



# **ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE CENTER**

## **35<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY CASE DOCKET (2012)**

### ***MISSION STATEMENT***

**The Environmental Defense Center protects and enhances the local environment through education, advocacy and legal action**

### ***FOCUS***

**Since 1977 we have empowered community based organizations to advance environmental protection.**

**Our program areas include protecting coast and ocean resources, open spaces and wildlife, and human and environmental health.**

**We primarily work within Santa Barbara, Ventura and San Luis Obispo Counties.**

## ***INTRODUCTION TO CASE DOCKET***

In 1969, Unocal's oil spill in the Santa Barbara Channel focused the nation's attention on the inherent danger of irresponsible natural resource exploitation, and made Santa Barbara the birthplace of the modern environmental movement. By 1977, an increasingly complex web of regulations, coupled with growing polluter sophistication, made necessary the creation of the Environmental Defense Center as a public interest law firm, dedicated to defending the health of the environment and the public.

EDC empowers community groups by providing them with the tools to advance their environmental goals and objectives. EDC is the only public interest environmental law firm between San Francisco and Los Angeles, and is often the last hope for local groups seeking to protect their community from development and industrial threats. EDC offers a broad range of services, including educational forums and workshops, citizen activist trainings, advocacy before public agencies, creation of coalitions and other

collaborations, and – where necessary – legal representation in the courtroom. While our cases begin at the local and regional level, they often result in actions or precedents that have far-reaching state and national impact.

The following Case Docket presents selected cases as a chronicle of the 35 year history of EDC's efforts, and sets forth our accomplishments in each of our program area.

- Our **Coast & Ocean Program** has resulted in the termination of 40 offshore federal oil leases, defeat of three offshore oil and liquefied natural gas proposals, preservation of miles of pristine coastline, enhanced protections for the Channel Islands National Park and Marine Sanctuary, and preservation of historic public beach access.
- Through our **Open Space & Wildlife Program**, we have saved tens of thousands of acres of important wildlife habitat, farmland, and recreational lands, and promoted the conservation of irreplaceable ecosystems. Often it is what you don't see that provides a testament to our success, as in the preservation of the Hearst Ranch, East-West Ranch, Ellwood Mesa, Douglas Family Preserve (Wilcox), Carpinteria Bluffs, Sedgwick Ranch, Oxnard Shores and Ahmanson Ranch. Our work has also resulted in increased protection for specific keystone species such as blue whales, sea otters, and southern steelhead, as well as ecosystems important to our region, including oak woodlands, chaparral, and coastal watersheds.
- Our **Human & Environmental Health Program** has helped establish new laws and policies that protect our communities from exposure to toxic pesticides. Through litigation, we have also enforced existing laws protecting our air and water quality. More recently, we have emerged as leaders in the fight against global climate change by fighting projects that would increase greenhouse gas emissions and supporting proactive plans to reduce carbon emissions in our region and around the nation.

## ***HOW YOU CAN HELP***

EDC is here to serve the needs of our community, providing support to grassroots organizations throughout Ventura, Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties. EDC does not receive any government funding and relies primarily on community donations.

The EDC has grown and matured only through the collective effort of volunteers, staff, and community. You can be part of these wonderful changes. Please make a choice to make a difference, become a member of the EDC and enjoy special benefits as well as help support our efforts. As a valued EDC member, you will receive invitations to member-only events, action alerts, our newsletter, plus announcements of community events. You can join on our website: [www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org](http://www.EnvironmentalDefenseCenter.org). You can also support EDC through a planned gift or multi-year pledge. Your gift will help ensure the sustainability of our organization, our community, and our natural heritage for generations to come.

## ***EDC CLIENTS AND PARTNERS***

In our 35 year history, EDC has represented the following organizations in advocacy before governmental agencies and in litigation in State and Federal courts:

Abalone Alliance  
Audubon Society  
Ballard Improvement and Protective Association  
Beacon Foundation  
Buellton Is Our Town  
California Coastal Protection Network  
California Coastkeeper  
California Native Plant Society  
California Trout  
CALPIRG  
Camarillo Sustainable Growth  
Carpinteria Creeks Committee  
Carpinteria Valley Association  
Casmalia Elementary School District  
Casmalians Against Pollution  
Celebrity Homeowners  
Center for Biological Diversity  
Citizens for the Carpinteria Bluffs  
Citizens for Goleta Valley  
Citizens for Winchester Canyon  
Citizens to Preserve the Ojai  
Citizens for Responsible Oil Policy  
Citizens Planning Alliance of San Luis Obispo County  
Citizens Planning Association of Santa Barbara County  
Coalition for Voter Approval  
Coalition to Stop Weldon Canyon Dump  
Coastal Alliance on Plant Expansion  
Concerned About Oil  
Concerned Citizens of Meiners Oaks  
Concerned Citizens to Save the Wilcox  
Defenders of Wildlife  
Earth Alert  
Environment California  
Environmental Center of San Luis Obispo (Eco-SLO)  
Environmental Coalition of Ventura County  
Environmental Defense Center  
Environmental Law Foundation  
Environmental Resources Protection Council  
Environmental Working Group  
Fisheries Protection Institute  
Friends of Bonita Street  
Friends of Open Space  
Friends of Sedgwick Reserve  
Friends of the Earth  
Friends of the RanchLand

Friends of the Santa Clara River  
Friends of the Sea Otter  
Friends of the Ventura River  
Friends of More Mesa  
Gaviota Coast Conservancy  
Get Oil Out!  
Goodland Coalition  
Group Against Outlying Development  
Heal the Bay  
Heal the Ocean  
Isla Vista Recreation and Park District  
Keep Sespe Wild  
League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara  
Malibu Road Property Owners Assn.  
Malibu Township Council  
Mira Monte Homeowners Association  
Monterey Coastkeeper  
More Mesa Foundation  
More Mesa Land Trust  
More Mesa Preservation Coalition  
Naples Coalition  
National Parks and Conservation Association  
Natural Resources Defense Council  
Network  
North County Citizens Coalition  
North Grover Neighborhood Association  
Orcutt Area Advisory Group  
Pacific Coast Federation of Fishermen's Associations  
Pacific Environment  
Paso-Watch  
Pesticide Action Network  
Physicians Against Casmalia  
Physicians for Social Responsibility  
Protective Association  
Rally to Save Ahmanson Ranch  
San Luis Obispo Chumash Council  
San Luis Obispo Coastkeeper  
San Marcos Foothills Coalition  
Santa Barbara Alliance  
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper  
Santa Barbara County Action Network  
Santa Barbara Indian Center  
Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council  
Santa Clarita Organization for Planning the Environment  
Santa Monica Baykeeper  
Santa Ynez Citizens  
Santa Ynez Valley Alliance  
Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens  
Save Ellwood Shores  
Save Open Space/Santa Monica Mountains  
Save Our City

Save Our Coast  
Save Oxnard Shores  
Save the Mesa  
Save the Sunny Fields  
Scenic Highway Preservation Committee  
Scenic Shoreline Preservation Coalition  
Sierra Club  
Small Wilderness Area Preserves  
Solvang Preservation Alliance  
Surfrider Foundation  
Sweetwater Ranch Association  
The Otter Project  
United Chumash Council  
Ventura Citizens for Hillside Preservation  
Ventura Coastkeeper  
Waterkeepers Northern California  
WE-Watch  
Wishtoyo Foundation

## **COAST & OCEAN**

*EDC's Coast & Ocean Program Area focuses on protecting ocean water quality, enhancing protections for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, responding to coastal development proposals, fighting offshore oil and gas leasing and development, and preserving public coastal access.*

### **ARCO Ellwood Oil Development**

Opposed proposed offshore oil and gas development project; ARCO abandoned proposal to install three new platforms off the coast of UCSB. (1988-1991)

### **ARCO Golf Course**

Filed litigation challenging County and Coastal Commission approvals of coastal golf course project due to project's interference with historic public access and violation of agricultural zoning for the property. (*Surfrider Foundation v. County of Santa Barbara, et al.*, 1995)

### **Bacara Hotel Expansion**

Advocated for protection of coastal habitat, cultural resources and public beach access in response to proposal to build new timeshares at Haskell's Beach. (2010-2012)

### **Blue Whales**

Submitted formal notice challenging failure of National Marine Fisheries Service to implement measures to protect endangered blue whales from ship strikes, entanglement, pollution, and other threats to the species and its habitat; catalyzed implementation and update of Recovery Plan. (2009-Present)

### **California Coastal Sanctuary Act**

Worked on the initiation and passage of the California Coastal Sanctuary Act, which prohibits any further leasing for oil and gas development in state waters. (1994)

### **Calleguas Brine Line**

Requested additional study of impacts to the Calleguas Creek watershed from proposed de-salting plants and pipeline at Ormond Beach. (2000-2001)

### **Calleguas Creek Watershed Management Plan**

Participated in watershed plan process for Calleguas Creek Watershed. (1997-2001)

### **Capital Condos Project**

Filed litigation challenging approval of waterfront condominium project without adequate environmental review. (*Citizens Planning Association, et al. v. City of Santa Barbara*, 2001)

### **Carpinteria Bluffs**

Successfully defeated development plan, resulting in eventual public acquisition and permanent protection of Carpinteria Bluffs. (*Chevron v. California Coastal Commission*, 1996-1998)

### **Channel Islands Harbor Boating Center**

Successfully advocated for an Environmental Impact Report for a proposed boating center in Channel Islands Harbor that would have eliminated an important blue heron colony. (2002) Subsequently filed a lawsuit challenging Ventura County's approval of the project; the California Coastal Commission required Ventura County to amend its plan before proceeding with the project. (*The Beacon Foundation v. County of Ventura*, 2004)

### **Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary**

Represented the Conservation community on the Sanctuary Advisory Council and established the Conservation Working Group to monitor and respond to Sanctuary management issues; advanced recommendations for improved resource protection, enhanced water quality, protection of marine mammals, and boundary expansion. Published reports on underwater noise, open ocean aquaculture, water quality and ocean acidification. Successfully advocated for establishment of marine reserves ("no take" zones) around the Channel Islands. (1999-Present)

### **Channel Islands Plants**

Achieved listing and critical habitat designation for 16 endangered plant species surviving on the Northern Channel Islands. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1996-1997)

**Chevron Debris Mounds**

Urged California Coastal Commission and State Lands Commission to require complete cleanup and removal of toxic debris mounds left offshore Summerland after Chevron removed the "4-H" Platforms. (1998-Present)

**Chevron Point Arguello Tankering**

Forced strict conditions on oil tankering by Chevron; tankering was terminated in February, 1994, because the company did not satisfy its permit conditions. (1991-1993)

**Del Playa Seawall**

Successfully convinced Santa Barbara County to deny proposed seawall project in Isla Vista due to adverse impacts on beach access (1992); subsequently defeated similar proposal before the California Coastal Commission. (1998-1999)

**Diablo Canyon Nuclear Power Plant**

Challenged approval of a nuclear power plant in San Luis Obispo County; co-defended the Abalone Alliance and certain individuals from SLAPP (Strategic Lawsuit Against Public Participation) lawsuit brought against project opponents; won lawsuit, including sanctions and fees. (1978-1980)

**Douglas Family Preserve (Wilcox Property)**

Achieved permanent protection of bluff top property, preserved public access, and defended SLAPP lawsuit. (*Concerned Citizens to Save the Wilcox v Santa Barbara Capital*, 1987) Subsequent efforts led to public acquisition of property in 1996. Advocated for deed restrictions and covenants for public use and enjoyment. (1997)

**Duke Power Plant**

Opposed expansion of Duke Power Plant at Morro Bay due to impacts to Morro Bay Estuary. (2001-2002)

**East-West Ranch**

Preserved one of the largest coastal bluffs in San Luis Obispo County, located in Cambria, by convincing the California Coastal Commission to deny a proposed residential development project. (1997-98) Subsequently, EDC client Friends of the RanchLand secured acquisition of the entire ranch for public and private use and access. (2000)

**El Estero Wetlands**

Forced City of Santa Barbara to halt bulldozing coastal wetlands and required city to restore wetlands. (2000)

**El Estero Sewage Treatment Plant**

Secured additional interim treatment of effluent until permanent treatment facilities were completed. (1987-1988)

**Ellwood Mesa**

Advocated before public agencies and filed litigation that resulted in the protection of coastal environmentally sensitive habitat areas (Monarch Butterfly groves, native grasslands and vernal pools) and preservation of historic public access. (*Save Ellwood Shores, et al. v County of Santa Barbara*, 1989-2001) Subsequently negotiated land swap that permanently protected the entire Ellwood Mesa and Butterfly groves by transferring development to the adjacent Santa Barbara Shores Park property near Hollister Avenue. (2001-2005)

**Entrada de Santa Barbara**

Won lawsuit requiring City to prepare an Environmental Impact Report for the Entrada project, a massive time-share development that would drastically change the character of the Santa Barbara's unique Waterfront area. (*Citizens Planning Association, et al. v. City of Santa Barbara*, 1999-2002)

**Exxon Oil Exploration**

Achieved additional mitigation measures for proposed offshore seismic survey; enhanced protection of gray whales and other marine mammals. (1995)

**Gaviota Coast**

Served on founding Board of Directors of the Gaviota Coast Conservancy; worked with the GCC to protect the rural undeveloped areas of the Gaviota Coast, from Coal Oil Point to Point Conception; participated in the County of Santa Barbara's Gaviota Coast Plan process. (1994-Present)

**Gaviota Processing Facility**

Enforced a permit provision that allows the County to require that the oil and gas facility be decommissioned and removed. (1999-2002)

**Goleta Beach**

Forced County to remove illegal seawall in 2000; subsequently defeated County proposal to construct a permeable groin on the beach; secured state and County support for "managed retreat" alternative that protects the public beach, access, and sensitive wildlife, and prevents erosion to downcoast areas. (2000-Present)

**Goleta Sanitary District**

Sought full secondary treatment of wastewater to protect ocean water quality. (2002)

**Hammonds Meadow Trail**

Protected coastal resources and access rights to Hammonds Meadow. (*United Chumash Council v. Santa Barbara County*, 1982-1984) Achieved dedication of public access trails to beach in Santa Barbara County. (*Surfrider Foundation v. Mutual Savings and Loans*, 1986-1989) Subsequently sued to restore adjacent public access trail. (*Surfrider Foundation v. Lillenstein*, 1996-2009)

**Haskell's Beach/Hyatt Hotel**

Won published court of appeal ruling expanding state-wide requirements for consideration of alternative sites for development, and forced Santa Barbara County to consider alternative locations for Hyatt Hotel project as means to reduce environmental impacts. (*Citizens of Goleta Valley v Board of Supervisors*, 1985) In the second case, California Supreme Court clarified law regarding analysis of alternative sites. (*Citizens of Goleta Valley v. Board of Supervisors*, 1988) Settled third lawsuit with Hyatt, establishing a \$5 million land trust for preservation of open space in the Goleta Valley. (*Citizens of Goleta Valley v. Board of Supervisors*, 1990)

**Hearst Ranch/ San Luis Obispo County North Coast Area Plan**

Led successful opposition to massive development proposed by the Hearst Corporation for San Luis Obispo's North Coast. (1997-1998) Subsequent efforts resulted in conservation easement over most of the Ranch. (2002-2004)

**Jalama Creek Wetlands Restoration**

Secured relocation of campsites out of creek bed and obtained restoration of wetlands (1990-1992)

**Liquefied Natural Gas – Cabrillo Port, Oxnard/Malibu**

Defeated BHP Billiton's proposal to construct a massive LNG terminal offshore Ventura and LA Counties. (2004-2007)

**Liquefied Natural Gas – Clearwater Port, Carpinteria/Ventura**

Successfully opposed proposal by NorthernStar to construct an LNG terminal offshore Carpinteria and Ventura. (2007-2010)

**Liquefied Natural Gas – Point Conception**

Defeated proposed LNG facility at Point Conception; protected cultural resources under Native American Religious Freedom Act and state and federal environmental review statutes. (*S.B. Indian Center v. Public Utilities Commission and related actions*, 1977-82)

**Marine Reserves**

Successfully advocated for marine reserves ("ocean wilderness areas") within the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (2000-2007); supported establishment of marine protected areas along the California mainland coast as implementation of the State's Marine Life Protection Act. (2009-2010)

**Measure A85 (Santa Barbara County Oil Initiative)**

Drafted ballot measure that inspired new County oil policies requiring consolidation of onshore processing facilities and stricter transportation and air quality regulations. (1985)

**Measure A96 (Santa Barbara County Voter-Approval Oil Initiative)**

Drafted and defended successful ballot measure requiring voter approval of new oil and gas development projects outside of established consolidated industrial sites in Santa Barbara County. (1996-1997)

**Mission Creek Lagoon Breaching**

Stopped decades-old Santa Barbara City practice of breaching and draining the Mission Creek and Laguna Channel estuaries, which threatened endangered steelhead and tidewater gobies. Secured management plan to enhance estuary habitats. (1999)

**Mobil Clearview Project**

Raised environmental and safety issues regarding Mobil's proposed slant drilling project next to sensitive ecological areas and UCSB, leading Mobil to abandon the proposal after three years of community opposition and the passage of Measure A96. (1993-1996)

**Mobil Ellwood Gas Plant**

Gas processing plant temporarily shut down, clean air laws enforced and new air pollution control system required to address odor problems and Hydrogen Sulfide risks. (1995-1997)

**Molino Gas Project**

Convinced proponents to relocate gas drilling project to one of the County's designated industrial sites; secured additional protection for the endangered Gaviota Tarplant populations; and obtained landmark agreement to fully mitigate air quality impacts to zero. (1995-96) Project was subsequently abandoned by proponent. (2003)

**More Mesa**

Represented various groups in successful opposition to proposed development at More Mesa, a 300-acre undeveloped coastal property hosting wetlands and rare white-tailed kite habitat; also defended the public's right to continue using historic coastal trails and beach access, and secured environmentally protective policies in Santa Barbara County's Goleta Community Plan. (1979-Present)

**Naples**

Successfully blocked initial attempt to conduct piecemeal environmental review for large coastal subdivision; subsequently opposed proposal that would have destroyed nationally significant visual, biological, cultural and agricultural resources on the Gaviota Coast; filed lawsuit to overturn County's approval. (*Naples Coalition, et al. v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1999-Present)

**North Shore Mandalay**

Challenge to residential development proposed for only known location of the Ventura Marsh Milkvetch, once deemed extinct, resulted in additional protections for the Milkvetch. (*California Native Plant Society v. City of Oxnard*, 1999-2001) Subsequently, filed lawsuit challenging Coastal Commission and City of Oxnard approvals of the North

Shore at Mandalay Bay project to enforce the habitat protection provisions of the Coastal Act; reached settlement requiring additional on-site conservation measures and establishment of off-site populations of the Ventura Marsh Milkvetch. (*California Native Plant Society, et al. v. Coastal Commission*, 2002-2003)

### **Ocean Acidification**

Published report to raise awareness and promote policies to address increasing acidification of our oceans; achieved endorsements by all thirteen National Marine Sanctuary advisory councils and received the NOAA's Sanctuary "Partner of the Year Award;" produced Public Service Announcement for national distribution. (2008-Present)

### **Oceano Dunes**

Filed lawsuit to protect threatened and endangered species from harm as a result of off-highway vehicle use at Oceano Dunes State Park. (*Sierra Club v. Rusty Areias*, 2000-2002) Secured settlement agreement with State Park establishing an exclosure area for the protection of snowy plover and California least tern, and secured funding for critical volunteer program and long-term study of plover. (2001-2004)

### **Offshore Oil and Gas Leasing**

Stopped the lease of 40,000 acres of offshore oil development. (*Fisheries Protection Institute v. State Lands Commission*, 1983) Successfully opposed subsequent federal leasing proposals offshore California. (1991-1996) Won precedent-setting case in 2002 canceling the extension of 36 undeveloped oil leases off the coast of Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties until adequate environmental, state and public review is conducted. (*State of California v. Norton*, 1999-2002) Won second case when Federal government still failed to conduct full environmental review of the leases. (*League for Coastal Protection, et al. v. Norton*, 2004-2009)

### **Offshore Oil Platform Discharges**

Convinced Coastal Commission to add requirements to permit covering discharge of drilling muds and cuttings from platforms in the Santa Barbara Channel, to ensure adequate protection of ocean water quality. (1999-2001) Filed lawsuit challenging EPA's failure to update expired permits for twenty-two Federal oil platforms located offshore central and southern California; EPA responded by adopting a new General Permit that included stricter water quality standards. (*Our Children's Earth, et al v. U.S. EPA*, 2004)

### **Ormond Beach**

With a coalition of other Ormond Beach advocates, successfully opposed proposals for a massive Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) facility and construction of a new road through a wetland to serve the Halaco facility. (2002)

Achieved new protections for Ormond Beach wetlands through update to City's General Plan. (2008-2011) Won lawsuit challenging approval of plan to construct 1,500 homes as part of the SouthShore development proposal. (*Sierra Club, et al. v. City of Oxnard*, 2008-Present)

**Oxnard Shores**

Protected open space and public access at Oxnard Shores. (*Save Oxnard Shores v. Ocean Front Lot Owners*, 1982-1989)

**Pacific Vehicle Processing**

Won appeal of the approval of a vehicle storage project located adjacent to wetlands in the Ormond Beach area; convinced City of Oxnard to require environmental impact report. Proposal was subsequently withdrawn. (2002-2003)

**Parker Waterfront Hotel Project**

Successfully challenged proposed hotel on grounds that the project would negatively impact views, parking and affordable housing. (1997)

**Point Conception**

Negotiated access to and use of federal land at Pt. Conception for religious ceremonies on behalf of the Santa Barbara Indian Center. (1978)

**Port Hueneme Coastal Plan**

Challenged City of Port Hueneme's coastal plan update that was approved without adequate environmental review, and obtained additional coastal protection policies. (*Sierra Club v. City of Port Hueneme*, 1998)

**Project Clean Water**

Supported establishment of Project Clean Water objectives in Santa Barbara County and participated in project's work on wetlands and riparian restoration, septic systems, policy review and pollution reduction. (1999-Present)

**Rigs-to-Reefs**

Led successful state-wide effort to defeat legislation that would have allowed oil companies to leave their platforms in the ocean when production ceases rather than remove them and clean up the marine environment. (1999-2001) Subsequently secured environmental safeguards and requirement for public process in legislation that passed in 2010.

**Santa Barbara Channelkeeper**

*Launched the Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, a non-profit organization dedicated to protecting and restoring the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds through citizen action, field work, education and enforcement. (1999-2001)*

**Santa Barbara City Desalination Plant**

Obtained preparation of environmental impact report for analysis of City's proposed supplemental water supplies. (1990)

### **Santa Rosa Island**

Achieved settlement that protected the Channel Islands National Park's resources by phasing out private grazing and hunting operations, and enhanced monitoring and protection for endangered plant species. (*National Parks and Conservation Association v. Kennedy*, 1996-1998) Successfully enforced compliance with settlement agreement, including an end to hunting operations and opening of the Island for public use and enjoyment. (2008-2011)

### **Sea Otters**

Urged U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to stop enforcing "no otter zone" south of Point Conception and allow sea otters to re-inhabit their historic range. (2005-2009) Filed lawsuit that resulted in agreement requiring the Service to take steps to terminate "no otter zone" and reinstate full protections for sea otters. Final rule abolishing "no otter" zone adopted in December 2012. (*The Otter Project, et al. vs. Salazar*, 2009-2012)

### **South Coast Watershed Alliance; Watershed Program**

Brought together local planning, environmental, educational and scientific groups, as well as landowners and agriculturists, to work on issues involving water quality, wetlands, creeks, steelhead, development and planning. (1998-Present)

### **Stormwater Phase II Regulations**

Won lawsuit challenging EPA's Phase II Stormwater Regulations and ensuring stricter standards for stormwater run-off. (*EDC v. Environmental Protection Agency*, 2000-2003)

### **Surfers Point**

Helped develop plan to minimize beach erosion from bike path project. (2001-2004)

### **Taylor Ranch**

Preserved coastal open space, prevented development of State University (*Environmental Coalition v. Board of Trustees*, 1989-1990)

### **Toro Canyon Community Plan**

Advocated for larger creek setbacks, full protection of sensitive habitats, and other measures to be included in Toro Canyon Plan. (1999-2001)

### **Tranquillon Ridge Oil and Gas Project**

Successfully advocated for rejection of proposed slant oil and gas drilling project off Santa Barbara's coast that would have allowed the first state oil lease since the 1969 oil spill. (2002) Subsequently attempted settlement agreement that would have ended oil production from four offshore platforms and hundreds of onshore wells, in addition to providing 4,000 acres to the public for access and habitat protection. (2006-2010)

### **UCSB Campus Point Seawall**

Helped stop Campus Point seawall project. (1999)

## **UCSB North and West Campus Housing**

Protected environmental sensitive habitat on the University's West Campus.

(*Freeman et al. v. Regents*, 1984-85) Successfully protected wetlands and other sensitive habitat from development at UCSB's North and West Campuses, next to Devereux Slough. (1998-2006)

## **Venoco Ellwood Oil Development**

Represented a coalition of environmental groups in efforts to phase out operations at Venoco's Ellwood onshore oil and gas facilities. Successfully forced withdrawal of Venoco's proposal to "slant drill" from Platform Holly and ended barging from the Ellwood Marine Terminal. (1999-2011) Working to stop resumption of oil production on the Ellwood pier. (2007-Present)

## **Venoco Paredon Oil Development**

Successfully fought proposal to slant drill into an offshore state lease from an onshore site next to Carpinteria City Hall and the Carpinteria Bluffs; garnered support from City Council and subsequently helped clients defeat Venoco's attempt to circumvent the Council via a ballot measure. (2007-2010) Represented community groups in opposition to new drilling proposal (2010-Present)

## **Ventura River: RV Park**

Opposed approval of RV park in the flood zone and sought enforcement of permit and Coastal Act violations. (1992-1999)

## **Ventura Visioning Project**

Participated in Ventura's Comprehensive Plan update process to improve environmental protection policies. (1999-2000)

## **Weldon Canyon**

Enjoined ballot measure that would have permitted the development of massive landfill in Ojai. (*Coalition to Stop Weldon Canyon Dump v. Dean*, 1994)

## **Whales and Shipping**

Responded to fatal blue whale ship strikes by developing stronger management measures for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary; also advocated for new regulations to protect whales by requiring reduced ship speeds and moving shipping lanes away from important whale feeding grounds and migratory routes; achieved International Maritime Organization (IMO) approval to move shipping lanes, and continued work in support of US regulations to move lanes and slow ships down. (2007-Present)

## **Woodlands**

Filed and settled lawsuit to enforce San Luis Obispo County's growth management ordinance. Secured major funding to support local environmental groups. (*Save the Mesa v. County of San Luis Obispo*, 2002)

## **OPEN SPACE & WILDLIFE**

*EDC's Open Space & Wildlife Program Area seeks to enhance and enforce protections for endangered species, habitats, watersheds, and agricultural lands.*

### **Agricultural Futures Alliance (AFA)**

Helped form cooperative alliances in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties to support the long term sustainability of our regional agricultural industry, while addressing important environmental, economic, and social equity issues. (2000-Present)

Developed a proposed buffer ordinance to protect agricultural lands from encroaching urban development. (2009-Present)

### **Ahmanson Ranch**

Filed lawsuit challenging Ventura County's approval of a proposed new town in the Santa Monica Mountains that would have destroyed habitat for California red-legged frog and San Fernando Valley Spineflower. (*Rally to Save Ahmanson Ranch et al. v. County of Ventura*, 2001-2003) Property was subsequently purchased and preserved as publicly accessible open space.

### **Alamo Pintado Creek**

Achieved reinstatement of open space easement protecting a riparian corridor along Alamo Pintado Creek in Los Olivos. (1996)

### **Army Corps of Engineers Nationwide Wetlands Permits**

Advocated for increased protection for wetlands and other natural resources in Army Corps Nationwide Permits. (1997-1999)

### **Arroyo Burro Trail**

Filed litigation on behalf of the County of Santa Barbara against various landowners to preserve historic public hiking; case resulted in permanent protection for portions of the historic trail. (*County of Santa Barbara v. Anderson and Gadbois, et al.*, 1977-1983)

### **Arroyo Linda**

Challenged proposed annexation of land to City of Arroyo Grande that would have converted agricultural land to industrial uses. (1999-2001)

### **Atascadero Creek**

Secured wetlands enhancement and permanent protection along a coastal riparian corridor in Santa Barbara County. (*EDC v. Army Corps of Engineers*, 1993-1994)

**Atascadero General Plan Update**

Filed suit challenging the City of Atascadero's approval of amendments to its General Plan that would intensify development and density in Atascadero. Settlement resulted in changes to the General Plan, including a resource map identifying habitat within the City and interim creek set back protection. (*ECOSLO v. City of Atascadero*, 2002)

**Bailey Avenue, Lompoc**

Settled lawsuit requiring City to reconsider approval of General Plan Update that would have set the stage for potential annexation of approximately 300 acres of prime farmland for development. (*Santa Barbara County Action Network v. City of Lompoc*, 2010-Present)

**Ballard Canyon**

Preserved prime agricultural land from development. (1985)

**Bee Rock Quarry**

Secured erosion control measures to protect Hilton Creek and steelhead from sedimentation. (1999)

**Bishop Ranch**

Defeated proposal to re-zone large agricultural property in Goleta to residential use. (2011)

**Bonita Street, Santa Maria**

Secured reduction in project size to conform to neighborhood; revised City environmental review guidelines. (*Friends of Bonita Street v. City of Santa Maria*, 1989-1990)

**Box Canyon**

Investigated cumulative impacts from proposed development in a biologically sensitive canyon with numerous special status species in Ventura. (2001)

**Braun-Cavaletto**

Established precedent of requiring traffic fees to mitigate project impacts. (*Citizens Planning Association v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1981-1982)

**Buellton Urban Growth Boundary Initiative**

Increased protection for Santa Ynez Valley farmland by drafting successful land use initiative that requires voter approval to modify City's urban limit line. (2007-2008)

**Burton Mesa Chaparral**

Preserved 5,000 acres of endangered chaparral habitat that was ultimately purchased by the State. (*La Purisima Audubon Society v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1989) Subsequently challenged proposed Kelly-Gausman development adjacent to Burton Mesa Chaparral lands. (*La Purisima Audubon Society v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1991)

### **California Red-Legged Frog**

Won protection for the California Red Legged frog, forcing U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to list it as a threatened species. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1995-1996) Achieved additional protection by demonstrating that water diversions from Alder, Fox and McCoy Creeks jeopardized important habitat.

### **California Tiger Salamander**

Filed three lawsuits against the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services for failing to list the salamander under the Endangered Species Act. The tiger salamander was granted full protection as an endangered species in September 2000. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1998-2000) Successfully opposed subsequent effort to down-list the species to “threatened” and reduce its protective status. (*Center for Biological Diversity, et al. v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*, 2004-05) Successfully challenged U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service’s failure to designate critical habitat for the Santa Barbara County population of the California tiger salamander. (*EDC vs. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*, 2002-2003)

### **CALMAT**

Successfully challenged use of abandoned gravel pits for groundwater recharge in Ventura County. (*Environmental Coalition of Ventura County v. Calmat*, 1997-1998)

### **CALTRANS Highway 101 Freeway**

Opposed extensive grading work in native coastal scrub habitat along Highway 101 in Ventura. (2000)

### **Camarillo Regional Park**

Filed lawsuit that reversed Ventura County’s approval of a golf course and outdoor concert arena due to inconsistencies with the County’s General Plan. (*California Native Plant Society, et al v. County of Ventura*, 1997-1999)

### **Canada Larga Valley (Ventura Hillsides)**

Convinced City of Ventura to exclude 800-acre valley from Westside Community Planning Project, which would have allowed annexation and major development in area known for outstanding bird habitat. (2010-2011)

### **Carnevale**

Successfully convinced City of Carpinteria to require a full Environmental Impact Report for residential development proposed next to Carpinteria Creek and to move development away from the Creek. (2002)

### **Carpinteria Creek Policies**

Shaped update of Carpinteria Local Coastal Plan, including policies for protection of sensitive habitats like creeks and wetlands. (2001-2002)

**Casitas Dam**

Responded to Bureau of Reclamation's seismic retrofit of Casitas Dam, which would have resulted in large-scale habitat loss, air quality impacts and adequacy of mitigation associated with. (1999-2000)

**Cathedral Oaks Road Extension**

Persuaded County of Santa Barbara to construct a narrow bridge over El Encanto Creek instead of burying Creek in a long culvert. (1997-1998)

**Chaparral Policies**

Worked to ensure adequate protection of important chaparral habitat in Santa Barbara County foothills from destructive clearing practices. (2006-Present)

**City of Santa Barbara Creek Policies**

Advocated for large creek setbacks to be included in the City of Santa Barbara's update of its creek protection policies. (2000-2001)

**Conejo Creek**

Represented local group in effort to prevent development of 2,500 homes that would destroy prime farmland and harm an important wildlife corridor along Conejo Creek in Camarillo. (2011-Present)

**County Campus Solar PV Project**

Secured additional protection for sensitive coastal sage habitat including a conservation easement over the planned habitat mitigation area. (2011)

**Creekside Residential Development**

Stopped project that would have destroyed wetlands near Devereux Slough in Goleta. (1998-1999)

**Dalidio Shopping Center**

Opposed major shopping center development on agricultural lands containing endangered species in San Luis Obispo. (2001)

**Devil's Canyon Creek**

Secured protections for native trout and endangered species harmed by creek water diversion in Los Padres Forest. (1995)

**Duff Mesa**

Opposed Village Estates Specific Plan and drafted referendum on development project in Solvang. (1990-1991)

### **Fairy Shrimp**

Filed litigation that resulted in listing of several species of freshwater shrimp as endangered and threatened. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1994). Intervened to uphold the scientific basis of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service action. (*BIA v. Babbitt*, 1995-2002)

### **Forde Industrial Park**

Filed suit against City of Grover Beach that resulted in additional mitigation for an industrial park near a state Monarch Butterfly Preserve. (*North Grover Neighborhood Assn. v. City of Grover Beach*, 2002)

### **Gap Fire Hydromulch Contamination**

Identified plastic and shredded latex gloves in 4,000 acres of hydromulch spread over the Gap Fire burn area to reduce erosion. Worked with agencies to ensure exclusion of contaminants in subsequent hydromulching efforts. (2008-2009)

### **Gateway Development**

Convinced the Ventura City Council to deny the approval of a project that violated “City Smart Growth” principles and would have caused traffic congestion and safety impacts in a residential neighborhood. (2000-2001)

### **General Plans**

Forced City and County of Santa Barbara to seek extensions from the state to bring their general plans into compliance with state mandates, and to refrain from approving projects until they came into compliance. (1977)

### **Gibraltar Dam**

Challenged adequacy of environmental impact report raising Gibraltar Dam (*Montecito Water District, et al., v. City of Santa Barbara*, 1988)

### **Glen Annie Golf Course**

Successfully negotiated mitigation measures to replace habitat to be lost by the construction of the golf course in the Goleta foothills. (*Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council, et al. v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1994-2002)

### **Goleta Heritage Farmlands Initiative (Measure G)**

Drafted successful ballot measure requiring voter approval prior to conversion of major agricultural lands in the City of Goleta. (2011-2012)

### **Goleta Valley Community Plan**

Secured protective designation for environmentally sensitive habitat areas, including at Ellwood Mesa and More Mesa. (1992-1993) Advocated for stronger ag land and habitat protection policies in subsequent General Plan Update. (2011-Present)

**Goleta Water District: Water Basin Management Plan**

Secured environmental impact report analyzing Goleta's water basin management plan. (*Citizens for Goleta Valley v. Goleta Water District*, 1987)

**Goleta Water District: Water Service Agreements**

Challenged a series of Water Service Agreements involving exchange of wells for meters; upheld voter approved ordinance and forced payment of funds to Goleta Water District. (*Citizens for Goleta Valley v. Goleta Water District*, 1989-1991; *Citizens for Goleta Valley v. Arroyo Vista Partners*, 1988)

**Goleta Water District: Wright Suit**

Intervened in groundwater basin adjudication to protect ratepayer and public interest, secured full compliance with the state and local environmental statutes and voter approval requirements. (*Wright v. Goleta Water District*, 1989)

**Heritage Valley Parks**

Filed lawsuit resulting in additional review of proposed residential and levee project along the Santa Clara River. (*Friends of the Santa Clara River v. City of Fillmore*, 2002-2003)

**Highway 101 Widening**

Participated in broad community coalition that promoted alternatives to proposed freeway widening project in southern Santa Barbara County. (1996)

**Lake Casitas Water Project**

Provided comments on proposed recreational developments for Lake Casitas approved without environmental review. (2001-2002)

**Lompoc Prison**

Stopped construction of a prison expansion project in Lompoc pending environmental review. (2001)

**Lompoc Wind Energy Project**

Secured additional mitigation measures to protect birds and other wildlife from impacts of wind energy project. (2007-2008)

**Los Carneros Reservoir**

Negotiated additional measures to control erosion and protect and restore habitats for reservoir project proposed in the foothills above Goleta. (2000-2001)

**Los Carneros Wetlands**

Protected wetlands from proposed development. (1986-1995)

**Los Padres National Forest Off-Road Vehicle (ORV) Use**

Reversed the decision allowing ORV use in blunt-nosed leopard lizard habitat area. (1980) Objected to construction of proposed Badlands Trail near native American community and through sensitive habitat areas. (1996) Secured the closure and relocation of Snowy Trail away from wetlands and arroyo toad habitat. (1991-1996)

**Los Padres National Forest Oil and Gas Development**

Assisted local residents in securing adequate community involvement and environmental protection in Quatal Canyon seismic testing oil exploration project. (1992) Opposed Oil and Gas Leasing Plan for Los Padres National Forest. (2001)

**Lot Line Adjustment Ordinance**

Supported Santa Barbara County in adopting an ordinance to eliminate development on small fractional lots, thereby preserving important agricultural lands. (2001)

**Mackie Mountain**

Preserved 17 acres of open space in residential subdivision development and secured revisions to County groundwater element in the general plan. (*Friends of Open Space v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1983-1993)

**Maritime Chaparral Plants**

Filed lawsuit that resulted in the listings of four plants unique to Southern California's coast. (*Southwest Center for Biological Diversity v. Babbitt*, 1995)

**Matilija Dam Removal**

Advocated for removal of Matilija Dam to restore steelhead, replenish beach sand, and provide recreational access to Los Padres National Forest. (2000-Present)

**Measure B, City of Santa Barbara**

Supported legislation to increase the hotel bed tax to raise \$2 million per year to clean up creeks in the City of Santa Barbara. (2000)

**Measure E, City of Santa Barbara**

Successfully defeated Board of Realtors' attempt to vacate City growth control ordinance. (*Santa Barbara Board of Realtors v. City of Santa Barbara*, 1989)

**Mira Monte**

Won lawsuit challenging subdivision Environmental Impact Report for failure to consider new information regarding the presence of wetlands and rare plants that would be harmed by proposed development; established new state-wide precedent for consideration of new information in environmental review reports. (*Mira Monte Homeowners Association v. County of Ventura*, 1983-1985)

**Mission Creek**

Successfully opposed channelization of Lower Mission Creek in Santa Barbara and helped develop plan for natural alternative. (1991-Present) Won litigation requiring additional environmental review of a rock retaining wall along historic Mission Creek. (*Santa Barbara Urban Creeks Council v. City of Santa Barbara*, 1999-2000) Conceived and advanced proposal to modify 1.2-mile-long concrete flood control channel to be able to pass migrating steelhead. (2000-Present)

**Newhall Ranch**

Challenged approval of 21,000-home Newhall Ranch project and secured additional environmental analysis of impacts on water supply and quality and ecological resources. (*Sierra Club v. County of Los Angeles*, 1999-2003)

**Nipomo Mesa**

Settled lawsuit challenging San Luis Obispo County's decision to allow an exceedance of the County's Growth Management Ordinance without conducting environmental review. (*Save the Mesa v. County of San Luis Obispo*, 2000)

**Nyborg Estates**

Modified Solvang gateway project to reduce environmental impact; secured payment of \$50,000 for improvement of City park and recreational facilities. (*Santa Ynez Valley Concerned Citizens v. City of Solvang*, 1987-1991)

**Oak Park**

Filed lawsuit challenging the failure of a mitigation program for a rare plant species (Braunton's milkvetch) at the site of an approved residential development in Oak Park. (*California Native Plant Society v. County of Ventura*, 1998-2003)

**Oak Tree Protection (Kendall-Jackson)**

Filed lawsuit against Santa Barbara County regarding the clear cutting of 850 oak trees near Los Alamos under a County-issued grading permit (*Sierra Club v. Santa Barbara County*, 1998-2000) Participated in a consensus building process that resulted in an ordinance protecting oak trees and habitats in rural Santa Barbara County. (1997-2003)

**Open-Space Preservation and Education Network (OPEN)**

*Launched program to preserve agricultural lands within Santa Barbara County by focusing on the planning process and General Plan updates, and by responding to specific threats; initiated outreach to ranchers and farmers to find common ground and strengthen policies that protect farmland and related open space in the County. (2008-Present)*

**Orcutt Community Plan**

Achieved improved policies through lawsuit against the Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors for inadequate environmental review of the Orcutt Community Plan; won

additional protections for biological and water resources. (*Orcutt Area Advisory Committee v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1997-2001)

### **Parker Ranch**

Opposed residential development in southeastern Simi Valley that would annex almost 100 acres of oak woodland habitat and relocate rare spadefoot toads. (2000)

### **Pepperdine**

Represented groups concerned with extensive grading and development on Pepperdine campus. (*Malibu Township Council v. California Coastal Commission*, 1990)

### **Perfect Park, Isla Vista**

Successfully defended the Isla Vista Recreation and Park District (IVRPD) against challenge to environmental review conducted to protect historic public parkland. (*St. Athanasius Church v. IVPRD*, 1990-1992)

### **Plam Mission Meadows Winery**

Successfully forced full environmental review of proposed winery at Sunny Fields; proposal was eventually withdrawn. (2002-2003)

### **Rancho La Laguna**

Effectively advocated for full environmental impact report for proposed rural subdivision that posed threats to farmland and habitats. (2010)

### **Rancho San Marcos**

Filed litigation challenging approval of golf course on agriculturally-zoned land in the Santa Ynez Valley. (*Scenic Highway Preservation Committee v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1991-1994)

### **Rocky Pointe**

Opposed residential development proposal in Simi Valley based on concerns related to wetlands, rare plants, aesthetics, and policy consistency. Site was ultimately acquired for preservation. (1999-2000)

### **Rosemary Lane Extension**

Convinced developer of multiple tracts in foothills of Arroyo Grande to redesign an access road to avoid endangered plants, wetlands, a creek, and other habitats. (1998-1999)

### **San Antonio Creek / VAFB**

Successfully stopped Vandenberg Air Force Base from clearing over 50 acres of high quality riparian habitat along San Antonio Creek, home to various rare species. (1997-1998)

**San Antonio Creek / Ventura River**

Halted damaging flood control project on Ventura River tributary approved without environmental review. (*Friends of the Ventura River v. County of Ventura*, 1995-1996)  
Secured environmental review and revegetation for bank stabilization project. (*Friends of the Ventura River v. Ojai Valley Sanitary District*, 1996)

**San Fernando Valley Spineflower**

Filed lawsuit challenging the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service's failure to protect the San Fernando Valley Spineflower, formerly believed to be extinct. Court rejected the Service's rationale for its failure to protect the Spineflower. (*California Native Plant Society v. Norton*, 2001-2005)

**San Jose Creek Flood Control and Fish Passage Project**

Secured inclusion of fish passage element in City flood control project. (2009-Present)

**San Marcos Foothills**

Helped defeat large residential project proposed for one of the most biologically rich sites on Santa Barbara County's South Coast. (1998-1999) Subsequently responded to new development proposal that achieved additional protection of more than 200 acres of important habitats and open space. (2004-2005) Worked with the County to develop and implement San Marcos Foothills Management Plan. (2007-Present)

**Sandpiper Residential Project**

Secured additional protections for wetlands, native grasslands, and Devereux Creek threatened by proposed residential development in Goleta. (2002)

**Santa Barbara City College**

Obtained increased protection for natural and archaeological resources. (1989)

**Santa Barbara County Agricultural Policies**

Successfully advocated for consideration of environmental impacts of proposed agricultural operation expansion in County's Agricultural Element. (1991) Defeated proposed county ordinance to allow clustered residential development on agricultural lands. (1998) Forced County to conduct public review of all proposed changes to agricultural policies, thereby revealing full potential for conversion and development on agricultural lands. (2007)

**Santa Barbara County Conservation Element**

Secured preparation of groundwater resource plan. (*Friends of Open Space v. Board of Supervisors*, 1983-1994)

**Santa Barbara County Flood Control District Annual Maintenance Program**

Required County to comply with state environmental review laws and mitigate impacts caused by County's flood control maintenance activities. (1990-1992; 2001)

### **Santa Barbara County Rural Resource Policies Update**

Advocated for protection of sensitive habitats as part of Santa Barbara County's update of its land use policies. (1999-2002)

### **Santa Margarita Ranch**

Ensured that a proposal to plant a 3000-acre vineyard included protections for endangered species habitat and Native-American burial sites. (*San Luis Obispo Chumash Council v. County of San Luis Obispo*, 1999-2000)

### **Santa Paula Creek (East Area One)**

Negotiated settlement requiring study of flood threats and consideration of further protections for important steelhead creek in eastern Ventura County. (2011)

### **Santa Ynez Community Plan**

Secured long-term plan to preserve rural lands in Santa Ynez Valley by reducing the potential for subdivisions on agriculturally-zoned lands. (2008-2009)

### **Santa Ynez River**

Obtained wetlands protection for flood control projects along the Santa Ynez River. (*EDC v. Army Corps of Engineers*, 1992-1993)

Challenged review of water rights permits to protect public trust rights, including protection of endangered steelhead trout on the Santa Ynez River. (1992 to Present)

### **Santa Ysabel Ranch**

Settled suit challenging County of San Luis Obispo's approval of the Santa Ysabel Ranch development, resulting in increased protection of oak woodland habitat. (*PasoWatch v. County of San Luis Obispo*, 2002)

### **Sedgwick Ranch**

Successfully stopped proposed sale of 6,000 acre ranch at the foot of Figueroa Mountain in the Santa Ynez Valley, resulting in permanent protection of the Ranch as part of the University of California Natural Reserve System. (1990-1997)

### **Solvang**

Achieved settlement that reduced impacts by decreasing size of proposed development. (*Santa Ynez Citizens v. City of Solvang*, 1987)

### **Southwestern Arroyo Toad**

Filed litigation that resulted in the listing of the Southwestern arroyo toad as an endangered species. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1993)

### **Southwestern Willow Flycatcher**

Obtained endangered listing for the Southwestern willow flycatcher. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1993)

### **State Water Project**

Drafted ballot measures for communities in Santa Barbara and San Luis Obispo Counties opposed to the importation of State Water. (1991-1992) Secured settlement with water agencies requiring them to allocate new water supplies to replenish groundwater overdraft before serving new development. (1992)

### **Steelhead Trout**

Filed suit against the U.S. National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service over the failure to fully protect endangered steelhead trout in southern California; reached settlement requiring NMFS to reconsider its decision not to list steelhead occurring above man-made dams and barriers. (*EDC v. Evans*, 2000-05) Advocated for protection of local creeks and rivers via NMFS' designation of Steelhead critical habitat. (1999, 2005) Advocated for improvements to Southern Steelhead Recovery Plan. (2007-2012) Convinced California Fish and Game to consider closing waterways currently open to steelhead fishing. (2011-2012)

### **Substandard Size Lots**

Protected Santa Barbara County rural areas by successfully supporting an ordinance to eliminate potential for development of substandard size lots. (2001)

### **Tajiguas Landfill**

Modified proposed landfill expansion project in a coastal canyon to include consideration of alternative waste technologies, avoid and mitigate habitat destruction, and increase recycling efforts and water testing. (1998-2001)

### **Tidewater Goby**

Filed lawsuit that resulted in the listing of Tidewater Goby as an endangered species. (*EDC v. Lujan*, 1992-93) Successfully challenged U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's failure to prepare a recovery plan for the Goby. (*EDC v. U.S. Dept. of the Interior*, 1999-2003) Opposed proposed down-listing of Goby to Threatened status. (2010) Advocated expansion of critical habitat. (2011)

### **Toland Landfill**

Represented Citizens to Stop Toland Landfill in their campaign to tighten landfill permit compliance, minimize off-site water contamination and reduce dust/litter impacts on adjacent properties. (2000)

### **Tree Protection**

Forced County to restrict tree pruning practices. (*Scenic Shoreline Preservation Coalition v. County of Santa Barbara*, 1988)

**Unarmored Three-Spined Stickleback**

Brought a lawsuit to protect critical habitat for the Unarmored Threespine Stickleback, a federally listed endangered freshwater fish species. (*Center for Biological Diversity v. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service*, 2002-06)

**University of California Santa Barbara**

Required additional mitigation measures for biology, housing and traffic in 1990 Long Range Development Plan. (1990-1991)

Achieved realignment of Mesa Road to protect the Goleta Slough and surrounding environmentally sensitive habitat. (1997)

Forced UCSB to relocate planned 800-bed San Rafael Dorm out of wetlands on a coastal bluff. (1997-99)

Reached agreement in which University agreed to scale down and re-site development to avoid sensitive native grassland and wetland habitats next to the Devereux Slough and Coal Oil Point Reserve. (1998-2006)

**Vandenberg Air Force Base**

Negotiated relocation of commercial space launch facility to avoid leapfrog industrial development of coast. (1995)

**Vandenberg Air Force Base: MX missile**

Forced Air Force to comply with federal environmental review laws regarding waste disposal, road construction and monitoring. (1977-1982)

**Vandenberg Peat Bog Fire**

Ensured that the least environmentally damaging methods were used to address a peat bog fire in Barka Slough wetlands at Vandenberg Air Force Base. (2000)

**Ventura River Diversion**

Preserved instream flows and steelhead spawning grounds. (*Friends of the Ventura River v. City of Ventura & Casitas Water District*, 1984)

**Ventura River Habitat**

Brought a series of cases to preserve, protect and enhance habitat in lower Ventura River. (1986-1994)

**Ventura River Watershed Monitoring**

Supported Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper in launching program to enhance and restore Ventura River through community participation in volunteer monitoring and restoration program. (2000-2001)

### **Vernal Pool Wetland Species**

Filed suit that forced the Fish and Wildlife Service to establish listing and designate critical habitat for five vernal pool wetland species. (*Southwestern Center for Biological Diversity v. Babbitt*, 1996)

### **Western Snowy Plover**

Brought lawsuits against U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service that resulted in the listing of the western snowy plover and protection of critical habitat. (*EDC v. Babbitt*, 1994-2000) Opposed subsequent efforts to de-list the plover. (2004-2006) Convinced the Coastal Commission to require additional protections for snowy plovers at the Coal Oil Point Reserve in Goleta and Vandenberg Air Force Base. (2001-2002)

### **Wild and Scenic Rivers**

Prevailed in litigation requiring management plans for three Wild and Scenic Rivers in the Los Padres National Forest. (*Center for Biological Diversity v. Derby*, 2001-2002)

### **Winchester Canyon**

Brought action opposing illegal water meter for M. Timm Development Company in Winchester Canyon. Showed that water was wasted to establish “high level of historic water use” for agriculture. (*Citizens for Winchester Canyon v. Goleta Water District*, 1987)

## **ENVIRONMENTAL & HUMAN HEALTH**

*EDC’s Environmental & Human Health Program Area is focused on combating air and onshore water pollution, and promoting alternatives to pesticides and other toxic substances.*

### **Agricultural Run-Off (Agricultural Waiver)**

Through our Central Coast Environmental Health Project, EDC participated on Regional Water Quality Control Board stakeholder group that developed recommendations to enhance water quality practices for agricultural operations as a means to reduce polluted discharges. (2003-2004) Subsequently achieved enhanced water quality projection measures in renewed Ag Waiver Order, and defended such measures before the State Water Resource Control Board (2008-Present)

### **Air Quality Plans**

Worked to strengthen and enforce the air pollution control plans in Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. (1987-97) Forced reclassification of Santa Barbara County to federal “serious” designation, thereby requiring imposition of greater protection for public health. (*EDC v. Marcus*, 1997)

**Assembly Bill 947 (Pesticides and Schools)**

Co-sponsored bill, limiting pesticide use near schools, that was signed into law. (2000-2002)

**“Buy Fresh, Buy Local” Food Guide**

Published food guide to educate consumers and promote local, sustainably grown food and the retailers and restaurants who sell and serve such products. (2008-Present)

**California State Implementation Plan**

Filed lawsuit that forced the EPA to formally adopt statewide air quality plans. (*EDC v. Marcus*, 1996)

**Casmalia Resources**

Defeated expansion and secured closure of Class I hazardous waste facility, advocated for testing and compliance with regulations, strengthened clean-up standards. (1987-1992)

**Chevron Platform Abandonment**

Secured additional mitigation of air pollution impacts from the abandonment of four oil platforms. (*Get Oil Out! v. State Lands Commission*, 1996)

**Cuyama Metam Sodium Spraying**

Responded to pesticide drift incident in northern Santa Barbara County where school had to be evacuated as a result of children suffering pesticide-induced illness. (1999)

**Central Coast Environmental Health Project**

*Launched Tri-County Environmental Health Project focusing on education of farmworkers, schools, health care providers and communities regarding the risks of pesticide exposure; continued advocacy for alternatives to toxic chemicals and pesticides. (1998-2008)*

**City of Santa Barbara Integrated Pest Management**

Led coalition of groups in successful effort to convince the City of Santa Barbara to adopt a least-toxic Integrated Pest Management (IPM) policy for City-owned properties, parks and departments. (2001-2004)

**Climate Change**

Required full disclosure of greenhouse gas emissions from new industrial and development projects; advocated for full mitigation of greenhouse gas emissions from new projects; achieved stronger environmental review requirements for addressing emissions from new projects; submitted comments on land use and transportation plans to help achieve reductions in greenhouse gas emissions from motor vehicle use; supported local, regional, state and federal policies to address climate change. (2006-Present)

### **Conoco Oil Exploration**

Forced County of Santa Barbara to prepare full Environmental Impact Report for exploratory well drilling in the bed of the Santa Ynez River near Lompoc. (*Celebrity Homeowners v. Conoco*, 1988)

### **Exxon Platform Development**

Challenged settlement agreement between Exxon and Santa Barbara County; secured zero air pollution emissions from new offshore platforms. Established basis for local regulation of offshore sources, subsequently incorporated into the federal Clean Air Act. (*Citizens Planning Association v. Board of Supervisors*, 1986)

### **Farmworker Education and Trainings**

Provided education to thousands of farmworkers to help them reduce the risk of exposure to pesticides. Trained farmworkers to educate peers in the field. (1998-2008)

### **Fox Canyon Landfill**

Identified and forced correction of creek bank erosion that unearthed and sent contaminated soil and trash into Arroyo Burro Creek. (1999)

### **Halaco Engineering Company**

Filed a citizen enforcement suit against Halaco Engineering Company, a metal smelting facility located next to Ormond Beach in Oxnard, for violating environmental laws intended to protect public health. Secured facility closure and supported clean-up, including designation as a federal Superfund site. (*Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper, et al. v. Halaco Engineering Co.*, 2000-Present)

### **Goleta Sanitary District Water Treatment**

Opposed waiver of Clean Water Act requirements for wastewater treatment plan. (2002)

### **Hydraulic-Fracturing**

Successfully advocated for Santa Barbara County regulations governing the process of hydraulic fracturing or “fracking;” worked to achieve stronger state laws and regulations. (2011-Present)

### **Hydro Systems**

Secured installment of state-of-the-art air pollution equipment to control toxic styrene emissions in Simi Valley. (*HydroSystems v. City of Simi Valley*, 1988)

### **Inland Waters Plan Litigation**

Successfully challenged the State Water Resources Control Board’s adoption of the Inland Waters Plan for failure to comply with the federal Clean Water Act and state Porter-Cologne Water Quality Act requirements for ensuring adequate limits on toxic pollutants. (*WaterKeepers Northern California, et al. v. State Water Resources Control Board*, 2000-2002)

### **Juan Soria Elementary School**

Helped secure denial of Oxnard School District's request to annex a school site that would have exposed students to pesticides from adjacent agricultural operations. (1999-2001)

### **Lead Paint**

Settled case regarding lead hazards in apartments that required landlord to provide proper warning to his tenants, perform lead testing of rental properties, provide blood screening for tenants, and abate lead hazards in buildings. (*Environmental Law Foundation v. Pini*, 1997-2000)

### **Leaking Underground Fuel Storage Tanks**

Enhanced Santa Barbara County enforcement program to detect and remove leaking tanks. (1988)

### **Local Toxic Hotspots Rules**

Supported enhanced notification and reduction of public exposure to airborne toxic chemicals in Santa Barbara. (1993-1996)

### **Medical Trainings**

Educated hundreds of health care providers in the proper diagnosis, treatment and reporting of pesticide-related illnesses. (1998-2008)

### **Methyl Bromide**

Participated in state-wide coalition and conducted public education campaign regarding methyl bromide and other pesticide usage issues in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties. Appealed proposed use permits to protect neighbors and schools. (1994-1998) Won lawsuit challenging state regulations for failing to incorporate adequate environmental and public health safeguards. (*EDC, et al. v. Department of Pesticide Regulations*, 2001-2008)

### **Moorpark**

Successfully challenged airport plan on toxic waste site based on inadequate environmental review. (*Protective Association v. City of Simi Valley*, 1980)

### **Mound Elementary School Spraying**

Responded to pesticide drift incident at Mound Elementary school in Ventura County where school had to be evacuated and shut down due to children and staff illness. This incident led to the eventual passage of AB 947. (2000)

### **Multi-Chem**

Obtained settlement agreement requiring industrial facility located next to Ventura River to comply with Clean Water Act requirements for managing and reporting chemical-laden stormwater runoff. (2011-2012)

**Offshore Oil and Gas Air Emissions**

Supported legislation, then sued to prompt promulgation of federal regulations for control of air pollution from Outer Continental Shelf (offshore oil and gas) sources. (*EDC v. EPA*, 1990-1993)

**Ojai Quarry**

Brought action under Clean Water Act to force quarry to reduce pollution and sedimentation in a tributary to the Ventura River. (2012-Present)

**Petrochem Refinery**

Stopped expansion of oil refinery near Ojai; won precedent-setting court of appeal ruling requiring analysis of cumulative air impacts from offshore oil and gas facilities. (*Citizens to Preserve the Ojai Valley v. Ventura County*, 1983-1985)

**Phillips Petroleum**

Successfully challenged improper issuance of emissions reduction credits to Phillips Petroleum. (1988)

**Port Hueneme SWEF**

Raised safety issues related to the Navy's Surface Warfare Evaluation Facility (SWEF) at Port Hueneme. Thwarted Navy proposal to conduct low altitude jet flights just offshore of Port Hueneme. (1995-2002)

**Rincon Grubb Oil Field**

Brought Clean Water Act enforcement action against operators of 4,000-acre onshore oil field for allowing contaminated run-off into coastal creeks in northern Ventura County. (2012-Present)

**Santa Barbara County Air Pollution Control District Community Advisory Committee**

Sat as appointed member; opposed relaxation of air pollution control rules. (1995-1997)

**Santa Barbara County Petroleum Code**

Successfully advocated for revised regulations governing oil drilling operations in Santa Barbara County, in response to rash of spills at sites owned by Greka. (2007-2011)

**Santa Maria Energy**

Represented groups opposed to large-scale onshore oil drilling project that would generate massive amounts of new greenhouse gas emissions and threatened habitat for endangered California Tiger Salamander. (2012-Present)

**Stormwater Phase II Rule**

Filed lawsuit that resulted in court order directing the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency to provide better public notice and participation requirements before issuing permits for stormwater discharges from municipalities and construction sites, and to ensure agency review of Notices of Intent to discharge. (*EDC, et al. v. U.S.EPA*, 1999-2003)

**Southern California Edison Merger**

Successfully opposed merger of Southern California Edison and San Diego Gas and Electric companies on environmental grounds. (1989-1991)

**Subsea Well Abandonment**

Secured mitigation of air quality impacts caused by offshore well abandonment program through \$450,000 contribution to Santa Barbara APCD's Innovative Technologies program. (*Get Oil Out v. State Lands Commission*, 1996)

**Sweetwater Ranch**

Focused attention on pollution from oil wells located on private lands. (1988-1990)

**TMDL Litigation**

Joined lawsuit against EPA challenging the failure to require the adoption of Total Maximum Daily Loads for impaired water bodies in California. (*San Francisco BayKeeper, et al. v. Environmental Protection Agency*, 2000-2002)

**Uranium Mining in Los Padres National Forest**

Convinced the U.S. Forest Service to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement. (1980)

**Ventura County Air Quality**

Forced promulgation of Federal Implementation Plan (air quality regulations) for Ventura County. (*Citizens to Preserve the Ojai v. EPA*, 1987-1995) Secured \$750,000 air pollution control system on Ventura power plants. (1987-1996)

**Zero Emission Vehicles**

Opposed relaxation of California's schedule to phase in electric vehicles. (1996)