

Save Open Space ✧ P. O. Box 1284 ✧ *Agoura, CA 91376*

SOS continues WORK to PRESERVE the SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS

Ecosystems, wildlife and scenic corridors UPDATE

CHESEBRO MEADOW

Save Open Space/Santa Monica Mountains (SOS) and Old Agoura Homeowners' legal challenge to preserve the Cheseboro meadow from overdevelopment is on hold at this time. When the property owner went into default, the City of Agoura Hills jumped in and bought this property. The legality of this sale is presently in the appeals court over what appears to be a title mistake which missed a loan when the bank auctioned the property. This pristine open space meadow is a critical wildlife corridor. If there is any shortage of money to buy this property, SOS supports using the Calabasas Landfill tipping fee fund. As a result, this property will become permanent open space and also serve as a critical buffer for the Calabasas Landfill.



Photo by Julius Jacyna.
1970s original postcard used in
the campaign to lobby for the
Santa Monica Mountains
National Park and Seashore.

MOUNTAIN LIONS

SOS donated part of the proceeds from the July Art Auction towards the Santa Monica Mountain's Lion Collaring Fund. SOS is fund raising for the production of the first ever pamphlet on the mountain lions of the Santa Monica Mountains.

MALIBU CREEK WATERSHED

Save Open Space has asked the California Coastal Commission to revoke (take back) the permit that the Commission granted which allowed intensive development and uses along Stokes Creek. The Coastal Commission 2011 staff report on this revocation agrees with SOS that the applicant did provide inaccurate, erroneous and/or incomplete information in the application for this permit.

This development is precedent-setting because it violates Los Angeles County's required 100-foot buffer to protect waterways within the boundaries of our Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area. The project also lacks required Los Angeles County Environmental Review Board review, and it violates the Coastal Act's policy of providing the highest protection to Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Areas, such as Stokes Creek and the 23 acres of oak woodlands on the property.

SANTA MONICA MOUNTAINS AND SEASHORE NATIONAL PARK

SOS has initiated a regional effort for Congress to change the name of Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area (SMMNRA) to Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore National Park. This new more descriptive name will help our national park receive more oil company

mitigation funds to purchase resource properties from willing sellers within its boundaries.

101 SCENIC CORRIDOR

SOS has recently been active to keep 101 corridor scenic as a quality gateway to our Santa Monica Mountains national park. Along with Thousand Oaks citizen groups, SOS tried but failed to stop the Auto Mall's proposed garish, flashing precedent setting giant LED electronic billboard.

www.saveopenspace.com

Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area changed to Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore National Park

SOS's has undertaken as one goal to get a name change for our Santa Monica Mountains elevating the worthy Santa Monica Mountains to national park status and also get recognition for our seashore resources.

Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore National Park

The SMMNRA qualifies for national park status due to its unique Mediterranean coastal ecosystem which occurs in only 5 places worldwide. Its **35 million annual visitors** make this park the most visited of all United States national parks.

Additionally, this request is prompted by the urgent need to:

- Protect the integrity of this newly named Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore National Park which is easily accessible to **22 million urban** residents in the greater Los Angeles area.
- Obtain funding from the oil company's mitigation fund (Land and Water) to complete the boundaries of this park with acquisition of critical properties from willing sellers. Due to lack of funding important coastal proper-

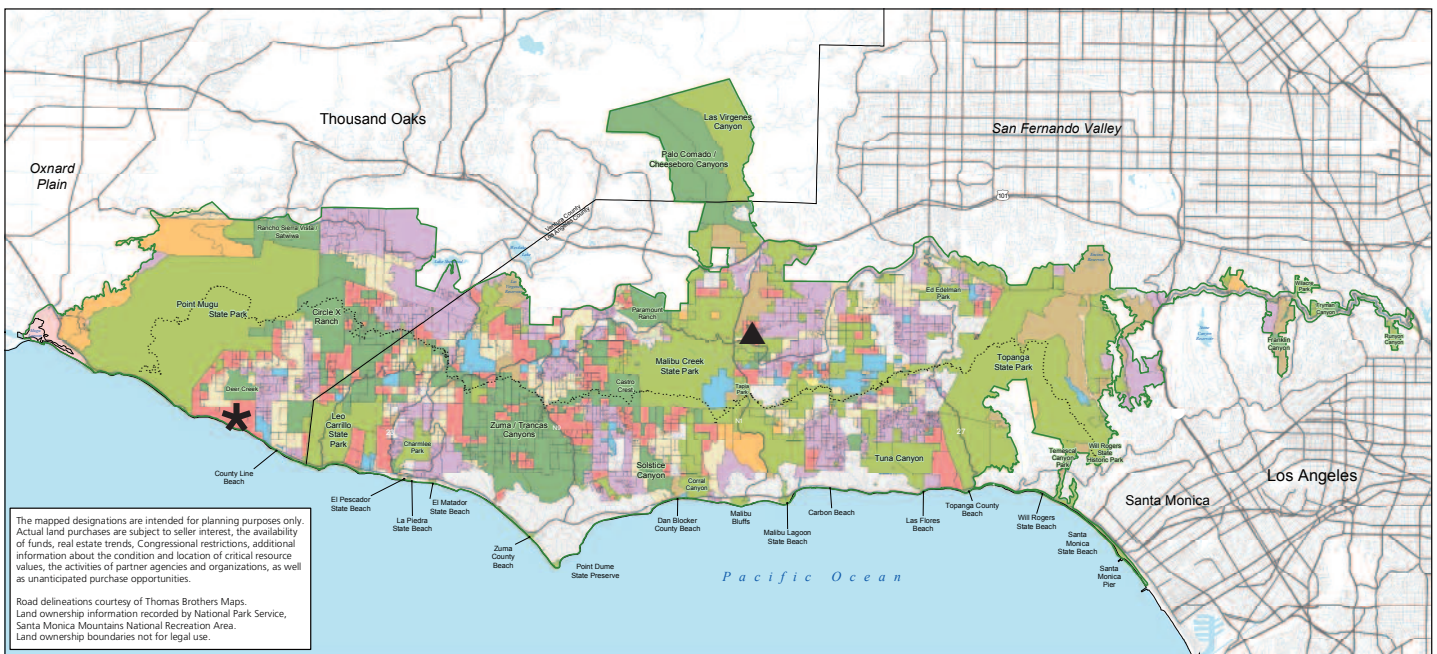
ties with unique resource values remain in private hands. One example is the pristine 1,291 acre Mansdorf property (see * on map below) which needs to be purchased to preserve forever this unique wild rugged coastal Mediterranean ecosystem.

Help Make a Difference!

Please call these federal officials supporting this important name change. If you would rather email check their web sites. Call: President Obama **202-456-1111**; Senator Boxer **202-224-3553**; Senator Feinstein **202-224-3841**; Rep. Gallegly **202-225-5811**; Rep. Henry Waxman **202-225-3976**; Rep. Brad Sherman **202-225-5879**; Rep. Howard Berman **202-225-4695**.

Also tell them that you support the acquisition of the scenic coastal Mansdorf property with oil company mitigation funds. (Land and Water Fund) This Mansdorf property is located along the coast between Pt. Mugu State Park and County Line Beach.

Enjoy the map with our new name change proposal!



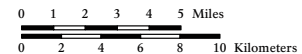
LEGEND

- Santa Monica Mountains National Recreation Area Boundary
- ⋯ Backbone Trail
- National Park Service Land
- National Park Service Easement
- Proposed National Park Service Fee Acquisition Area
- Proposed National Park Service Easement Acquisition Area
- Other Park Land (State, County, and City)
- Other Public Land
- State Conservation Easement Land
- Proposed State Acquisition Area
- Compatible Private Recreation Land
- Cooperative Planning Area
- Military Land
- Developed Area

“Santa Monica Mountains and Seashore National Park” Land Protection Plan



Universal Transverse Mercator, Zone 11N
North American Datum 1983
Scale 1:180,000



Map Produced by SMMNRA GIS
Updated January 2011

This base map is from the NPS/SMMNRA Land Protection Plan with the Save Open Space / Santa Monica Mountains proposed name change.

Action Items ASAP!

Your emails will make a difference in the vote/outcome!

Send to: California Coastal Commission for their June 14 meeting

EMAIL

**Stokes Creek Project, (see ▲ on map page 2)
Help Save the Malibu Creek Watershed!**

Email the Coastal Commission at sgray@coastal.ca.gov and state: "I (We) support Save Open Space's revocation on the R-4-06-163. By state law, the Coastal Commissioners would never have been allowed to vote on the project without a complete and accurate application."

BACKGROUND: Stokes Creek is of utmost importance as an Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area located within the boundaries of the Santa Monica Mountains National Recreational Area. (SMMNRA) This property is listed as high priority "fee acquisition" on the SMMNRA's land protection plan. This Stokes Creek development permit lacked the required approvals from Los Angeles County's Environmental Review Board, the California Department of Fish & Game, and the State Water Resources Control Board. It continues to have huge ramifications on water quality in Stokes Creek which is headwaters for the Malibu Creek Watershed, the geographical feature defining our SMMNRA.

HELP WITH FINANCIAL SUPPORT

Memberships: Mail in a \$20 membership check to SOS in the enclosed envelope. If everyone mails their 2011 membership, then SOS will have the necessary funds to help accomplish our 2011-12 goals.

Tax-Deductible SEE: To help even more, send a tax-deductible donation which goes to SOS's specific Santa Monica Mountain projects. Please write a separate check to SEE (SOS). See www.saveourplanet.org web site for information on SEE which stands for Social & Environmental Entrepreneurs. You will receive a SEE letter for your tax records for any donation over \$50 at the end of the year. Since we are all volunteers, SEE takes care of all the accounting required for tax deductible status and the your donations go directly to SOS's projects.

EMAIL

**Over "the Edge" item,
Help Save Major SMMNRA Coastal View Shed!!**

Email the Coastal Commissioners at: dchristensen@coastal.ca.gov and state: "Vote no on the David Evans development proposal, 5 mansions atop major coastal ridgeline, which violates the California Coastal Act."

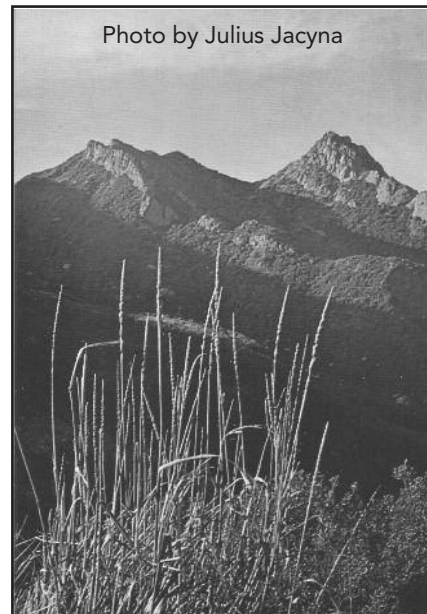
Also click on our Facebook,

<http://www.facebook.com/pages/Edge-Evans-destroys-our-Malibu-Mountains/222262204456114>

BACKGROUND: Dave "The Edge" Evans a member of the band, U2, wants to destroy a major Malibu ridgeline within national park boundaries.

Please help Save Open Space stop this incompatible development within the boundaries of our national park. This development will destroy "the most prominent landform along the coast between Topanga Canyon and Ventura County line," with five mansions at the top of the spectacular Malibu ridgeline.

Photo by Julius Jacyna



Thank you to businesses who have supported SOS

Environmental Land Use Attorneys:

Frank Angel, www.angellaw.com, 310-314-6433

Alyse Lazar, alyselazar.esq@verizon.net,
805-496-5390

Artists:

Tom Gamache, wanderingaroundoutdoors.com

John Perry, www.johnperrystudio.com

Fred Stone, www.fredstone.com

Restaurants:

Latigo Kid, 28914 Roadside Dr. Agoura,
818-889-1195

LadyFace Ale Companie, www.ladyface.com,
29281 Agoura Rd, Agoura, 818-477-4566

Geologist:

Thomas Slosson, 805-579-7833, slidings@aol.com

Appraiser:

Vince Curtis, 818-735-0939,
www.brokerswestappraisal.com
socalappraiser@sbcglobal.net

Local News:

Janna Orkney, www.conejopost.com

Graphic Artist:

Susan L. Wells, DesignWells@earthlink.net



Cort Day, George Colman and Bob Coutts, July 11, 2010

July Art Show: Mark Your Calendars!

The Pastel Society of the Gold Coast (www.pastelsocietyofthegoldcoast.org) will donate 100 percent of raffle funds to SOS during the reception on Sunday, July 10 from 1:00–3:00. Original paintings of beautiful landscapes will be auctioned off. What a win/win for the winners *and* SOS!

Comprised mostly of plein-air artists, these talented pastelists are dedicated to preserving the beauty of unspoiled wilderness.

The 2011 “Passion for Pastels” show is July 2–30 at the Thousand Oaks Community Gallery. The Gallery is located south of the 101 Freeway at the Borchard Road exit and is adjacent to the Newbury Park Branch Library. Free admission. Gallery hours are 11:00–5:00 daily except Mondays. Gallery Phone: (805) 498-4390



JIM WRIGLEY

We at Save Open Space are saddened by the death in March of long-time SOS Board member and treasurer, Jim Wrigley. Jim was a stalwart and dedicated warrior in the cause of preserving the Santa Monica Mountains for us and future generations, and he was a defender of planning law.

Jim bird-dogged harmful Los Angeles County projects for 38 years, making countless trips to downtown L.A. to testify. He could always be depended on to attend meetings and educational events, like our March of Parks events to save Palo Comado Canyon in the 1990's.

Jim had a very strong character and the courage of his convictions, with a willingness to do whatever was necessary to preserve our local mountains. He had a twinkle in his eye as well, and a good sense of humor.

Jim Wrigley's wife, Sidney, offered invaluable help to Save Open Space too. Jim and Sidney frequently hosted our SOS Board meetings, and they put together thousands of our newsletters for mailing.

A little before Jim passed away, he and Sidney moved to northern California to be near their daughter and family. The Wrigleys will be sorely missed, but their contributions to our volunteer efforts to preserve open space in the Santa Monica Mountains will never be forgotten.

What we did in 2010–11

2010

February commented on Calabasas Code Ordinance.

April and throughout the year submitted comments on Rocketdyne issues.

May held a fundraiser with Old Agoura on the Chesebro meadow at Eric and Diane Haupt's house

July worked with the Pastel Society of the Gold Coast for their Art Auction with funding going towards the National Park Service mountain lion collaring program and saving the Chesebro meadow

July (Board meeting items) sent letter to Coastal Commission to set hearing on Malibu Valley Farms, voted to support the acquisition of 1291 acre Mansdorf coastal property, took opposition position to the EDGE development of hill-top mansions within the SMMNRA boundaries impacting major view sheds

September Rancho Potrero (Newbury Park, Thousand Oaks) dedicated as passive open space after SOS's many years of involvement in hearings and Acorn ads to preserve it

November sent in comment letter on the Hilton Foundation buildings in Agoura Hills requesting architecture that blends in with the Lady Face Mountains hills.

2011

January played a major role in trying to preserve Conejo Valley's designated 101 scenic corridor by attempting to get the City of Thousand Oaks City Council to listen to the citizens and not allow the Auto Mall's electronic LED billboard proposal. The vote on this billboard was 4 to 1 with all 4 city council members on record for campaign donations from the Thousand Oaks Auto Mall people.

Go to our website www.SaveOpenSpace.com and click on the emails listed on the newsletter PDF to take action now on all open space issues.

STOP THE BIG BILLBOARD!

TWO GIANT LED SCREENS

(separate 101 eastbound and westbound facing signs)

The proposed precedent-setting sign is prohibited by the Thousand Oaks General Plan:

No advertising displays "shall be placed" within 660 feet of the 101 scenic corridor.

SAY NO TO FLASHING BILLBOARDS!

The proposed moving display is six times the size of the existing sign's time and temperature section.



SAY NO

Tell Thousand Oaks City Council and the Auto Mall: No Electronic Billboard!

Ask them to Postpone the April 26th hearing in order to consider a smaller version of a local architect's sign option without an electronic billboard.

You can make a difference! Call Thousand Oaks City Council at 805-449-2121 and/or email city@toaks.org and email the automotive group at susan.murata@silverstarauto.com

Paid for by: Thousand Oaks Citizens Action Network, 1191 Greenfield, Thousand Oaks, 91360 and Save Open Space, Box 1284, Agoura, 91376

CONSIDER THIS OPTION



Volunteers helped on this ad: Pat and Michael MacGregor (content) and Susan L. Wells (graphics)

Feb sent letter to federal elected officials requesting the renaming of our national park and support of purchase of Mansdorf property

April information shared a booth at Oak Park's Earth Day event with Conejo Post.

May sent letter requesting oil company funds be used to purchase Mansdorf property.

CHECK THIS OUT

Visit http://chil.vcoe.org/eagle_cam.htm and you can watch the new baby bald eagles born on Santa Cruz Island (from our Channel Islands National Park) being fed!



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*“Never doubt tht a small group of con-
cerned people can change the
world.Indeed, it's the only thing that
ever has.” — Margaret Mead*