

2022
SIERRA CLUB
ANGELES CHAPTER
ANNUAL REPORT



**SIERRA
CLUB**

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Welcome to the Angeles Chapter 2022 Annual Report! It is a pivotal time for our movement. The trail leading to a healthy and safe planet for all to explore, enjoy and protect seems treacherous, but we are powerful together. This report shows how we are meeting the moment, commemorating our accomplishments, and highlighting our areas for growth. Get to know our leaders, find more ways to get involved, and relish our victories. We need each and every one of our members and supporters now more than ever.

Our Club is mighty because of you – so thanks! I hope you feel empowered to share this, as it is your work to be proud of.



from

Dyana Peña

Chair

Sierra Club Angeles Chapter

LIVING OUR VALUES



Sierra Club is a 130-year-old organization that has evolved greatly over time; this year we've accomplished significant organizational change. To achieve our mission, we strive to center our values and build power together. Our transformation is grounded in the belief that the only way to attain our vision of a healthy environment for all is to become a more equitable and just organization that understands that climate justice is racial justice. This year we launched our [core values](#) to create a sense of shared purpose. We're also implementing recommendations in the Restorative Accountability Process to ensure that our organization is healthy and inclusive.

WELCOMING A NEW EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Ben Jealous visited the Angeles Chapter and joined a hike led by Bill Vanderberg and Rachel Glegg of the Santa Monica Mountains Task force

This is an exciting time within the organization to officially announce Ben Jealous as the Sierra Club's new Executive Director. Ben's passion for the outdoors and commitment to fighting for the environment, and his work leading People for the American Way and the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) – two of the nation's most influential groups pursuing equity and justice and protecting democracy – makes him uniquely qualified to lead the Sierra Club at these intersections as our journey continues to create a healthy and sustainable planet for all. Ben's history and the Sierra Club's role in the movement are coming together at a time that calls for bold leadership to make sure there are never environmental sacrifice zones or disposable people living in them.

POWERFUL TOGETHER



The 2030 [Strategic Framework](#) lays out our plan to address the climate and extinction crises and provides a vision for the world Sierra Club wants to conserve, protect, and create. This vision is firmly rooted in our Core Values of anti-racism, balance, collaboration, justice, and transformation.

MORE THAN JUST NUMBERS

11,814 NEW ANGELES CHAPTER MEMBERS IN
2022

5 new Life Members

Members lost: 17,900 | Total: 38,263

JOIN US TODAY!

Angeles Chapter Members are fully vested partners in every environmental win we celebrate. Add your voice to the hundreds of thousands of Americans committed to leaving our children a living legacy — clean air, safe drinking water, and natural grandeur. Please join us in this movement by [becoming a Member today!](#)

NEW PARTNERS

We're grateful for two new partnerships in 2022...

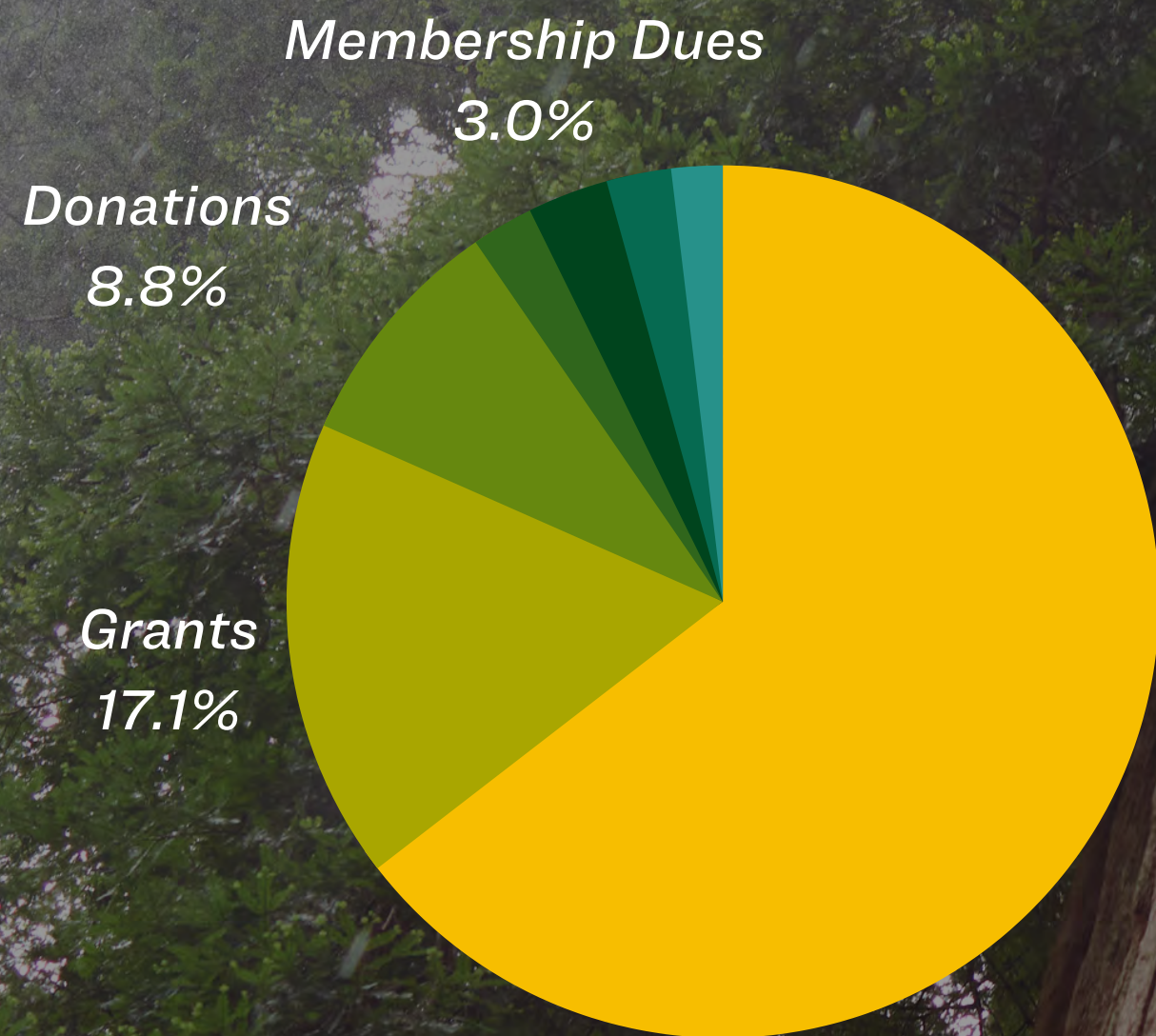


We teamed up with Swell Energy to accelerate the transition to clean energy by offering members savings on the installation of home energy products. A Swell Energy system provides energy security and inflation-proof energy costs with fixed energy rates for years to come, all while helping you do your part to save the planet.

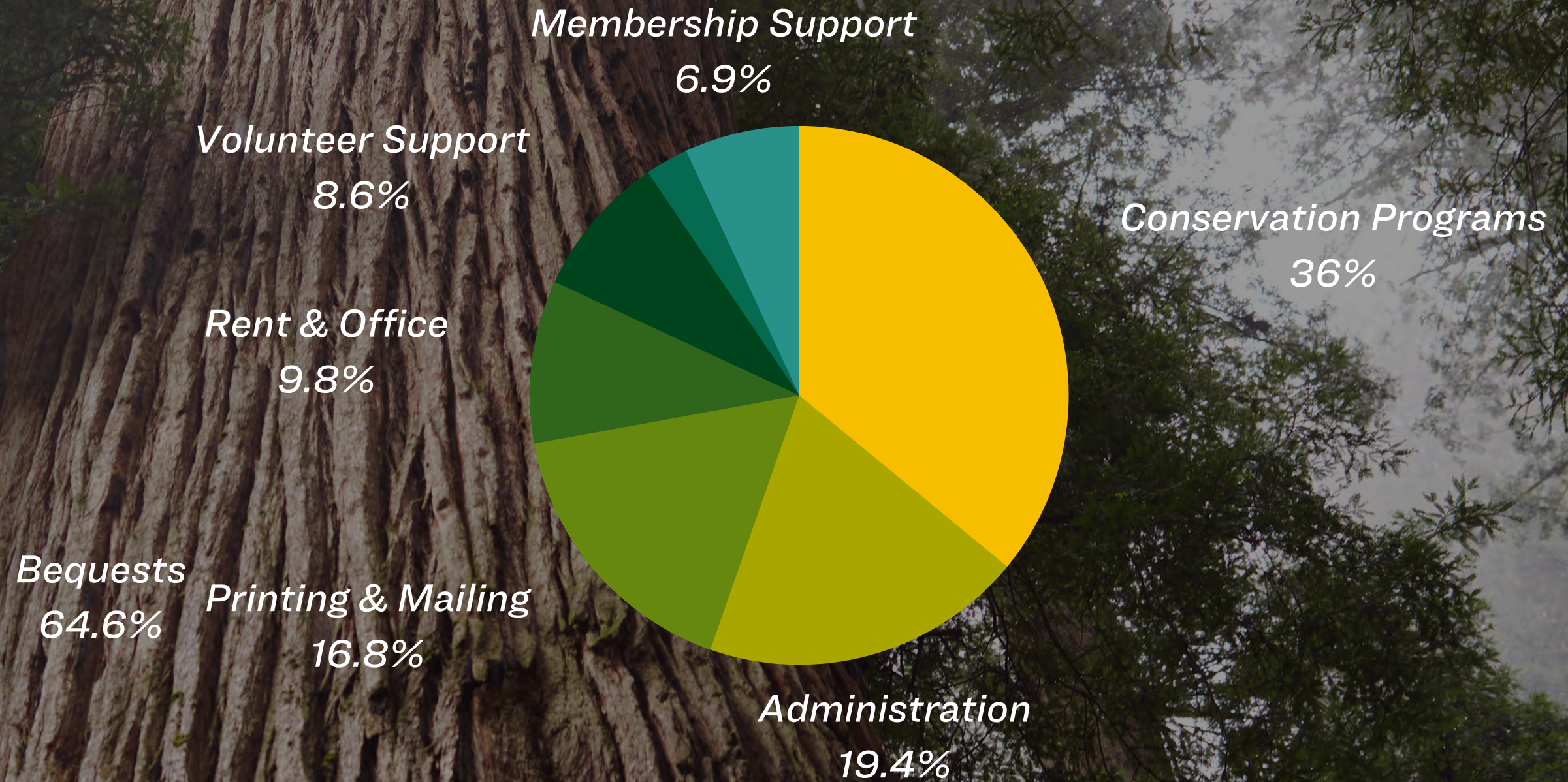


We're also grateful to Phil Gaimon, pro cyclist, author, and entertainer, for his initiative to support the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter. As a local cyclist, Phil is interested in protecting wild habitats in the Santa Monica Mountains (home to Phil's Cookie Fondo), the San Gabriel Mountains, Bolsa Chica Wetlands, Santa Clarita hillsides, Orange County beaches, and more. Phil created a Sierra Club fundraising page as a way to fight climate change and protect the natural world.

Revenue



Expenditure



70 % of Angeles Chapter spending goes directly to our mission to Enjoy, Explore, and Protect.

LEADERSHIP & STAFF

Dyana Peña, Chapter Chair

Jason Islas, Chapter Vice-Chair

Diane Trautman, Chapter Secretary

Cherry Postic, Chapter Treasurer

Emmy Goldknopf and Tejinder Dhillon - Outings Management Committee Co-chairs

Robin Smith and Wendy-Sue Rosen - Conservation Committee Co-chairs

Marlene Esquivel and Stacy Fortner - LA Political Committee Co-chairs

Ray Hiemstra and Margee Hills - OC Political Committee Co-chairs

Morgan Goodwin - Chapter Director

Kimberly Orbe - Conservation Program Manager

Jon Howard - Communications Coordinator

Jennifer Gregg - Fundraising Officer

Jane MacFarlene - Chapter Coordinator

POLITICAL PROGRAM



Pictured: Stacy Fortner, Political Committee Co-Chair presents Arlis Reynolds, Costa Mesa City Councilmember, with the 2022 award for Outstanding Public Service in Support of the Environment

Conserving the environment requires elected officials who champion our issues. Our volunteer political program endorses, supports, and maintains relationships with these leaders.

2022 Political Activity

Senate: 1 (1 win)

Congressional Seats: 18 (15 wins)

State Senate: 6 (5 wins)

State Assembly: 20 (16 wins)

City Councils: 35 (20 wins)

County Supervisors: 2 (2 wins)

Water Districts: 8 (4 wins)

School/College Districts: 10 (8 wins)

Ballot Measures: 4 (4 wins)

Other: 12

PLAN TO MAKE A DIFFERENCE

Planning an estate gift to Sierra Club or Sierra Club Foundation to benefit Sierra Club's Angels Chapter enables you to create your legacy and ensure support for generations to come. Depending on the type of gift you chose—whether it's a gift in your will, a gift of retirement assets, or a gift that provides you with income—a legacy gift can help you to:

- Feel secure about making a future impact on the health of your regional communities.
- Maintain control of your assets for life.
- Receive tax benefits.
- Give more than you ever thought possible.
- Join an extraordinary group of visionary partners who share your passion for a healthy planet.

[Contact us to learn more about the benefits of gift planning and to become a member of the Rachel Carson Society.](#)

CONSERVATION PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS

15 Committees & Task
Forces

182 Educational Meetings &
Events

4 National Campaigns

ACT FOR JUSTICE

United to House LA - the intersection of justice, climate, housing, and coalition building. The Sierra Club helped encourage LA voters to pass this bill for more funding to create housing closer to jobs, reduce vehicle trips, and do the right thing to take care of our most vulnerable neighbors.



Support for Measure ULA shows Sierra Club's commitment to supporting a healthy human environment. We can't tackle an issue as massive as climate change without first helping our most vulnerable. To change everything, we need everyone.



from

Yvonne Martinez

Watson

Chair

Environmental Social

Justice Committee

WATER



The Angeles Chapter Water Committee had a very fruitful 2022. We were able to put an end to 2 disastrous ocean desalination projects, one in Huntington Beach - The Brookfield Poseidon Ocean Desalination Project, and the other in El Segundo - the West Basin Ocean Desalination Project, thus ending an almost 2-decade fight. We were kept busy for the 2022 election season as we participated in the vetting of water board candidates across LA and Orange Counties to ensure we elected the best progressive candidates for our water future. Last but not least we hosted a series of water conservation workshops which you can find on our website: socalwatersierraclub.org.



from

Charming Evelyn

(she/her)

Chair

Water Committee

FIGHTING OIL & GAS

Victory: This year both the Los Angeles City Council and County Board of Supervisors voted to ban new oil and gas wells, as well as phase out existing operations in both incorporated and unincorporated areas.



from

David Haake

Chair

Clean Break Committee

In 2022, the Angeles Chapter's Clean Break team achieved historic wins resulting from many years of work with an amazing grassroots community of committed activists, partner organizations, and courageous elected officials who stood up to the environmental injustices caused by the most powerful industry in the history of the planet. Together, we say "YES!" to everyone's right to a safe environment to live, work, play, and pray. We say "NO!" to the oil industry profiting by polluting our air, our water, our land, our bodies, and our planet.

TRANSFORM OUR ENERGY SYSTEM



from

Teresa Cheng

Senior Campaign Representative
(California)
My Generation Campaign

“

We made huge strides in the California Air Resources Board's (CARB) Scoping Plan, the state's climate blueprint. Sierra Club volunteers, alongside members from the California Environmental Justice Alliance, rallied to demand that CARB exclude their proposed 10 new gigawatts of gas capacity - the equivalent to 100 new peaker plants in the plan. As a result, in an unprecedented move, CARB reversed their decision and excluded all new gas plants from their state-wide plan. However, locally, the City of Glendale voted to build out California's last new gas plant, although at a much smaller scale than originally planned. LADWP also made moves to retrofit their Scattergood gas plant to burn a blend of methane and hydrogen gas. We raised concerns about harmful pollutants that are emitted when burning hydrogen and the associated climate, safety and financial risks of locking our region into a hydrogen combustion future.

Building Electrification

VICTORY: THIS YEAR WE SAW SEVERAL CITIES IN OUR REGION PRIORITIZE PUBLIC HEALTH, CLEAN AIR AND CLIMATE BY PASSING MUCH NEEDED BUILDING ELECTRIFICATION REACH CODES AND ORDINANCES. OUR WINS INCLUDE PASADENA, GLENDALE, LOS ANGELES CITY, LOS ANGELES COUNTY [INTRODUCED MOTION], AGOURA HILLS AND AT THE SQAQMD AND CARB SCOPING PLANS.



from

Kim Orbe

Conservation Program Manager
Angeles Chapter

In 2022 we were able to see the synergy between all our climate and energy campaigns especially to see a focus and ESJ-centered approach in our Building Electrification Campaign. It is really exciting to work on a campaign that is intentional about the Just Transition so our most impacted communities are prioritized in the movement to Electrify Everything. It is also very exciting to work with other EJ groups and coalitions as we seek to advocate for the most health, jobs, air, and climate benefits for the most impacted and historically disinvested communities which are often the ones burdened by environmental racism.

In addition to campaign victories, we actively monitored many more environmental issues.

A small selection of these:

- Port of LA - the Air Quality Management District begins an indirect source rule for diesel emissions
- Newport Bay Ecological Reserve Fence Advocacy, OC Safe Trails Coalition Advocacy
- Sepulveda/405 Transit Tunnel
- LA Gondola/Aerial Rapid Transit
- Canyon Loop Trail improvement project
- Several development projects in Santa Clarita
- Montebello Hills – development and California Gnatcatcher Reserve
- San Gabriel Valley - oppose the expansion of the Quemetco battery plant, fight the growth of Hsi Lai Temple development into the open space area of Puente Chino Hills wildlife corridor, and protect 13,000-year-old Jurupa Oak from nearby housing/commercial development.
- Transit to trails program development in the San Gabriel Mountains

EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

We hosted **53** educational programs in 2022. Here is a small selection of topics:

- Latino Conservation Week: Birding, Pan y Cafecito
- Thinking Through Building Electrification: Implications and How We Get There
- Water Conservation Drought Workshop
- Confronting the Worst Drought in 100 Years
- Wilderness First Aid Course
- Better Wildlife Photography Around the Globe by Hector Astorga
- The Healing Power of the Outdoors
- For Mountain Lions and Other Wildlife, a Bridge to the Future Hiking Safety & Technology Webinar
- Create a Butterfly Garden
- How the Rooftop Solar Movement Woke Up.
- How Can We Assure Enough Water During a Drought?
- Ten Actions That Cities Can Take to Reduce Their GHGs
- Urban Wildlife in Los Angeles
- Regenerative Landscapes and Climate Adaptation

OUTINGS

1,362 outings by **31** entities with **267** different leaders leading hikes.



Furthest afield: travel adventure to Canadian Rockies

BY THE NUMBERS



INSPIRING CONNECTIONS OUTDOORS

The Los Angeles Inspiring Connections Outdoors (Angeles Chapter) serves as a bridge that enables underserved youth, persons with disabilities, and others to visit and develop an appreciation for our natural environment. We work with schools, community groups, and other agencies to create safe and enjoyable outdoor experiences for persons who might not otherwise have them. This year we led 93 successful outings for 3,014 participants. In addition to our core program of day hikes, we also completed service-oriented camping trips in Yosemite and the San Gabriel Mountains. Two other highlights were our first annual Earth Day Celebration and a new partnership with the Los Angeles Maritime Institute to provide sailing adventures.



from

@angeles_ico (IG)

Students and teachers from Performing Arts Community School enjoyed beautiful ocean and city views on a hike in Temescal Canyon.

ACTIVITY SECTIONS & COMMITTEES

- Gay and Lesbian Sierrans
- Orange County Sierrans
- Griffith Park Section
- Mule Pack Section
- Ski Mountaineers Section
- Sierra Peaks Section
- Desert Peaks Section
- Inspiring Connections Outdoors (ICO)
- Nordic Ski Touring Section
- 20s and 30s Section
- Hundred Peaks Section
- Natural Science Section
- Wilderness Adventures Section
- Camera Committee
- Little Hikers & Junior Explorers Committee
- Lower Peaks Section
- Backpacking Committee
- Local Hikes Committee
- Harwood Lodge Committee
- Keller Ski Hut Committee
- San Antonio Ski Hut Committee

SPECIAL THANKS



The Angeles Chapter Executive Committee met in person for the first time in nearly 3 years

Thank you for being part of a strong year of exploring, enjoying and protecting the planet. As I approach three years as Chapter Director, I reflect on how far we've come. From the depths of the pandemic and the pain of the Black Lives Matter Uprising, to historic victories for justice and conservation, I'm honored to be part of this team. Our outings program is back in gear and growing, our chapter staff is expanding, and our chapter leadership is diversifying.

The challenges we face - habitat loss, climate change, environmental racism - are going to ask a great deal of us, and success is far from guaranteed. But I'm hopeful that this organization will rise to the challenge - we always have.

from

Morgan Goodwin

Senior Director

Sierra Club Angeles Chapter