



SAN DIEGO **ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP SUMMIT**

Preserving Biodiversity: From Science to Action

Saturday, September 28, 2019

*Marina Village Conference Center
1925 Quivira Way
San Diego, CA 92109*

*Organized by the Environmental Center of San Diego
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PROGRAM

8:30

Sign-in, coffee, light breakfast

8:45

Welcome: Pam Heatherington, ECO San Diego

Opening Remarks: Supervisor Nathan Fletcher

9:15- 11:00

Session 1: Wild Nature

Moderator: David Hogan, The Chaparral Lands Conservancy
Values

Michael Wall, San Diego Natural History Museum

Pete Bloom, Bloom Biological, Golden eagle

Threats

David Hogan

Solutions

Bill Tippetts, Southwest Wetlands Interpretive Association

Susan Baldwin, Safeguard our San Diego (SOS) Countryside

Mendel Stewart, San Diego End Extinction

11:00- 12:30

Session 2: Messaging, Campaign Strategy, and Engagement

Moderator: Renee Owens, Wild Zone Conservation League

Presenters: Peter Andersen, Sierra Club

Renee Owens, Wild Zone Conservation League

Breakout session leaders:

Brian Spitzberg, SDSU, Meaningful Messages for SOS

Masada Disenhouse- Volunteer Engagement

Renee Owens, Wild Zone Conservation League

12:30 LUNCH

Vegan, Climate Friendly lunch Café Gratitude
Networking

AFTERNOON

1:00-2:15

Session 3: Big, System Level Actions

Moderator: Masada Disenhouse, San Diego 350

Presenters: Cody Hooven, City of San Diego
Hasan Ikhata, Executive Director, SANDAG

2:30-3:30

Session 4 Between Fire and Water

Life at the Edges

Moderator: David Grubb, San Diego Sierra Club

FIRE: Rick Halsey, Chaparral Institute

JP Theberge, Grow the San Diego Way

WATER: Matt O'Malley, San Diego Coastkeeper

Julia Chunn-Heer, San Diego Surfrider

3:40-4:20

Session 5: Standing for Action: Local Coordinated Campaigns

Moderator: Laura Hunter, Environmental Center of San Diego

Andrew Meyer, San Diego Audubon, ReWild Mission Bay

Carolina Martinez, Environmental Health Coalition

Maleeka Marsden, Climate Action Campaign

Susan Baldwin, Diane Coombs, Safeguard our San Diego (SOS)

Countryside

4:30 – 6:00

Reception

Local 2020 Campaigns for the Environment

ReWild Mission Bay

In Mission Bay, we have a once-in-a-lifetime opportunity to both restore habitat and create new recreation areas, to both adapt to sea level rise and mitigate climate change, and to improve our public park while using it to clean our water. All these benefits are part of ReWild Mission Bay, a project to restore tidal wetlands in the northeast corner of Mission Bay at the mouth of Rose Creek. We all need more coastal wetlands to improve water quality, increase public access to our shoreline, sequester carbon, provide habitat for endangered species, and make us more resilient to sea level rise. The ReWild Mission Bay project will succeed if we all convince City Council to choose the best option in the City's planning process that is currently underway. We need you to sign up, get involved, and help us push San Diego to seize this opportunity.

<https://rewildmissionbay.org/>

Save Our San Diego (SOS) Countryside Initiative

The SOS Countryside Initiative seeks to provide San Diego County residents a true voting voice in preserving the integrity of the county's long-term land use plans. It requires voter approval of amendments to the General Plan that involve increased residential density, and still facilitates affordable housing. Developers are already fighting this initiative with false claims--voters need to hear the truth, and will need an organized campaign to protect their undeveloped wilderness. This will be voted on March 3, 2020. For more information go to <https://saveoursdcountryside.org/>

San Diego Coastkeeper Multi-Benefit Water Management

For the past thirty years in San Diego, water supply and flood management have been largely managed separately, without coordination or integration. The ongoing legacy of this approach has left our region with siloed, disjointed, and underfunded water management. By integrating stormwater, wastewater, and water supply management, our region can successfully address myriad water quality and water supply challenges and capitalize on the multiple benefits offered by streamlined strategies that improve regional water quality and protect our inland and coastal

watersheds and communities while ensuring local climate resilience and adaptation. We can do better. City and region can increase water security, improve water quality, reduce flood risk and hazards, create green jobs, beautify neighborhoods, build community cohesion, help with climate adaptation and resilience, and meet its Clean Water Act obligations. Green infrastructure in our urban communities can help reduce pollution and flooding, but also establish green spaces such as parks, vegetated medians, and wildlife habitat and other needs. Please help us integrate water management. <https://www.sdcoastkeeper.org/advocacy/one-water-multi-benefit-water-management> and to learn how to get involved contact Matt@sdcoastkeeper.org.

San Diego Green New Deal

The 3rd Edition of the Climate Action Plan Report Card revealed sobering news: The San Diego region is not on track to meet the basic climate targets necessary to secure a safe and livable future. Furthermore, the landmark UN IPCC report released last fall states that we need to go beyond what any of our Climate Action Plans commit to and plan for net-zero emissions. The San Diego Green New Deal is calling for a comprehensive plan for the San Diego region to achieve net-zero emissions by 2045 in a way that promotes justice and equity for workers and frontline communities. To get started, we're growing awareness and support, transforming political power, and implementing policy change. But to change everything, we're going to need everyone. We urge you to join us. Contact maleeka@climateactioncampaign.org

San Diego End Extinction

San Diego Zoo Global's vision to lead the fight against extinction worldwide is taking place right here in San Diego County as well. San Diego End Extinction is a regional initiative, supported by San Diego Zoo Global, to proactively prevent species extinction or extirpation. SDEE is ramping up efforts and soon will announce ways to be involved. Please see <https://www.endextinction.org/wildlife-updates/burrowing-owl-conservation> if you want to learn more about conserving our local species.

San Diego Habitat Conservation Plans

Sierra Club will be campaigning to secure the additional habitat plans for the rest of our county and protect and preserve those that are already in place. Specifically, we will be engaging on the North County MSCP and protection of the quino checkerspot through a South County MSCP amendment in 2020. Please contact George Courser to help at gcourser@hotmail.com or Laura Hunter for North County Group Sierra Club at conservation@sierraclubncg.org

Know Thyself by Reconnecting with Nature

To successfully protect the wild (and the chaparral), we must inevitably change how people relate to the natural world as well as themselves. Otherwise, our actions will be primarily reactive, forcing us to continually battle one environmentally damaging project after another. Therefore, we are developing an educational model that utilizes Nature as not only a place of discovery to help us learn about the natural world, but also to deepen the human experience. In other words, *Nosce te ipsum – Know thyself*. The new educational model will be developed through several new efforts including an updated Chaparral Naturalist Certification Program, quarterly Socratic seminars, and new partnerships with diverse organizations such as the Japanese Friendship Garden and the World Beat Center in Balboa Park. To learn more, please visit: <http://www.californiachaparral.org/natureeducation.html>

Transportation Justice Priorities for the MTS Ballot Measure

Residents in environmental justice (EJ) communities are San Diego Metropolitan Transit System's (MTS) number one customers, but the system does not serve them the way it should. The potential MTS 2020 ballot measure could provide funding to transform inequitable, car-centric San Diego into a model region with an efficient mass public transit network. A successful MTS ballot measure that leads with transportation equity which must:

- Connect EJ communities to jobs
- Make it affordable to ride the bus and trolley
- Ensure San Diego meets regional climate goals
- Include meaningful community engagement

For more information, please contact Carolina Martinez at carolinam@environmentalhealth.org



NOTES AND CONTACTS

**A special Thank You to the generous sponsors
of the 2019 Environmental Leadership Summit**

Golden Eagle

The San Diego Foundation

San Diego Building and Construction Trades Council

Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation

Burrowing Owl

International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, IBEW
Local 569

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San Diego County Democrats for Environmental Action

Quino Checkerspot Butterfly

San Pasqual Valley Preservation Alliance

Preserve Calavera

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North County Advocates

Blue Summit Wealth Management- Sustainable Investing

Café Gratitude