



SIERRA CLUB San Fernando Valley
Newsletter September 2013

Monthly Meetings-the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00pm
Reseda Park Rec. Hall, 18411 Victory Blvd. (Cross Street-Reseda Bl.)
(Near child's play area), Reseda, CA. We are limited in our parking space because of construction. For this reason, it's best to arrive early. **There is a parking lot & street parking.** If the Rec Hall parking lot is full, there is ample parking at the One Generation lot, directly east at 17400 Victory Boulevard

Learn About Conservation Tips AT OUR SF Valley Sierra Club WEBSITE:

<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfvg/>

(See names, phone numbers and emails of our San Fernando Valley Management Committee in the sidebar)

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[For people receiving this newsletter by Yahoo or Gmail, Yahoo sometimes does not show all of the newsletter, especially the hikes that are near the end & other articles too. To fix this. scroll down to the bottom of the email newsletter. You will see the following:](#)

["The message has been truncated".....RH Button says "show full message" \(Choose the RH button\)](#)

Join Us! Dr. Alan Pollack Presents



Restoring Habitat, One Yard at a Time



Tues, Sept. 17, 2013

Alan Pollack, M.D. long time member of the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy is a life-long gardener and has merged his passion for wildlife with his passion for gardening.

His training by the National Wildlife Federation has enabled him to become a "Wildlife Habitat Steward". His yard is certified as an official, wildlife habitat site and for the past 8 years he has been giving no charge advice and landscape designs to homeowners, churches, schools, and to anyone who wishes to create a garden that is attractive to wildlife as well as to humans.

He leads the Audubon-at-Home Project for the San Fernando Valley Audubon Society. Come and learn the 4 basic elements necessary for wildlife to survive as well as a discussion of sustainable gardening practices. This will be followed by a virtual tour of his certified habitat

**Tues & Wed
Hikes & Activities**

Thursday hikes

**King-Gillette Ranch
activities**



Dear friends,
Its official – The Angeles Chapter has a new home and you're all welcome to stop by and say hello anytime!

We are now located in Suite #660 at 3435 Wilshire Blvd, LA, CA 90010, only 3 floors above our old office. The space is smaller and more compact but we think it will serve our members as well, if not better than, the old office space. We moved to reduce overhead expenses so we can invest as many resources as possible in our environmental programs. This is only one of the ways the Chapter is rebuilding its reserves after a challenging 2012. [Contribute now!](#)

Now that we are leaner, we are also greener, and we are in it for the long haul. Less space means a smaller carbon footprint, fewer lights, fewer phones, less everything -- except for providing our members with the best support and resources possible. Together, we are continuing to make a difference on the environmental issues facing Los Angeles and Orange Counties. Together, we are getting people outdoors on hundreds of hikes each month. And together, we can ensure that the Chapter remains healthy – [Please donate today!](#)

The Executive Committee, activist leaders and our committed staff are creating new revenue streams and revamping old ones to keep the Chapter's financial conditions healthy and strong. We are establishing a new Fundraising Committee to work with our Senior Chapter Director to put the fun back in fundraising. All members are welcome to become a part of

garden.

There will be socializing and refreshments

**From your home, tune-in to the
Angeles Chapter's WATER COMMITTEE**

If you are interested in water issues in California, & especially So. Calif., we urge you to come or tune into the WATER COMMITTEE by phone. We have discussions within the committee and we, also, invite experts to speak to us.

Monthly Water Comm. Programs: September – LADWP, Conservation and the Bay Delta Conservation Plan (BDCP) – Presenter: Penny Falcon, Manager of Water Conservation Policy, Legislation, and Grants; October/November - LADWP Titles and Presenters TBD.

The Water Comm. meets every month on the second Wed. at 7:00pm. If you can't make it in person then you can choose to tune-in from your home telephone or by video conferencing.

The no charge phone conference line is available at [1-866-501-6174](tel:1-866-501-6174) Code: 1000 400 1892.

GoToMeeting video conferencing link (no charge): <https://www4.gotomeeting.com/join/124173903>

GoToMeeting app. (iPhone®, iPad® or Android®)

Meeting ID: [124-173-903](#)

Any questions for the Water Committee contact Charming Evelyn. If you want to personally attend the Water Committee, contact Charming for location. bcharmz@aol.com



**Poseidon's destructive and costly
desalination plant**



Poseidon Resources recently made another move in their attempt to build the environmentally destructive Poseidon Huntington Beach Desalination Plant. If built, this plant will increase energy use and greenhouse gasses, degrade water quality and fish stocks and privatize part of our water supply.

Since there's no demand for this environmentally and economically harmful way to extract water, Poseidon has not been able to find willing buyers.

**Don't make O.C. water users pay the price.
Speak out against this bad proposal.**

this important committee. Your participation will help grow our Cheers or Tears Tribute Program, our Cars4Causes Program and our Hike Donation and Major Gifts Programs, too. And who knows what great new ideas will be pursued! All creative people are warmly welcomed. Join this effort by contacting Ron Silverman at ron.silverman@sierraclub.org, and have fun while helping the Chapter.

Not able to contribute your time right now? – That's okay – you can still invest in our future by sending a donation to the Chapter today! Your gift, large or small, will be put to good use right away. And if you send \$100 or more, you will become one of our elite members and [join the 1000 at \\$100 Campaign](#). Your name will be displayed on our home page with all our other generous donors.

Please don't delay – contribute today! Be a part of the lean, green Angeles Chapter – donate today and ensure that we are here to stay! It's simple and easy and only a click away – www.angeles.sierraclub.org

Thank you for your generosity.

Carole Mintzer
Chair, Sierra Club, Angeles Chapter

If you would like to make a donation to the Angeles Chapter by check, please make your check payable to the Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club and send it to:
Angeles Chapter, Sierra Club
3435 Wilshire Blvd., #660
Los Angeles CA 90010

FUTURE PROGRAMS



**Restoring
Habitat, One
Yard at a Time**

Take Action: Sign our online petition

<https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=11717>

Enter the Orange County Water District (OCWD), which was approached by Poseidon to purchase the desalination plant's full capacity of water. The board also agreed to sign a confidentiality agreement regarding the project's finances. This decision is a desperation move by Poseidon because all but one of the local cities and water suppliers in Orange County have rejected the idea of purchasing its desalinated water. And without customers they have no way to build the project.

Still, in late July, the water district instructed its staff to prepare reports on the feasibility of such a plan in anticipation of a vote by the board. Essentially Poseidon is making an end run around other local water suppliers and cities which have already rejected buying this water by attempting to have the OCWD, which is a groundwater agency, act as the middleman. The district's involvement would force their water purchase on cities and smaller water suppliers.

Amazingly, the OCWD board approved looking into this idea -- even after its staff noted that buying desalinated water would have an economic impact on their operation and raise local rates by at least 7%.

This new move also is a key part of their strategy to gain approval from the Coastal Commission and State Water Board for the desalination plant. If the OCWD agreed to purchase all of the water from the plant, Poseidon can tell state authorities that the full capacity of their project has been spoken for -- greatly enhancing their chance of getting a Coastal Development Permit to build the plant and influencing the State Water Board's Desalination Policy that's currently in the works.

Thousands of you signed on to [an Angeles Chapter petition](#) that tells the Coastal Commission to reject the desalination plant. Now we need more signatures on new petitions to be sent to the Orange County Water District and Gov. Jerry Brown.

[Sign our NEW petition TODAY!](#)

Hi All,

The Angeles Chapter has a NEW petition targeting Governor Brown and the OC Water District to oppose the Poseidon desalination plant.

Below are links to a new petition, as well as the link to the previous petition for the CA Coastal Commission.

Here is the link to the petition to the Coastal Commission:

http://angeles2.sierraclub.org/take_action/blog/2013/05/help_sierra_club_protect_coast

Here is the link to the NEW petition:

<https://secure.sierraclub.org/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=11717>



Sign says: Make Trade Clean, Green & Fair

Need a Responsible Trade Program: in the Trans-Pacific Partnership Free-Trade Agreement

The United States is currently negotiating an expansive new free trade agreement, the Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) Agreement, with Australia, Brunei, Canada, Chile, Mexico, Malaysia, New Zealand, Peru, Singapore, and Vietnam. Eventually, every Pacific Rim nation may be included.

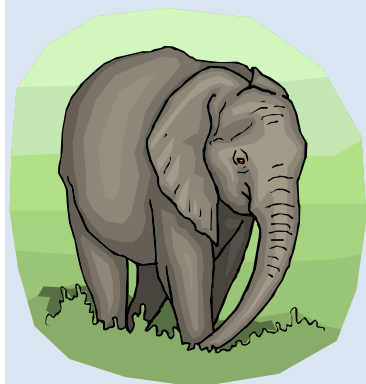
The Sierra Club is deeply concerned about the lack of transparency in the TPP negotiations and the environmental and economic implications of the pact.

Sept. 17, 2013

Alan Pollack, M.D. long time member of the Sierra Club and the Nature Conservancy is a life-long gardener and has merged his passion for wildlife with his passion for gardening.

His training by the National Wildlife Federation has enabled him to become a "Wildlife Habitat Steward". His yard is certified as an official, wildlife habitat site and for the past 8 years he has been giving no charge advice and landscape designs to homeowners, churches, schools and to anyone who wishes to create a garden that is attractive to wildlife as well as to humans.

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Safari in Kenya

OCT. 15, 2013

Alex Oloo will present "Safari in Kenya". Come and follow close up and personal the steps of the wildebeest migration in the Masai Mara eco-system.

While the United States is pushing for strong and enforceable standards in the environment chapter of the agreement, other parts of the agreement may severely undermine environmental protection. For example, the TPP may:

- Allow a corporation to sue governments in private tribunals over environmental and other laws and policies that may reduce a corporation's profits;
- Pave the way for increased fracking across the United States; (See article on fracking in an article further down named "Hot Bills for a Hot Summer.")
- Reduce the ability of governments to put in place policies to protect the climate.

The TPP is a massive trade pact that could impact nearly every aspect of our lives, from the food we eat to the air we breathe to the quality of our jobs. One of the impacts of the TPP would likely be a substantial increase in U.S. natural gas exports to countries in the Pacific Rim, paving the way to more fracking across the United States. Governments set a deadline for TPP negotiations to conclude in October of 2013. Citizen engagement on the TPP has been limited due to the extreme secrecy that surrounds the negotiations. We need your help in getting the word out about the TPP and ensuring that we do not wind up with another flawed agreement that undermines protections for the environment, advances the interest of the fossil fuel industry, and hurts working families.

This toolkit will take you through different ways to engage in and influence the outcome

Info. From the Sierra Club

Want to get mobilized yourself? Check out our TPP activist toolkit!

Info. on Green Trade

<http://www.sierraclub.org/trade/default.aspx>



**River near Devil's Postpile in the Sierras
Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour**

Daybreak

By: Virginia Hutchinson

***Night swallowed stonehill.
She traveled to the valley,
and black water river.
Currents ran deep, still,
and as if magnetized,
pulled her into its body.
The water surging, closed***

Alex was born in Western Kenya by the shores of Lake Victoria. He is a Sierra Club Member and for over a decade has been a tour guide in Kenya. He worked as a tour guide for Roadsolars (formerly known as Elderhostel) for 6 years.

He is a professional Ornithologist by training and has worked with the Nairobi National Museum, Ornithology Department. He was the Guide Coordinator at the National Museum of Kenya. In Kenya he was involved in many conservation organizations including Youth for Conservation, the East Africa Wildlife Society, Kenya Museum Society and Nature Kenya which is involved in protecting important bird areas.

There will be socializing and refreshments.

We need your help!

The Sierra Club relies heavily on its volunteers to carry out its Mission. Since you probably have a skill that we need and if you can spare a few hours a month, let us know.

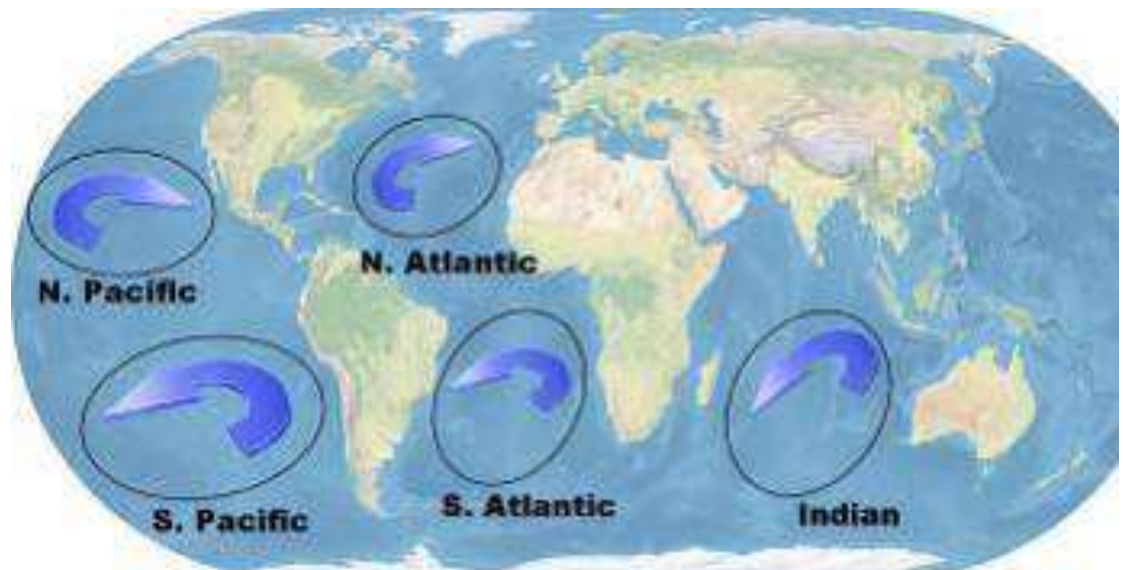
Call Elaine Trogman 818 780-8345

Call Barry Katzen 818 341-8304

Scrabble Group

*around her, swirling
in a black hole falls,
until white mist
like old hands from beyond
the other shore, touched her.
Then she breathed again,
as morning came back
and awakened her.
She felt new dawn comforting,
smelled the soft grass' newness,
tasted air, moist on her tongue,
saw the monarchs hover, weightless,
as daybreak cleared in its own way.*

To contact Virginia Hutchins:
vbutherus@gmail.com



The five subtropical gyres are gigantic whirlpools in the Atlantic, Pacific & Indian Oceans where waste is picked up and concentrated by slow-swirling currents.

Ocean Plastic Pollution Needs Prevention and Beach Cleanup

By Sarah Mosko

Read the full story on link below:

[Mid-Ocean Plastics Cleanup Schemes: Too Little Too Late?](#)

Other environmental articles by Sarah Mosko on [BoogieGreen.com](#).

Interest in methods to rid the oceans of plastic debris is motivated by very real threats to the entire ocean food web. The "North Pacific Garbage Patch" is the most studied of the five subtropical gyres, gigantic whirlpools where waste is picked up and concentrated by slow-swirling currents. There, plastic debris already outweighs zooplankton, tiny creatures at the base of the food web, by a factor of 36:1, according to the latest trawls by the [Algalita Marine Research Institute](#) in Long Beach, CA.

Conventional plastics do not biodegrade on land or in water, but become brittle in sunlight and break apart into ever smaller bits of plastic, still containing toxic substances introduced during manufacture – like phthalates, bisphenol-A and flame retardants. Plastics also attract and concentrate persistent oily pollutants present in seawater. So plastic debris not only threatens sea creatures through entanglement or by clogging their digestive tracts, but also introduces dangerous chemicals into the food chain.



Do you enjoy spelling? Are you into words and combinations of words? Does the idea of spending hours hovering over a Scrabble board appeal to you? If so, you might like to join our Scrabble group. We meet once a month for an evening of fellowship, refreshments, and hard-fought Scrabble games. Beginners, intermediates, and experts are welcome. For more information call Julie at (818) 999-5384 or email julieszende@gmail.com

Do not throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage. You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT.



GET A FREE SOLAR EVALUATION WITH SIERRA CLUB

[Find out how to switch to clean, renewable energy and save money on your electric bills.](#)

Except for the tiny fraction of plastics which has been incinerated, all plastic ever manufactured is still somewhere on the planet. And, with virgin plastics production still greatly outpacing recycling – which in the United States averaged only eight percent in 2010 – our oceans will continue to become more polluted with plastics until something is done to stop it. But given the vastness of the oceans, which cover 71 percent of the earth’s surface or some 360 million square kilometers, the question is, what realistically can be done?

There are obvious realities which have to be confronted in any offshore cleanup plan, starting with how to find the debris. Gyres are loosely-defined expanses the size of continents. Even in the center where debris accumulation peaks, the effect is of a plastic soup with fragments distributed throughout the water column to a depth of roughly 20 meters. (~65 feet.) And, plastics are in no way confined to gyres, but amassing throughout marine environments as diverse as shoreline mangroves and the Arctic seafloor.

Next is the challenge of *selectively* extracting plastics, which become microscopic over time, without destroying sea life, and what about plastics already colonized by sea creatures? Then follows the dilemma of what to do with the plastics once extracted and, of course, how to fund the operation. Moreover, any device deployed in the sea would have to contend with the highly corrosive forces wrought by constant motion, violent storms, and accumulation of bird droppings and barnacles.

Gyre Cleanup Would Never Be Enough: Even if any gyre cleanup devices are ever successfully deployed, what seems clear is that, alone, they could not solve the crisis of ocean plastics pollution. Even after recycling, the average American generates a half pound of plastic refuse daily (USEPA). As consumption of plastics generally parallels development, worldwide plastic waste generation is expected to continue to rise into the future. It seems delusional to believe that open ocean cleanup schemes could keep pace with new plastics entering the oceans.

The only rational approach is to focus first and foremost on stemming the flow of plastics into marine environments. In addition to maximizing recycling and placing barriers at obvious ocean entry points like river mouths, significant societal transformations are needed: for consumers, a shift away from single-use plastics and, for industry, embracing “extended producer responsibility” policies which make producers responsible for the sustainability of what they manufacture.

A good start might entail a producer fee on products made of virgin plastics, asking manufacturers to take back and recycle their products, and an end to planned product obsolescence. A study recently published in Marine Pollution Bulletin confirms that marine litter is reduced when plastics are better managed on land. For plastics pollution already at sea, oceanographer and flotsam expert Curtis Ebbesmeyer points out that maybe half a gyre’s contents is jettisoned each rotation, ferried eventually by currents onto shores.

This means anyone can lend a hand in gyre cleanup by participating in the annual International Coastal Cleanup organized by the Ocean Conservancy. The International Day of Cleanup is on Sept. 21, 2013.

**The cleanup will take place on
Sept. 21, 2013**

Here is info. on Coast Cleanup Day

<http://www.healthebay.org/volunteer/calendar/coastal-cleanup-day>

Here is the cleanup sites info.

<http://www.healthebay.org/get-involved/coastal-cleanup-day/cleanup-sites>

Going solar with the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter in California and our solar partner, Sungevity, is a win, win, win! A win for you: Guarantee your family lower electric bills, free yourself from dirty energy, and do it all with no upfront investment. Most homeowners start saving on their power bills immediately. **[And if you go solar, you'll get a \\$750 gift card.](#)**

A win for the planet: Powering your home with solar energy is the single best way to shrink your carbon footprint - the equivalent of taking 1.5 cars off the road. A win for the Sierra Club in California: Sungevity will donate \$750 to the Sierra Club for everyone who goes solar through this program. This means more money for Club's important environmental campaigns in California.

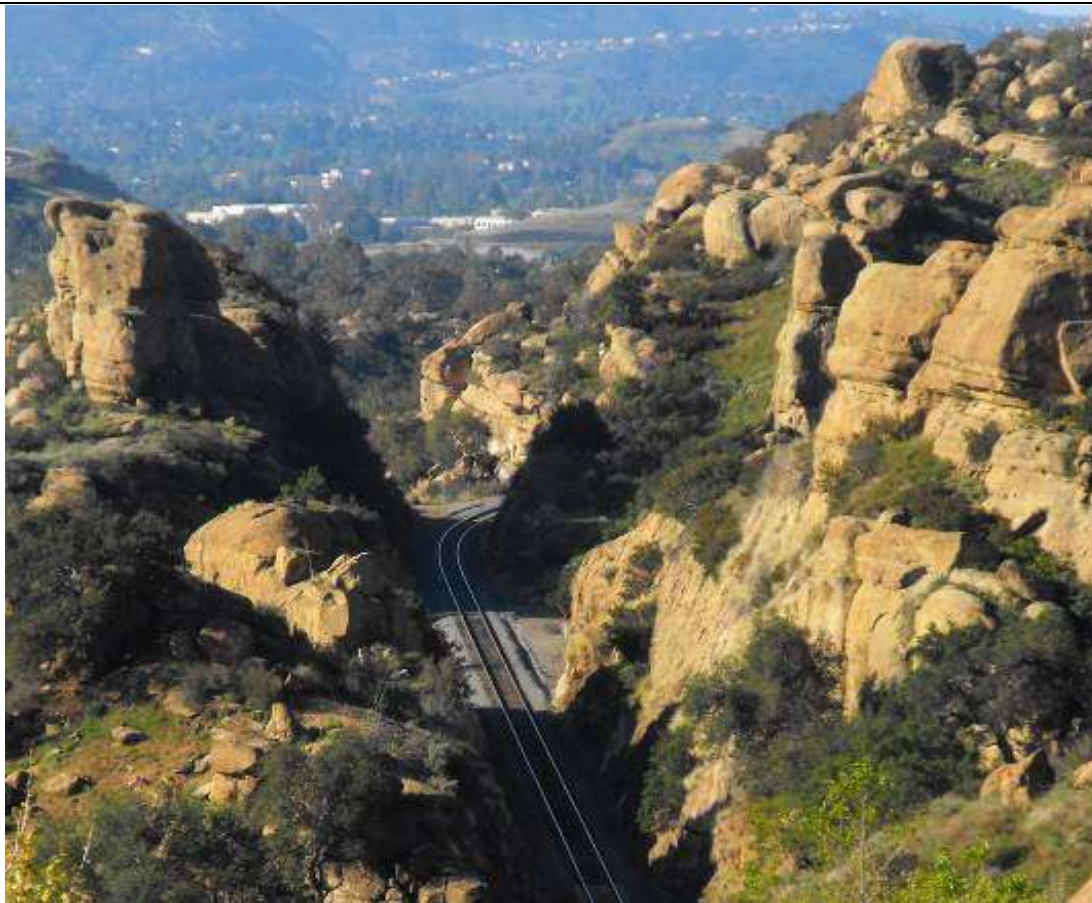
Here's how it works:
[Enter your address and energy use to get a free solar evaluation for your home.](#)

Your free Sungevity quote will detail your solar options, show you what your home would look like, and how much you would save on energy costs.

Join your neighbors in California and start generating positive energy – [go solar today!](#)

If you want to know exactly how solar energy works (but don't want to read a book), here's a [handy graphic](#) that keeps it simple -- and meaningful.

It is dangerous to throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage. You can recycle the lights at



Picture by Henry Bollinger "Railway line in Iverson Ranch

A LESSON ON HOW LARGE DEVELOPMENT CREEPS INTO BEAUTIFUL & UNIQUE NATURAL PLACES

By Elaine Trogman

In the 1800s early development of land had to do with the "Homestead Act." People could get 160 acres free if they were willing to settle & develop it and that is just what was done by some emigrants from Sweden & Norway. One of these places was named the Iverson Ranch. This area was difficult to farm because it was rocky, but the scenery was gorgeous with its majestic sandstone boulders, and canyons. Even with the rocks, farming was done on the land. Because of this majestic sandstone scenery, film studios made movies regarding the "Wild West." and other subjects on the Iverson Ranch.

MOVIE MAKING ERA

A passage from "Quiet on the Set" says, Cecil B. DeMille soon discovered the Santa Susana Mountains, majestic sandstone boulders, canyons, scrub brush, chaparral, [oak trees] as the perfect location for filming movies about the Wild West. The *Squaw Man*, filmed 1912, one of the early Iverson Ranch location settings, established this rugged background as favorite location for film making.

For 70 years approximately 2000 motion picture & TV shows have used the Iverson to film their outdoor scenes; Rocky Peak, Chatsworth Peak & Oat Mountain were very recognizable. The feet of such stars as John Wayne, Gary Cooper, Tom Mix, Gene Autry, and Roy Rogers touched the soil of the Iverson Ranch and other nearby areas such as Brandeis Movie Ranch, Bell Moving Picture Ranch, Corriganville Movie Ranch, Spahn Ranch, and Burro Flats

Besides being used as scenes from the "Wild West" the ranch has also been used to represent areas in Africa, Asia, the South Seas and Alien planets with such films as *Lives of the Bengal Lancers* and *The Good Earth*. The Garden of the Gods is where *David and Goliath* was made. Superman, Tarzan and Batman also visited the place.

You can see good photos taken of the movie scenes from the heyday of film making at Iverson's "Garden of the Gods."

<http://iversonmovieranch.blogspot.com/search/label/Garden%20of%20the%20Gods>

LAND DEVELOPMENT ERA

In 1962 the California Highway Commission used eminent domain to make Joe Iverson sell enough land to build the 118 freeway, which connected Simi Valley to the San Fernando Valley. The freeway cut the Iverson Ranch in half and put an end to movie making because of the noise from the freeway. .

The Iverson Ranch was subdivided in 1982 and split into 3 portions.

***The Upper Iverson Ranch** is now known as Indian Springs and Indian Falls--large estate-size homes in a gate-guarded community.

***The Iverson Ranch Set**, sometimes called the Middle Ranch, is now the Summerset Village luxury rental apartments.

HOME DEPOT

**SAN FERNANDO VALLEY
SIERRA CLUB
MANAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

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Cartoonist

The Late Willis Simms

***The Lower Iverson Ranch** now includes the old Joseph Iverson residence, the Indian Hills Mobile Home Village, the Cal-West Townhomes, the Church at Rocky Peak, and several acres of vacant land that once was the home of founders Carl and Augusta Iverson. The only untouched portion of the lower Iverson Ranch is a 23-acre Garden of the Gods public park that straddles Redmesa Road, north of Santa Susana Pass Road.

*This information came from the following link & it has a lot more history of the era:
http://www.cowboyup.com/Iverson_Ranch.html

DRIIFT GILL NETS

Walls of Death Floating in the Pacific



Act now to save dolphins and other wildlife from deadly drift gillnets.

(Article from Oceana website <http://oceana.org/>)

Mile-long drift gillnets are left out to soak overnight in the waters off of Southern California. Intended to catch swordfish and thresher sharks, these nets also capture and critically injure iconic marine animals like the dolphins, endangered sperm whales, sharks, and sea turtles. In 2011, for every five swordfish landed by boats using drift gillnets, one marine mammal was killed and six fish were tossed back dead or dying. These numbers are unacceptable. Drift gillnets are already banned in Washington and Oregon, and they should not be allowed off California, home to a variety of endangered and iconic wildlife. It's time to eliminate this deadly fishing method and replace it with cleaner fishing gear.

Sign today to tell decision-makers to rid our ocean of drift gillnets and protect our wildlife. See link below:

<http://act.oceana.org/sign/p-gillnet-mola/>

Cartoon by Willis Simms



What Plants Do For Us

By Michael Stevenson, Sierra Club Program Chair

5,000 Plants May Face Extinction in 30 years. We are on the edge of a biological disaster. The impact of human activity on climate change, loss of critical habitat, pollution, over harvesting and competition from non-native species has accelerated species loss worldwide. This loss occurs when habitats change faster than most species can adapt. The United Nations Environmental Program concluded that more than 5,000 plants may face extinction within the next 30 years. The impending disaster could rival anything in evolutionary history, including the mass demise of dinosaurs 65 million years ago.

All Life Depends on Green Plants

The beauty of plants is a cause for contemplation and celebration but what else do they do for us anyway? The most dazzling aspect of life on our planet is its incredible diversity. So diverse are the life forms on earth that we are still discovering new ones and probably will never find them all. The major process that fuels this diversity is photosynthesis, one of the great marvels of evolution. All life depends on the ability of green plants, algae and some bacteria to capture the energy of sunlight and convert it into the chemical energy all organisms need to survive. CO₂ and water are taken in for this process with oxygen being released as a by-product. Virtually all oxygen in the atmosphere is thought to have been generated this way.

Plants form the basis of food chains that sustain almost all life on earth. The total weight of all living things in an ecosystem is called its biomass. About 90% of the biomass in any particular ecosystem is made up of plants, the primary producers. Plant matter is eaten by herbivores, the primary consumers, which in turn are eaten by carnivores and parasites the secondary consumers. Decomposers, such as fungi and bacteria, break down the organic matter stored in the dead bodies of animals and plants, recycling the raw materials of life so that new plant growth can begin.

The Many Uses of Plants

Plants play an important role in preventing soil erosion and providing natural flood control. They help purify water by detoxifying and decomposing waste. Plants also pump moisture from the soil into the air helping to cycle water between the atmosphere, the oceans and the land influencing weather patterns. Wetland plants slow the flow of water allowing more time to infiltrate underground. They help prevent flooding by capturing destructive flood waters and act as barriers to storm surges.

Plants provide materials that are essential for human life. For most of human history we were gatherers of wild plants. Some 7,000 plants have at one time or another been collected or cultivated for food but today just 12 crop plants provide 75% of human caloric intake. Wood is one of our most versatile construction materials. Equally essential are plant fibers used in paper, textiles and

rope. About 40% of the world's population relies on burning wood as their primary source of energy for cooking and heating. Most of the developed world relies on the use of coal, oil and natural gas derived from the photosynthetic activity of plants that lived hundreds of millions of years ago. And according to the Food and Agriculture Organization over 50,000 plant species are used for medicinal purposes.

How To Protect Plants And Our Planet

For many thousands of years the process of photosynthesis, respiration and carbon storage have been essentially in balance, keeping atmospheric CO2 concentration relatively constant. But in the last 100 years CO2 in the atmosphere has been increasing due mainly to the burning of fossil fuels and the destruction of forests. To prevent an impending climate disaster we need to significantly increase energy conservation, reduce the use of fossil fuels and protect plants and their habitats from being destroyed. This should be a top priority for all of the world's citizens.



Hot Bills for a Hot Summer

From Katherine Phillips, Director Sierra Club California

(Sierra Club California is the Sacramento-based legislative and regulatory advocacy arm of the 13 California chapters of the Sierra Club)

Fracking update:

Fracking is an "advanced" technology the oil and gas industry uses to break up rock and earth thousands of feet below the ground to make it easier to extract oil and gas. They do this by injecting a range of toxic chemicals and acids, water, sand and other materials into the ground.

[There are big plans to perform fracking in California because of our big oil and gas fields. They are easier to access with fracking.]

The legislature began the year with 10 bills addressing ways to protect the public from fracking's impacts, including three moratorium bills. [Moratorium bills would cease fracking altogether.] None of the moratorium bills survived, and most of the other bills requiring fracking practice disclosure were folded into a single bill. So now we have one very live bill addressing fracking, Senate Bill 4 by Senator Fran Pavley. Notably, the environmental community is split on the Pavley bill, and we're joining the side that opposes it. Our key concern: It would make state law that would overtly recognize fracking fluids as eligible for trade secret protection.

With SB 4, we could access the list of chemicals used in fracking, but the quantities and concentrations would be eligible for trade secret protection. In our view, quantity and concentration matters, especially if you're a worker at a fracking site, a neighbor who cares about how this oil extraction technique is affecting groundwater, air quality, surface water and public health, or a physician whose patients are complaining about unusual symptoms since a frack site opened down the street.

The giant oil extraction services company, Halliburton, is fighting to keep trade secrets protections for fracking fluids here and across the country. The arch-conservative group that stamps out environmental protections through proposed legislation, the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC), has proposed trade secret protection language that is similar to aspects of SB 4. Once again, what happens here will influence what happens around the country, and that's one reason we want to make sure no legislation formally recognizes trade secret protections for fracking pollution.

Solar Bill

On the electricity front, the big bill to advance solar energy, Senator Wolk's Senate Bill 43, is still useful but has been substantially downsized by the legislature. Meanwhile, a bill that would raise the cost of residential electricity in California in a way that would reduce investment in rooftop solar and efficiency has raised its ugly head. That legislation, Assemblymember Henry Perea's AB 327, would change existing law and allow the utilities to add up to \$10 per month as a "fixed charge" on every residential utility bill. The utilities say they need the money to build and maintain equipment. But studies show that the effect of big fixed charges is to reduce the likelihood that people will invest in rooftop solar and efficiency measures. Sierra Club California has an oppose position on AB 327 and the Club's My Generation Campaign organizers are working to activate Club members to weigh in with oppose messages to their legislators.

Sign Petition against AB 327 below and learn more about this issue:
http://action.sierraclub.org/site/MessageViewer?em_id=332427.3&dlv_id=284620

Logging Industry Bill

Last year, the logging industry introduced a bill that would ham-handedly change the way timber harvests in small, privately owned forests are done. We managed to persuade the author to hold that bill. This year, the author, Assemblymember Wes Chesbro, has come back with a slightly changed version that is still essentially the same industry-backed bill. After much negotiation, the bill remains a poorly crafted mess that could lead to unmonitored logging on areas as large as 23-square miles. We expected better. We oppose AB 904.

California Environmental Quality Act Bill

The big debate about CEQA has finally calmed. Now there is only one significant CEQA bill on the legislative docket, and it is carried by Senate President Pro Tem Darrell Steinberg, who has said that he does not intend to allow CEQA to be gutted. His bill, SB 731, was recently amended and our volunteer activists and lawyers are analyzing it. We haven't yet taken a position, but early reports from the analysts indicate that Senator Steinberg's bill reflects his promise: It doesn't gut CEQA.

Fracking on Coast Revealed

By Amanda Wallner

Last week, the *Associated Press* reported that for several years, oil companies have been using hydraulic fracturing techniques (fracking) off the coast of California.(1) This dangerous process combines harsh chemicals, other materials, and (usually) intense pressure to help break up rock and soil for oil and gas extraction. There are a lot of unknowns about what fracking will do to the marine environment; and to make matters worse, oil companies are reportedly dumping fracking fluids into the ocean without treating it. Now that we know oil companies are fracking offshore, we can do something about it. The California Coastal Commission must sign off on all offshore drilling projects, *and* can go back and look at previously approved projects if the circumstances have changed – and they have.

Read this AP article

(1) <http://bigstory.ap.org/article/oil-companies-frack-coastal-waters-calif>

TUES & WED SANTA SUSANA FIELD LAB MEETINGS

Santa Susana Field Lab (SSFL)

NASA's Receipt of Public Comment on DEIS and Meeting

Event: Meetings to Receive Public Comment on NASA Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Cleanup and Demolition on the Federally-Owned Portion of Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL)
Sponsored by NASA

MEETING Dates/Times: Tuesday, August 27: 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Wednesday, August 28: 6:00 – 8:00 pm

Location: Both Meetings: Corporate Pointe at West Hills, Auditorium, Building 8413 Fallbrook Ave., West Hills, CA 91304

SSFL is located in the Simi Hills where rocket development and testing occurred between the 1940s to 1980s. For more information see

<http://www.nasa.gov/agency/nepa/news/SSFL.html> for copies of the DEIS and see

<http://go.nasa.gov/170S5Ep> for related information on how to submit comments. The public comment period ends October 1, 2013.

Contact: Merrilee Fellows, msfc-ssfl-eis@mail.nasa.gov or (818) 393-0754.

**This Open Space in Studio City is being threatened by development.
Please sign our petition to show elected officials that we want
100% OPEN SPACE on this property.**



PLEASE SIGN OUR PETITION NOW!

**URGENT UPDATE ABOUT DEVELOPMENT OF STUDIO CITY'S
WEDDINGTON GOLF & TENNIS**

The developer is progressing with plans to build 200 condos and 635 parking spaces on this site. Help us send a strong message to elected officials that WE WANT TO KEEP THIS PRECIOUS PATCH OF LAND 100% OPEN SPACE!

[SIGN OUR PETITION OF SUPPORT NOW!](#)

For over 50 years this neighborhood gem along the LA River has been a beloved regional destination. Help us preserve it for future generations by [SIGNING OUR PETITION](#).

Then show your support by forwarding this email to your friends to join the effort to support 100% Open Space.

For more information visit us at www.SaveLARiverOpenSpace.org

**Do not throw compact fluorescent lights in the garbage.
You can recycle the lights at HOME DEPOT.**

**SEE MORE PICTURES IN HIKE SECTION
BELOW**



WEEKEND ACTIVITIES

**COME TO OUR PROGRAMS AND PICK UP OUR SCHEDULE OF ACTIVITIES
through OCT. 2013. The schedules have programs and hikes in the San
Fernando Valley area.)**

**See programs and hikes thru OCT. 2013 from our San Fernando
Valley Sierra Club website. Use this link below to start:
<http://angeles.sierraclub.org/sfv/>**

CALLING ALL HIKE LEADERS

OR TRAINEES FOR

SATURDAY OR SUNDAY HIKES

**Help people who work to get exercise
and learn about nature.**

**Call or email Gabe Szende 818-999-5384
russianstore@earthlink.net,
gabesende@yahoo.com**

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

We have been receiving a number of inquiries from people who would like to enjoy the outdoors, either by climbing the mountains or walking around the city on weekends. We will be scheduling activities around the San Fernando Valley and the surrounding neighborhoods on the 3rd weekend of every month starting in March.

If you would like to join us please contact Gabe at 818-999-5384 or via e-mail at gabesende@yahoo.com for the location and time.

SATURDAY ACTIVITIES

**Top of Reseda, Tarzana, SF Valley,
Third Saturdays of each month, 8:00am
Sept. 21, Oct. 19, 2013,:**

Moderate 2hr, 5 mile RT 800' elevation gain hike in the hills above Tarzana and Reseda overlooking the complete San Fernando Valley on fire road/trail composed of compacted dirt/sand and loose gravel. In the beginning and end, there will be very little shade and tree coverage with some shade in between. It is recommended that you bring sun block, wear light colored clothing/hat for daytime hiking, and a jacket for nighttime hiking, along with two quarts of water. Lug soles or athletic footwear for proper footing. Meet at 8:00am on third Saturdays of each month at trail-head at the Southern top of Reseda at the chainlink fence where the park entrance is and the paid parking begins. 3 miles South of Ventura Blvd after the sixth stop sign. Rain cancels

Hike leader: Joe Phillips 818 348-8884 Asst leader: TBD

Top of Reseda, Tarzana, EVENING SF Valley:

Call Joe Phillips 818-818-348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com for dates and times of this hike.

SUNDAY ACTIVITIES

TAKE A HIKE AT SEPULVEDA BASIN: Because of the plant destruction that was brought on by the Army Corp of Engineers, we are tentatively planning to conduct a public information hike around the damaged area each Sunday. If you are interested in the hike or if you are an interested hike leader

please contact Joe Phillips at 818-348-8884 recreationbyjoe@yahoo.com

September 8 Sun. Stair Hike in Bronson Canyon:

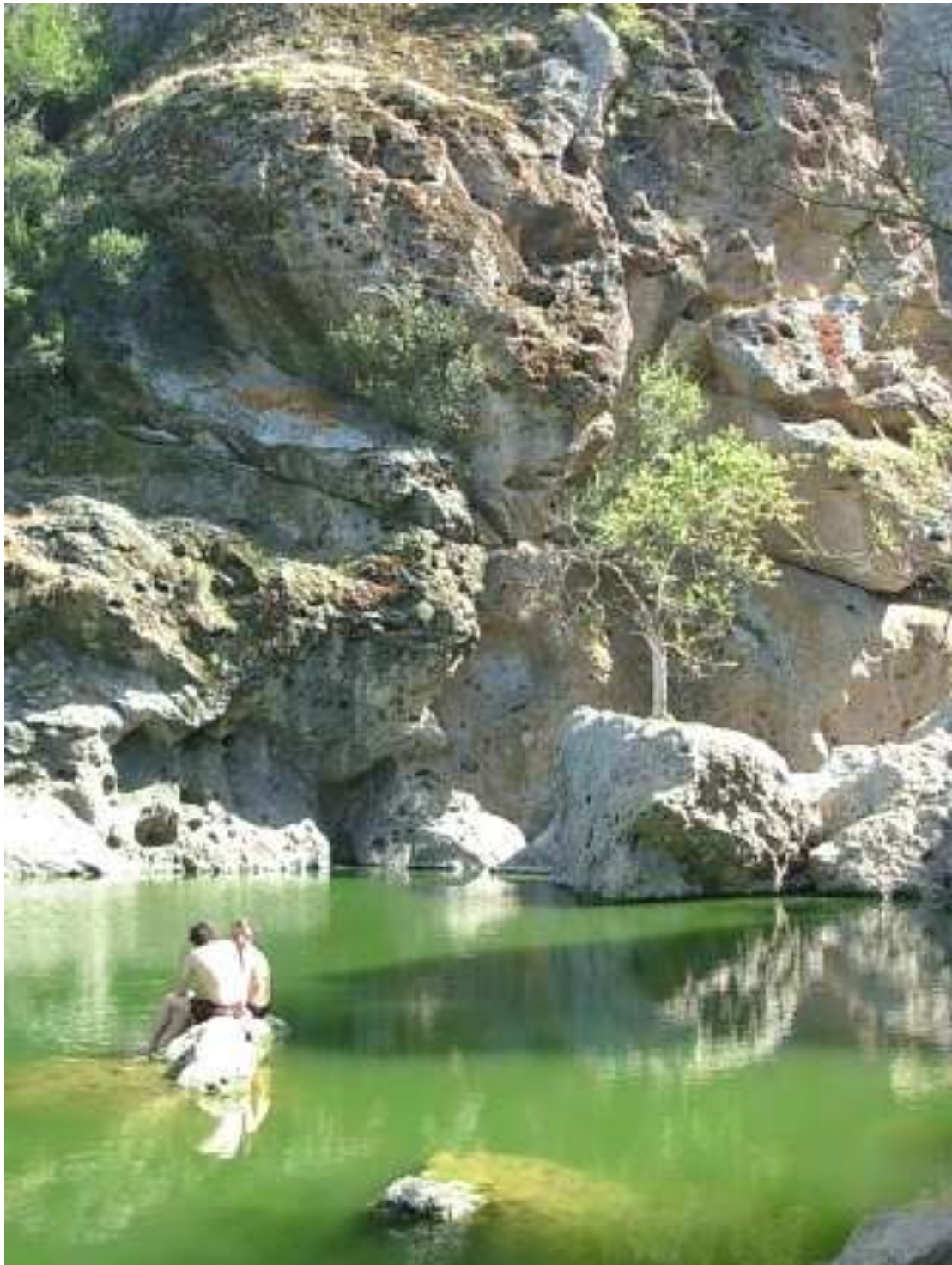
Shaded hillside is a 4 mile 272 steps, along hidden stair cases featuring interesting old LA. Visit a remnant of a quarry that was used as a Bat Cave entrance for the 1960's Batman TV series. Also, see the private street where Brad Pitt lives. Optional lunch after the hike. Meet at 9:30 AM at the corner of Franklin & Bronson.

Leader: **Gabe Sende** Call (818) 999-5384 or email at gabesende@yahoo.com.

Sept. 8' 2013 Sun. Bike On the Orange Line Bike Path:

O:Sierra Singles, SFV Leisure Bike Ride. Join us on this 8 – 9 mile leisure bike ride. Let's take our bikes out on this easy ride along the new Orange Line Extension Bike Path so our bikes can have a chance to spin its wheels. We'll meet 9am at the Chatsworth Amtrak/ Metrolink station, Old Depot Plaza Rd, between Devonshire St and Lassen St. This leisure ride is to Victory Blvd and back. Those that wish may catch the bus for a return ride (\$1.50) or continue on the path. Bring water, optional return bus ride money and helmet. Rain or 95 degrees+ cancels.

Leader: **Sandra Tapia** sltderamus64@yahoo.com 818.365-4571, co-leader: **Joe Phillips** 818 348-8884



Tues, Sept. 3, 2013 hike, Rock Pool, Malibu Creek State Park
See write-up in activities below

Photo by Sierra Club member Gayle Dufour

TUES & WED HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w) Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869, Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257. Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924, Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873, Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581, Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Tues Moderate Easy Paced 4-6 Mile.

**For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee**

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures
These hikes are included as a courtesy.

TUES HIKES

September 3, 2013, Tues. Tapia SP to Malibu Creek SP / Backbone Trail:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 500' gain, 6.5 mile route from Tapia SP to Malibu Creek SP; visit the Rock Pool and Century Lake and return. Meet 8:00 AM at Tapia Park. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd exit and go approximately 4 1/4 miles south, passing Malibu Creek State Park. Enter Tapia Park just before Piuma Rd, and park in first parking area in fee lot. Rain cancels. Leader: MARCIA HARRIS Asst: STEPHEN BECK

September 10, Tues. Chumash Trail:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile, 1100' gain hike up the chaparral cloaked Santa Susana Mtns. through wonderful sculpted sandstone rock formations with a series of scenic overlooks. Meet 8:00 AM at trailhead. From 118 Fwy take Yosemite Ave exit north 0.4 mile, turn right on Flanagan Dr, continue 0.8 mile to end and park. Rain cancels. Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

September 17, Tues. Top of Reseda to Cathedral Rock:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 5 mile, 300' gain hike along dirt Mulholland and fire roads through the chaparral of Topanga State Park. Valley views, with and a glimpse of the Pacific, too! Meet 8:00 AM at top of Reseda Blvd in Tarzana. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Reseda Blvd exit, turn south and go 3 miles to Mulholland Gateway Park. Choice to park along street below the white line at beginning of fee area or pay fee and park above. Meet at trailhead at the top. Rain cancels. Leader: PIXIE KLEMIC Asst: HERB MOORE

September 24, Tues. Rocky Peak:

O: (WA) Moderately paced 6 mile 1100' gain hike in Santa Susana Mtns to Rocky Peak , primarily on fire road through dramatic sandstone rock formations, coastal sage scrub and chaparral with great views of Simi and San Fernando Valleys. Meet 8:00 AM at Rocky Peak Rd trailhead. From westbound 118 Fwy take Rocky Peak Rd exit, street parking (with fee) just beyond end of off ramp or park over bridge without fee. Rain cancels. Leader: REAVEN GATELY Asst: PIXIE KLEMIC

MON, TUES & WED MEETINGS

Santa Susana Field Lab (SSFL)

NASA's Receipt of Public Comment on DEIS and Meeting

Event: Meetings to Receive Public Comment on NASA Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for Cleanup and Demolition on the Federally-Owned Portion of Santa Susana Field Laboratory (SSFL)
Sponsored by NASA

**MEETING Dates/Times: Tuesday, August 27: 2:00 – 4:00 pm
Wednesday, August 28: 6:00 – 8:00 pm**

Location: Both Meetings: Corporate Pointe at West Hills, Auditorium, Building 8413, 8413 Fallbrook Ave., West Hills, CA 91304
SSFL is located in the Simi Hills where rocket development and testing occurred between the 1940s to 1980s. For more information see

<http://www.nasa.gov/agency/nepa/news/SSFL.html> for copies of the DEIS and see <http://go.nasa.gov/170S5Ep> for related information on how to submit comments. The public comment period ends October 1, 2013.

Contact: Merrilee Fellows, msfc-ssfl-eis@mail.nasa.gov or (818) 393-0754.

Monday, Sept. 16, 7:00-8:30p.m, FREE Chumash Storytelling And Wisdom

Santa Susana Mountain Park Assn.Community Meeting
**AT:Rockpointe Clubhouse, 22300 Devonshire Rd.,
Chatsworth, CA 91311 818.307.6418 www.ssmipa.com**



Dennis Garcia, Chumash storyteller, will present a spiritual evening sharing wisdom and storytelling. Dennis was raised to believe in 3 values: limitation, moderation & compensation. He will share with us how wealth comes in many different forms. He will bring a display of his dance regalia and other Chumash ceremony artifacts.



Thurs, Sept. 26, 2013 Stunt High Trail to Saddle Peak hike
See write-up in activities below

Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

THURSDAY HIKES & ACTIVITIES

Hike Leaders phone #

Nancy Krupa (818)981-4799, Pixie Klemic (818)787-5420, M. Vernallis(818)360-4414, Gabe Szende 818-999-5384, Marcia Harris.310-828-6670, Charlotte Feitshans (818)818-501-1225, Peter Ireland 310-457-9783 (w) Sandra Tapia 818.365-4571, Rosemary Campbell (818)344-6869, Doug Demers(805)419-4094, Richard Pardi (818)346-6257. Dotty Sanford 805-532-2485, Rita Okowitz 818-889-9924, Virve Leps 310-477-9664. Reaven Gately (661)255-8873, Mimi Knights (661)253-3414, Ted Mattock (818)222-5581, Joe Phillips 818 348-8884, Stephen Beck 818-346-5759

Thurs Moderate Paced

**For all hikes, bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, & sunscreen.
RAIN CANCELS. Possible \$3-\$5 park fee**

Hikes sponsored by Wilderness Adventures
These hikes are included as a courtesy.

Sept 5, 2013 Chantry Flat, Mt Zion Loop:

O: :(WA) Moderately paced 10 mile, 1800 ft. gain loop hike in Angeles National Forest. Meet at Chantry Flat parking area 8 AM. From 210 Foothill freeway in Arcadia take Santa Anita Ave exit and drive north 6 miles. Forest Service Adventure Pass is needed to park. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leaders: MIMI KNIGHTS, REAVEN GATELY

Sept 12 Malibu Creek State Park:

O: :(WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 1000' gain hike including Lookout Trail with great views, Century Lake, and Reagan picnic area. Meet 8 AM at Cornell & Mulholland dirt parking area (from 101 Ventura Fwy take Kanan Rd, exit 36, south ½ mile, turn left on Cornell and veer to right continuing south 3 miles, past Paramount Ranch, to paved entrance of dirt parking area on east side of street just south of Mulholland Hwy). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: NANCY KRUPA Asst: STEPHEN BECK

Sept 19 East Canyon to Mission Point:

O: :(WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 1400' gain hike, first going up East Canyon Mtwy of Santa Clarita Woodlands Park to ridge, then across Corral Sunshine Mtwy to Mission Point, with great views of San Fernando Valley. Return same way. Meet 8 AM at East Canyon trailhead of Santa Susana Mtns. (take Calgrove Blvd, exit 166, from Interstate 5, turn west under the freeway and take the Old Road south about 1 mile to parking entrance after church on right, and continue past trailhead sign to parking area). Bring \$5 for parking, 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leaders: ROSEMARY CAMPBELL, MARGARET VERNALLIS

Sept 26 Stunt High Trail to Saddle Peak:

O: :(WA) Moderately paced 8 mile 2000' gain hike to Saddle Peak from Stunt Road in Calabassas. Meet 8 AM Stunt High trailhead. From 101 Ventura Fwy take Valley Circle/Mulholland Dr, exit 29, go south, turn right on Valmar Rd (becomes Old Topanga Cyn Rd), then right on Mulholland Hwy for 3½ miles, left on Stunt Rd for 1 mile, and park on dirt shoulder on right. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles, hat, sunscreen. Rain cancels.

Leader: TED MATTOCK Asst: NANCY KRUPA

King Gillette Ranch



King Gillette Ranch
See write-up on activities below

Photo by Sierra Club hike leader Pixie Klemic

King Gillette Ranch Directions & Info.

From 101 Ventura Fwy take Las Virgenes Rd/Malibu Canyon exit, go south approx. 3.5 miles to Mulholland Hwy. Turn left on Mulholland and then right to enter the long eucalyptus alleé driveway for Ranch.

Parking

Visit the King Gillette Ranch Visitor Center & Store Free Parking for 2 hours
Other Ranch parking is \$7.00. (There is an iron ranger at the parking lot entrance where visitors can pick up an envelope and make their payments.) All programs and activities are free unless stated on the event write-up.

Allow time to visit the Visitor Center and Store then take a hike.

The visitor center is a very enjoyable experience with many hands on exhibits regarding the Santa Monica Mountains. There is, also, a fun short hike up a hill with great views in all directions. The photo above was taken from this hill.

King Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc

Western National Parks Assn. events at King Gillette Ranch

Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center & Store

26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas, CA 91302 Open 9 – 5 Daily

Event Info/Reservations: 805-370-2302 General Info: 805-370-2301

Questions for these events below contact Sophia Wong, Store & Events Manager

Western National Parks Association

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area

King Gillette Ranch

26876 Mulholland Highway, Calabasas CA 91302

805-370-2302 direct/ 805-370-2301 general, 818-880-6550 fax

samo@wnpa.org, www.wnpa.org

Below are Western National Parks Assn./National Park Service events at King Gillette Ranch

Craft Workshop "Chaparral's Toy Store: Games of Skills & Thrills"

Sat, Aug 31 – 9 am - 11 am

Games will be played & made at this fun workshop. Join local artist, naturalist, storyteller & instructor Peter Rice in crafting games from natural materials. Ideal for families, teachers, docents, and nature enthusiasts. Recommended age 8+. Material fee \$10 per participant. *Reservations required*/Limited participation.
Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

Seth Riley, Wildlife Ecologist – Lecture & Book Signing "Urban Carnivores: Ecology, Conflict & Conservation"

Sat, September 7 1 – 3 pm

National Park Service wildlife ecologist and author Seth Riley discusses the state of mountain lions, bobcats, and other carnivores of the Santa Monica Mountains. Book signing follows. *Reservations recommended*. Call 805-370-2302 Meet at the King Gillette Ranch Auditorium

Exploring the Lives of the Slithery & Scaly Sun, Sept 15 3 – 5 pm

Slithery, scaly, and often feared, these creatures are actually quite cool! Reptiles and amphibians come in a variety of sizes and colors and are adapted to our Mediterranean ecosystem. Easy to moderate 1-mile, 300' gain hike with views. Bring water and sunscreen; wear appropriate footwear. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

Outdoor Skills Workshop – Introduction to Tracking: Sign & Awareness

Sat, Oct 5 - 9:30 am – 12 noon

Join in fun, free, inspiring outdoor workshops and gain some new outdoor skills! Learn tracking skills covering the 7 track "signs" plus track ID, gaits and patterns, and trailing. Class includes awareness techniques and activities in how to "see" substantially more wildlife. Great for adults and children age 9 and older. *Reservations required*. Call 805-370-2302 Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Live Reptile & Amphibian Exhibition](#)

Sun, October 6 10 am – 3 pm

Get up close & personal with live reptiles and amphibians from the Santa Monica Mountains as well as those from distant lands, presented by members of the Southwestern Herpetologists Society. Programs throughout the day will cover herpetological themes. 10 am Opening Ceremony led by Chumash elder Mati Waiya begins in the Visitor Center Courtyard.

[Vulture Verses: Love Poems for the Unloved](#)

Mon, Nov 11 – 2:00 – 2:45 pm

Great family fun for all ages! Join award winning children's author and naturalist Diane Lang as she reads her book *Vulture Verses*, winner of The Children's Book Review Award and PubWest Book Design Award, and shows off her collection of less-loved animals. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

[Medicinal Plant Hike](#)

Sat, Dec 7 10 am – 12 noon

Join author and professor James Adams, PhD, of the USC School of Pharmacy as he leads a medicinal plant hike. Adams, who was trained in Chumash healing, will present traditional recipes for making healing medicines. Please bring your questions regarding pharmacology and toxicity concerns with plant medicines. Co-author of *Healing with Medicinal Plants of the West*, Adams will be available to sign his book after the hike. Reservations required. Meet inside the Visitor Center.

King-Gillette Interpretive Programs & Misc

[Mountains Recreation & Conservation Authority \(MRCA\) events at King-Gillette](#)

[Park sponsors the events below:](#)

These programs below are a project of the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA) in cooperation with Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy, California State Parks, and National Park Service. Come visit their visitor center at King Gillette Ranch.

**If you have questions on these programs below call: (818) 878-0866 x228 RAIN CANCELS \$7.00 parking
26800 Mulholland Hwy. Calabasas, CA 91302**

Sat, September 7th at 10am

[Innovation in the Golden Era](#)

King Gillette Ranch was home to early MGM Director Clarence Brown, who made films and threw star-studded parties. Take a story-filled walk through this still active filming location. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 1.5 hours.

Sat, September 14th at 9:30am

[Rise from the Ashes](#)

Explore the effects of fire on the Santa Monica Mountains through a hike to Inspiration Point. Discover the ways plants and animals recover from fire. Meet at the fountain at the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 1 hour. Sponsored by the MRCA and NPS.

Sat, September 14th at 1pm

[Stroll Through the Seasons](#)

Enjoy a gentle walk through the native plant garden, where we will observe how plants and animals change with the seasons. Meet inside the Santa Monica Mountains Interagency Visitor Center. 30 minutes.

Sat, September 21st at 10am

[Walk into the Chumash World](#)

Discover how local Chumash Indians have used the natural resources of their environment for thousands of years to create a sustainable way of life. Easy 1 mile walk. Meet at parking lot to left of pond. 2 hours.

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[Sign up and view recent editions for the Sierra Club Insider, the flagship e-newsletter.](#)

Sent out twice a month, it features the Club's latest news and activities.

