



**MAY, 2015**

# THE WAVE *At Crystal Cove*



Crystal Cove Alliance is the non-profit, cooperating association dedicated to education, restoration, and conservation within Crystal Cove State Park.



## Spotlight

### TERRIFIC PACIFIC: CRYSTAL COVE ALLIANCE PROGRAMMING TO BE FEATURED ON PBS

Tune in on May 22 as PBS' Emmy award winning series, SciGirls, concludes its third season with a feature on CCA's innovative educational programs. Produced in partnership with the National Science Foundation and Twin Cities Public Television, SciGirls aims to challenge the way many girls today think about science.



"We know we need to increase the number of females working in Science and Technology Marine Protected Area Citizen Science Cruise in the episode because of CCA's innovative work in developing excellent STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics) educational programs, which encourage more girls to continue pursuing STEM careers.

Filmed right here in Crystal Cove State Park, the episode "Terrific Pacific" follows the adventures of three Crystal Cove Junior Lifeguards -- Ellah, Taylor and Chloe -- as they explore the wonders of the ocean, one inquiry-based investigation at a time.

To see how Crystal Cove Alliance inspires the next generation of scientists and innovators, tune in on Friday, May 22, at 6am or 6pm on KCLS, channel 38 on Cox TV, for this special segment. Or, visit [\[website link\]](#) to watch a short clip of Terrific Pacific.

## From the Field

### LIZARDS LOVE BEACH DAYS TOO!

With the days getting warmer and summer fast approaching, human beach goers aren't the only ones enjoying the change of pace. Many of Crystal Cove's resident reptiles can now be seen scurrying about in search of the best basking spots (sans beach chairs and umbrellas), proving that reptiles love Crystal Cove's beaches and trails as much as anyone!



One of the most common reptile species that you'll encounter here at Crystal Cove is the Western fence lizard. These beautiful creatures are most recognizable for their bright blue undersides. Harder to spot is the shy and elaborately decorated Alligator lizard. These native

lizards are vital to the overall health of the Crystal Cove ecosystem. They are a part of the natural food web and consume anything they can catch, including Black Widow spiders.

Another lizard that can be found in Crystal Cove, albeit on rare instances, is the Silvery legless lizard. As its name implies, these lizards have no legs and are often confused with snakes. However, they are two different species entirely! Keep your eyes peeled as you visit Crystal Cove this month and see how many of these scaly residents you can spot.

## Making A Difference

### INSPIRING CHANGE THROUGH STUDENT EMPOWERMENT: CRYSTAL COVE ALLIANCE'S NEW MICROFINANCE AND THE ENVIRONMENT PROGRAM LAUNCHES!

Now entering its second year of testing, CCA's *Microfinance & the Environment* curriculum will introduce over 450 high school students to a unique blend of financial literacy and environmental sustainability this spring, using the vehicle of microfinance loans.

Designed by a collaborative partnership between CCA, corporate partner Experian, and local high school teachers, the curriculum uses five classroom lessons to teach students how sustainable local solutions can be catalyzed by microfinance loans – small loans made available to people, often in developing nations, who don't have the credit history to get a traditional loan from a bank. Student teams select microfinance projects that meet their criteria as collective lenders and argue before a panel of experts why their selected projects should be funded. One project from each class is funded for \$250. Last year during the first round of testing, students decided to invest in an environmentally sustainable coffee



farm in Costa Rica that uses traditional Mayan farming techniques.

One of the early adopters of the curriculum was Debbie Miyamoto's AP Biology class from San Juan Hills High School. There, students became exposed to the environmental and societal challenges that the rest of the world faces, but most importantly they learned that they have the power to make a difference.

"This program is important because it gives students an opportunity to help make our planet more sustainable," says Debbie. "It's more rewarding to them because it's not just an assignment, it's real and it really makes a difference in someone else's life."

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## Then and Now

### PARADISE ON FILM

Crystal Cove has served as the perfect backdrop for many of Hollywood's films since the 1920s, beginning with the now presumed lost film, *Treasure Island*. From silent black-and-white pictures to the first talkies, there have been many subtle nods to the cove's beautiful landscape over the years.

Desired for its unspoiled beaches, most prominently between the 20s and 30s, Crystal Cove became the unofficial choice for shooting stories about shipwrecks and tropical islands. To do this, film crews built small

thatched huts and trucked palm trees down from Los Angeles nurseries. The trees thrived in the coastal climate and became part of the ambiance. As filming would come to a close, some of the "huts" were left behind and eventually took on lives of their own as the earliest vacation rentals. Today, Crystal Cove still maintains that same beauty that originally



captivated filmmakers. With the area attracting more visitors each year, filming at the cove has taken on a whole new meaning. Now, videos are shot and created by beachgoers themselves. Here are a few YouTube clips showcasing the talents of these new directors:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=67tKukNkc0s>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFCHysS\\_k60](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UFCHysS_k60)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hIUX6tL8lol>

[https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VioY\\_cGv6Ds](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VioY_cGv6Ds)

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## Become a Member

Our partners are all in this together! For as little as \$50, you can become a member of Crystal Cove Alliance.

Our new program includes benefits such as discounts at the Park Interpretive Store, invitations to special events, a one-day parking pass, up to four shuttle passes, the CCA monthly newsletter and lots more.

Don't miss out – sign up today as a new member to be entered into a drawing for a two-night stay for two in a Crystal Cove cottage!



**CRYSTAL COVE  
ALLIANCE**

*Where we Preserve the Past,  
Enjoy the Present and  
Educate for the Future*