

Sierra Sage



Sierra Sage of South Orange County, a Group of the Sierra Club ■ Bimonthly Events & Outings

Everyone...Come to the **Bimonthly Chapter Meeting:** **Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 7 pm**

YOU ARE INVITED to join us via *Zoom* to meet the Angeles Chapter Staff in our bimonthly meeting on **Thursday, September 24, 2020 at 7:00 pm.**

Three of the four staff positions have been vacated due to retirements and promotions since January and most have been filled with new people. The new **Director of the Angeles Chapter, Morgan Goodwin**, has agreed to make himself and his staff available to us to explain what they do, and how they can work to make all of us and the Chapter more effective. See "Meet the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Staff" on the next page.

Due to the Covid-19 pandemic, we will continue to meet virtually with *Zoom* until in-person group meetings can resume. Access the Virtual Meeting by finding *Zoom* on the internet from your cell phone or computer. Input the following access information.

Meeting ID: 878 7196 1631

Passcode: 343272

Once you have entered the Meeting ID and the Passcode, we should be advised of your request to join the meeting and we will accept you into the meeting.

If there are any problem, contact **Mike Sappingfield at 949-633-6993** (my cell phone) and I will try to help.



Meet the Sierra Club Angeles Chapter Staff

THE SIERRA CLUB ANGELES CHAPTER covers Los Angeles and Orange counties and includes 14 Regional Groups (organized by geographical area), and 27 Activity Sections and Committees (organized by interest), and managed by local volunteer leadership. Coordination and oversight is provided by an elected volunteer Executive Committee; the chapter also employs staff who work with volunteer leaders to advance the chapter's priorities.

■ Morgan Goodwin Senior Chapter Director

Morgan is responsible for developing and implementing all programs, policies, and initiatives for the Chapter. Performs long range planning, makes appropriate recommendations to the Executive Committee regarding short- and long-term priorities and strategies to develop and strengthen the effectiveness of the Chapter.

— Contact Morgan at morgan.goodwin@sierraclub.org, or call 213-387-4287, Ext. 210



■ Jonathan Howard Communications Coordinator

Jonathan is responsible for creating written and digital content to build the chapter's voice online. He loves finding creative ways to tell stories that boost campaign engagement using social media, email, and other online tools.

He also helps connect reporters to chapter volunteers, organizers, and program directors, and establishes working relationships between media outlets and the Chapter.

— Contact Jonathan at jonathan.howard@sierraclub.org, or call (213) 514-5805



■ Jane MacFarlane Chapter Coordinator

Jane is responsible for office management of the Chapter, including daily administrative operations, training and supervision of the office volunteers and maintenance of the office, equipment and schedule, along with many other administrative tasks.



She also performs all of the Chapter's accounting duties, from processing donations, invoices and reimbursement requests through closing journal entries and the preparation of the Annual Financial Statement and the annual independent audit.

She trains and supports the Chapter Treasurer and works closely with Chapter Staff, Volunteer Treasurers and the National's accounting team to comply with the Sierra Club's requirements.

— Contact Jane at jane.macfarlane@sierraclub.org or call (213) 387-4287, Ext. 205.

■ The position for **Conservation Program Manager** is currently open, apply via Sierra Club website, Careers: <https://phf.tbe.taleo.net/phf01/ats/careers/v2/viewRequisition?org=SIERRACLUB&cws=39&rid=1556>



San Onofre Begins New Chapter as Fuel Transfer Operations End

The decommissioning effort at the San Onofre nuclear plant achieved a major milestone last month when the last of 73 spent nuclear fuel canisters was safely stored in the Holtec dry storage system. The fuel is now one step closer to being ready for relocation to an off-site facility when one becomes available. Currently, no such federally licensed facility exists.

Both wet storage of spent fuel in pools of water and dry storage in welded stainless-steel canisters are extremely safe. However, dry storage offers additional safety benefits: The dry storage systems at San Onofre have more than twice the seismic rating as the spent fuel pools, and dry storage requires no electricity because the fuel is convection cooled with ambient air.

“Our commitment remains ensuring spent nuclear fuel is safely stored and that it can be transported to an off-site facility in the future,” said Doug Bauder, SCE vice president and chief nuclear officer. **“We are developing a strategic plan to help us explore opportunities for advancing various alternatives to get the spent fuel off-site, as well as make sure that our fuel is ready for pickup when the opportunity presents itself.”**

SCE expects to release the strategic plan early next year. It will explore alternatives for relocating San Onofre’s spent fuel to an off-site facility, either for permanent disposal or temporary storage, and identify actions that SCE can take to advance various alternatives. The plan also will include opportunities to collaborate with like-minded stakeholders and the community.

— A New Chapter

With all the spent fuel—123 canisters, including the 50 in the TN-NUHOMS system—in dry storage, most of the plant now becomes a deconstruction site. SCE issued a Notice of Deconstruction in January, and work to dismantle San Onofre began the following month. Initial projects included asbestos removal from inside the containment domes and shipping the Unit 1 reactor pressure vessel to a disposal facility in Clive, Utah. Both have been completed successfully. In the next couple of months, offices will be relocated to new trailers in a parking lot on the north side of the site. That will clear the way for building demolition to begin early next year. Employees who can continue to telework due to COVID-19 guidelines are doing so.

“For the next stages at San Onofre, we’ve developed a streamlined organization that is focused on providing oversight of our decommissioning contractor and safely managing the spent fuel,” Bauder said. “Much of the work coming up will be inside the containment domes and preparing for the removal of lots of steel and concrete.”

That material will be mostly transported via railcar to disposal sites in Utah, Arizona and Texas. For the duration of the project, SCE will continue to issue quarterly updates to surrounding residents on activity at San Onofre. These are also available on the SONGS community website. ■

Update: Sierra Club Policies re: COVID-19

The Sierra Club has updated their policies and we will continue to follow them. These guidelines will be in force through, at least, **February 28, 2021** for Sierra Club activities.

- No group meetings or gatherings—Use virtual meetings like Zoom or similar programs. (Conference Telephone calls or Internet computer are okay)
- No scheduled hikes, trips, etc. until pandemic is over.
- Use face masks whenever you are meeting other people.
- Use safe distances between people—at least 6 feet.
- Wash your hands and arms with hot soapy water after touching anything.



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Note: * Denotes voting member of the Executive Committee