Sierra Club California is the environment's strongest and boldest voice in California's State Capitol.

By necessity, we are multi-talented. We stop bad legislation and advance good bills. We follow through and make sure that good legislation is implemented at the state and local level. And we use every tool, from social media to conventional media to community organizing, to apply pressure to keep the environment topmost in California elected officials’ minds.

Since 1986, we have represented Sierra Club's 13 California chapters to advance state policies that stop pollution and protect California's rich natural heritage. We have remained relevant and effective because of our 380,000 members and supporters in California, and Sierra Club California’s dedicated staff.

Sierra Club California is recognized for tax purposes as a 501 (c) 4 organization. Donations made directly to Sierra Club California are not tax deductible. They go into our lobbying program to support our work at the Capitol. These funds are the most precious and essential to help maintain our core legislative work, unmatched by any other organization. We also perform work that qualifies as tax deductible.

This includes educating policy makers and the public, and monitoring and testifying for the environment about regulatory proceedings at state agencies. Tax-deductible donations to support our work can be made to The Sierra Club Foundation, with a notation that the funds should be directed to Sierra Club California. Learn more about Sierra Club California and how to be involved at: http://sierraclubcalifornia.org.

Sierra Club California: Highlight Achievements of 2021

Working Hard At The Capitol
Good environmental law and policy starts in the California Legislature. This year we:

- Stopped or neutralized more than 25 environmentally harmful bills. This includes bills that would have opened up state parks and public lands to grazing, provided broad and harmful exemptions from CEQA, delayed implementation of groundwater regulations, and slowed the advancement of rooftop solar.
- Successfully negotiated and secured a state budget that invests $11.8 billion over multiple years to take on the climate crisis, including billions toward electric vehicle infrastructure, nature and climate resilience, and water conservation and recycling projects.
- Helped push through legislation to phase out gas powered small off road engines (leaf blowers and lawn equipment); reign in the fossil fuel industry; prohibit plastics manufacturers from lying about their products; and ensure desert conversation is a must in California.
Reducing Reliance on Fossil Fuels
Phasing out California’s reliance on fossil fuels is key to combating the climate crisis. This year we:

- Secured the first voted Energy Code in the nation to include highly efficient electric heat pump technology as a baseline for new homes and small commercial buildings, getting our buildings off polluting methane gas.
- Pressured the Governor to issue a directive to ban new fracking permits by 2024. The statement also requests that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) assess how California can phase out all oil and gas drilling by 2045.
- Persuaded the Governor to issue new draft health and safety rules requiring that newly constructed oil and gas extraction sites must be at least 3,200 feet from California homes, schools, and public parks.

Protecting Wildlife, Wildlands, Parks and Open Space
Ensuring that wild spaces are preserved, wildlife are protected, and all people have access to the state’s beautiful natural areas continues to drive us at the state legislature and agencies. This year we:

- Advanced fire-safety policies, including state funding for defensible space protections for low-income homeowners in fire-prone areas.
- Turned out hundreds of members to state agency workshops and meetings regarding the state’s implementation of the 30x30 Executive Order issued in 2020.
- Protected over 3100 acres in eastern Alameda county at risk of becoming a park for polluting and destructive off-highway vehicles.