



Sierra Club San Diego Chapter

# HiSIERRAN

Serving San Diego And Imperial Counties

Vol 86 No. 1

Visit our website at: [www.sandigosierraclub.org](http://www.sandigosierraclub.org)

January/February/March 2026

## Happy 2026! The Theme Of Our January 2026 HiSierran Newsletter Is Zero Waste

### Zeroing in on Zero Waste - Your Questions Answered



*Ron Askeland, San Diego Sierra Club Zero Waste Subcommittee*

In this issue we'll lay out our Zero Waste Subcommittee goals for 2026, offer some zero waste tips for business owners, provide information on the 13th Annual Zero Waste Symposium, and share insights from Judith Enck, former EPA regional administrator and the author of the new book, "The Problem With Plastic". In a related article to the right, subcommittee member Pat Holland will discuss the newly forming Food, Agriculture, And Landscaping Group.

Please email your questions about zero waste and related issues to [zerowastesdsc@gmail.com](mailto:zerowastesdsc@gmail.com) and we will answer them in future issues of the HiSierran. Zero Waste Subcommittee meetings are held the first Monday of the month at 6:30 PM. If you would like to attend or join the subcommittee, please send an email to [zerowastesdsc@gmail.com](mailto:zerowastesdsc@gmail.com).

### Zero Waste Subcommittee Goals for 2026

- 1) Adoption and implementation of a countywide Waste and Toxic Materials Reduction Program.
- 2) Phase out all uses of synthetic turf.
- 3) Reduce/eliminate pesticide use on school grounds, libraries and parks.
- 4) Track City of San Diego's implementation of Measure B and Polystyrene Foam Ban/Single Use Plastics Ordinance.
- 5) Reduce Tobacco, Cannabis and E-cigarette waste by collaborating with SDSU.
- 6) Phase out gas-powered leaf blowers in San Diego County.
- 7) Reduce ocean debris problem - focus on Connect the Cap.
- 8) Form a Healthy Food and Agriculture Group.

Please contact us at [zerowastesdsc@gmail.com](mailto:zerowastesdsc@gmail.com) if you would like to work on any of the subcommittee goals.

*Zero Waste continued on page 3*

### Food, Agriculture and Landscaping Group

*Pat Holland, Zero Waste Subcommittee*

Dear San Diego County Sierra Club Members Who Care What You Put Into Your and Your Loved Ones' Mouths

We need you in our newly forming food, agriculture, and landscaping group, If you:

- Buy or grow organically and regeneratively grown food, or would like to.
- Want to consume health giving food and drink.
- Are concerned about toxic food and drink: coatings, packaging, additives, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, or wonder why others are concerned.
- Are concerned about Genetically Modified food and drink (Some methods of genetic modification are: tissue culture, irradiation, prion insertion to mix genes that nature would not allow to mix, CRISPER.)
- Understand or would like to understand that everything in our ecosystem interacts with our food and drink.

We are a group of Sierra Club Members who communicate with each other because we wish for ourselves and our loved ones to consume health giving food and drink.

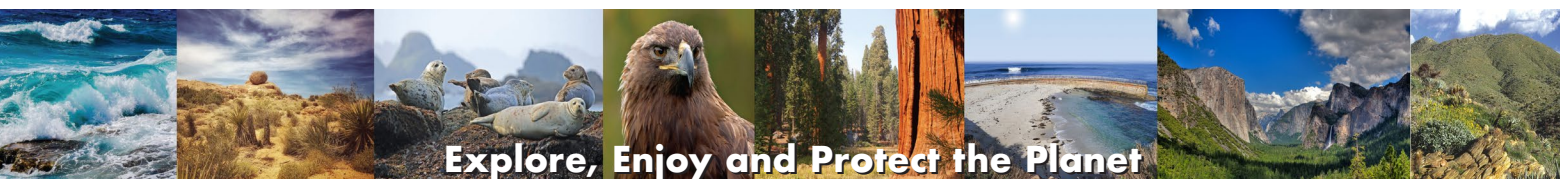
We would like to get together by: phone, emails, in person, and at zoom meetings.

We seek to learn from others, and to educate.

We may choose to sign canned letters or personalize letters to politicians, agencies, or businesses; with the goal of improving what we and our countrypersons and future generations can safely consume.

Some of us have noticed that we have been sickened by human innovation made food and drink, health harming cookware, dishes, food and drink packaging. We think it should not be so

*Food, Ag & Landscaping continued on page 7*



Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

# HiSIERRAN

Explore, Enjoy and Protect the Planet

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**Lisa Ross**

I would have liked to start the New Year as the Happy Green Warrior, but no secret, the year 2025 logged the worst Green and most public safety deficient government track record on all levels in memory.

The tip of the spear belongs to the Governor's office, whose all-out assault on California's 50-year-old environmental protection law, the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), has been a brutal stab in the back to their environmental supporters.

The San Diego chapter remains in the forefront of shielding our fragile environment from some of the worst effects of the downturn in our state's fortunes, advocating to save California's precious resources by rescuing what's left of CEQA alongside a few courageous local state legislators: Sen. Catherine Blakespear, Rep. Tasha Boerner and Sen. Steve Padilla to name three.

There were some wins for our Chapter, largely a by-product of the battered CEQA process.

On the advocacy side, a 7-year slog to prevent a sand mine on an abandoned golf course that served as a wildlife corridor on a Kumeyaay burial site in East County ended with a unanimous rejection by the Board of Supervisors based on a rare staff thumbs down recommendation.

In South County, a CEQA lawsuit settlement supported by State Attorney General Bonta concerning the 450-acre Otay Village 13 project resulted in adding 800 homes while saving another 300 acres of endangered habitat lands in a more compact design than originally planned.

But for every step forward, there was another leap backward.

Not waiting for the applause to die down for the County Supervisors' historic passage of the Fire Safe/Low VMT Alternative Climate Action plan (CAP), the County Council began gas-lighting the public, insisting that the Board did not pass the alternative in spite of all the supposed lying eyes observing the hearing.

The CAP nod from the Supervisors should have settled successful Sierra Club litigation dating back to 2018. And so, we have taken up residence in the same courtroom, once again. Stay tuned.

But of all the public safety shockers delivered by the Board of Supervisors this year, the unanimous approval of the sprawl Harmony Grove Village South planned community surrounded by high fire chaparral covered hills with only a 2-lane evacuation route, left the community and the Sierra Club with no alternative but to file a lawsuit.

Not to be outdone, San Diego City Council approved a new exclusive lease concocted by the City Attorney removing all restrictions on City owned land to a private nonprofit sports club, paving the way for commercial development and limited public access to 114 acres in the San Dieguito Valley basin.

And so, on behalf of the families who cannot afford participation in organized soccer and \$20 parking fees, the neighbors whose emergency evacuation routes are clogged with traffic, and environmentalists who worry about pollution in the San Dieguito River Valley floodplain from toxic run-off and invasive plants, Sierra Club filed our most recent lawsuit.

*There are certainly battles ahead in 2026. A sincere promise: Sierra Club will be on the frontlines. Please join us.*

## Zero Waste Practices for Businesses

### Core Strategies and Practices

- **Start by conducting a waste audit to pinpoint what and how much your business throws away, such as office paper, packaging, and food scraps. Set clear goals to reduce waste—like cutting paper use by 30% in three months.**
- **Choose durable, repairable, and recyclable products, and work with suppliers to find reusable or easily recyclable packaging.**
- **Streamline daily operations by reusing materials, repairing items, and recycling as much as possible.**
- **Buy supplies locally and select products with recycled or minimal packaging to lower costs and your carbon footprint.**
- **Phase out single-use items like plastic utensils and cups in favor of reusable alternatives and digitize paperwork to save on paper.**
- **Set up clear recycling and composting stations for various waste.**
- **Engage employees by providing training and incentives and regularly track progress to celebrate achievements and refine your practices.**

### Business Benefits

Adopting these steps helps businesses cut costs by reducing waste at the source and often reveals ways to streamline operations and use resources more effectively. Customers appreciate businesses that care about the environment, which can boost loyalty and attract new clients.

If you would like to recognize a local business that practices zero waste principals, please send an email to [zerowastesd-sc@gmail.com](mailto:zerowastesd-sc@gmail.com) and we may highlight the business in a future HiSierran.

### 13th Annual Zero Waste Symposium

Zero Waste San Diego is hosting the 13th Annual Zero Waste Symposium on Wednesday February 18, 2026, in the San Diego County Operations Center. Speakers include:

- **Sue Beets-Atkinson - Global VP of Sustainability for SBM Management Services, LP**
- **Camrie Rounds - Marketing Manager at I Love A Clean San Diego**
- **Jessica Ulyott - Educator with Nature Needs SD**
- **Alexander Galasso - Waste Reduction Program Manager, City of San Diego**

Last day to register is February 13, 2026:  
<https://events.humanitix.com/zwsymposium2026>

### Recycling Can't Solve Our Plastic Crisis

*Judith Enck, Former EPA Regional Administrator*

In her article, Recycling Can't Solve Our Plastic Crisis (<https://time.com/7337065/auto-draft-26-2/>), Judith Enck states "Throwing your plastic bottles in the recycling bin may make

you feel good about yourself, or ease your guilt about your climate impact. But recycling plastic will not address the plastic pollution crisis—and it is time we stop pretending as such."

In the United States, less than 6% of plastic waste is recycled. Many believe recycling is a simple fix due to misleading messaging, but companies have promoted this narrative since the 1970s to avoid stricter regulations. Today, industry deception continues—plastic bags dropped at stores usually end up in landfills, and the "chasing arrows" symbol appears on non-recyclable plastics. Plastic is made from fossil fuels and contains around 16,000 chemicals for various properties. These differences make sorting and recycling complicated. Unlike glass or aluminum, plastic loses quality after recycling; a bottle can only be recycled two or three times before it becomes items like carpet or clothing, which still end up as waste.

Legal action is increasing, with state attorneys general suing major plastic producers over pollution and misleading recyclability claims. Plastic waste in the U.S. surged from 13.6 billion pounds in 1980 to 71.4 billion pounds in 2018—a 263% increase—polluting even remote places like arctic ice, deep-sea trenches, mountains, national parks, and our bodies. Microplastics are now found throughout human organs, including lungs, blood, brain, testicles, placenta, and breast milk. Of the chemicals in plastic, 4,200 are known to harm health or the environment, with links to cancer, heart attacks, and hormone disruption. A recent The Lancet study estimated plastic causes at least \$1.5 trillion in annual health damages worldwide, starting at extraction and continuing through disposal.

Judith concludes "So what can we do? If we can't recycle our way out of this mess, and plastic's environmental and human health harms begin from its very conception anyway, how do we reverse the plastic pollution crisis?"

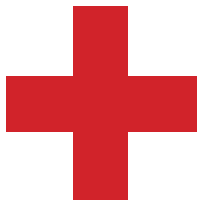
First, companies need to stop producing so much plastic and shift to reusable and refillable systems. If reducing packaging or using reusable packaging is not possible, companies should at least shift to paper, cardboard, glass, or metal. These can be made from recycled material and actually get recycled again. Companies are not going to do this on their own, which is why policymakers—the officials we elected to protect us—need to require them to do so.

***It's the only way to ensure people are prioritized over plastic."***

In their new book, *The Problem with Plastic: How We Can Save Ourselves and Our Planet Before It's Too Late*, authors Judith Enck and Adam Mahoney investigate plastic's devastating environmental and health impacts. They reveal the alarming extent of microplastics infiltrating both the natural world and the human body and the deceptive greenwashing strategies used by the plastics industry to maintain the status quo, while offering practical solutions for reducing consumption.







# American Red Cross

## Wilderness and Remote First Aid by Simple Continuing Education

*Must attend both part 1 and 2 to complete the course*

### Part 1

*(Zoom online – link will be emailed upon paid registration)*

**Saturday, January 10, 2026. 9am-5pm**

### Part 2

*(in Briar Crest Park 9001 Wakarusa Rd. La Mesa, CA 91941)*

**Sunday, January 11, 2026. 9am-5pm**

#### *What you will learn/practice:*

*When Help is Delayed:* - Emergency Action Steps  
- Emergency Moves and Prioritizing Care  
Physical Exam and Report Record Transfers  
and Evacuations

Preventing Disease Transmission & Use of Tourniquets

Preventing Infections - Head and Spinal Injuries

Chest and Abdominal Injuries - Burns and Shock

-Hypothermia - Major Bites and Stings

*This option combining virtual classroom and in person skills and scenarios is recognized by the American Red Cross as long as participant attend all sessions.*

#### ***Participants must ...***

- Have a current adult CPR prior to attending (BLS CPR meets this requirement)
- Be capable of performing strenuous activities (such as bending, lifting, kneeling, etc.)

#### ***As a result of the course, participants will ...***

Earn a 2-year Wilderness Remote First Aid card from the American Red Cross

#### ***Be prepared for:***

- Minor Emergencies • Scouting
- Hiking • Backpacking
- Living or Working in Rural Areas • Sierra Club Treks
- Disasters



**Cost: \$250 for 2-day Wilderness  
Remote First Aid Course**  
*(due before the first class)*

**\$175** (discounted rate) for  
**Sharp employees, Sierra Club and  
Scouting members.**

**\$50 for Adult CPR w/AED**  
*(offered before the course for this additional fee)*

To meet CPR requirement, do one of  
the following:

- 1) Complete Adult CPR w/AED through American Red Cross, American Heart Association or other OSHA approved provider.
- 2) Attend online instruction with our instructor and provide copy of card with registration on **Friday, January 2, 2026** from 6-8pm online via Zoom AND demonstrate skills on **Sunday, January 11, 2026** during class.

*To register (or ask questions),*

- 1) Call or email Kevin Opheim **(619) 300-4219**  
(24 hours a day)

- 2) Send payment, due by

**Wednesday, December 31, 2025.**

With Venmo, use email or phone number

**KevinO@MySimpleCE.com**

Continuing Education: Provider approved by the  
California Board of Registered Nursing,

Provider Number #16990 for 4.0 contact hours (\$20 additional fee)

**More scheduled classes coming: April 18-20 and  
July 25-26. Call (619) 300-4219 for further information.**



# Celebrating San Diego's Statewide Sierra Club Award Winners

Mark West, Chapter Director

Sierra Club San Diego is honored to celebrate three chapter leaders who were recently recognized by the Sierra Club Council of Clubs for their outstanding service. Our staff was genuinely excited to recommend these members, knowing how much time, heart, and skill they bring to making Sierra Club San Diego stronger and more effective.

What follows are brief highlights of why each honoree was selected and how their leadership is helping to shape the future of our chapter and our state.



## Lisa Ross – Legislative Advocacy Award

As Chapter Chair, Lisa Ross has guided the San Diego Chapter through significant change while keeping our mission and values front and center. Her leadership in legislative advocacy, particularly through the California Advocacy Committee (CAC), is what earned her the Legislative Advocacy Award (formerly the John Zierold Award).

Lisa has helped reimagine how California volunteers engage in advocacy:

- *She has made it easier and more inviting for volunteers to meet directly with elected officials, ensuring that grassroots voices are present in key policy conversations.*
- *She has worked to streamline the advocacy process so that local knowledge can move more efficiently into statewide strategy.*
- *She models transparent, inclusive leadership, which has helped build trust and stronger relationships between chapter volunteers and Sierra Club California staff.*

Because of Lisa's work, more volunteers feel empowered to participate in advocacy—and the organization is better for it. The San Diego Chapter is seen as a model of how to connect local passion with statewide impact. Staff were proud to recommend Lisa for this award as a recognition of both her strategic vision and her ability to bring people together around shared goals.



## Pam Heatherington – Environmental Alliance Collaboration Award

Pam Heatherington received the Environmental Alliance Collaboration Award, recognizing her deep and sustained work building alliances across environmental, social, racial justice, and tribal communities.

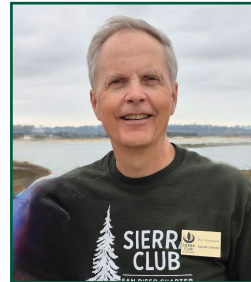
Pam brings multiple leadership roles under one collaborative umbrella:

- *She serves on the Executive Committee of both the San Diego Chapter and Sierra Club California, helping bridge local and statewide priorities.*

- *As Regional Co-Lead for Power in Nature's 30x30 Campaign, she helps advance California's commitment to protecting 30 percent of lands and waters by 2030 through a coalition of nearly 300 organizations.*
- *As Executive Director of the Environmental Center of San Diego, she connects more than 80 local organizations working on biodiversity, climate, pollution, environmental justice, and youth education.*

Pam's signature project, the San Diego Environmental Leadership Summit, has run for nine consecutive years. Each summit brings together tribal leaders, environmental justice advocates, non-profit staff, government employees, and technical experts for candid dialogue and shared planning. Recent summits have featured a wide range of voices, from tribal representatives to state and local government staff, non-profit leaders, and community-based advocates.

The staff was especially excited to recommend Pam because her work demonstrates how coalition-building can move big ideas into concrete action. She shows that collaboration—across sectors, geographies, and identities—is not just a value we talk about, but a practice we live.



## Ronald "Ron" Askeland – Sally & Les Reid Conservation Award

Ron Askeland was honored with the Sally & Les Reid Conservation Award for his exemplary conservation leadership and tireless advocacy on behalf of San Diego's environment.

As Conservation Committee Chair for the San Diego Chapter, Ron is a constant presence wherever decisions affecting our climate, open space, and wildlife are being made:

- *He attends numerous public meetings and hearings, providing informed, well-researched testimony on behalf of the chapter.*
- *He writes detailed letters to agencies and elected officials, making the case for climate action, habitat protection, and responsible land use.*
- *He tracks complex policy issues and helps translate them into clear priorities for volunteers.*

Equally important is Ron's role as a mentor and leader-builder. He chairs multiple committees and working groups, encouraging newer members to take on meaningful responsibilities. He shares his knowledge generously, ensuring that others feel prepared and confident to step into advocacy roles. Under his guidance, the chapter's conservation program has grown in both depth and reach.

Staff enthusiastically recommended Ron because he embodies what it means to be a conservation leader in the Sierra Club tradition: principled, persistent, collaborative, and focused on empowering others. His work strengthens not just individual campaigns, but the long-term capacity of Sierra Club San Diego and Sierra Club California.

Together, Lisa, Pam, and Ron reflect the very best of our chapter's leadership. On behalf of the staff, congratulations and thank you for all you do to make Sierra Club San Diego better every day.

## Sierra Club San Diego Welcomes New Executive Committee Member, Adds New Committees, and Celebrates Officer Elections

*Mark West, Chapter Director, Sierra Club San Diego Chapter*

The Sierra Club San Diego Chapter is pleased to welcome William Morse as the newest member of our Executive Committee. At a moment when our region faces urgent challenges—from protecting open space and biodiversity to accelerating the transition to clean energy—strong leadership and steady volunteer commitment matter more than ever. William's decision to step forward reflects the best of what our chapter represents: residents who care deeply about the future of San Diego County and are willing to invest time and effort into making that future healthier, more resilient, and more equitable.

The Executive Committee, often called the ExComm, is the working leadership team that helps guide chapter priorities, maintains sound governance, and supports the volunteer leaders who power our campaigns. Serving on the ExComm requires collaboration, patience, and a willingness to balance big-picture vision with the practical work of keeping a mission-driven organization moving. William Morse brings fresh energy and perspective to that work, and we are grateful he has chosen to serve. We look forward to the experience and insight he will contribute as we build on the chapter's momentum in the months ahead.

In addition to welcoming William, the chapter has taken a significant step to strengthen our organizing capacity by establishing two new committees: the South Bay Task Force and the Water Committee. The South Bay Task Force will help ensure that the environmental priorities of our southern communities receive focused attention and consistent advocacy. From air quality and public health to habitat protection and equitable access to parks and open space, South Bay residents face distinct challenges and deserve tailored engagement and representation.

The new Water Committee will focus on one of San Diego County's defining issues: protecting clean, reliable water supplies while safeguarding rivers, wetlands, groundwater, and coastal ecosystems. Water policy affects nearly every part of daily life—public health, wildlife habitat, affordability, and long-term regional resilience. This committee will help the chapter engage more strategically on critical decisions and support members who want to make a difference on water stewardship and sustainability.

We are also celebrating the results of our chapter officer elections—an important milestone that reflects continuity where it serves us best and new leadership where it strengthens our capacity. Our members have re-elected Lisa Ross as Chair. Lisa's steady hand and thoughtful leadership have helped keep our chapter focused on effective advocacy and strong partnerships. Her re-election signals the confidence our membership has in her ability to guide our work with clarity and purpose.

We are also proud to announce the election of Alan Geraci as Vice Chair. The Vice Chair role is essential in supporting chapter leadership, strengthening internal coordination, and helping advance strategic planning. Alan's election adds valuable capacity as we expand our work and continue building a stronger volunteer leadership pipeline.

In the Treasurer role, Rochelle Hancock has been re-elected, reinforcing the chapter's commitment to transparency, accountability, and responsible stewardship of resources. Finally, we are pleased to welcome Pam Heatherington as our newly elected Secretary, a role vital to strong governance and clear communication.

Together, the addition of William Morse, the creation of the South Bay Task Force and Water Committee, and the election of our officers represent a renewed commitment to the Sierra Club's mission. We invite members and supporters to stay engaged, attend meetings, join outings, participate in campaigns, and help shape the work ahead. Our chapter is strongest when many voices contribute—and we are ready, together, for what comes next.



# Give Your Vehicle a New Purpose.

## Donate Your Vehicle Today!

**Help Support the San Diego Chapter**

It's never a bad time to donate your car/boat/motorcycle  
and you may qualify for a tax deduction!.

Call the Chapter Office for more info: (858) 569-6005



much work finding health giving food and drink in the USA and in the world.

Some of us have noticed our, our loved ones and our pets' health improves eating whole, fresh, uncoated food and drink which is USDA certified Organic or EU Certified Organic, and Non GMO Project certified, and Regeneratively Grown certified. If we eat eggs, we look for Pasture Raised Certified Organic eggs. If we purchase dairy products, we look for milk not ultra-pasteurized, from grass fed and finished animals not given antibiotics, ideally in reusable glass containers and not in plastic. If we buy meat, we look for USDA certified organic grass fed AND finished meat, not grown in CAFOs (Confinement Animal Farming Operations).

For our residences, communities, landscaping, gardens, farms, grocery stores, caterers, restaurants, we seek at best:

- **Absence of plastic, pesticides, herbicides, fungicides, rodenticides, heavy metals and other poisonous contaminants, absence of produce coatings, absence of plastic lawns.**
- **biodiversity**
- **seeds and plants that are certified Non-GMO with the Non-GMO Project Butterfly Seal, and with the USDA Organic Seal**
- **seeds not coated with toxic pesticides, nor other toxic coatings (Those poisonous coatings make their way into food that grows from the seeds.)**
- **compost that goes from organic to organic**
- **fertilizers and soil supplements which are marked OMRI for organic production, as well as bearing the Non-GMO Project Butterfly Seal.**

We control pests by using traps; by using companion plants for greater food yields, that repel pests, and attract beneficial insects; and we use plants and practices that attract beneficial insects and birds .

Phone me if you or others you know, wish to join us, or have expertise or questions.

If you called before and I did not return your call, my answering machine sometimes cuts people off if it's full. Please try again, I'd love to talk with you.

Phone Pat Holland at: 858 455 1033 land line, with call screening due to solicitors. If I am unable to immediately answer, please say who you are and how and when you can be reached by phone.

PS: Sierra Club National supports Organic and Regenerative Agriculture.

If you want to learn more about organic regenerative agriculture, <https://regenerationinternational.org> has a recording of its last annual meeting on Oct. 16, 2025 : 24 hour, virtual, free, World Wide Peoples Food Summit on World Food Day: <https://regenerationinternational.org/peoples-food-summit-2025>. Prior summits are also at the website; you can listen to and watch any or all sessions at your convenience.

## One Sierra Club Member's Home Electrification Project

*Ron Askeland*

My home was built 50 years ago with a natural gas furnace, water heater and fireplace. Twenty-five years ago, we added 16 solar panels and an inverter. In those days, you had to build your own mounting racks to attach panels to your roof. The solar panels greatly reduced our electric bill, but I was still using fossil fuel for heating.

In 2023, I replaced my roof and added 9 additional solar panels that are more efficient, along with a level 2 EV charger. This spring, I replaced my gas furnace with a heat pump for cooling/heating the house, bought a heat pump water heater, and installed an electric fireplace insert. I'm now fossil fuel-free and use solar power to charge my EV and our plugin hybrid car.

Since I already had an electric clothes dryer and electric stove, the biggest challenge was how to go all-electric with a 100-amp panel. The solution was to always use the water heater in heat pump mode instead of resistive heating and to purchase a dual fuel heat pump/natural gas furnace. A dual fuel heat pump/resistive heating furnace would have required an additional 220 V line for backup resistive heating. Since I never use my furnace in the natural gas mode, I'm fossil fuel-free.

*If you decide to make the switch to all-electric before the end of the year, here are a few suggestions:*

- 1) **Be very clear with your contractor on how you want your HVAC ductwork (room vents and return) laid out, so there are no surprises. I installed a damper in the garage so that I can send more airflow up to my home's second story in the summer.**
- 2) **Heat pump water heaters are louder than natural gas water heaters - make sure your sound insulation is adequate. I ended up installing sound mufflers on the air inlet and outlet of my heat pump water heater.**
- 3) **Be aware that the copper pipes running from the outdoor compressor to the furnace/air conditioner in your garage operate under higher pressure in heating mode than in cooling mode, making the pipes vibrate more in winter. Also, when using a heat pump to heat your home, a large amount of water will condense on the outdoor compressor on cold humid days and you need good drainage.**





# Seal Society Marks a Year of Growth, Outreach, and Advocacy in La Jolla

Robyn Davidoff, Seal Society Chair



The Sierra Club Seal Society (SCSS) closed out a busy year of public outreach, wildlife education, and advocacy aimed at protecting La Jolla's iconic seal and sea lion colonies. Volunteers logged an average of 38 hours per week from May through December educating thousands of visitors at Point La Jolla and the La Jolla Cove—particularly during the height of sea lion pupping season. Their efforts focused on preventing wildlife disturbance by explaining animal behavior, sharing information on reproductive cycles, and reminding visitors to maintain a minimum distance of at least 20 feet from the animals.

## Preparing for Harbor Seal Pupping Season

The Seal Society kicked off 2025 by preparing for harbor seal pupping season at the Children's Pool, which is closed to the public annually from December 15 to May 15 to protect mother-pup pairs. In partnership with UC San Diego,



the Seal Society launched its second year of the UCSD Pup Patrol—training more than 40 Environmental and Marine Sciences students to serve as docents. Students also conducted daily population counts for three months as part of a statewide effort to assess harbor seal numbers.

The SCSS completed other public education events, including four free “Talk and Walk” sessions at Mangelsen's Images of Nature Gallery in February. These included lectures on local seal history and behavior followed by guided tours of the Children's Pool rookery.

## Deepening Community Engagement

Throughout the year, the Seal Society expanded its outreach by hosting Girl Scout troops at the Children's Pool and Pt. La Jolla, speaking at the Sierra Club Wilderness Basics Course, participating in Walter Munk Ocean Day and SeaWorld's Community Day, and presenting to the La Jolla Rotaract Club – Rotary for young professionals. They also held four free Talk and Walk Lectures during the sea lion birthing season in June. SCSS volunteers ended the year by marching

in the La Jolla Christmas Parade for the eighth consecutive year—for the second time debuting a new seal mascot costume that quickly became a crowd favorite among kids.

As part of the Chapter's Zero Waste efforts, the Seal Society also served as team captains for three beach cleanups in Scripps Park and at the Children's Pool as part of “I Love A Clean San Diego” and the California Coastal Commission's cleanup events. Volunteers collected over 800 cigarette butts each time along with pieces of discarded plastic, snorkels, toys, lobster trap parts, and even undergarments.

## Ongoing Push for Better La Jolla Cove Protections



Advocacy remained a central priority for the Seal Society. Monthly public comments at the California Coastal Commission yielded some results with the department of Park and Recreation committing to have rangers staffed at Pt. La Jolla also monitor the La

Jolla Cove. They also delivered presentations to Councilmember Joe LaCava and attended multiple community and city meetings to highlight growing concerns about tourist interactions with sea lions at the La Jolla Cove. Visitors seeking close-up selfies continue to harass wildlife—sometimes with fatal consequences for pups. Behaviors include touching sea lions, throwing rocks or sand, making loud noises, attempting to ride or sit on them, and even jumping over resting animals as part of social media dares have been reported to the city and to the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Association which oversees the enforcement of the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

The SCSS supports keeping the La Jolla Cove open year-round but insists that “better management is critical.” The group has repeatedly urged the city to staff rangers at the La Jolla Cove daily, increase warnings over a bullhorn, and place cones and tape around newborn and injured animals. While rangers have begun intermittent monitoring, the Seal Society says current staffing remains insufficient to prevent harassment.

## What's Ahead in 2026

The new year will bring the third year of the UCSD Pup Patrol, returning to the Children's Pool in late January and February as harbor seal pupping season peaks. February will also feature four free “Talk and Walk” events at Mangelsen's Images of Nature Gallery, with details to be announced on the Sierra Club San Diego website.

**If you are interested in volunteering please fill out the volunteer page on the Seal Society webpage on the Sierra Club San Diego website:**

**<https://sandigosierraclub.org/seal-society/volunteer>  
or contact us at [scsealsociety@gmail.com](mailto:scsealsociety@gmail.com)**





Summer 2025: Tourists surround sea lion at La Jolla Cove



Seal Society's new playful "Give Me Space" sticker is given to kids to teach proper viewing distances for seal and sea lions



Docents staff the Seal Society's tent at Walter Monk Ocean Day, October 4, 2025

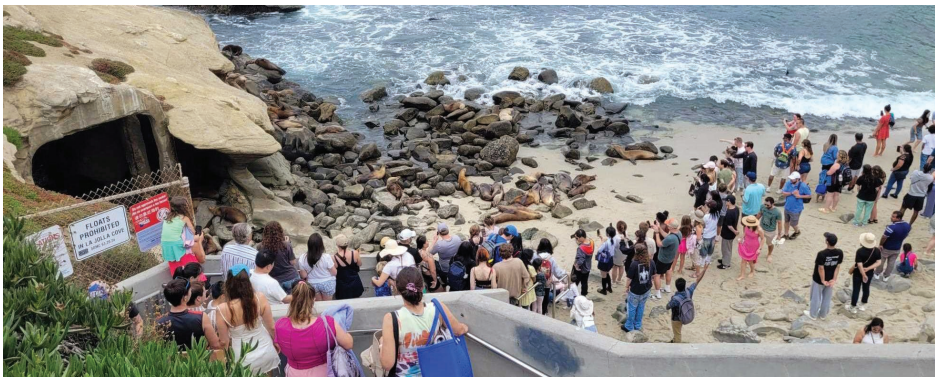


Docents march for the 8th consecutive year in the La Jolla Christmas and Holiday Parade



We earn the right to be on this sign by completing 3 beach clean ups per year. We have been on this sign for about 10 years!

Seal Society Chair, Robyn Davidoff poses with their seal mascot (Nathan Brenner).



Tourists crowd the stairs and beach at La Jolla Cove to get close to sea lions and newborn pups.





## Nine Blocks West: A Move Toward Less Waste

*Michael King, Conservation Organizer*

Back in September, I moved west—exactly nine blocks west—to a new apartment in Hillcrest. Transitions like a new place to live, a new job, or even an annual spring cleaning can be powerful opportunities to rethink our relationship to the spaces we inhabit and the things we accumulate. I was determined to use this move as a chance to cut down on waste and make lasting changes in how I related to my belongings.

As I packed up my life, I paid close attention to what was truly essential to my wellbeing and quality of life. Several boxes of clothes, books, and household items made their way to local thrift stores and used bookstores—of which Hillcrest has many. Stuff you no longer want is the lifeblood of thrift stores and bookstores. Before resorting to the trash bin when decluttering, it's worth asking whether someone, anyone, might still find value in what you're letting go.

Knowing that my first apartment was unlikely to be my long-term home, I also held on to as many moving boxes as I could. I found a neat spot behind one of my bookshelves to store them until the next move. When the time came, I was ready. While I didn't have quite enough boxes for everything, the short distance allowed me to shuttle items in stages and reuse the same boxes multiple times. This approach saved me money and kept cardboard out of the landfill. Afterwards, I

was able to hold on to most of the boxes again—ready for my next move, or perhaps a friend's.

Finally, I was determined to eliminate as much plastic waste as possible from my kitchen and bathroom. Several years ago, I switched to Blueland cleaning supplies, which use dissolvable tablets and reusable bottles instead of single-use plastic containers. They also offer laundry detergent and dishwasher tablets that work remarkably well. This simple change dramatically reduced my reliance on disposable plastics.

While I was happy with my low-impact cleaning routine, I was still uneasy about plastic use in my kitchen. As an alternative to single-use food storage bags, I invested in a set of food-safe, washable silicone bags that have worked wonderfully. I also purchased cotton mesh bags to replace the plastic produce bags commonly used at grocery stores. Lightweight and reusable, the cotton bags can be tossed in the wash after use.

Although I still have more changes to make on my zero-waste journey, the small shifts I made during my move went a long way toward aligning my values with my lifestyle. They saved me time and money, eased my conscience, and had no negative impact on my quality of life. While estimates vary, the average person in the United States uses at least 150 plastic bottles each year. Small changes can go a long way toward reducing that number.

*The next time you find yourself rethinking your space, take a moment to be mindful—and take the opportunity to cut your waste.*

## Imperial County Residents Push Back on Proposed Data Center, Signaling Growing Concern Over a New Environmental Threat

*South Bay Task Force, Sierra Club San Diego Chapter*

Imperial County residents have delivered a clear message: unchecked industrial expansion that strains land, water, air, and community health will not be accepted as the “price” of economic development. In a recent public decision rejecting a proposed data center project, community voices—rooted in lived experience with pollution and cumulative environmental burdens—prevailed over a familiar playbook of vague promises and incomplete accounting of impacts.

For many in Imperial County, this decision is not merely about one project. It is about a pattern. The region has long carried more than its share of environmental threats, including poor air quality, dust pollution, agricultural runoff, and the ongoing public health and ecological crisis at the Salton Sea. Residents also contend with heavy industrial activity tied to energy development and cross-border freight and transportation corridors. In this context, a large new data center is not a neutral addition. It is another significant demand layered onto a landscape and population already under pressure.

Data centers are often marketed as clean, quiet, and modern—more “digital” than industrial. But the reality is that data centers can carry a substantial environmental footprint. They require large amounts of electricity around the clock, often driving expanded generation and transmission infrastructure. They can also require significant water use for cooling, a critical concern in a region where water scarcity is already a

defining challenge. Even where developers propose “efficient” designs, the scale of operations and the need for reliability frequently lead to backup generators, increased particulate pollution risks, and noise impacts for nearby neighborhoods.

Imperial County stands at a crossroads. As California accelerates electrification, decarbonization, and new industries, the county is frequently framed as a convenient host site for energy-intensive facilities. But “convenient” too often means communities with less political power and fewer resources to fight back—despite bearing the greatest consequences. The rejection of this data center proposal reflects a growing insistence that Imperial County cannot be treated as a sacrifice zone for the next wave of infrastructure supporting distant corporate demand.

The Sierra Club San Diego Chapter's South Bay Task Force applauds the residents, organizers, and local leaders who demanded a higher standard: transparent analysis, enforceable protections, and genuine community benefit—not slogans. This moment should be a turning point for how projects are evaluated in Imperial County, especially those that are energy- and water-intensive.

We urge local decision-makers to establish clear, science-based siting standards for data centers and similar facilities; require full lifecycle assessments of power, water, and air quality impacts; and prioritize development that improves public health, supports climate resilience, and invests in community-led solutions. Imperial County deserves economic opportunity that does not deepen environmental inequity.

Data centers may be the next big threat if permitted without strong safeguards. The community's recent rejection shows what is possible when residents are heard—and when policymakers choose long-term health and sustainability over short-term pressure.



## Introducing the new Water Committee: Your Voice for Local Water Stewardship

Every time you turn on a tap in San Diego, that water has traveled an extraordinary journey to reach you. Over 60% of our water comes from the Colorado River – traveling in canals for hundreds of miles, through massive pumping stations, over mountains, and across deserts. Understanding this connection is more critical than ever.

That's why we're launching a local Water Committee, dedicated to educating and mobilizing residents of San Diego and Imperial Counties on local and regional freshwater issues. While we coordinate with state and national groups, our primary focus is right here - protecting our watersheds, streams, rivers, groundwater aquifers, and the ecosystems that depend on them.

### Why This Matters Now

Our region faces unprecedented water challenges: the two largest reservoirs in the Colorado River system sit below 30% capacity, climate change intensifies droughts, and critical 2026 negotiations will reshape Western Water rights for generations. Yet there's also hope. San Diego has already achieved a remarkable 52% reduction in per capita water use since 1990, proving that conservation works when communities commit.



## Our Vision and Approach

We envision a water-secure San Diego region where communities thrive through sustainable practices, reduced dependence on imported water, and equitable access to clean water for all residents. Our work is grounded in science, centered on equity, and focused on practical solutions that can be implemented locally.

For 2026, we're targeting tangible goals: building a committee of up to 10 active members, commenting on water-related projects, hosting educational events and field trips, and developing partnerships with local organizations. Most importantly, we're establishing ourselves as a credible voice on San Diego water issues.

### Join Us in Learning and Action

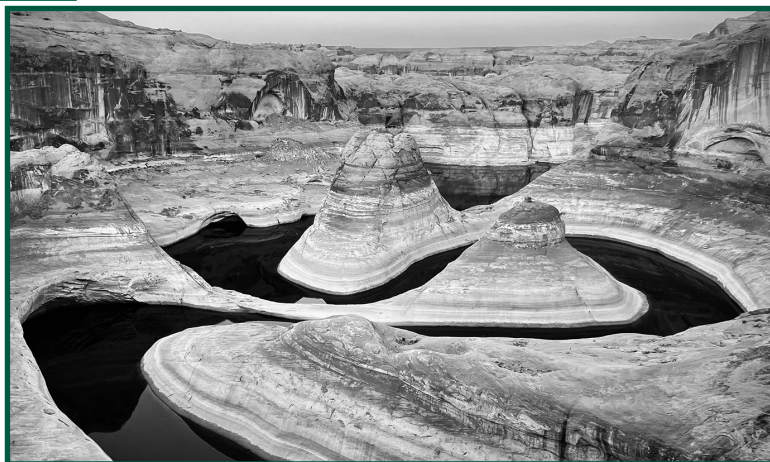
We're not just advocating - we're educating ourselves alongside our community. Whether you're concerned about watershed protection, groundwater sustainability, construction dewatering, or climate resilience, there's a place for you. From the San Diego River to the Sweetwater River, from local aquifers to regional water policy, we're tackling issues that affect every resident.

Ready to dive in? Contact Stefan Frutiger at [stefan.frutiger@outlook.com](mailto:stefan.frutiger@outlook.com) to join our committee, attend an event, or simply learn more about where your water comes from.

**The water crisis is at our doorstep. Let's face it together.**



*Hoover Dam / Lake Mead images are from September 2024. All images taken & copyright by Stefan Frutiger.*



*Reflection Canyon / Lake Powell image is from May 2025.*



# Sierra Club Youth Column



This is Madeleine Adams, back again with the second HiSierran Youth Column edition! To get started, do you know about EDCO's San Diego Organic Recycling program?

I have personally witnessed so much food waste. At school, students often throw out the majority of their lunches just to have one food item, like the prized carrots. Weddings, birthday parties, friends' houses... Over a third of food doesn't get eaten in the United

States! Yes, it will take institutional change to get to the root of this problem, especially considering how so much food waste comes from transporting the goods, storing them, grocery store and restaurant leftovers, etc. but homes do make up a large portion of food waste contributors. That's what makes EDCO's Organic Recycling program so important.

For years, my family has wanted to start composting. The potent greenhouse gas emissions that come from decaying food waste in landfills in the form of methane gas has been our main motivator. Methane can have a Global Warming Potential (GWP) that is over thirty times higher than carbon dioxide! When we found out that our waste management service—EDCO—has an Organic Recycling program that does the composting for you for free, we immediately took the opportunity. Now, we (mostly) don't have to worry about the hassle, smells, rodents, and all our other composting concerns. Interested? If so, follow these simple steps:

1. **Visit EDCO San Diego's website. Go to their Residential Services section and select the subtab: Organic Recycling.**
2. **Read what you can and cannot put in the green organics cart, watch the video too!**
3. **Request a Kitchen Caddie (for free!), which "conveniently transfers food scraps from the kitchen to the organics cart or compost pile."**
4. **When you receive your Caddie, go over what to do with any family members. To avoid any decaying food odors, deposit the Caddie's contents daily and rinse it out each time. Do a more thorough scrub when necessary.**
5. **You're done! The green waste contents will be transported to EDCO's anaerobic digestion facility to be converted into renewable natural gas for fuel and fertilizer for soil restoration.**

But say, what does any of this have to do with young people like me? This is a "Youth" column after all. Well, to start, participating in EDCO's Organic Recycling program is an easy way to help children lessen their carbon footprint and learn the importance of reducing food waste! Not only can they assist in taking care of the food scraps, but through these actions they will see just how much food is wasted by residential households and understand to not waste their own food (eat your leftovers!). These lessons are even more applicable to my slightly older age group as we begin to go off into the world and find which issues we want to help address through our careers or personal lives. In fact, noticing all the food waste in my own life was one of my main motivations to pursue environmental science.

*See you next time!*



*Lucy Terry, Climate Action Plan Intern.*

My work with Sierra Club San Diego this fall centered on strengthening local climate action through applied research, coalition building, and volunteer-driven advocacy. As the climate intern, I had two guiding questions informing my approach to this work: how can our chapter help move climate policy from commitments on paper to action in our communities, and how can we expand our collaborative advocacy network in the process?

One of the most meaningful parts of my work was getting to continue a collaboration that previous intern Zoë Geller-Alford began this summer. I have been supporting our collaboration with Climate Action Campaign on their 7th Edition Climate Action Plan Report Card. This is a publication that reviews and grades cities across San Diego County for the planning and implementation of their climate action plans, or CAPs. Together, we set out to add a new dimension to the report card and asked cities to provide us with community indicator data. Community indicators are developments or projects that demonstrate progress on CAP implementation; these indicators range from the miles of bike lanes installed to the number of trees planted. Climate policy is so often discussed almost exclusively in the metric tons of emissions reduced, which can be elusive to understand and hard to track. Community indicators, however, offer a clearer view of how policies translate into everyday benefits for residents and produce tangible outcomes for climate action. Over the past few months, we devised a range of relevant community indicators, collected public data, coordinated outreach with city and county staff, and began using this information to better understand how implementation is progressing. The 7th Edition Climate Action Plan Report Card will be published in summer 2026.

At the same time, I have worked internally with the chapter volunteers to sharpen our climate advocacy strategy and create a toolkit to support effective local engagement. I conducted qualitative research on the CAP design, implementation, and policy landscape in five cities: Carlsbad, Chula Vista, City of San Diego, Encinitas, and Oceanside. My goal was to translate these dense CAP documents into digestible guidance that volunteers could use to make actionable recommendations when doing advocacy. With the support of Charles, Mark, and our Climate Committee, I onboarded new volunteers and led a training for City Captains, our volunteers who now anchor advocacy efforts in those five cities. Since that training, our volunteers have begun providing public comment, attending meetings with officials, and strengthening our chapter's presence in local climate decision-making spaces.

Beyond these core projects, I had the opportunity to support Sierra Club San Diego in a variety of settings, from speaking on a San Diego Climate Week panel to planning our first Pints for the Planet event for our members. As a whole, this fall has been about building capacity, equipping our volunteers with the resources they need, and reinforcing our chapter's role as a practical, solutions-oriented voice in San Diego's climate policy landscape.



# Inspiring Connections Outdoors



## "The Kumeyaay Were Here, The Kumeyaay Were Here!"

Bill Tayler

Laguna Meadows on a beautiful Fall afternoon was her first hike, and she brought that special blend of energy, joy and enthusiasm that radiates wonderfully from 3rd graders on their initial forays into nature. She delighted in every bird spotted in the trees or soaring overhead; every grasshopper, beetle or butterfly that crossed her path; and every climbable rock or tree that beckoned her. And in the cheerful company of my little adventure pup, Rayito, who she quickly claimed as her personal companion.

A couple of hours into the hike we stopped at a large rockpile that has a small cave and myriad climbing opportunities.

After covering most every inch of the rockpile, she set out on her own to explore her surroundings. A few minutes later, she came across a nearby slab of granite with several grinding holes, at the sight of which she called out ecstatically to her classmates, "The Kumeyaay were here! The Kumeyaay were here! Come look at what they made!" The previous week, one of the 3rd grade teachers had taught them about the Kumeyaay, and she was beside herself with excitement to stumble across these Kumeyaay grinding rocks all on her own. After several minutes, I showed her to a nearby midden area that is littered with red, tan and gray pieces of broken Kumeyaay pottery, which of course elicited another outbreak of absolute glee and excitement.

I have been to Laguna Meadows hundreds of times and to these Kumeyaay grinding rocks and pottery midden dozens of times, but being a part of her joy in discovering these for herself was as delightful as the first time that I saw them. And this is the miracle of hiking with children: being able to experience the joy of discovering something for the very first time even if your somewhat jaded adult mind thinks you've seen it all before.



Inspiring Connections Outdoors is a Sierra Club outreach program that provides free outdoor experiences to under-served youth, to help them exploring the outdoors, develop the skills to do it safely, and nurture a desire to protect natural spaces. Please visit our website at [www.sandigosierraclub.org](http://www.sandigosierraclub.org)

**Volunteering With ICO** – For information about volunteering with ICO, please contact Greg Shadoan ([gregshadoan@yahoo.com](mailto:gregshadoan@yahoo.com)).

**How to Donate** – We appreciate your support helping us to provide exciting, safe adventures free of charge. To receive a tax credit for your donation, please make your check payable to "Sierra Club Foundation/ San Diego ICO" and send to:

San Diego ICO  
c/o Mike Gilligan,  
3446 N. Mountain View Drive,  
San Diego, CA 92116



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### *Classified Ad Rates and Information:*

*Sierra Club Members (up to 25 words)*

**Private party** \$10 + \$.50 per additional word.

**Business-** \$15 + \$.50 per additional word.

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## FOR SALE

500 acre ranch with small blueberry & apple farm in Humboldt County California. Ranch is off grid, has 2 homes, and is the quietest place on earth. Lots of trees, delicious spring water and clean air. Contact Mike @ yewbearranch@gmail.com (707) 223-2444

## Save Trees-Opt Out Of The HiSierran Paper Edition

*Enjoy The  
Full Color Online Edition*

*If you would like to get the HiSierran online,  
contact the Chapter office :*

**858-569-6005 or scoffice@sierrasd.org**

## Submission Deadlines for HiSierran Newsletter:

If you would like to submit an advertisement, story or article please remember these important deadlines:

## Upcoming Issues:

**April/May/June 2026**

**Deadline May 1, 2026.**

**To submit by email,  
please email to both:**  
thomascreative2@cox.net  
scoffice@sierrasd.org.

*Submissions are subject to  
approval for content and  
subject matter.*

## 2025 VICTORIES: You made these 8 environmental wins possible

Despite how challenging 2025 has been, the Sierra Club is rising to meet the moment. We've won some major victories to protect our future -- and they are worth celebrating!

1. We stopped millions of acres of public land from being sold off in the disastrous budget bill.
3. We safeguarded endangered species and wildlife like gray wolves, Colorado bison, and Rice's whales.
4. We secured energy affordability in Utah, Colorado, and California amid skyrocketing utility prices.

5. We helped ensure that coal stays where it belongs -- in the ground -- in New England and Ohio.
6. We fought the illegal firings of park and forest service staff.
7. We won bold electoral victories in November's election.
8. We grew our movement by the millions with a groundswell of participation in protests across the country.

**These Victories Are More Than Accomplishments --  
They're Proof That When We Organize, We Win!**

## Like What You Are Reading?

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Contributions to the Sierra Club are not tax-deductible as they support the Sierra Club's effective citizen-based advocacy and lobbying efforts

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San Diego, CA 92117**

**Donate online:**

**[http://sandigosierraclub.org/  
donate](http://sandigosierraclub.org/donate)**

# Committees & Contact Information

Some meetings still offer the option of attending on-line. Please check our Activities Calendar (<http://sandiegosierraclub.org/news/activities-calendar/>) on how you can participate.

## CHAPTER STAFF

**Chapter Director** Mark West  
858-569-6005  
[mark.west@sierraclub.org](mailto:mark.west@sierraclub.org)

**Deputy Chapter Director:**  
Charles Rilli  
858-569-6005, ext 3  
[charles.rilli@sierraclub.org](mailto:charles.rilli@sierraclub.org)

**Community Organizer:**  
Michael King  
858-569-6005, ext 2  
[michael.king@sierraclub.org](mailto:michael.king@sierraclub.org)

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Meets 2nd Wednesday 6:30 pm  
Chapter office  
Contact Chair or check website for location

**Chair:** Lisa Ross (2026)  
[lisasierraclub@gmail.com](mailto:lisasierraclub@gmail.com)

**Vice-Chair:** Alan Geraci (2028)  
[alan@alangeraci.com](mailto:alan@alangeraci.com)

**Secretary:** Pam Heatherington (2027)  
[pheatherington@gmail.com](mailto:pheatherington@gmail.com)

**Treasurer:** Rochelle Hancock (2027)  
[Rae\\_1024@yahoo.com](mailto:Rae_1024@yahoo.com)

**North County Group Rep:**  
Joe Houde (2028)  
[joe@ecinstitute.com](mailto:joe@ecinstitute.com)

**North County Coastal Group Rep:**  
Sally Prendergast (2026)  
[sallyp123@mac.com](mailto:sallyp123@mac.com)

Ron Askeland (2028)  
[ron.askeland@gmail.com](mailto:ron.askeland@gmail.com)

Susan Baldwin (2028)  
[susanbaldwin@aol.com](mailto:susanbaldwin@aol.com)

Alan Geraci (2028)  
[alan@alangeraci.com](mailto:alan@alangeraci.com)

William Morse (2028)  
[williamdavidmorse@gmail.com](mailto:williamdavidmorse@gmail.com)

## NORTH COUNTY COASTAL GROUP (COASTERS)

Contact Chair or check website for meeting information.

**Chair:** Sally Prendergast  
[sallyp123@mac.com](mailto:sallyp123@mac.com)

## NORTH COUNTY GROUP (INLAND)

Meets 3rd Wednesday at 6:30 pm currently via Zoom <https://sierraclubncg.org>

**Chair:** Joe Houde  
[joe@ecinstitute.com](mailto:joe@ecinstitute.com)

## COMMITTEES

### CONSERVATION COMMITTEE

Meets 2nd Monday at 6:30pm  
**Chair:** Ron Askeland  
[ron.askeland@gmail.com](mailto:ron.askeland@gmail.com)

### Zero-Waste

Meets 1st Monday at 6:30 pm  
Contact the Committee at  
[zerowastesdsc@gmail.com](mailto:zerowastesdsc@gmail.com)

### SEAL SOCIETY

For meeting and docent information:  
email: [scsealsociety@gmail.com](mailto:scsealsociety@gmail.com)

### OUTINGS COMMITTEE

Meets quarterly, contact Chair for date and location.

**Chair:** Kris Watkin  
[sdoutchair@gmail.com](mailto:sdoutchair@gmail.com)

### Leadership Review & Safety Committee

**Chair:** Lynn Nebus  
[sd.lrsc@gmail.com](mailto:sd.lrsc@gmail.com)

### Chapter Outings Leadership Training (COL)

Stefanie Maio  
[sd.col.training@gmail.com](mailto:sd.col.training@gmail.com)

### North County Group Outings Leadership Training (COL)

Kelly Conrad  
[ncg.col.training@gmail.com](mailto:ncg.col.training@gmail.com)

### POLITICAL COMMITTEE

Meets 4th Wednesday at 6pm  
**Chair:** Kathryn Burton  
[kathrynsburton@gmail.com](mailto:kathrynsburton@gmail.com)

### WATER COMMITTEE

Meets 3rd Tuesday at 6pm  
**Chair:** Stefan Frutiger  
[stefan.frutiger@outlook.com](mailto:stefan.frutiger@outlook.com)

### WILDERNESS BASICS COURSE (WBC)

Held annually beginning in January

#### San Diego

Bryan Pray  
[info@wildernessbasics.com](mailto:info@wildernessbasics.com)  
[www.wildernessbasics.com](http://www.wildernessbasics.com)

#### Escondido

Yosina Lissebeck  
[ylissebeck@san.rr.com](mailto:ylissebeck@san.rr.com)  
[www.wbc.sierraclubncg.org](http://www.wbc.sierraclubncg.org)

### SECTIONS & SOCIAL COMMITTEES

#### Photography

**Chair:** Chris Gaines  
[info@sdphotoclub.com](mailto:info@sdphotoclub.com)  
<https://sdphotoclub.com>

## INSPIRING CONNECTIONS OUTDOORS (ICO)

Check website for meeting information.  
[www.sandiegosierraclub.org](http://www.sandiegosierraclub.org)

**Chair:** Bill Tayler,  
[btayler@taylorlaw.com](mailto:btayler@taylorlaw.com)

## PROGRAM COMMITTEES

### Hi Sierran Newsletter

**Managing Editor:** Judy Thomas  
[thomascreative2@cox.net](mailto:thomascreative2@cox.net)



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Ensure your environmental legacy by naming Sierra Club or your favorite Sierra Club Chapter in your will or trust. These gifts cost you nothing now. You can hold on to your assets for as long as you need them and you can change your beneficiaries at any time.

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[myplan.sierraclub.org](http://myplan.sierraclub.org)







## San Diego Chapter

8304 Clairemont Mesa Blvd. #101

San Diego, CA 92111

On the north side & just west of the 163.

Office Hours: Monday-Friday 9:00am – 5:00pm

Phone: 858-569-6005

www.sandiegosierraclub.org

## 2026 SIERRA CLUB CALENDARS



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Calendars are available for pick-up at the Chapter office. Just call us at 858-569-6005 with your order. You can pay by credit card, check or cash if you pick up your order from the office.

## Check out just some of our Sierra Club products at a great price:

<http://donate.sierrasd.org/products>



Travel Blanket

**Price: \$14.95**

This fleece travel blanket features the Sierra Club logo and comes in blue, white and red plaid. It features a packing strap when not in use with a convenient carrying strap.

Dimensions: 40" wide x 60" long

Dimensions Rolled: 11" long by 6" in diameter

Color: Blue, White and Red Plaid

Green umbrella with Sierra Club logo. Collapses to 12" making it easy to carry and stow in car, home or backpack. Includes cover sleeve.

What a great way to show your support for the environment.

**Price: \$9.95**



E-conscious organic/recycled ball cap with John Muir silhouette and Sierra Club San Diego.

**Price: \$20.00**

Emerald Forest color cap with oyster colored stitching.