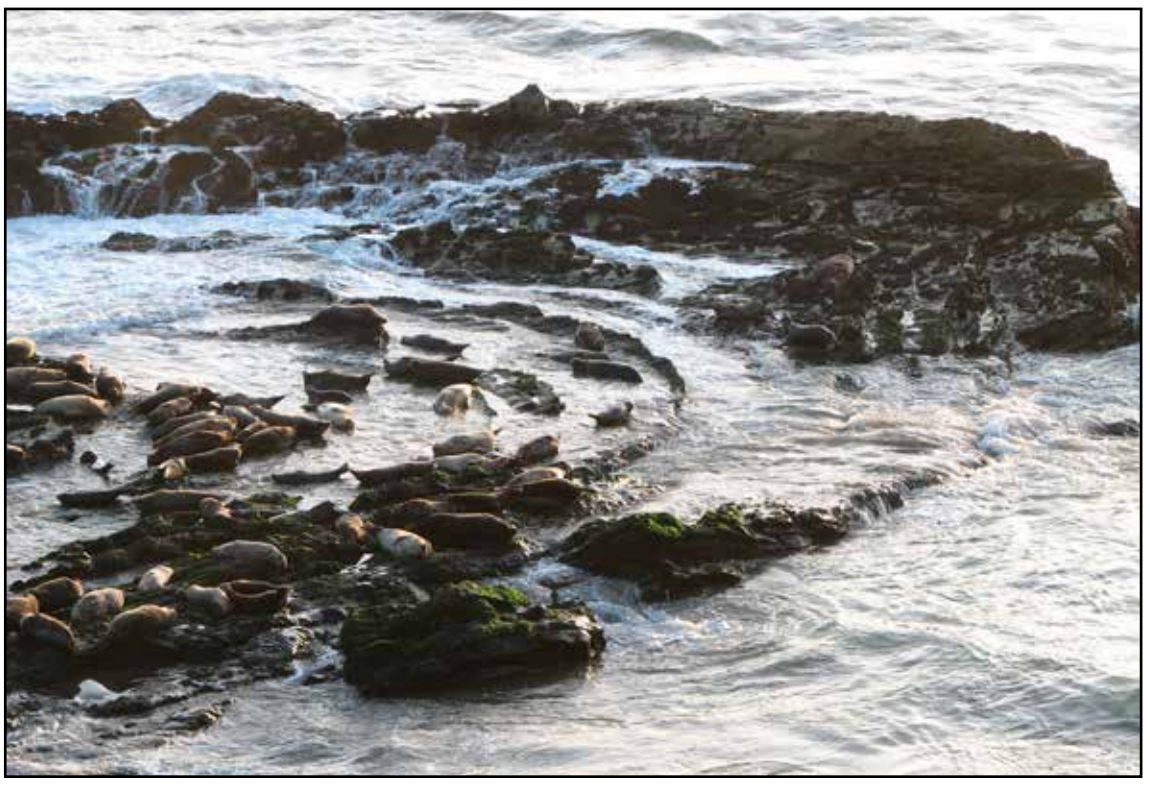
Residents have seen this 'movie' before, with campaigns to "Save the Bluffs" beginning in the '70s. The community acquired the Carpinteria Bluffs Nature Preserve in the 1990s. The community also saved the Carpinteria salt marsh, now part of UC-Santa Barbara's purview.

The developer would include three distinct common spaces: a Passive Park, Demonstration Garden, and the Play Park. In any case, details and updates are located here: TheFarmProject@carpinteriaca.gov

~ By John Hankins



Tea Time golfers are part of an upswell of Carpinteria residents who are opposing putting houses on these bluffs. Just beyond the bluff's horizon is an important seal haul-out and rookery (photo below) that is monitored by Fish and Wildlife and volunteers. (Photos by John Hankins)





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SierraClub.org/SantaBarbara-Ventura ~ All phone numbers 1-805 area code

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Photos, news, tips always welcome!

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Typography and production by Dan Fuller





Town hall embraces roadless warriors

By Keri Setnicka
Los Padres ForestWatch

Los Padres ForestWatch and regional partners -- including the Sierra Club -- invite the public to learn what proposed changes to the Roadless Rule could mean for public lands across California's Central Coast, notably the Los Padres and Angeles National Forests

A public town hall is set for Wednesday, Aug. 26 at Dos Vientos Community Center, 4801 Borchard Rd., Newbury Park from 6-8:30pm. Details here: https://tinyurl.com/RoadlessRuleEvent

For 25 years, the Roadless Rule has protected millions of acres of national forest lands from new road construction, large-scale logging, and mining. The rule currently safeguards more than 635,000 acres within and surrounding Los Padres National Forest, helping to preserve wildlife habitat, clean drinking water, and recreation opportunities throughout the region.

The Trump Administration is proposing to roll back those protections while dramatically limiting public participation in the process. Organizers say the U.S. Forest Service is expected to open a short public comment period—potentially as brief as 15 or 30 days—without holding a single public hearing.

"This is one of the most important forest conservation protections in the country," said Jeff Kuyper, Executive Director of Los Padres ForestWatch. "The Roadless Rule exists because millions of Americans demanded protections for backcountry forests. The public deserves transparency, public hearings, and a meaningful opportunity to participate."

Hosted by Los Padres ForestWatch in partnership with Sierra Club, others include Concerned Off-Road Bicyclists Association (CORBA), National Park Conservation Assn., Conejo Climate Action, CalWild, and The Wilderness Society.

The event is part of a broader series of community meetings held across California's Central Coast. Previous meetings have already taken place in Ventura, Ojai, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo.

First adopted in 2001 following more than 600 public hearings and 1.6 million public comments—the largest public response to a federal rule in U.S. history at the time—the Roadless Rule continues to receive broad bipartisan support. A 2019 national poll found that 75 percent of Americans supported maintaining its protections.

The rule does not prevent public access. Despite the name, roadless areas already contain existing roads and recreation infrastructure, including 349 miles of designated roads and motorized and non-motorized trails within Los Padres National Forest alone.

"The Roadless Rule simply prevents new permanent roads and the most intensive forms of logging in some of our most intact backcountry landscapes. Recreation, trail access, and wildfire mitigation projects are already happening in these areas," noted Ben Pitterle of ForestWatch.

"The issue isn't a lack of roads," Pitterle added. "It's that we're struggling to maintain the roads and trails we already have," such as a nationwide road maintenance backlog exceeding $5.6 billion.

Attendees will hear from conservation advocates and organizers about what the proposed rollback could mean for forests, wildlife, watersheds, and recreation access across the Central Coast, as well as ways community members can engage once the public comment process begins.

Partner Perspectives:

"Californians value our wild forests deeply. These wild, roadless landscapes are not just places on a map—they protect the clean water we drink, support the clean air we breathe, and safeguard our freedom to explore and connect with nature. Rolling back the Roadless Rule serves no one but private companies seeking to exploit these wild places and puts all of us at risk of more wildfires." —Helen O'Shea, California State Director, The Wilderness Society

"The Roadless Area Conservation Rule is one of the most important national policies for California's forests. Since 2001, the Roadless Rule has helped protect the headwaters of many watersheds throughout California which begin on national forest lands. Whether it be the Grider Roadless Area in the Klamath, the Tuolumne River Roadless Area in the Stanislaus, or Black Mountain Roadless Area in the Los Padres National Forest, we can't afford to lose any of them." —André Sanchez, Community Engagement & Conservation Policy Manager, CalWild

SBCAN's network turns 25!

SBCAN (Santa Barbara County Action Network) just turned 25 with a celebration at the Sunstone Winery on June 28.

We're beginning our 25th year of progress on environmental, economic, and social justice issues, the headline on its website pronounced.

Attendees "raised a glass to Co-Executive Directors Jeanne Sparks and Ken Hough, who have poured their hearts into leading Santa Barbara County Action Network for 14 remarkable years."

Under their guidance, SBCAN diversified its board, deepened community partnerships, and championed environmental, economic, and social justice across the county. Their legacy is woven into everything SBCAN has done.

The story continues as Ken joins the SBCAN Board of Directors and Jeanne steps into the SBCAN Advisory Council — so their wisdom stays close.

And the future? "It's bright. We're thrilled to welcome Nancy Avoce as our incoming Executive Director, effective July 1," said co-presidents Lawanda Lyons-Pruitt and Dick Flacks.

Spotted as a rising star by Jeanne and Ken, Nancy has spent nearly three years as Assistant Director, exceeding every expectation. She's now building a dynamic, energized team ready to take SBCAN to bold new heights.

"I have the privilege of building upon a strong foundation of collaboration, strategic advocacy, and meaningful progress in advancing thoughtful, sustainable, and equitable growth in Santa Barbara County," Avoce said.


Fantastic Four directors of SB County Action Network. The are (from left) Murray Dawson, South County Director; the new Executive Director Nancy Avoce, and two former co-executive directors: Jeanne Sparks, and Ken Hough. Sierra Club applauds its efforts in the North County and is willing to help.

There were many sponsors at the event, ranging from CAUSE to the Santa Ynez Band of Chumash Indians Foundation. Our Sierra Club helped sponsor, as well as numerous elected officials, Hancock College, the NAACP, and the SB Foundation, among others.

The list of over 40 sponsors -- a veritable Who's Who -- showed the amount of respect due to SBCAN activism for the North County.

It's worth checking out its video on the people who started SBCAN and its impact at its website here: https://www.sbcan.org/

Angel thanks participants

By Angel Golis

I want to thank all the Roadless Rule Warriors for all the work they have done through presentations, outreach, education, and activism to save our Roadless Conservation Rule, which protects the backcountry of our National Forests.

We understand how profoundly important it is to preserve our critical ecosystems and watersheds vital for our wildlife, habitat, and sacred recreational landscapes, some of which rest within sacred Tribal Land.

I've enjoyed working and collaborating with many of you at each event and want to announce another scheduled Town Hall. See adjacent story.

So let me introduce the many partners & collaborating groups who have previously participated and the new groups joining this current event:

Sierra Club (Santa Barbara/Ventura/Angeles Chapters), Los Padres ForestWatch, CalWild, Latino Outdoors, The Wilderness Society, The Beaver Brigade, CORBA, National Parks Conservation Association, Conejo Climate Coalition, Chumash elder Julie Tumamait, the Council of Elders, Keep The Sespe Wild and the Outdoor Alliance, which paid for the event space.

Also, many individual activists like the Roadless Warriors Women's Group of Ojai, Srividia Maganti, & Cheryl Wood, who have dedicated their time and passion to doing outreach, handing out flyers, and getting the local community informed and involved in writing postcards.

Our Sacred Wild Places could not be protected without you too.

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EAVESDROPS

"If Trump's wrecking ball isn't checked soon, we'll be a global pariah when it comes to the environment. Nobody voted to have their water supply poisoned. Nobody voted for more air pollution so the richest corporations can profit even more. The first year of Trump 2.0 was a national nightmare.."

~ Stephanie Kurose, deputy government affairs director at the Center for Biological Diversity

Read our blog

Chapter BLOG



If you are a member or on our email list, you will be getting our stories and pictures via Condor Call Currents.

SIERRA CLUB
SANTA BARBARA-VENTURA CHAPTER

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- Santa Barbara Chapter Instagram
- Ventura Group Facebook
- Ventura Group Instagram
- Hikes and Gatherings on Meetup
- Condor Call Newsletter Chapter Website

For emails and phone numbers for specific areas and Sierra Club officials and issues, see the page 2 Directory.

Climate Watch

The hoax folks are losing

Editor's note: During the Trump administration, U.S. solar energy policy saw a sharp reversal from the Biden-era push for renewable expansion, with multiple legislative, regulatory, and administrative actions aimed at slowing solar and wind project development.

On his first day in office, Trump paused new leasing and permitting of wind energy projects on federal lands and waters pending a federal review. Within six months, the so-called "One Big Beautiful Bill Act" was passed, which ended subsidies for wind and solar energy projects years earlier than planned.

Yet the President who believes that climate change is a 'hoax' is losing. We are winning; take a walk on the clean power side:

~ More than 90% of new power being installed worldwide is solar power. Millions of people are getting electricity for the first time, thanks to the sun. It's now the fastest-growing energy source in the world.

~ Solar is the cheapest way to power your home or office. And 95% of the new wind and solar projects deliver power cheaper than gas or coal ever could.

~ Clean energy jobs grew more than three times faster than the rest of the U.S. economy in 2024, adding almost 100,000 new jobs and bringing the total number of clean energy workers in the U.S. to at least 3.56 million in 2026.

~ Putting solar panels on your roof is one of the best things you can do for your health and your family's future. Places that get most of their power from solar energy report fewer asthma attacks, clearer skies, and quieter neighborhoods.

~ The number of Americans working in clean energy-related occupations today now exceeds the number of jobs in oil, gas, and coal by more than three to one.

~ With over a thousand members, the Smart Electric Power Alliance is just one of many organizations and individuals that don't believe in Trump's hoax, "supporting the transition to a clean energy future through facilitating collaboration, innovative strategies and guidance for regulatory and business innovation." Link here:
https://sepapower.org/

Our local enterprises

~ Santa Barbara offers a variety of clean energy options through its Santa Barbara Clean Energy (SBCE) program, focusing on renewable sources and community empowerment to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035. SBCE is a community-run, not-for-profit electricity provider that launched in 2021. Link here:
Info@SBCleanEnergy.com

~ In the Ventura area, the Clean Power Alliance offers three tiers of competitively priced clean energy options. and reinvests the revenue back into communities to provide additional benefits like green job creation and increased access to affordable clean energy for disadvantaged communities. Learn more:
https://sustain.venturacounty.gov/residents/

~ For Electric cars and trucks: Electric Ride 805 provides one-on-one support to help you find the best clean transportation option to meet your needs and budget—from purchasing or leasing an electric vehicle to accessing public chargers to getting the most out of public transportation. Link here:
https://www.electricride805.org/

~ Compiled by John Hankins

Our underwater preserve is home to spectacular sea life

Editor's note: This column about the Channel Islands National Park -- surrounded by the Pacific Ocean -- was printed in Condor Call *on January 28, 2010! We decided to reprint it, as is, to emphasize its history and value to our home, and to ward off any onerous actions by the federal government.*

By Jim Hines

Greetings, friends

We often look out across the Santa Barbara Channel and see portions of the five islands which make up the well-known Channel Islands National Park. But less well known and just as interesting are the waters surrounding the park.

These waters make up the federally protected Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. This underwater preserve was created in 1980 and is rich with some of the most spectacular sea life found on our planet. The protected zone of the sanctuary extends for six nautical miles around each of the five park islands...for a total of 1400 square miles.

The autumn season offshore brings large pods of blue whales, the largest mammal ever to inhabit our planet. Scores of jellyfish, dolphins, numerous sea lions, seals, including the largest breeding colony of the massive elephant seals in the Pacific Ocean, as well as over 60 species of seabirds. And the vast kelp beds are teeming with fish life.

Spend some time boating, kayaking, diving or general wildlife viewing and you will be amazed at the biological richness of this area.

History abounds in the sanctuary waters...famous shipwrecks such as the "Winfield Scott" and the Panama-bound mail freighter "Cuba" are found in the rocky outcroppings near the islands.

Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary is a world-renowned research site for studying undersea life. Scientists come from around the world to study in the sanctuary. These waters are one of the favorite places that Jean-Michel Cousteau (who heads up the Cousteau Society) likes to visit and explore. The sanctuary has been featured in Cousteau Society, National Geographic Society, and Discovery Channel films.

In addition to exploring the sanctuary waters above and below the surface, the Sanctuary has a visitor center in the Santa Barbara Harbor and one in the Channel Islands Harbor in Oxnard. Great places to start and plan your visit to the sanctuary.

The marine world of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary makes for an ideal day of boating and exploring in an area which is truly unique to our region.

Your public lands ... enjoy and protect them.



Whales are just some of the largest denizens of the deep off our shores; other species are small and some miniscule. And did you know the Channel Islands and ocean are considered a Whale Heritage site, one of only a handful worldwide. (Photo contributed)



For details about MPAs and how to comment, go to:
https://wildlife.ca.gov/Conservation/Marine/MPAs



The Conejo Group hikers are always trekking through our special natural areas in southern/eastern Ventura County, which can include the Los Padres National Forest and the Santa Monica mountains area as well as local parks. (Photo by Vicky Peraino) Check them out here:
https://tinyurl.com/ConejoSclub

GREETINGS FRIENDS

Our special areas

August is such an important month for our national conservation movement, for August 25 is the birthday of the National Park Service, created on August 25, 1916. An important date for all of us to celebrate.

It just so happens that August 25th is my birthday as well. I have so many great memories of August 25th where my parents and I would spend my birthday in a different national park.

I treasure those visits to this day. Our national park system is vast, diverse, and very special to me. I remember the first time, on my birthday, we visited Denali National Park in Alaska and saw grizzly bears. I was so young, and they were so inspiring to me.

Birthday memories include the "crown jewel" national parks such as **Yosemite, Grand Canyon, Everglades, Grand Teton and Yellowstone.**

We also visited what are commonly referred to as " lesser known" national parks such as **Black Canyon of the Gunnison, Big Thicket, Dry Tortugas, Craters of the Moon, Cumberland Gap**, and many, many more over the years.

And right here in our chapter region, we have two great National Park System units:

I cannot begin to tell you all the amazing journeys out to the five islands which make up **Channel Islands National Park** and of endless hikes in the spectacular **Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area**.

These are special areas close to home.

Everyone should spend as much time as they can in our national parks, for each passing day now comes new threats to the very existence of America's national park system.

In honor of our national parks, I have been privileged to travel to our national Capitol in Washington, DC to advocate with members of Congress (both House and Senate) as well as various Presidential Administrations (senior Interior staff as well as executive staff of the National Park Service).

Over the years these trips have been challenging and even more so now, for the forces of destruction of all that is wild in America are actively at work to destroy our great public land units such as national parks as well as national forests and BLM lands.

Visit national parks, be inspired by the stories these great wild places tell us, and advocate at the level you are comfortable with; protecting our national parks is more important now than ever

~For our national parks,
Jim Hines

EAVESDROPS

"Donald Trump is once again putting corporate polluters and extractive industries ahead of our public lands. Bears Ears and Grand Staircase-Escalante are irreplaceable landscapes that protect sacred Tribal sites, extraordinary wildlife habitat, and some of the most significant cultural and scientific resources in the country. These monuments belong to all Americans—not to the oil, gas, or mining interests that have long sought to exploit them."

~ Loren Blackford, Executive Director of Sierra Club.

Grizzlies in trouble

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) just proposed weakening Endangered Species Act protections for grizzlies in the Lower 48 by revising the rules that regulate when these bears can be killed, injured, or harassed.

The agency wants to create new, vaguely explained processes involving "Memoranda of Understanding" and "Technical Letters of Assistance" to lift restrictions on killing grizzlies and shift important decisions to states.

According to the internet, there are no grizzly bears in Santa Barbara or Ventura now (since 1926), and while the region has high-quality habitat, reintroduction is hypothetical.

However, in 2016, the California Grizzly Research Network was established at UCSB, and the feasibility study builds on the multidisciplinary work begun by a visionary network of environmental pioneers.

Despite lacking transparency and defined guardrails, these new processes will be used to hand over decisions about lethal removals to states, exempt killing that occurs from the trapping of other species, and lift restrictions on mortality and injury that occurs incidentally during activities not targeting the bears themselves.

Send a comment by August 17 to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service telling them to keep grizzly bear protections strong and stop any weakening of safeguards for these iconic bears.
https://www.fws.gov/grizzlyrulemaking

SIGHTINGS

Links to get active

By John Hankins

Check out the stories and links below on what happened in the last two months.

Join us by getting involved and having fun too.

We offer activities, activism and free hikes via our MeetUp. See Group News box on page 3 for contacts and links or enjoy our free hikes on page 5.

If you'd like to be an official hike leader, contact our hike teacher Gerry Ching at: gching@cox.net

Donations help a lot, and the money stays here at home doing good stuff. Donate here: www.sierraclub.org/donate/1000

Aug 1: **Westside Community Town Hall** about SoCalGas doubling its Ventura Compressor Station, which sits across the street from E.P. Foster Elementary School in the heart of West Ventura's community. But thanks to community efforts, we won a public hearing process. A draft Environmental Impact Report (EIR) is expected out by the end of 2026.

The rally was an effort to again mobilize residents to comment on that EIR. CAUSE and CFROG hosted the town hall. See details about the ongoing issue here: https://tinyurl.com/Westside-Gassss

July 23: **Mass Call to Resist** Trump's Attacks on CA Lands and Waters and new oil development. More at: https://actionnetwork.org/

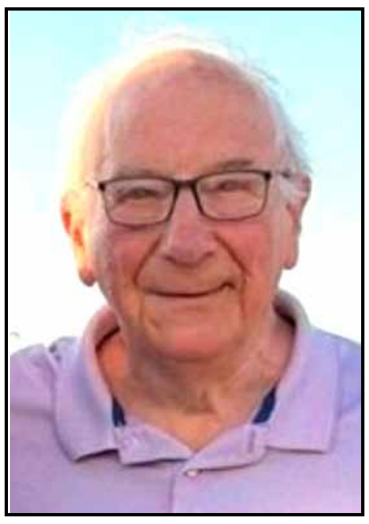
July 14: **SB Supervisors postpone** to Sept. 15 votes to forbid new onshore oil drilling but allowing a solar ordinance in industrial and agricultural zones.

Jun 26: **SB County Parks** Division released the Draft Program Environmental Impact Report (EIR) for the Recreation Master Plan and associated amendments. The document fulfills requirements under the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA). Details here: https://www.countyofsb.org/recreation-master-plan

June 10: **Town Hall hosted** by Los Padres ForestWatch at Toad & Co.'s outdoor courtyard with 50 people attending. Speakers warned of the potential consequences of trading trees for pavement, centering on the Trump administration's ongoing efforts to repeal the Roadless Area Conservation Rule. Our Sierra Club attended with remarks by the Chapter's Chair, Maureen Ellenberger, and numerous flyers compiled by Angel Golis on how and where to testify. Here's a link: https://tinyurl.com/RoadlessRuleInfo

June 8: **World Oceans Day**, established in 2002, includes 2,000+ organizations in 180 countries and aims to unite and rally the world to protect and restore our oceans. Off our coast, we know of this intimately via Marine Protected Areas, which surround the Channel Islands. Learn more at: https://worldoceanday.org/

June 5: **Trump officials** -- Secretaries of Energy and the Interior – came to Santa Barbara to promote the Sable restart of the pipeline at Refugio that caused a major oil spill 11 years ago. In contrast, they met with a barrage of opponents along State Street and at Refugio. Despite the record-breaking public outcry, the Trump admin is doubling down, ignorantly claiming it will lower your gas prices.



Gerard William Lynham

July 26, 1946 - June 5, 2026

Conejo Group Hiking <conejogrouphiking@gmail.com> announced:

"Those of you who haven't been on a hike or directly in communication with our hikers in the past week may be shocked and very saddened to learn that Gerry Lynham passed on Friday, June 5 at 5 am. He had been in the hospital and was beginning radiation on spots that had metastasized from his pancreatic cancer when things turned south very quickly."

"Gerry has been the heart, soul, and backbone of Conejo Group Hikers, and his loss is devastating to all of us."

Maureen Hernandez, the Sierra Club chapter's outings chair said: "I have had many encounters with Gerry. We have discussed policy enforcement at breakfast, group outing chairs' responsibilities on the phone, and when he was the only one to show up for our monthly meetings on Zoom, we seized the opportunity to create our own happy hour with a glass of red wine and laughter."

"He was a compassionate, caring man dedicated to his role of the Conejo Sierra Club outings chair, scheduling 2-4 hikes a week for his group and will be sincerely missed by all."

Condors plucked from extinction

By Condor John

In one of the most fascinating and controversial endangered species stories, the last 22 wild California Condors were literally plucked from the Santa Barbara-Ventura wilds in 1987 and sent to zoos for breeding.

And now look at them, literally 600 or more, from their home at Fillmore's Hopper Mountain or the Bitter Creek National Wildlife Refuge and elsewhere where they've been released, like Arizona, Oregon and the Grand Canyon.

"The idea that a bird once declared functionally extinct in the wild is now gliding again over the canyons of California feels almost unreal. For years, the California condor existed more as a cautionary tale than a living creature, a symbol of how badly humans could damage the natural world," noted the Animals Around the Globe website.

"Yet today, this giant scavenger . . . is reshaping how conservationists think about saving other species on the brink," it concluded.

Enter Debbie Parisi and Friends of the Condor Wild and Free (since 2009), all volunteers. Parisi gave a stimulating, illustrative talk to the Sierra Club's Ventura Network monthly event, which features speakers about our environment.

The Friends also conducted an environmental event on June 13 at Fillmore's Sheills Park, which featured their booth along with the Hopper Mountain National Wildlife System, our own Sierra Club and even Bat Rescue!

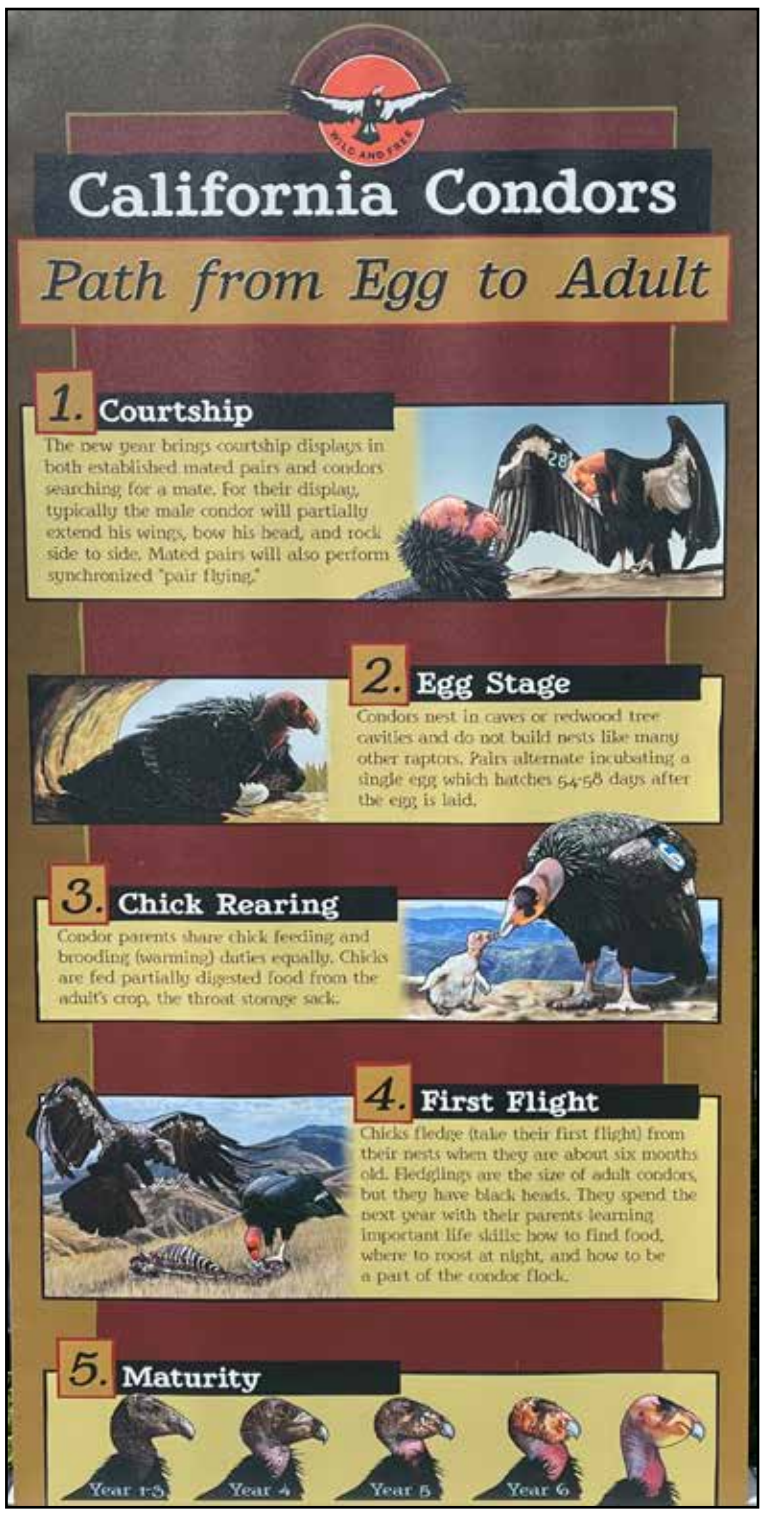
Parisi's been with the condors since 2009, and she told the Sierra Club audience that "They are so cool. They are such great parents, taking care of their chicks," with both the male and female sitting on the eggs.

She got involved when a friend at the L.A. Zoo told her about condors. " I thought, how could we make such a majestic bird go extinct? So, I had to do something about it."

The first successful breeding pair was in 1988, and the female is still alive in the breeding program. "We're dependent on the capture breeding program. We're losing more birds than we can raise them in the wild."

Despite its success, "There are more birds and fewer people, unfortunately," Parisi said. "Since 2008 we've doubled how many birds we have in the wild, but Fish and Wildlife staff was cut by half."

The California Condor stands 3 to 3.5 feet, has a wingspan of 9 to 9.5 feet, weighs between 17 and 25 pounds, and has a lifespan of 60 years.



They have been around for 40,000 years. A condor skeleton 35,000 years old was found in La Brea Tar Pits and beyond the West Coast.

One bird named Topa Topa from Ojai has fathered 39 birds, and there are over 300 in his family. "So, he's really important to us, and he celebrated his 60th birthday this year," Parisi said.

They nest in caves and tree hollows. They can fly up to 15,000 feet and reach a speed of 55 mph. Males dance for the females.

They only eat carrion, and they wash up afterward, Parisi said. "In the Grand Canyon, search and rescue found a missing hiker because they followed the condors. So yeah, if it's dead they will eat it."

If you see a condor and can make out its tag, a website will describe the bird and where it came from, and your information about where and when will be logged in: https://condorspotter.com/

To learn more, sign up for a tour and/or help out, go to: https://www.friendsofcondors.org/



The Friends of the Condor Wild and Free had an event in Fillmore June 13 and the SB-Ventura Sierra Club set up a booth among many other environmental groups. Here, the Ventura Network's Angel Golis had flyers and fun for kids and serious information for the parents and others who sidle up to our booth. Angel then asked one of the event's leaders, Debbie Parisi, to be the speaker at the Network's monthly public parlay. See story above about her condor presentation. (Photo by John Hankins)





Take a Hike!

SANTA BARBARA-VENTURA CHAPTER

Panorama above Goleta by Robert Bernstein

UPDATES: www.sierraclub.org/santa-barbara-ventura

HIKE WITH CLUB

WELCOME HIKERS

The public is welcome at all outings listed, unless otherwise specified. Please bring drinking water to all outings and optionally a lunch. Sturdy footwear is recommended. If you have any questions about a hike, please contact the leader listed. All phone numbers listed are within area code 805, unless otherwise noted.

A parent or responsible adult must accompany children under the age of 14.

See updated listing of all outings via the QR code (above) or: https://www.sierraclub.org/santa-barbara-ventura

This website also contains links to Group web pages and other resources. Some regional Groups also list their outings on Meetup sites. See Group News on page 3 for links.

HIKE LOS PADRES

CONDITIONS

Campgrounds trails and roads in Los Padres National Forest can be closed, have restrictions due to habitat protection, repair or weather. Before you go into the backcountry ensure you check conditions with rangers. Numbers to call (805 area unless noted) are:

Los Padres Forest Districts

Headquarters	865-0416
Ojai-Ventura	646-4348
Mt Pinos	(661) 245-3731
Santa Barbara	967-3481
Santa Lucia	925-9538

Other Areas

Santa Monica Mtns	370-2301
Conejo Park	381-2737
Simi Valley	584-4400
Montecito	969-3514

Forest Information

For updated info, maps, news releases, and other goodies:

http://FS.USDA.gov/LPNF

Regional Hike Info

Lots of local info on websites that give you varied info on outings, trail profiles, wildflower alerts, work opportunities and much more.

www.sierraclub.org/santabarbara-ventura
www.LPForest.org
https://LPFW.org
www.HikeLosPadres.com
www.SBSierraClub.org
www.SantaBarbaraTrailGuide.com
www.SantaBarbaraHikes.com
https://SBTrails.org
www.VenturaCountyTrails.org
http://Hikes.VenturaCountyStar.com



Our Sierra Club chapter's Basic Backpacking class was back for 2026 and likely for 2027 under the steady and knowledgeable hands of Scott Nelson, and as you can see the fellow backpackers were all smiling. You can put yourself on a list for next year and get notices here: https://tinyurl.com/BasicBackpacking

From our Mountains to the Sea: Where to go?

"Maybe they shouldn't be called hikes. Maybe that defeats the joy and the purpose. I don't like either the word [hike] or the thing. People ought to saunter in the mountains - not 'hike!'

It's a beautiful word and originated away back in the Middle Ages. People used to go on pilgrimages to the Holy Land, and when people in the villages asked where they were going, they would reply, 'A la sainte terre' (To the Holy Land). And so they became known as 'sainte-terre-ers' or saunters.

Given that Sierra Club's co-founder John Muir was one of history's greatest saunters, we should not only allow him his grumpiness, but give it profound consideration. And there is no better place than the Ventura - Santa Barbara region to amble in the great outdoors and give anything consideration.

As a wise soul once said, "It's only in the great open spaces that we find ourselves."

(Editor's note: Taken from Visit Ventura website with light editing to include Santa Barbara! Photo: https://www.facebook.com/SteveACattanach

Click to access all hikes

All links are now live!

`We used to print our Sierra Club Outings here covering a two-month period. But we find that planning that far ahead may change due to weather, Covid restrictions, closures etc.

So, we ask that you now rely on the many Meetups and websites for the chapter and some others. For our chapter Meetups go to Group News box always on page 3, otherwise, here we go:

The chapter's website: https://www.sierraclub.org/santa-barbara-ventura

A very special personal website run by Diane Soini which includes our chapter hikes, blogs, connections and a dragonfly on the screen:

Visit Ventura has a lot of information about hikes in the county and the Channel Islands. Go here: https://visitventuraca.com/biking-hiking/

Los Padres National Forest is the turf for Los Padres Forest Association and it's the 'bible' for the forest as it shares amazing information gleaned from hikers and others outdoor sites. Here's its hiking site (see QR code too) https://www.hikelospadres.com

Ojai Valley Land Conservancy has a handy Trailfinder for our phone. Go to: http://www.ovlc.org/trailfinder/

Going a bit more afield, the LA Times has published a trail guide for the SoCal region here: https://tinyurl.com/NearUsLA

Even more! UCSB's Deborah Williams created a new and expanded website as part of her "Public Lands and Waters" class. Here's the link: https://50greatpubliclanddestinations.org/

Geese make home at Cachuma

By Chris Dille

It started 4-5 years ago, with a single Canadian Goose, standing alone in the scruffy grass on the shore of the Pacific Ocean, opposite the Andre Clark Bird Refuge in Santa Barbara.

He or she parked there, alone for more than a year, when another Canadian Goose happened along, (I never saw the other one), but they met and mated in the quiet of the night, and re-appeared as a couple, across the street, on the shore of the Bird Refuge lake, in a narrow strip of six feet or so, between the lake's edge and the popular walkway of the park.

She laid nine eggs; the couple brought the chicks to maturity. As they were parked at the lake's edge, when threatened by people or dogs, the family would slip into the water and swim away. After many months of living on the popular lake, the young learned to fly, and the family migrated North.

Next Spring, the family reappeared at the lake's edge, near the parking lot at sundown. I happened to be down there, walking my dogs at the back of the lake, when I heard the melodious honking of the geese. Upon investigation, I found each goose lined up at the lake's edge, singing their hearts out, celebrating their successful return!!

The parents took up residence near their previous site and raised another family of seven. Congestion this summer was beginning to tell, Geese of the previous summer were aggressively defending the family space from people, dogs and bicycles, and with the approach of winter, the group again flew North.

The next Spring, I was personally anxious for them to appear again. With the growing size of their family, there was little space for them around the lake. A few members of the family appeared at the parking lot, again. We never saw the entire family.

Eventually, that Summer (2025), I walked the dogs down to the edge of Lake Cachuma, and, lo and behold, I broke into tears at the sight of approximately 20 Canadian Geese, happily resting in the ripples of Lake Cachuma.

A great new home for a brave and intelligent bird!



This is quite the story about Canadian geese coming to Santa Barbara over the years and how Chris Dille noticed them! PS this picture is not of the geese that he saw, but a representation!

EVENTS

July 29 – Aug. 9 **Ventura County Fair** noon to 11 pm with exhibits and live music, along with special days for youth (July 31), seniors (Aug 4), Ventura County Credit Union member Day (Aug. 5), Heroes Day for teachers, military, police etc. (Aug. 6). More details here: https://venturacountyfair.org/

Aug. 5 – 9 **Old Spanish Days** in Santa Barbara is a beloved tradition dedicated to honoring and preserving the city's history, spirit, culture, heritage and traditions.

Aug 9: **California Nature Art Museum** has a free-admission, end-of-summer Family Day from 10 a.m.–2 p.m. This annual event invites visitors to participate in a variety of free art- and nature-inspired activities. 1511-B Mission Dr Solvang. Details here: https://www.calnatureartmuseum.org/

Aug 15: **Goleta's Best Dam Dinner** is an annual, low-key event in a beautiful setting where tables and chairs are set up in a communal style along Lake Los Carneros dam from 4 to 7 p.m. Handicap, bikes, and details here: https://tinyurl.com/BestDamDinner

Aug 22: **Wild & Scenic** Film Festival, put on by the Ventura Land Trust, will be held in downtown Ventura instead of on the hill next to the Ventura County Credit Union lawn. Films will be at 2 pm (family matinee) and 7 pm at the Majestic Ventura Theater, 26 S. Chestnut, while the Festival will be outside along Main St. from 1- 7 pm. Tickets here: https://tinyurl.com/Wild-n-Scenic-Tix

Aug 26: **Town Hall** with numerous eco-groups to save our Roadless Conservation Rule 6-8 pm. See story pg ?

Repair Cafe starts Sept. 26

The Community Environmental Council has launched Repair Cafe Santa Barbara at its headquarters, 1219 State St., on Saturday, Sept. 26, from 10 am to 1 pm.

It's a completely free, community-powered event where volunteers help fix broken items instead of sending them to the landfill.

Bring an item or two — such as clothing, electronics, bikes, furniture, toys, small appliances, or knives for sharpening — and work alongside skilled fixers to bring them back to life.

This is not a drop-off service; you'll collaborate directly with a volunteer who will assess your item, guide you through the repair process, and share practical skills along the way. It's open to the public and designed to empower you to repair your favorite items. It's a hands-on, educational experience rooted in sustainability and community connection.

Interested in getting involved by volunteering your skills or simply helping us spread the word?
Contact info@repaircafesb.org

https://cecsb.org/

Harmon Canyon scores $1.2 grant

By Melissa Baffa

There's a lot happening at the Ventura Land Trust, topped off by a $1.225 million grant from the Wildlife Conservation Board to restore habitat at Harmon Canyon Preserve.

The project, named "Beans to Biodiversity," will restore areas previously disturbed by decades of lima bean farming, which displaced native vegetation and allowed invasive plants to spread.

It also includes removing tamarisk (Tamarix ramosissima), a highly invasive, water-intensive plant that threatens riparian ecosystems.

Harmon Canyon Preserve contains the headwaters of the last tributary to the Santa Clara River. By removing tamarisk from upper Harmon Creek through comprehensive surveys and multi-year treatments, we have a unique opportunity to eradicate this invasive species before it spreads downstream, protecting both the tributary and the Santa Clara River.

The Trust is also making progress toward lasting public access at Ventura Hills. Earlier this year, Chevron and Aera Energy (California Resources Corporation) filed a lawsuit challenging the Trust's use of Hall Canyon Road to access the new Ventura Hills Nature Preserve trailhead and parking lot.

The companies sought court orders that would have effectively closed the preserve to the public, but both their

request for a temporary restraining order and a preliminary injunction was denied.

Since then, Ventura Land Trust has continued working with Aera, Chevron, the City of Ventura, and legal counsel to ensure safe public access while pursuing a long-term solution. The parties are currently exploring the creation of a designated pedestrian corridor along the northwestern side of lower Hall Canyon Road as an alternative to continued litigation.

The Trust remains committed to negotiating in good faith to secure safe, reliable, and lasting public access to Ventura Hills Nature Preserve. The public has shown support and patience as discussions progress.

Entertainment awaits!

Join the Trust at the 17th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival coming to the Majestic Ventura Theater on August 22.

Tickets are now on sale for the 17th Annual Wild & Scenic Film Festival,

The celebration begins at 1 p.m. with activities on Chestnut Street, followed by a family-friendly matinee at 2 p.m. and a different evening film program at 7 p.m. Attend one screening or both, and upgrade to VIP for an exclusive reception at Leashless Brewing featuring catering by Mothers Tacos. More details here: https://tinyurl.com/Wild-n-Scenic-Tix



The Ventura Land Trust has just shy of 4,000 acres at Harmon Canyon and the Ventura Hills, but what about the first property it acquired before those popular giants of recreation? Meet Big Rock, it's not big nor can we find a large rock there, but you can access the Ventura River a few acres just south of Foster Park. We are told there used to be a Big Rock there, but the name stuck and it has easy access. Check it out along the bike path! (Photo by John Hankins)

Priority bills for our region

Sierra Club California has a lot on its mind for the 2026 Senate and Assembly issues for August, with an emphasis on oil, air, water, and wildlife, to name a few. You can check out details t:
https://leginfo.legislature.ca.gov/

Our elected officials covering Santa Barbara and Ventura counties are in the thick of things, obviously oil and gas by Assembly member Gregg Hart for AB 2461 "Holding Polluters Accountable for Cleanup Costs and AB 1448 "Protecting Coastal Lands from Oil and Gas Development."

Assembly member Steve Bennett has introduced AB 1986, "Establishing Home Hardening Premium Insurance Quotes." In fact, Bennett told the public in an event Feb. 21 at the Ventura Museum touting AB 1986, calling it "the most comprehensive wildfire-prevention package in California's state history, notably with a "home hardening certification program" among other companion bills: AB 1934, AB 1960, AB 1964, and AB 1971.

"For Sierra Club California, this next phase will require both offense and defense: advocating on priority support bills, while continuing to oppose bills that would roll back climate, clean air, water, coastal, and environmental review protections," wrote Miguel Miguel of Sierra Club California.

SB air board gives variance, 'a rubber stamp' to Sable oil

"In a power grab corrupt and odious . . . the House of Representatives has approved a measure to wipe out all state, local and other legal authority over Sable Offshore oil company's operations in Santa Barbara County," reports Newsmakers, a local "all-star panel of top local journalists."

The Independent's Nick Welch said, "The amendment language would make such authorization irrevocable and irreversible, no matter how various state and federal courts, now deliberating over various legal controversies surrounding Sable's production plan and jurisdictional supremacy, might rule."

In another plus for the rogue Sable, the hearing board of the Santa Barbara County's Air Pollution Control District unanimously granted a 90-day variance to Sable Offshore Corp. on July 17, which exempts the oil company from meeting various air pollution regulations on its platform near the Gaviota Coast.

"None of these criteria received independent scrutiny," challenged Maureen Ellenberger, who chairs the Sierra Club's Santa Barbara-Ventura chapter. "The findings simply repeat Sable's claims, word for word. The board should not be a rubber stamp."

Sable exceeded the volume of unplanned flaring in May and argued that it was out of its control.

The decision allows the oil company to continue pumping oil at its Santa Ynez Unit despite exceeding environmental regulations. Plus, as above, it has the backing of the Trump Administration.

But it has come under intense opposition from local environmental groups since operations off Santa Barbara's Gaviota Coast began four months ago, including the pipeline that caused the 2015 Refugio oil spill.

Since restarting without full permission, Sable has been involved in a slew of legal battles at the county and state level, with involvement from groups including the Sierra Club and the Environmental Defense Center.



We found this picture in our archives of literally the Last Condor taken from the wild for zoo breeding. It was printed in the April 1987 issue of Condor Call.

EAVESDROPS

"More than 300,000 people submitted comments on the Trump administration's extreme offshore drilling proposal — nearly all standing against the plan. That's the power of our collective voice, and it's a testament to what we can achieve when we work together.

But here's the reality: this battle is just beginning."

~ From Surfrider.







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Repel attacks on our public lands

Editor's note: This summer and beyond, the Sierra Club is inviting every chapter and volunteer to celebrate landscapes that define America's legacy while building support for the next generation of conservation and reminding people these places won't stay protected on their own.

As attacks on public lands continue–from attempts to sell them off to efforts to weaken long-standing protections–we have an opportunity to tell a different story and inspire people to stand up for the public lands and waters we all love in several simple ways, including:

~ Visit a favorite public land and share your story using #PublicLands250

~ Call your members of Congress to support public lands

~ Invite friends and family to join the campaign

~ Host a hike or community event *(mini-grants of $500 & $750 are available!)*

~ Use talking points to help tell your story of why public lands matter

~ Check out the new America 250 Toolkit and public lands action here: https://tinyurl.com/ActionViaToolKit https://tinyurl.com/OurPublicLands

At a time when so much divides us, public lands are shared by all of us – they are our true common ground.

These places are some of America's most popular areas for exploring nature while conserving landscapes, cultural areas, clean water, and wildlife for the future.

So this year, while the Trump Administration is funneling the entry fees Americans pay to National Parks to his pet projects in Washington, DC, trying to sell off public lands, and attempting to erase parts of our history, let's get back to what makes us *us*: spending time in the public lands we cherish with people we care about.

The Bureau of Land Management, the National Park Service, and Fish and Wildlife Service launched five 60-day public comment periods (through August 14) to gather feedback on federal wilderness policies, including Wilderness Areas, Wilderness Study Areas, recommended wilderness, and lands with wilderness characteristics.

The Trump administration isn't just trying to sell our public lands, but it's also giving away what's underneath them.

The Administration recently announced a renewed effort to strip the public's voice out of the oil and gas leasing process and make it cheaper and easier for oil and gas companies to acquire our public resources.

This new rule will eliminate scoping and public comment on oil and gas leases, reduce bonding to levels set in the 1960s, and eliminate leasing preference criteria (like competing uses, wildlife value, or cultural resources).

This involves millions of acres, and here's just one that affects our region:

The Bureau of Land Management has approved new oil and gas management plans that reopen almost a million acres to oil and gas leasing—including lands in Fresno, Kern, Kings, Madera, San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara, Tulare, Ventura, and surrounding counties.

This move prioritizes short-term extraction & pollution over California's climate goals, public health, and the long-term stewardship of some of our most treasured public lands.

The Sierra Club is currently in talks with coalition partners to determine next steps, including litigation and creative ways to amplify this with public officials.



An aerial of our Los Padres National Forest shows how extensive and rich it is. Its scope is brought to us by pilot and photographer Bill Dewey.



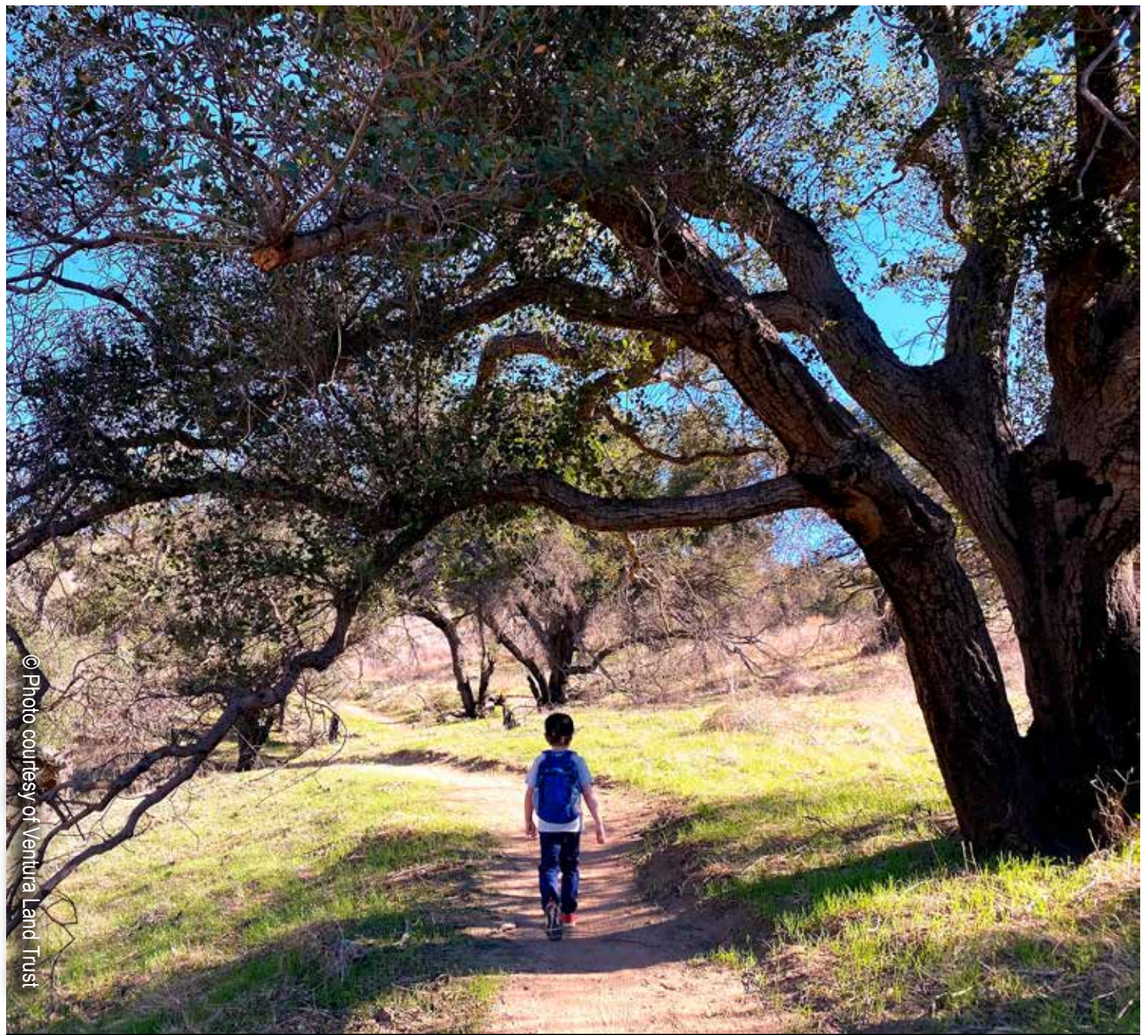
Bears Ears National Monument in Utah is a target of the Trump Administration to allow more extraction of timber and minerals, etc., for money, as the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument also in Utah. Shown is Bears Ears 'Moon House,' just one of the indigenous artifacts and habitat. The Roadless Rule is being weakened by the Administration and affects many more national parks and forests, which we are fighting; see page 3. (Photo courtesy Sierra Club)

Vol. 26, No. 4 of 6

August - September 2026

Condor Call

Journal of the Sierra Club's
Santa Barbara - Ventura Chapter



© Photo courtesy of Ventura Land Trust

Beach Clean ... SBCAN ... Hoax Folks ... Condor ... Harmon hum

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