



ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENDER

FALL 2000

Babbitt Advocates for Removal of Matilija Dam

VENTURA - Secretary of the Interior Bruce Babbitt spoke at a press conference at the Matilija Dam on October 12 in support of the removal of the obsolete dam from the Ventura River. Secretary Babbitt joined state and local governmental officials and environmental groups who took part in a demonstration project in which a chunk of the



Secretary of the Interior, Bruce Babbitt and EDC Executive Director, Armando Nieto discuss plans to remove Matilija Dam.

dam was removed in order to test different techniques for its eventual deconstruction.

The well-attended event demonstrated unified and widespread support for the removal of the Matilija Dam, which not only stands in the way of the Ventura River's endangered

southern steelhead, but also prevents much-needed sand and sediment from flowing downstream and replenishing popular southern California surfing beaches. The 200-foot high Matilija Dam was built in 1947 for flood control and to provide water for the Ojai Valley. It no longer serves its intended flood control purpose and provides minimal water storage benefits due to the buildup of a massive amount of sand and silt behind the dam.

"It (Matilija Dam) no longer serves its intended flood control purpose and provides minimal water storage..."

EDC, the Ventura Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation, Patagonia, Inc., Friends of the Ventura River, and the Environmental Coalition have joined forces to form the Matilija Coalition in an effort to remove the dam. This collaboration presents an exciting and precedent-setting opportunity that stands to benefit not only our environment, but our economy as well.

SLO County Must Analyze Effects of Increased Growth on Nipomo Mesa

SAN LUIS OBISPO - EDC, on behalf of Save the Mesa, a nonprofit organization committed to sustainable growth on the Nipomo Mesa, settled a lawsuit against the County of San Luis Obispo for violating its own growth ordinance, originally adopted to address rapidly decreasing groundwater supplies on the Mesa. The County's exemption of 180 residential building allocations from the growth cap for the Nipomo Mesa area last May without any environmental review or public notice prompted the suit. The settlement agreement requires the County to prepare an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to analyze the effects of further growth on groundwater and other resources on the Mesa. The County also agreed to not allow additional development beyond the established growth cap for the Mesa through the end of 2001.

The settlement agreement also provides Save the Mesa with special meetings with County planning staff and EIR consultants to discuss the scope and first draft of the EIR, which will be available for public review early next year.



Platform Holly off the coast of Santa Barbara

Environmental Groups Intervene in Offshore Oil Lease Lawsuit

CALIFORNIA - On July 26, 2000, EDC and Natural Resources Defense Council (NRDC) were granted permission to intervene in a lawsuit challenging the Federal government's decision to extend 36 undeveloped oil and gas leases off the coast of Ventura, Santa Barbara, and San Luis Obispo Counties.

EDC represents eight environmental groups, including the Sierra Club, CALPIRG, California CoastKeeper, Friends of the Sea Otter, Get Oil Out, Citizens Planning Association, Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper and Santa Monica BayKeeper. NRDC represents itself and the League for Coastal Protection. These intervening groups have a strong interest in protecting not only the coastal environment, but also in the ability of the state to review activities in federal waters that may impact its coastal areas. These groups also want to ensure public participation in the environmental review process. The goal is to prevent the federal government from taking any action that will allow further oil and gas development off our coast without first consulting with the state and affected local communities.

The lawsuit came about in response to the decision last fall by the Department of Interior and the Minerals Management Service to extend the terms of the leases, despite the fact that they were issued 16-32 years ago and were never reviewed by the State. Circumstances have changed since the leases were originally sold. These include new listings of threatened and endangered species, establishment of the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, and new information about the risks and impacts of oil spills

Had the leases not been extended, they would have expired without compensation to the oil company lessees. Instead, the lessees can now proceed with exploration and development activities, including seismic surveys, drilling of wells, and construction of new processing, transportation and other infrastructure. The impacts of such development on our coastline will be felt for decades to come.

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Rigs-to-Rubbish Bill Update
Despite last-minute defeat and strong environmental opposition, Senator Alpert has vowed to bring this bill back, which would encourage oil companies to leave abandoned oil platforms in place as "artificial reefs." Ask your friends in San Diego to call Senator Alpert's office at (619) 645-3090 and ask her to drop the bill.

This newsletter was printed with environmentally sound dyes on Sandpiper paper, made from 100% post-consumer waste.



A Message from Armando



Y. Armando Nieto
Executive Director

Making a Difference

In the last few months of the year 2000 EDC welcomes Sharon Angell, Development Director, and Andrew "Drew" Bohan, the new Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper. Most recently, Sharon coordinated a successful \$3.2 million capital campaign for a local school while Drew joins EDC in the wake of a six year tenure as legislative counsel to the lower house of government in the South Pacific Island Nation of Palau.

Other EDC changes include expansion of the SLO offices, and the active recruitment of a full time staff attorney to cover the burgeoning San Luis Obispo caseload.

In Ventura, outreach efforts include the aggressive recruitment of a local resident to take over duties of a Managing Director for Ventura County operations.

Because of the enormous volume of case-related work that generated the need for these changes, it's understandable when we lose sight of the bigger picture.

In late September the occasion of Judge Richard Abbe's passing reminded me why we work so tirelessly to preserve environmental quality of life on the south coast.

Judge Abbe was a founding member of the 6th District Court of Appeals and dear friend of the environment. At his memorial service peers and family spoke of his love for nature. The memories he left are landscape paintings, pictures of friends walking among the boulders and trees in his native northern California back country and forests, or sharing hikes

and bike rides through the foothills of his adopted south coast home.

As we honor the memory of his passing, I think of the many south coast residents who shared Judge Abbe's passion for environmental health and quality of life. EDC works with too many citizen groups to mention here. But it is important to remember that in nearly every court battle, in every administrative action or case, EDC represents an organized effort to preserve and protect what we have inherited. Throughout our region residents are taking part in determining future development, the safe and sane use of natural resources, and the preservation of our environmental health and quality of life.

Within a few days of this newsletter's publication we will have a new U.S. president. That process saw a truly obscene expenditure of financial resources. Against that kind of process, it is heartening to realize that each of us can still affect our quality of life.

On the cover of this publication you'll read about the decommissioning of Matilija Dam, the result of the efforts of a broad coalition of business, government, and private citizens. Sometimes a big change begins with the removal of one stone at a time.

The Matilija Coalition made a difference. Judge Richard Abbe made a difference.

So can you.

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Staff Positions Available at EDC

Sr. Staff Attorney, full-time for San Luis Obispo office. Experience in environmental advocacy and litigation focusing on land use, water quality, habitat and endangered species protection. California Bar admittance, relevant state and/or federal court litigation preferred, excellent analytical, research and writing skills required.

Program Coordinator for Environmental Health Project in Ventura. Experience working with a variety of community organizations and populations; PR; public speaking; events; organizing; policy making; agricultural and environmental health issues. Fluent in Spanish, excellent analytical, research and writing skills required.

Send resume, references, writing sample and salary requirements to EDC, 906 Garden Street, Santa Barbara, CA 93101. EOE

EDC Welcomes New Staff

EDC welcomes Sharon Angell, our new Development Director, and Drew Bohan, Santa Barbara's new ChannelKeeper.



About EDC

Since 1977, EDC has provided public education and legal services to environmental and community groups dedicated to environmental quality in California's Central Coast region. EDC's staff assists other nonprofit environmental groups to ensure that existing environmental laws are enforced. EDC represents clients in court and before governmental agencies, provides legal counsel and advice, and offers educational opportunities to the community on issues involving water quality/watersheds, biodiversity/endangered species, environmental health, land use/open space, offshore oil and gas development, and public access.



Land Use Developments

Mayor Has a Change of Heart on the Dalidio Project

SAN LUIS OBISPO - EDC, on behalf of our client group, Citizens for Ethical Planning, continues to oppose plans for the Dalidio development in the City of San Luis Obispo. The development project and annexation proposal is yet another attempt to bring big box stores to the city. As currently proposed, the new shopping center would convert one of the largest remaining pieces of farmland in SLO and has been the center of debate for more than a decade.

The major issues EDC has raised center on the inadequacy of the EIR to address environmental impacts that would result from the proposed 515,000 square foot shopping center and a new highway overpass. During EDC investigation of the CEQA issues surrounding the conversion of the 131-acre farm, a potential conflict of interest involving votes the Mayor of San Luis Obispo, Allen Settle, had participated in concerning the Dalidio proposal was discovered. Consequently EDC filed a complaint with the Fair Political Practices Commission (FPPC) to resolve the possible conflict. The combination of issues raised and the possible FPPC violation on the part of the Mayor may spell disaster for the planned shopping center.

Evidence of the effectiveness of EDC's efforts on behalf of our client group has been a recent change in support of the project by the Mayor Settle. In early August, the Mayor began to express "serious reservations" about the proposal and advocated a delay or denial at the scheduled September City Council hearing on annexation. In response, the project proponents have withdrawn their request and will await the November election results to bring it back.

County Adopts Program to Curb the Fractioning of Rural Lands

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - The Santa Barbara County Board of Supervisors approved the Lot Size Compliance and Lot Line Adjustment Program in September, which will go far to protect agricultural and open space resources in Santa Barbara County from increased development. The purpose of the program is to alleviate the impacts resulting from the development of substandard size "fraction lots" and from large-scale, rural lot line adjustments.

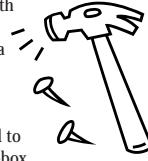
In recent years, the County has experienced a trend in which applicants have sought to increase development potential on large, rural parcels by using a loophole in the County's review process. This loophole involves use of the lot line adjustment process to increase the development potential of large rural properties and development of fraction lots. Use of this loophole was threatening to destroy the integrity of the County's rural lands and agriculture, especially along the Gaviota Coast. It was also raising serious concerns about potential effects on natural resources, the provision of adequate public services, the County's ability to regulate development in rural and agricultural lands, and the integrity of the County's General Plan and community plans.

EDC submitted numerous comment letters and oral testimony in support of the program and in opposition to various exceptions that were proposed that would have weakened the Program. In the end, the Board of Supervisors voted to adopt the Program with an exception for the Naples property.

Home Depot Dealt Final Blow

VENTURA - On July 20, in a room packed with concerned neighbors, the City Council denied part of the proposed Ventura Gateway project, a "big box" retail project on Telephone Road consisting of over 1/4 million square feet of buildings. The developer, who was appealing a previous Planning Commission denial, was told to redesign his shopping center to exclude the big-box Home Depot store. This outcome would have been highly unlikely without the overwhelming public pressure generated largely as a result of EDC's organizing efforts.

While this is a significant win, EDC continues to work with client groups and citizens to discourage any other high traffic commercial uses at the Gateway site. EDC has also hosted a meeting featuring two speakers on New Urbanist design principles in order to generate community support for redesigning the Gateway site as an urban village, a more sustainable design that is much closer to the Ventura Vision plan goals.



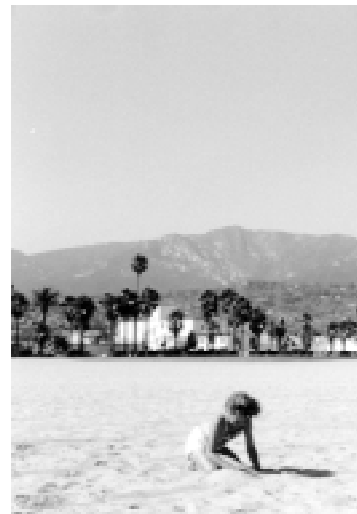
Neighbors cheer a Ventura City Council decision to deny the big box development.

City of Santa Barbara Takes a Second Look at Entrada Project

SANTA BARBARA - On July 13, the City of Santa Barbara held a public hearing to determine the scope of the draft environmental impact report (EIR) for the proposed Entrada project, consisting of 162 time-share units, commercial development and the narrowing of State Street to two lanes in the Waterfront Area.

In response to a lawsuit filed by the EDC, on behalf of Citizens Planning Association of Santa Barbara County, Inc. (CPA) and League of Women Voters of Santa Barbara (LWVSB), the City must prepare an EIR on the project's potential to significantly affect foothill and mountain views. An EIR must analyze a range of mitigation measures and project alternatives, not just those agreed to or proposed by the project applicant. Preparation of an EIR will allow the City Council to make an informed decision on the project, and will also allow the public more opportunities to comment and be involved in the project review process.

The City is expected to release a draft EIR by the end of this year.



Lia Barth at the waterfront



Watersheds Habitat



Photo by Eric Zimmerman

Protections May Be Increased for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary

SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL - The federal government is updating the 18-year-old Management Plan for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (CINMS). This process provides the public with a rare opportunity to enhance protection for the Sanctuary and its resources. EDC Chief Counsel Linda Krop represents the conservation community on the Sanctuary Advisory Council, and leads the Conservation Working Group in making recommendations to the Sanctuary regarding the Management Plan and other issues.

Action Alert
The draft Management Plan and Environmental Impact Statement for the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary will be available late this year. For more information, call CINMS at 966-7107.

The Management Plan update process will address important issues such as the boundary of the Sanctuary and related resource protection programs and regulations. On July 13, EDC and a coalition of other groups sponsored a successful public forum at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History Museum that focused on the ecological connections between our coastal watersheds, Santa Barbara Channel, the Sanctuary and the Channel Islands.

"This process provides the public with a rare opportunity to enhance protection for the sanctuary and its resources."

EDC and others in the conservation community have urged the Sanctuary staff to seriously consider expanding the Sanctuary from its current boundaries six miles around the Channel Islands, to an ecosystem-based boundary that would extend from Pt. Mugu to Pt. Sal, and would include the entire Channel from the Islands to the coastline. This expanded boundary would enable the Sanctuary to fulfill its mandate to protect Channel resources on an ecosystem level, and would include the entire transition zone of warm to cold Pacific waters that is so critical to our unique bioregion.

EDC and the Conservation Working Group seek to develop community support for an expanded Sanctuary program to address issues such as water quality, marine resource protection, recreational access, research and education. If you are interested in participating in this important venture, please contact our Community Affairs Department at 963-1622.

More Protection for Oaks and Natural Resources on Horizon

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - During recent years, oak woodlands and several of this region's few remaining large wetlands have been destroyed, particularly in rural areas of northern Santa Barbara County. In an effort to prevent the destruction of sensitive habitats throughout the county, planners have unveiled a proposed Oak Protection Program and Resource Protection Options for protecting oaks, creeks, wetlands, habitat for sensitive species, and archeological sites.

While these planned programs are meant to protect the most sensitive habitats and natural resources, as proposed they will not prevent the continuing loss and degradation of forests, marshes and pre-historic Native American sites. They provide no protection to rare native grasslands and coastal sage scrub habitats. New policies to preserve all sensitive habitats are needed because current mechanisms to protect natural resources are wholly ineffective or nonexistent. Existing ordinances failed to prevent clear-cutting of 843 oak trees by Kendall-Jackson in 1998 and did not stop numerous farmers from bulldozing extensive wetlands and vernal pools in Orcutt, Los Alamos, and Guadalupe in 1999.

Santa Barbara is one of the few counties in the state without an oak protection ordinance. The proposed ordinance, however, would allow some landowners to remove hundreds of trees without public review and with only an over-the-counter permit. Under the proposal, naturally sprouting tree seedlings would be credited to the landowner to replace giant specimen valley and live oaks that are removed.

The Resource Protection Options also allow destructive land uses both within and in close proximity to wetlands, creeks and endangered species habitats. Both the Oak Protection Program and the Resource Protection Options are undergoing public review, and may be strengthened or weakened based on public comments. For more information about the proposals or to get involved, please call Lisa Plowman or Jennifer Merrick of Santa Barbara County, 568-2000.

California Tiger Salamander is Listed as an Endangered Species

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - On September 15, the Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) issued a final regulation listing the Santa Barbara County population of California tiger salamander as an endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). EDC has been working for eight years to protect the California tiger salamander, which is in jeopardy of becoming extinct in this region.

On January 19 of this year, the FWS published an emergency listing of the species, which remained in effect until September 15th. Concurrently with the emergency listing, the FWS also published a proposed rule to list the California tiger salamander as endangered following the normal listing process. EDC urged the FWS to publish a final rule listing the salamander so that there would be no lapse in the protection of the species and its remaining habitat.

Now that the California tiger salamander is listed, the FWS will designate critical habitat and create a recovery plan for the species. EDC will continue to work with the community to protect salamander habitat and to recover the species to a point where it is no longer in danger of extinction.



CCEHP ChannelKeeper

CCEHP Training Medical Providers on Pesticide Exposure Diagnosis and Treatment

The Central Coast Environmental Health Project is refining activities as a result of lessons learned in the first two years of project implementation. One important and challenging project area concerns the education of medical providers in the proper diagnosis, treatment and reporting of pesticide exposures.

"One important and challenging project area concerns the education of medical providers in the proper diagnosis, treatment and reporting of pesticide exposures."

Education of the medical community offers a unique challenge in that while health care providers have been relatively receptive to the project's goals, and in most cases have been interested in learning how to better provide treatment for patients, there is a dearth of trainers qualified to educate on pesticide exposure related issues.

This challenge also, however, presents a unique opportunity to find creative solutions to the medical training component. For example, the CCEHP is producing a video for the medical community on the proper diagnosis and treatment of pesticide exposure. The concept has been well received by the medical community because it provides a flexible learning opportunity. Professionals can watch the video over lunch, or on a break, instead of having to interrupt their work schedule to attend a meeting.

CCEHP staff will continue to arrange more comprehensive trainings for the medical community whenever possible, in spite of the challenges. At two previous trainings in San Luis Obispo and Ventura Counties, the sites were attended by more than 60 medical providers.



Santa Barbara Welcomes New ChannelKeeper Drew Bohan

EDC is pleased to welcome Drew Bohan as the new Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper. Drew grew up in Chicago and went to college in southern Illinois before moving to San Francisco in 1986. He worked for five years with the LEXIS-NEXIS information service while going to law school at night at Golden Gate University.

In 1992, Drew took a job with Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe, a large San Francisco-based law firm, where he worked on a number of environmental issues. After leaving Heller, Ehrman in 1994, he worked briefly with Daniel Cooper in San Francisco investigating instances of illegal waste dumping into San Francisco Bay.

Drew then received an offer he couldn't refuse: to move to the Republic of Palau to represent the Palau National Legislature. For the last six years, he drafted numerous bills designed to protect Palau's fragile marine ecosystem. In 1998, approximately 70% of Palau's corals died as a result of an unusually prolonged La Niña event that increased the water temperature in Palau by a few degrees Fahrenheit. Drew focused on this issue during the last two years and worked to help policymakers and the community better understand the importance of Palau's coral reefs.



Drew and newly liberated Palau friend

Drew looks forward to working with EDC and the community to protect our watershed. He hopes that his energy, creativity and legal expertise will help him to make a valuable contribution to the Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper Program.

Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper Implements Ventura River Watershed Monitoring Program

Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper is joining forces with Surfrider, Ventura Chapter and local agencies to jump-start a comprehensive water-quality monitoring program along the length of the Ventura River, from near the Highway 101 bridge to the upper Matilija watershed.

The goals of the Ventura River Watershed Monitoring Program are to develop and implement regular and precise testing of standard water quality parameters much like the programs that exist in neighboring counties and watersheds. This program will be based upon a very successful program in the Malibu Creek watershed. In addition to establishing baseline information that can be used to assess the overall health of the river, testing will potentially locate previously unidentified point-sources of pollution. The program will also be a good way to paint a picture of the river before the proposed Matilija Dam removal begins.

A key part of this project is the recruitment of volunteers from throughout the watershed and surrounding areas to collect water quality data. The field gear and portable, hand-held instruments will fit into a backpack and are simple and easy for volunteers to use. ChannelKeeper plans to test for dissolved oxygen, turbidity, nutrients and various other constituents on a monthly basis, in addition to recording information on bank condition, trash, invasive plants and similar observations.

If you are interested in learning more about our program, or participating at any level, please call Jessie at 563-3399.

ChannelKeeper will monitor the water quality of the Ventura River.



Oil & Gas Development

Seismic Survey Proposed in Santa Barbara Channel

SANTA BARBARA CHANNEL - Venoco is proposing to conduct a high energy seismic survey on a lease located offshore Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, adjacent to the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary. The lease is one of 36 recently extended by the federal government (see front cover story). The lease, part of the Cavern Point Unit, was sold in 1968, before the establishment of the Sanctuary. Despite federal laws requiring oil lessees to demonstrate "due diligence" towards oil and gas production, no exploration or production has occurred on the Cavern Point leases.

"Such surveys involve intense acoustic blasts and can adversely impact marine resources including marine mammals, sea turtles, and possibly fisheries."

Venoco now proposes to initiate exploration and production of the Unit by conducting high energy seismic surveys. Such surveys involve intense acoustic blasts and can adversely impact marine resources including marine mammals, sea turtles, and possibly fisheries. In 1995, Exxon received permission to conduct a survey in federal waters offshore Santa Barbara County.

When EDC was alerted about the survey at the last minute, we worked with environmental groups, the County and Coastal Commission to secure additional mitigation measures. EDC also worked with the federal government to ensure a public process for any future surveys. As a result of our participation on the High Energy Seismic Survey (HESS) Team, EDC secured commitments for early public notification, Coastal Commission review, and environmental review. The Cavern Point survey is the first one proposed since the adoption of the HESS recommendations. Environmental review will commence later this year.

Coal Oil Point Reserves Sought Once Again

SANTA BARBARA - EDC has asked the County Board of Supervisors to phase out oil and gas operations at the Ellwood onshore facilities on the grounds that the industrial uses do not conform to the current zoning of the properties for recreation and residential uses. The Board funded and is conducting an amortization study that could lead to the closure of Venoco's onshore facilities at Ellwood.

In the meantime, Venoco has submitted a new project application to the County and State to allow "slant drilling" from Platform Holly into currently unleased areas directly off of Coal Oil Point. EDC asserts that the proposal violates a 1991 settlement agreement between Venoco's predecessor-in-interest ARCO, the County, the State and the Sierra Club.

The settlement agreement required ARCO to give up to the State its rights to drill into those areas in exchange for new drilling rights offshore of Long Beach. EDC is representing the Sierra Club, Citizens Planning Association, Get Oil Out, and Citizens for Goleta Valley in an effort to enforce that agreement as well as advocate for the amortization ordinance. On behalf of our clients, EDC has requested both the State Lands Commission and the County of Santa Barbara to deny Venoco's plan. Venoco's application has been deemed incomplete.

Permits for Discharges of Pollution into Coastal Water Not Enough

SANTA BARBARA - In July, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) proposed to reissue its general National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit to allow discharges from offshore oil and gas facilities located in Federal waters off the coast of Southern California. While EDC, on behalf of Santa Barbara ChannelKeeper, supports the issuance of a new NPDES permit that establishes effluent standards, the EPA's proposed permit does not go far enough to ensure that our coastal waters and other resources will be protected.

Under the Clean Water Act (CWA), the discharge of pollutants is unlawful except in accordance with an NPDES permit. The EPA may issue NPDES permits allowing discharges on the condition that it will not degrade the marine environment.

EDC informed the EPA that it failed to assess three important factors that are required by the regulations, including the biological importance of the area, the existence of special aquatic sites such as marine sanctuaries, and the potential impacts on human health. In addition, scientific evidence shows that the discharges may cause mortality impacts to the food web for numerous species, including fish, marine mammals, and birds.

County Considers Phasing Out Coastal Oil and Gas Facilities

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - In the 1980s, the oil industry anticipated massive development off the South Coast of Santa Barbara County. Faced with multiple development proposals, each including its own suite of onshore processing and other support facilities, the County designated two consolidated industrial sites for handling such production. Fifteen years later, it is clear that levels of development are lower than expected, and that one South Coast processing facility can handle current and projected future production.

The Gaviota consolidated facility, built and operated by Chevron in the 1980s and 1990s, is in inactive status, and serves only to heat oil that is processed on platforms offshore. Because of the reduced production levels, the County is re-evaluating the status of the Gaviota facilities. Options range from full abandonment (including removal of the facilities, restoration of the site, and re-zone to another use, such as agriculture) to fully resumed operations. EDC represents the Hollister Ranch Owners Association, Sierra Club, Get Oil Out, Citizens Planning Association and the League of Women Voters in their support for restoring the site to its rural heritage and limiting future industrial development on the South Coast.



The County is re-evaluating the status of the Gaviota consolidated facility.

To get involved
For more information on the Cavern Point Seismic Survey, contact the Minerals Management Service at 389-7520.



Thank You

Annual Auction

Special Thanks to our Auction Committee; Hannah-Beth Jackson; Sara Wan; Guest Auctioneers Pedro Nava and Geoff Green; Musical Guests Antara & Delilah, Heather Stevenson, Ian Jones, and Bill Lanphar; Undercover Party Rental; Big Easy Catering Company; The staff at Elings Park; and the rest of our wonderful Sponsors, Volunteers, and Donors who made our Annual Auction and Benefit so successful.



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Geob Stained Glass
Gill Garcia
Gold's Gym
Goleta Valley Athletic Club
Gregg Hart
Hal Wahlborg
Harriet Miller
Harriette Davis
Hazard's Cycles
Head West
Healing Arts
Henning's Cake Boutique
The Herbal Spirit
Home & Ranch Cleaning Service
Island Packers
Island Seed & Feed
Isla Vista Food Co-op
Jack O'Connell
Jenna Garmon
Jennifer M. Oetken, LCMT
Jensen's Guitar & Music
Jim Koorey
Joe's Cafe
JoEllen Butler
Keith Zandona
Ken Yamamoto, LMT
Larry Bickford, OD
Larry Wan
Left at Albuquerque
Linda Sehgal
Lipman Volvo Repair
Lobero Theater
Loughran Designs
Maes Center for Natural
Health Care
Magellan's
Marty Blum
Maryanne Green
Metropolitan Theatres Corporation
Mikel Naccarfo
Montecito Family YMCA
Montecito Natural Foods
Morniglory Music
Mount Calvary Retreat House
Mountain Air Sports
Murrays
Naomi Schwartz
Nolan Coogan Photography
Teva Sandals
The Natural Cafe
Nepenthe Restaurant
Norm Hendry
Oceanfront Resort
Odwala
The Ojai Vineyard
Ojai Valley Inn & Spa
Orchard Supply Hardware

Owen Dell
County Landscape & Design
The Palace Grill
Palazzo
Paoli's
Paradise Cafe
Pascucci Restaurant
Patagonia
PCPA Theaterfest
Pedro Nava
Peegen Soutar
Phil Seymour & Jean Silva
Point Blanks
Public Beauty Supply
Radisson Hotel Santa Barbara/Bistro 111
Ragged Point
Richard Longoria
Rocks
Rolling Hills Gardens
Sanford Winery
Santa Barbara Bikesmiths
Santa Barbara College of Oriental
Medicine
S.B. County News Clipping Service
Santa Barbara Family YMCA
Santa Barbara Frame shop
Santa Barbara Gym & Fitness Center
Santa Barbara Inn & Citronelle
Restaurant
Santa Barbara Mini Kite
Santa Barbara Museum of Art
SB Museum of Natural History
Santa Barbara Sailing Center
Santa Barbara Symphony
Santa Barbara Yoga Center
Santa Barbara Zoo
Scitrex
Sea for Yourself
Sea Landing
See's Candies
Shaun Tomson
Shelly Szekecy
Shoreline Cafe
Siglo XXI Language Institute
Silent Partner 1-Hour Photo
Simpson House Inn
Soft Touch Leather
SOHO
Sojourner Cafe
Songbird Ocarinas
Spencer Conway
St. Paul Cleaners
Stella Mare's
Summer Solstice
Sundance Beach
Surfrider Foundation
Susan Rose
Sydney Minnerly
Talisman
Tavarua Island Tours, Inc.
Teddywood
Ted Rhodes
Teva Sandals
Thomas Fallon
TM Crafts
Tom Roberts
The Upham Hotel & Garden Cottages
Vegetable Ivory Designs
Victoria Clark
Victoria Greene & Dan Gira
West Coast Chiropractic
Woody's Detail
Zaca Mesa Winery

Ventura Membership Drive and Survey

EDC thanks our intrepid Ventura County Development Committee volunteers! They contacted friends and members of EDC to ask their views about EDC's work on local environmental issues as part of a membership-building effort.

Ron Bottorff
Nancy Breslin
Jim Churchill
David Dolan
David Magney
Tim Malloy
Megan Montgomery
Jo Rogers
Scott Weiss
Alisse Weston

Thank you also to the wonderful businesses who donated food to feed our volunteers:

Allison's Country Cafe
Roma Armbrust
City Bakery
Fiesta/Mike's Restaurant
Hungry Howie's Pizza
Lassen's Health Foods

Many thanks to all who took the time to talk with us. Your responses will help guide EDC in the coming year.

Many members indicated a desire to attend local informational meetings to learn more about EDC. If you would like to host or attend an informational meeting near you, please call the Ventura Office at (805) 677-2570, or e-mail us at edcvnt@west.net.

SLO Founders Circle

The SLO Founders Circle is now complete as we celebrate the first anniversary of our branch office. We wish to thank and honor these visionary individuals and organizations that contributed generously to establishing EDC in SLO County. Our Founders Circle members include: Barbara Bell, Naomi and David Blakely, Nancy Brown, Linda and Robert Brownson, Carlyn Christianson, Brian Christensen, William Denneen, Friends of the RanchLand, Robert Lane in Memory of Rose Lane, Ursula and George Luna, Bonnie and Sol Mayesh, Christine Mulholland, North Coast Alliance, Robert Shanbrom and Xiaoping Cheng, Mary and Donald Smith.

TGIF Sponsors

We are pleased to recognize the generous sponsors of our monthly TGIF celebrations held April-October 2000:

Organizations
California Native Plant Society
Community Environmental Council
Isla Vista Food Cooperative
Pacific Graduate Institute
Parade of Green Buildings
Patagonia
San Marcos Foothills Coalition
Santa Barbara Audubon Society
Santa Barbara Independent
Santa Ynez Band of Mission Indians
Save Ellwood Shores
Sierra Club, Los Padres Chapter

Surfrider Foundation
Ventura Audubon Society

Individuals
Robert Bernstein
Susan Bower
Mike Brown & Laura Malakoff
Ben & Betty Conway
Tonya Wilson Crandell
Bronwen Jones
Rita Solinas
John Strawn
Mark Stringer





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Interns & Volunteers

Law Clerk Profile: Alicia Finigan

EDC is thrilled to have enjoyed the company and wonderful work of law clerk Alicia Finigan. Alicia is starting her third year at Northwestern School of Law of Lewis and Clark College in Portland, Oregon. Most of Alicia's background prior to law school was in teaching environmental education and science.

Alicia has primarily worked on two issues while at EDC: the case highlighted on the cover of this newsletter involving the extension of 36 undeveloped oil leases off California's coast; and a Clean Water Act case involving point source pollution.

"I have acquired more than legal skills and knowledge of local environmental issues," said Alicia. "I have seen the ethic and commitment that is required to go the distance and realize my dream of working in public interest law. I have learned all this by the example of all the staff at EDC."



Unfortunately for EDC, Alicia will be returning to law school in January. Thank you, Alicia, and best wishes!

Volunteer Opportunities

Santa Barbara Auction Committee: We need people to help out in several different areas, including planning, program, invitations, auction items, hospitality, and decorating/set up.

Office Assistance: We would prefer a commitment of 2-4 hours weekly or bi-weekly to assist in answering phones, research, letter writing, and computer data entry.

Mailings: Late afternoon or early evenings about six times per year. Pizza, refreshments and lively conversation provided.

Special Skills: If you have special skills we may be able to use please give us a call. We are especially in need of volunteers with database and grant writing experience.

Please call our Volunteer Coordinator, Eve Bailey in the Santa Barbara office.



EDC SLO Television Show

SLO Founders Circle member Robert Lane will be producing and underwriting a 30-minute monthly cable television program on EDC. Hosted by SLO Program Director Mindy Lorenz, the show will feature issues, projects and cases in San Luis Obispo, Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties.

The kick-off show will be in January 2001 with an introduction to SLO staff and general background on EDC. The February show is planned to address issues that EDC will bring before the February meeting in San Luis Obispo of the California Coastal Commission, including vehicles on the Oceano Dunes and the North Coast Area Plan update. We are excited about this opportunity to reach a broader audience of County residents.

Gaviota Event

The Gaviota Coast Conservancy will host a free slide presentation on the Gaviota Coast, Tuesday, November 21 at 7:00 p.m. in the Faulkner Gallery at the Santa Barbara Public Library, 40 E. Anapamu. A discussion of the preservation activities taking place on the Coast will follow the slide presentation.

The Oak Group is exhibiting their work at the Gallery, so the evening should be a visual treat. The event is free of charge. Please call Phil McKenna at 682-0302 for further information.

EDC Wish List

Macintosh Scanner	Serving Platters
Adobe Photoshop Software	Chafing Dish
Portable Stereo	Bulletin Board
Small portable tv/vcr	