

CHAPTER ANNUAL ACTIVITIES REPORT

CHAPTER NAME: Channel Islands YEAR: 2004

NAME AND POSITION OF PERSON PREPARING REPORT: David Magney, Chapter President

WE ARE X /ARE NOT _____ REQUESTING A SUBVENTION

OVERVIEW OF CHAPTER - Please describe the main interests of your members, the special successes and problems your chapter encountered this year and anything else you wish to report. Below are a few questions to guide your comments.

What are the main concerns or focus of your chapter?

Our chapter's main concerns include: native plant conservation, locally rare plants, wetland habitats, appropriate uses of native plants in landscaping and habitat restoration sites, invasive exotic weeds, such as Cape Ivy, Spanish Broom, Giant Cane, Knapweed, etc.

What are your chapter's special strengths or accomplishments?

We are a known quantity by many politicians and decisionmakers in Ventura County, less so in Santa Barbara County. We finally got Simi Valley to pay attention to environmental concerns on a small development project. We helped save Ahmanson Ranch from development!

What are the major challenges or problems facing your chapter? A major challenge is recruiting more active members from our membership base. We also need to significantly grow our membership.

Is this an ongoing situation, has it improved or gotten worse, what steps did you take to address the problem and did they help? This is an ongoing problem, it has gotten worse because we have lost our web master, Education Chair, Newsletter Editor, and current active members are filling in these positions as they have time. One of our members is developing a data list of people who have attended events over the last 5 years including information as to whether they would be willing to help the Chapter, including their contact information, especially their email addresses – we plan to use this as an outreach mechanism to contact these members.

CHAPTER ACTIVITIES - please describe the activities sponsored by your chapter, the number of people who attended (both members and non-members), and the approximate number of volunteer hours required to organize these activities. Do not include hours

attending programs or field trips except for those persons leading or organizing them.

1. **Board Meetings: # of meetings/year: 11**
of volunteer hours for officers and chairs to attend: 2 ½ hours per meeting plus driving time; 20 hours/meeting; 220 hours per year

2. **Field Trips: # of trips: Please list locations/destinations**
Ventura River/El Nido Preserve (Ojai Valley), Ventura County – David Magney
Burton Mesa Chaparral at La Purisima Mission, Santa Barbara County – Charlie Blair
Mugu Peak/La Jolla Valley, Ventura County – Ken Niessen
Upper Sisar Canyon, Ventura County – Patt McDaniel
Ahmanson Ranch, Ventura County – Mary Meyer
Piedra Blanca/Twin Forks, Ventura County – David Magney
Thorn Meadows/Cedar Creek, Ventura County – Ken Niessen/Cher Batchelor
Lions Creek, Ventura County – Ken Niessen
La Purisima Mission, Santa Barbara County – Charlie Blair

of participants/trip: ~5-15

of volunteer hours to organize and lead trips:

3. **Programs: # of program meetings:**

Please list subjects and speakers

Propagating Native Plants from Seed and Cuttings – Christopher Bysshe
Chapter Member Slide Night – David Magney et al.
Living on the Edge – Patt McDaniel
Fostering a Connection to our Natural Environment, Ethnobotany of California
Native Plants, An Educational Tool – Karen Osland
Native Plant Identification Workshop – David Magney
Wildlife Corridors and Habitat Linkages – Liz Chattin
Botany of Sweden and Norway – David Magney
The Demise of California's Valley Oak Savannas and Prospects for Conservation and Restoration – Dr. Frank Davis
Site-Specific Revegetation Program for Ventura County – Chris Bysshe
Braunton's Milkvetch, A California Original – Betsey Landis

of attendees/meeting: 15 average

of volunteer hours to organize program meetings: 10 hours per program; 100 hours annually

expenses (e.g. room rental: \$50/program, speaker fees: \$50/speaker honorarium plus housing costs as needed, hospitality supplies):

4. **Newsletter: # of issues/year: 2 Issues in 2004**
of volunteer hours to edit and distribute: 120
annual cost: **\$425/issue; \$1400 cost for 2004 includes annual Non-Profit fees charged by Post Office**
5. **Public Outreach Events: # of events: four**
Please describe the nature of events: Patagonia Salmon Run, Earth Day, Ventura Hillside Conservancy Musical Event Fundraiser
of volunteer hours
of public contacts
6. **Education Efforts: special outreach to teachers or students, grants to grad students; in-service training for teachers; donation of education materials to schools; curriculum development.**
Developing and maintaining one school garden; donation of School Garden book to schools; The Chapter needs an Education Program Volunteer so there was not much education outreach during 2004
#volunteer hours/project
7. **Conservation: # of volunteer hours ~60**
most important issues the chapter has worked on
Continuing development and refinement of locally rare plants of Ventura County. Publish on chapter website of locally rare plant checklists for Ventura County, Santa Barbara County, and Liebre Mountains.
success stories
Camarillo Regional Park proposal for golf course defeated again. Small development in Simi Valley defeated. Ahmanson Ranch development sold to state for conservation purposes instead of being developed.
types of conservation activities (review documents, attend hearings, etc) letter writing, CEQA document review, and planning commission and city council hearings attended (Simi Valley and Santa Barbara County)
coalitions/cooperators worked with
8. **Work Parties: # of work parties _4_**
nature of project(s): **weed removal and restoration**
of participants/volunteer hours
Castor Bean Eradication Work Party (Thousand Oaks) – 16
Broom Bash in Matilija Canyon – 12
Wildflower Seed Collecting – 24
Pierpont School Nature Walk Work Party - 16
9. **Legislative Activity: what issues or bills did your chapter work on**

type of contact (e.g. visits to legislators, written communication, letters to editor, petitions, letter writing campaigns, press conference)
number of each type
of legislative contacts with representatives, staff
of volunteer hours

- 10. Plant Sales/Wildflower Shows: does your chapter have a plant sale? wildflower show? YES, two plant sales per year (Spring and Fall) at Plaza Park in Ventura. Plants supplied by Matilija Nursery.**
of volunteer hours: 60 hours/event/120 hours total
of public attending: 125/event/250 total
% of plants member grown ~1%
any interesting/useful ideas to share

- 11. Other Activities:**