



Volume 24 Issue 4, Published Bimonthly by the Sierra Sage of South Orange County Group of the Sierra Club
July 1, through August 31, 2016

You are invited to join us at our bi-monthly meeting — Learn about the local Group of the Sierra Club, outdoor opportunities this summer, and, of course, get an update on San Onofre (see pp 2-3)

Feature Program: Desalination: Is it the answer to SoCal's water shortage?

Ray Heimstra, Associate Director of Orange County Coastkeeper and a member of the Angeles Chapter's Executive Committee has been working on desalination issues for over 16 years. He will explore the pro and cons of the two projects in Orange County, one in Huntington Beach and the other in Dana Point and discuss the differences between the two approaches and their impact the ocean wildlife. He will also discuss the Sierra Club policies regarding Desalination

WHERE: Norman Murray Community and Senior Center
24932 Veterans Way, Mission Viejo, CA

WHEN: 7:00 PM, Tuesday, July 26, 2016

ROOM: Juniper

DIRECTIONS:

Northbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn right onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway and proceed over Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to the Murray Center Parking lot.

Southbound on I-5, exit at La Paz, turn left onto La Paz, cross Marguerite Parkway and Oso Creek. Turn left onto Veterans Way and drive to the Murray Center Parking Lot

San Onofre Citizens Engagement Panel Public Meeting June 22, 2016, San Juan Capistrano, CA

The San Onofre Citizens Engagement Panel featured notable guest speakers: US Department of Energy (USDOE) Assistant Secretary John Kotek head of the Nuclear Energy Division and former staff director, Blue Ribbon Commission on America's Nuclear Future; Allison Macfarlane, former head of the US Nuclear Regulatory Commission; and John Edlow, CEO of company whose sole business is transport of radioactive materials generated by all forms of activity. Questions were asked by the Panel members and members of the Public.

The major thrust of the comments and questions dealt with the disposal of nuclear waste such as the spent fuel rods at San Onofre. A number of activities are underway to address these issues.

Kotek said the last two DOE Secretaries had determined that unilateral federal decisions on disposal sites was not working. The current Secretary has directed Kotek to restart the review of spent fuel strategies with the focus on host community incentives and protections. He noted that several European Countries are exploring this approach. The goal is to implement an integrated nuclear waste management system that would clear waste from shut down plants safely. More than 60 years have passed since fuel waste was first generated and there are no current plans for a disposal site of any kind.

A deep mined geologic repository is the safest solution. Several other nations are pursuing this. The USDOE has requested Congressional approval to move this process forward and to provide funds for the effort. The Senate has approved the request and the House has asked for additional information.

The USDOE is responsible for locating sites and transporting and storing nuclear waste. The NRC has authority over all design aspects of on-site storage at nuclear plants.

Two bills are before Congress dealing with this subject, The Feinstein bill would create an independent Federal Agency for nuclear waste management. The Issa bill, known as the Interim Consolidated Storage Act, would allow removal of waste on behalf of a safe oceanfront. Consolidated Interim Storage (CIS) has been a focus of attention recently, as permanent storage remains far in the future.

The current condition of storage in all nuclear plants, operating or shut down, is that they must store the nuclear waste on site, either in pools or in canisters. Storage pools are vulnerable to an earthquake or tsunami, and to overheating if cooling power is interrupted. Canisters, if properly designed and stored on-site, are safer, but by no means as safe as in a deep mined geologic repository.

Current Status at San Onofre: Tom Palmisano, spokesman for SCE reported that the decommissioning plan for San Onofre calls for completing a dry storage facility on site by the end of 2017. The fuel pools will be emptied during 2018 and all fuel will be in dry cask storage by the end of 2019 or 2020. At that point, fuel will be ready for removal to an approved off site location, which could be decades later as no such location has been designated let alone constructed.

Transportation of Nuclear Waste: Jack Edlow, CEO of a company which specializes in the transport of radioactive materials in the United States and overseas. They use all modes, -- rail, truck, ocean, and even air. Packaging is the first line of safety to maintain the integrity of shipments even in the face of exposure to fire, water, puncture, crash impacts and attacks. Over the years, there have been accidents, but in no case was there a release of radioactive materials.

Where do we go from here: Allison Macfarlane, former Director of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission, spoke about where our nuclear waste strategy should be going.

Above-ground storage is not an acceptable long-term solution.

We should keep our eyes on the prize: a repository.

It is our ethical responsibility to solve this problem and not leave it to future generations

The political system is operating under protocols that disconnect waste generation from waste management. This was not done by utilities but by the political system.

What is the priority for action? Who goes first? The oldest sites? Stranded sites? Sites with major risk issues such as earthquakes and tsunamis?

71% of spent nuclear fuel is still in pools. Most dry storage is canisters in concrete over-packs. The trend has been toward higher capacity canisters that have a thermal heat storage limit double the maximum for transport. This requires decades of cooling before the fuel can be transported to the safe storage site.

Transport and Storage are not the current regulatory priority. The NRC looked at time frames of 60-years, 160 years, and indefinite, and concluded the impacts in all time periods would be small. They assume that canisters would be replaced as they decayed.

We have a situation in this country that does not send a positive message. Politicians have a short time frame, USDOE does not have the required legal authority to solve the problem, and utilities are under significant cost pressures,

Today, we have three possible paths in front of us:

Repackage the fuel and ship it to a repository (which currently doesn't exist).

Ship non-repackaged fuel to repositories that will accept it.

Leave the nuclear waste where it is as it is.

Macfarlane was asked by Garry Brown of Orange County Coastkeeper: How can we make our case? Go to Congress? Go to state legislatures to put pressure on Congress?

Macfarlane replied, "All of the above, plus the Administration. Plus, find a member of Congress who will become your champion." She concluded by advising, "Focus on higher-level messages and don't get stuck in the weeds because then you will be lost. "

—————Glenn Pascell, Member CEP

On a very special note: Marni Magda, long time Sierra Club member and previously an active member of the campaign to keep the 241 toll road from destroying the wild places of South Orange County, has been named as an alternate member of the Citizens Engagement Panel — Congratulations Marni!!!!



Outings



Saturday, July 09, 2016 7:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: San Jacinto Wilderness Loops

Enjoy the cool 75 degree temperatures in mid-summer, walking through the pine forests on the upper slopes of Mt. San Jacinto. Two hikes from the top of the Palm Spring Tramway (8420') to Round Valley (9060') will be offered concurrently. Both hikes include the Round Valley loop. Longer route (8 miles round trip, 1750' gain) will include a hike to Wellmans Divide (9720') and back. Shorter route will be a more casual pace (6 miles round trip, 950' gain). Meet 7:00 AM at the south entrance of parking garage of the Irvine Transportation Center (Irvine Train Station, Ada & Barranca), or 9:00 AM at the tramway entrance. Bring money for tramway fee, lunch, water, hat, light jacket, sunglasses, sunscreen, lugsole boots. Rain cancels.

Michael Sappingfield 949-633-6993 mikesapp@cox.net

John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com

Linda Ledger 949-496-8029 linda.ledger@cox.net

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Saturday, July 23, 2016 7:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Crystal Lake Loop Hike (Mt. Islip 8251')

Join us for this hike to Historic Mount Islip from the day-use parking area in Crystal Lake Recreation Area in the San Gabriel Mtns. We start on the Windy Gap trail hiking up to Windy Gap. Then it's up the Islip trail to Mount Islip (8251') for spectacular views and lunch. Then we go along the Islip Ridge trail to the Big Cienega trail. Down the Big Cienega trail to Windy Gap trail and back to the parking area. Total distance is about 7.5 miles with 2400 ft. of elevation gain. Bring water, lug soles, sunscreen, lunch and hat. Meet at 7:00 AM in Tustin on Redhill ave on N side (frwy side) of Stater Bros Mkt. just SW of Redhill Ave exit from Santa Ana Freeway. Leaders John Tevelein & Todd Clark

John Tevelein 949-854-0657 jctevelein@cox.net

Todd Clark 714-803-0195 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Saturday, July 30, 2016 8:30 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Dana Point Beach Walk

Moderately paced 6.7 mile partial loop walk with 600' gain. Walk begins up stairs to the Bluff trail where we have views of beautiful Dana Point Harbor. Proceed onto dirt path around the headlands and down stairs to the strands beach where birds abound. Meet at 8:30 am at the parking lot at the SW corner of Golden Lantern and Dana Point Harbor Drive. Bring 1 qt. water, snacks, and good walking shoes. Water refills and bathrooms available. Possible lunch in harbor following walk. Leaders: Linda Ledger, Rich Maxey

Linda Ledger 949-496-8029 linda.ledger@cox.net

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Sunday, August 07, 2016 8:30 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Crystal Cove Brunch Hike

A "Mike's Hike". Five (5) miles round trip. Enjoy the cool morning air in a walk along the entire length of the Crystal Cove Beach, break for a potluck brunch, then return to parking lot. Meet 8:30 am in front of Middle Bldg in the South Reef Point parking lot (ocean side of PCH) in Crystal Cove Park. Bring money for park fee and brunch items to carry on the hike to the end of the beach to share with others. Wear comfortable shoes, hat, sunscreen. *Michael Sappingfield 949-633-6993 mikesapp@cox.net*
Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Saturday, August 20, 2016 8:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Bike Ride to Newport Back Bay

Join us as we ride our bicycles from the Col. Bill Barber Park in Irvine for a bicycle tour of the Newport Back Bay and back. This is a 20 miles slow-paced round-trip, mostly on bike paths, with some city streets, and 300 feet gain. Some hill riding required. Bring money (and/or snack) for a stop at Balboa Island, water, extra tube, tire repair kit, sunscreen, first aid kit. Helmet is mandatory. Meet 8:00 AM at the parking lot at the corner of Barranca Parkway and Harvard in Irvine. (From 405 freeway, exit Jamboree and head north approximately 1.5 mile to Barranca Parkway. Turn right on Barranca Parkway and proceed to Harvard and turn right. Parking lot is immediately on your right.) Leaders: Todd Clark, Sylvie Cote.

Todd Clark 714-803-0195 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Saturday, August 27, 2016 9:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Beach hike, Doheny to San Clemente

No gain, 4 mile from Dana Point to San Clemente pier or 8 mile from Dana Point to Trestles. Return by bus from either place. Enjoy the beach scenes and a new trail on the bluff overlooking the beach. Most of the hike will be on the sand. Bring water-resistant shoes, water, hat, sunscreen, lunch (or buy at the pier), money for bus ride.

Russ Brown 949-481-5295 russbrown3@cox.net

Sylvia Stevenson 949-616-2765 sjstevenson2828@yahoo.com

Saturday, September 10, 2016 7:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: San Juan Trail Loop Hike

Starting at the Blue Jay Campground trailhead we follow the Old San Juan Trail through some Oak trees and Chaparral then along a ridge generally downhill to a Oak tree rimmed meadow informally called Chiquito Basin then it's uphill for 300 yards to the base of Sugarloaf Peak. From there we pick up the New San Juan Trail and follow its winding path back to where it meets the Old San Juan trail

and back to the trailhead. Total distance is about 8.5 miles with elevation gain of about 1100 feet. Bring water, lug soles, lunch, hat, sunscreen. Meet 7:00 AM at Ortega Plaza parking lot SE corner Ortega Hwy and Rancho Viejo, San Juan Capistrano.

John Tevelein 949-854-0657 jctevelein@cox.net

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Sunday, September 25, 2016 9:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Chapparosa Park

Join us as we hike from Chapparosa Park in Laguna Niguel to Salt Creek Beach in Dana Point and back. This is a 7 mile, 500 feet gain hike. Weather permitting, potential scenic views of the ocean and surrounding hills. We will stop mid-point at a local coffee shop for a break. Bring water, hat, sunscreen, hiking boots, money for coffee shop (and/or snack). Meet 9:00 AM at the trailhead at the Chapparosa Park. (From 5 freeway, exit Crown Valley and turn west on Crown Valley. Then turn left on Moulton Parkway. Then turn right on Chapparosa Park Road. The parking and trailhead are at the end of the cul-de-sac, near the bathrooms). Contact leaders for more information.

Sylvie Cote 949-547-2998 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Todd Clark 714-803-0195 mlsylvie@hotmail.com

Saturday, October 01, 2016 8:00 AM (Time Tentative)

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Trail Maint in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness

The Santa Ana Mountain Task Force (Orange County Group, Sierra Sage Group, San Geronio Chapter) maintains trails in the San Mateo Canyon Wilderness. Volunteers, male and female, keep the trails open and safe. The location of each month's activity depends on the current trail conditions. To receive monthly email notices with details for that month, contact John. The work will involve cutting back or removing plants to provide a proper corridor and correcting drainage and erosion problems. Tools are provided. Bring work gloves, sturdy boots, water, lunch. Meeting location is usually at the south Orange County ride share at either 7:30 or 8:00 am depending on the location of the work. Rain or critical fire danger will cancel.

John Kaiser 714-968-4677 jkai39@gmail.com

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Saturday, October 08, 2016 8:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Morgan Trail

Join us as we hike from the San Juan Loop parking area to the south Main Divide for lunch in a scenic grove of oaks at upper Morrell Canyon. Return same way. The distance is 10 miles round trip and the elevation gain outbound is 1000'. Meet at 8:00 am at South OC ride share or 8:30 am at the FS San Juan Loop parking area across from the Candy Store. Bring 2 qts water, lunch, lugsoles. Rain or critical fire level will cancel.

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

John Tevelein 949-854-0657 jctevelein@cox.net

Saturday, October 22, 2016 8:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: South Tenaja to Fisherman Camp

Moderate 7 mile round trip, 950' gain. Join us for a scenic hike down the South Tenaja trail to Fisherman Camp. We will have lunch at Fisherman Camp before returning uphill

along the same trail. The hike has several crossings of Tenaja Creek which is a factor only if recent rain. Meet 8:00 am at the South OC rideshare pt (Ortega Business Center, Rancho Viejo & Ortega Hwy, San Juan Capistrano) or 9:30 am at South Tenaja trailhead (call leader). Bring 2 qts water, lunch, hiking shoes/boots. Rain or critical fire danger cancels.

Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Linda Ledger 949-496-8029 linda.ledger@cox.net

Saturday, October 29, 2016 7:00 AM

0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing

O: Smith Mountain (5111') Hike

Easy paced hike to Smith Mountain (5111') off Azuza Ave (HWY 39) in San Gabriel Mountains. Hike begins at signed trailhead in large parking area and follows scenic trail for 3.0 miles to Saddle just north of Smith Mtn. We then follow a use trail for 1/2 mi. up to the peak and have lunch. Returning on the same route back to the parking area. Total distance is 7.0 miles round trip with 1800 feet of elevation gain. Bring water, lug soles, sunscreen, lunch and hat.

Meet 7:00 AM in Tustin on Redhill Ave on N side (frwy side) of Stater Bros Mkt just SW of Redhill Ave exit from Santa Ana Frwy.

John Tevelein 949-854-0657 jctevelein@cox.net

Linda Ledger 949-496-8029 linda.ledger@cox.net

Angeles Chapter – Sierra Club Meet Sierra Sage Outings Leaders



JOHN TEVELEIN

John has been an active member of the Sierra Sage Group for about a year and a long time member of the Hundred Peaks Section. He received his "O" Outings leader rating in 2014 and is working on his "I" rating. He has hiked 211 of the 278 peaks on the Hundred Peaks List and prefers hiking in the mountains. He will be leading hikes in the Santa Ana Mountains as well as the San Gabriel Mtns

RIDESHARE MEETING POINTS

S Orange Co... Ortega Plaza parking lot SE corner, Ortega Hwy/Rancho Viejo, San Juan Capistrano

Tustin ... Redhill Ave on N side (Fwy side) of Stater Bros Market just SW of Redhill Ave exit from Santa Ana Fwy

Angeles Chapter and Sierra Sage Group Present

Wonders of Oregon II July 16- July 23, 2017

Wikipedia describes Oregon as: "...diverse, with a windswept Pacific beaches, volcano studded Cascade Mountains, abundant waterfalls, dense ever-green forests, ... and high desert sprawling across much of its east all the way to the Great Basin". Come join us on our 8 day, 7 night fly-drive trip as we explore this fascinating and interesting State.

You will start by enjoying the beaches, lighthouses, and historical sites of the **Oregon Coast** before moving inland along the magnificent **Columbia River Gorge** to explore the incredible waterfalls, fun hiking and even touring **Bonneville Dam and Fish Ladder**. The last part of the trip will include **Mt. Hood, Newberry Crater and its amazing obsidian flows, Lava River Cave, and last, but not least, Crater Lake**.



Trip includes all transportation in Oregon, 7 nights lodging, all admissions to scheduled places, and tours and most breakfasts and some picnic lunches. Trip does not include air fare to and from Portland, Oregon and most lunches and all dinners, nor does it include optional items.

Trip cost is \$1295 for Sierra Club Members and \$1395 for non-members. \$500 deposit will hold your place until April 1, 2017 when the full amount is due. We will be accepting applications on or after July 1, 2016. If you desire trip information, email Mike Sappingfield at mikesapp@cox.net or call him at 949-633-6993.

Leaders: Mike Sappingfield, Patty Sappingfield

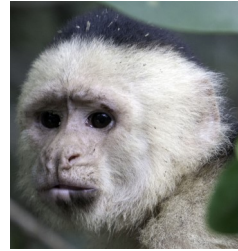


ANGELES CHAPTER AND OCSS AND SIERRA SAGE

PRESENT

Destination Costa Rica

**Saturday, October 01, 2016 to
Friday, October 14, 2016**



Fourteen day tour from the Pacific beaches to the wild Northern Caribbean with stops at Manuel Antonio, Monteverde/Santa Elena, Arenal, Tortuguero and San Jose. Why watch a National Geographic special when you can live it? On layover days, hike and explore why this country is known for its enlightened approach to conservation. Visit Volca-

noes, rain forests, ecological reserves, wildlife refuges. Spend 3 special days in Tortuguero Village where the first awakening of sea turtle conservation began. Sierra Club Member cost \$1750, Non member cost \$1850 includes mid range locally owned accommodations (double occupancy), private 22-passenger air-conditioned coach, all breakfasts, happy hours, round trip boat transportation to Tortuguero, driver gratuities and 3 eco tours. Group airfare extra. **For itinerary, application, cancellation policy contact Co Leader: Donna Specht.**

Trip Co-Leaders:

Donna Specht 714-963-6345
donnaspecht@juno.com

Michael Sappingfield 949-768-3610 mikesapp@cox.net



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Outings Chair	Sylvie Coté	949-547-2998	mlsylvie@hotmail.com
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Santa Ana Mtns TF	John Kaiser*	714-968-4677	jkai39@gmail.com
San Onofre TF	Glenn Pascall		gpascall@att.net

* Denotes voting member of the Executive Committee

SIERRA SAGE MEETINGS.

- Executive Committee meetings are open to all members of the Sierra Club who reside in South Orange County. Meetings are on the 2nd Thursday of each month. Contact Mike Sappingfield at mikesapp@cox.net for date, time and directions.
- Preserve the Coastal areas of Orange County? Contact Penny Elia at greenpl@cox.net
- Interested in electing environmentally supportive politicians into local offices? Contact Sharon Koch at slkoch@ix.netcom.com
- Want to keep the Santa Ana Mountains wild? Or even want to help maintain the trails in the San Mateo Wilderness Area? Contact John Kaiser at jkai39@gmail.com



Subscription Information Sierra Sage Newsletter

Subscription Rates;	1 Year	\$ 9.00
	2 Years	\$15.00

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Electronic copies are sent via email and are free. Just send an email to mikesapp@cox.net and tell us you want the emailed Newsletter

INTERNET ADDRESSES:

Angeles Chapter: www.angeles.sierraclub.org

Sierra Sage: www.sierrasage.org

Trail Notes: Bear Canyon Loop to 4 Corners and return By Mike Sappingfield



One of the most popular trails in the Santa Ana Mountains is the Bear Canyon Loop. Hike park at the Forest Service Parking Lot across the Ortega Hwy from the Candy Store. A Forest Service Parking Pass or a Federal Senior Pass is required. The Candy Store will often have them for purchase.

Be careful crossing the Ortega Hwy to the trail head due to heavy traffic going in both directions. Once you get on the trail, you will climb a medium slope for about a mile before climbing out into the mostly flat drainage of Bear Canyon. Continue following the trail eastward until you reach the junction with the Morgan Trail. (The Morgan Trail continues east all the way to Morrell Canyon and the South Main Divide).

The Bear Canyon Trail turns to the right and begins a medium 1 mile climb to the South with several switchbacks until you top out on a ridge and take a gentle slope down to the trail junctions with the Bear Canyon Trail and the Bear Ridge Trail. It's shady here so a good spot to take a break.

You can take either trail to 4 Corners but we will take the Bear Ridge Trail going in and the Bear Canyon Trail coming back. The Bear Ridge Trail continues straight through the trail junction and goes through a cool Oak Grove before opening up onto the plateau with many wild flowers in the spring and summer. There are a couple of minor climbs to high points before the trail begins to switchback toward the West down to 4 Corners. You can tell when you have reached 4 Corners as there are 5 different trails going in different directions.

The Bear Canyon Trail head North on what used to be called the Verdugo Truck Trail. It starts out with a gentle down slope for 3/4 mile to Pidgeon Springs. There is a spring there and a old homestead site and some trees on the ground to allow for shady lunch spots. After lunch, continue North as it eventually starts a gradual climb by the Oak Trees back to the Junction with Bear Canyon Trail. Reverse the return route down to the Candy Store and the Parking Lot. Don't forget to pick up some cold drinks and candy and the Candy Store, before returning home.



Website:

<http://sierrasage.org>

HIKE OF THE MONTH

Saturday, July 30, 2016 8:30 AM
0417-Sierra Sage of SOC Group Outing
O: Dana Point Beach Walk

Moderately paced 6.7 mile partial loop walk with 600' gain. Walk begins up stairs to the Bluff trail where we have views of beautiful Dana Point Harbor. Proceed onto dirt path around the headlands and down stairs to the strands beach where birds abound. Meet at 8:30 am at the parking lot at the SW corner of Golden Lantern and Dana Point Harbor Drive. Bring 1 qt. water, snacks, and good walking shoes. Water refills and bathrooms available. Possible lunch in harbor following walk.

Linda Ledger 949-496-8029 linda.ledger@cox.net
Rich Maxey 949-310-5134 richmaxey@yahoo.com

Join the Sierra Club

Yes, I want to join! I want to help safeguard our nation's precious natural heritage. My check is enclosed.

Name _____

Address _____

City, State _____ Zip _____

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Membership Categories (circle one)

	Individual	Joint
Introductory	\$15	
Standard	\$39	\$49
Supporting	\$75	\$100
Contributing	\$150	\$175
Life	\$1000	\$1250
Senior	\$25	\$35
Student	\$25	\$35
Limited Income	\$25	\$35

Send Check to Sierra Club, P. O. Box 421041, Palm Coast, FL 32142-1041 Membership not tax deductible