

Crystal Cove CONSERVANCY

Annual Report 2017-2018



23 sea stars identified by citizen scientists

495 butterflies of 26 different species counted by volunteers

2 great horned owls and 2 owlets fledged in the spring



BY THE NUMBERS

1,150

2,400

PROTECTED ACRES IN CRYSTAL COVE

3.2

46

17

COTTAGES PLACED ON THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES

COTTAGES LEFT TO BE RESTORED

STUDENTS PARTICIPATING IN CRYSTAL COVE CONSERVANCY'S EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

5,300

PROPORTION OF STUDENTS
FROM UNDERSERVED SCHOOLS

63%

TOTAL NUMBER OF FIELD TRIPS

116

NUMBER OF PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

56

INCREASE IN EDUCATIONAL PROGRAMS

18%

TOTAL STUDENTS WHO HAVE PARTICIPATED SINCE 2009

20,000

\$1,799,000

INVESTMENT IN IMPROVEMENTS AND MAINTENANCE
WITHIN CRYSTAL COVE STATE PARK

Front cover: The striking iridescent shell of the abalone has long held significance to the people of Crystal Cove. The Acjachemen Indians traded them and used them as a food source, and today, continue to use their shells as decoration and to burn incense during ceremonies. During the 1940s and 1950s, the Coveites living in the Historic District would collect them while diving and hold huge cookouts on the beach. After nearly becoming extinct in the 1970s, Southern California's protected abalone population is starting to slowly rebound due to conservation efforts. The resilience of our local abalone represents our hope for a sustainable future for Crystal Cove.

LETTER FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

The subtle changes of the four seasons were marked at Crystal Cove State Park by the many accomplishments of 2018. Two million visitors left the hustle and bustle of everyday life behind to come to Crystal Cove State Park to absorb the majestic beauty of the coastline and vastness of the ocean's panoramic views and changing scenes.

The winter rains cast a quiet time from a visitor perspective, but the pitter patter of rain drops catalyzed life back into the plants throughout the Park. Spring's bursting blooms and flowers were accompanied by thousands of students who participated in our outdoor classroom and laboratory, either in the Michael and Tricia Berns Environmental Study Loop within Moro Canyon or out on the ocean in the Crystal Cove State Marine Conservation Area, just offshore from our 3.2 miles of pristine coastline. Summer brought visitors in droves, as some chose to participate in all the recreational activities Crystal Cove State Park has to offer, while others spent a lazy day in the sun making lifetime memories with friends and family. The fall's strong tides and waves took away the built-up sand the gentler summer waves had deposited on the beach, exposing sea glass for the most avid hunter to locate. Through the year, our Wednesday community events remained open to all, providing classes on sea glass jewelry making, environmental science activities, and tide pool tours to further the knowledge of this natural resource we are so lucky to have and cherish in our own backyard.

As the organization working in partnership with California State Parks, we are the ambassadors that re-invest your donations directly into the Park and our educational programs. Crystal Cove Conservancy ensures your dollars are put to good use as we focus on the education, preservation and conservation of this precious resource.

It's the support from all of you – our members and neighbors and friends – that has transformed Crystal Cove's sepia-toned history into something bright and vivid that matters even more today. Still Orange County's best-kept secret, Crystal Cove State Park has now become our biggest outdoor classroom, with thousands of students from dozens of schools across Southern California visiting each year. As these students step off their school bus, they step into the shoes of ecologists, environmental scientists and marine biologists. They send underwater cameras down to explore the depths of our State Marine Conservation Area, puzzle over problems in the living laboratory of our backcountry, and realize that this special place belongs to them, too.

So, whether you love the historic cottages that colorfully dot the coastline, the numerous recreational opportunities, the undeveloped shoreline, or the educational programming that inspires a new generation of leaders, Crystal Cove has it all and remains a special place on the map and in our hearts.



Sincerely,

Alix Dunn
President & CEO
Crystal Cove Conservancy and
Crystal Cove Management Company

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Central Sector Superintendent, Orange Coast District, California State Parks

Our Mission...

As the nonprofit partner of Crystal Cove State Park, Crystal Cove Conservancy is committed to supporting important preservation, education and conservation initiatives that will cultivate our future environmental leaders and ensure that Crystal Cove, and all places like it, live on for generations.

Preservation

Crystal Cove State Park is one of Orange County's most iconic destinations, giving visitors a glimpse into the past of simpler times along California's coast. Crystal Cove Beach Cottages remain an extremely coveted destination due to their nature as a low-cost, affordable accommodation. This year, over 21,000 visitors were able to enjoy sun, salt air and family by staying overnight in one of the 24 charming historic cottages.



Photo: J. Christopher Launi

The Conservancy's Heritage Legacy Project for California represents the final phase needed to complete our vision for Crystal Cove State Park, resulting in the restoration of the remaining 17 historic cottages along the Historic District's North Beach. When remaining funds are raised and the project is completed, it will double overnight occupancy at the park, resulting in an additional 22,000 nights available to the public. This project will provide funding for a sustainable future for Crystal Cove State Park and Crystal Cove's Historic District.

Conservation

This past year, Crystal Cove Conservancy partnered with UC Irvine, State Park natural resource managers, committed volunteers, and thousands of local students to support conservation and restoration efforts in Crystal Cove State Park. One of our most important and unique partners were the 600 fifth grade students who took part in Project CRYSTAL, which immersed them in investigating how best to protect Crystal Cove State Park's Moro Canyon. Participating students helped to restore an acre of land near the Michael & Tricia Berns Environmental Study Loop, while collecting data and analyzing which restoration strategies are the most effective. Findings from student-collected data have helped us develop new knowledge about restoration that can be applied throughout our park and other open spaces.

Crystal Cove Conservancy also supported Crystal Cove State Park's conservation efforts through several wildlife monitoring projects. This year, butterfly monitoring volunteers spent over 120 hours hiking along transects in Moro Canyon as they identified and counted native butterflies, an important indicator of ecosystem health. Students from Orange Coast College also partnered with The Conservancy to bring a countywide owl limpet monitoring program to Crystal Cove State Park's tidepools. By tracking how populations of different species are changing over time, we can help understand how Crystal Cove State Park's ecosystems may be impacted by future environmental changes.



Education

Over 2,400 high school and junior high school students ventured aboard fishing vessels this past school year to explore and study Crystal Cove's State Marine Conservation Area. Many had the opportunity to witness the blow of a gray whale or enjoy common dolphin frolic alongside the boat. They were all able to take part in scientific monitoring by testing the ocean's water quality, using underwater cameras to study local fish species, and collecting and identifying plankton samples under a microscope. For some of those students, this field trip had a lasting impact. One student told us in a post-program survey that "having this cool experience inspired me to want to go into environmental science." He was not alone. One third of the students who participated in our post-program assessments indicated that the Marine Protected Area Science Cruise program had impacted their future career choice or made them more interested in considering a career in science.

Because of supporters like you, 63% of our students came from Title 1 and underserved schools in Santa Ana, Anaheim, Costa Mesa, Placentia, and other local cities. Teachers commonly tell us that without the scholarship support we provide, they would be unable to bring their students to participate in these life-changing programs.



WHO SAID THE PROGRAM INFLUENCED THEIR CAREER OR COLLEGE CHOICES

PERCENTAGE OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS WHO THOUGHT THAT SCIENCE WAS INTERESTING AFTER PARTICIPATING

WHO SAID THIS WAS THEIR FIRST TIME TO TAKE PART IN REAL SCIENCE

Art in the Park

Preserving the spirit of the past is an important part of Crystal Cove Conservancy's mission. Along with the charming overnight cottage rentals, The Conservancy is committed to keeping Crystal Cove State Park's rich history of plein air art alive. Artists, including those from the famous colony in Laguna Beach, were among the very first visitors to Crystal Cove in the early twentieth century. Early impressionist painters helped to document the landscape for the joy and education of future generations.

This year, The Conservancy carried on Crystal Cove's artistic traditions by hosting plein air painting classes for a record-breaking 180 participants and partnering with Crystal Cove State Park to host our second annual Art in the Park spring event. Forty local artists also participated in two art shows put on by The Conservancy's Park Interpretive Store & Gallery, raising over \$14,000 to support our mission. Through this work, new generations are discovering the importance of capturing the beauty of Crystal Cove onto canvas.

Accessibility

Our state parks belong to all Californians. Crystal Cove Conservancy is committed to ensuring that everyone, even non-traditional park visitors, have access to the beauty and charm of Crystal Cove. In 2018, we helped to bring low-vision senior groups to Crystal Cove's Historic District, exploring the area's charm through touch, sound and feel. We also continued our commitment to make the Park accessible to low-income and underserved youth, partnering with State Park staff and the Santa Ana Police Athletic and Activity League to bring 100 at-risk youth from Santa Ana to spend a week at the beach during Camp Cove.



Our Impact on Learners

PERCENTAGE OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

PERCENTAGE OF HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS

95%

75%

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position June 30, 2018

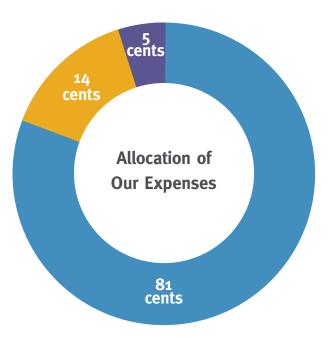
ASSETS		
ASSETS		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 961 , 895	
Investments in U.S. treasury bills	5,802,957	
Accounts and pledges receivable	195,123	
Inventory	41,908	
Prepaid expenses	2,332,150	
Property and equipment, net	51,318	
Endowment investments	633,040	
TOTAL ASSETS	\$10,018,391	
LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		
ETABLETTIES AND NET ASSETS		
LIABILITIES		
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	542,576	
Deferred revenue	880,198	
Total liabilities	1,422,774	
COMMITMENTS AND CONTINGENCIES		
NET ASSETS		
Unrestricted		
Board-designated for restoration activities	52,462	
Board-designated endowment	65,824	
Undesignated	2,556,336	
Total unrestricted	2,674,622	
Temporarily restricted	5,920,995	
Total net assets	8,595,617	
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	\$10,018,391	

Statement of Activities For the year ending June 30, 2018

	Unrestricted	Temporarily Restricted	Total
Revenue and support:			
Pledges and contributions	\$326,553	\$200,297	\$526,850
Special events	332,398	328,179	660,577
Memberships	107,532		107,532
Interpretive store revenue, net of cost of	goods		
sold of \$244,013	288,091		288,091
Cottage rental income	1,307,462		1,307,462
Concessionaire income	1,474,310		1,474,310
Investment income, net	60,872	31,463	92,335
Other income			
In-kind contributed services	272,745		272,745
Net assets released from restriction	1,546,425	(1,546,425)	
Total revenue and support	5,716,388	(986,486)	4,729,902
Expenses:			
Program			
Concessionaire activities	1,897,707		1,897,707
Interpretive activities	695,152		695,152
Restoration activities	1,116,604		1,116,604
Cottage operations	1,105,599		1,105,599
Total program expenses	4,815,062	-	4,815,062
Administrative	295,946		295,946
Fundraising expenses	808,541		808,541
Total expenses	5,919,549	-	5,919,549
Change in net assets	(203,161)	(986,486)	(1,189,647)
Net assets, beginning of year	2,877,783	6,907,481	9,785,264
Net assets, end of year	\$2,674,622	\$5,920,995	\$8,595,617
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS		\$10,018,391	

Footnote: The decrease in net assets for the year was due to spending down dollars raised in previous years to prepare for restoration of the North Beach Cottages.

At Crystal Cove Conservancy we are committed to using funds responsibly.



What this means is for every dollar spent:

81 cents goes to Educational and Interpretive Programming

14 cents goes to Fundraising

5 cents goes to Management and General Expenses

The national benchmark is 75% for Programming.

We are putting your hard earned dollars to good use!

- Educational & Interpretive Programming
- Fundraising
- Management & General Expenses

In January of this year we launched a capital campaign to restore the final 17 cottages on the North Beach. This Heritage Legacy Project for California is the final phase that completes our long-awaited vision of a preserved Crystal Cove State Park and creates a sustainable future for the Park. On October 1, 2018 we reached an important milestone in the campaign achieving a halfway point - \$19M – in donations and pledges.

As a result, we will be embarking on a two-year infrastructure and site preparation construction project of the North Beach. In the coming two years we will continue our fundraising initiatives to complete the goal to raise another \$19M for the historic preservation of the 17 cottages.

As founding supporters of the Heritage Legacy Project for California we are pleased to acknowledge gifts over \$25,000 from the following:

North Beach Pledges & Donations Through 10/1/18

Dan and Rosalie Gee

Anonymous
California Coastal Commission
Eva and Doug Le Bon
WWW Foundation - In honor of M.H. Whittier
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Jennifer Steele and Jay Bauer - In memory of Vivian Vance Taft Laura Tarbox

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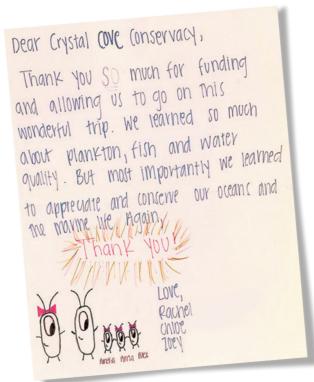
Laura Davick Doug Grossman Carol Fallon Judith d'Albert Eric Steen





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Lifetime Giving

Donors who have given \$25,000 or more in their lifetime are listed with their cumulative giving totals.

\$1 Million and Above

Anonymous Michael and Tricia Berns California Coastal Commission California Cultural and Historical Endowment Calfornia State Coastal Conservancy

\$500.000 - \$999.000

Anonymous Gardner Grout Foundation Eva and Doug Le Bon

\$250.000 - \$499.000 Laura Davick

Hillary Kaye, HKA, Inc. Marketing Communications Massen Greene Foundation Samueli Foundation The Beachcomber Cafe The Resort At Pelican Hill University of California, Irvine

\$100.000 - \$249.000

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\$50,000 - \$99,000

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Fostering Executive Leadership Nancy and Arn Youngman

\$25,000 - \$49,000

Wylie and Bette Aitken Allergan Foundation William and Angela Ashmore Jay Bauer and Jennifer Steele Al Bennett and Rudi Berkelhamer Rick and Diana Boufford Glenn Bozarth Christine Carr Comerica Private Banking Cox Cares Croul Family Foundation Diana Lu and Gareth Evans First Foundation Bank Fuscoe Engineering Rosalie and Dan Gee Karol and Michael Gottfredson Bonnie Gregory Bert Gross Jackson Lewis P.C. Barbara and Greg MacGillivray McKenna Auto Group Gregg Miller Neiman Marcus

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July 1, 2017 - June 30, 2018

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Annual Giving

\$10.000 to \$24.999

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Jim Randerson Michelle and Kerwin Walters Windes Audit/Tax Advisory Wohl Family Fund Jim Woodark Edna and Felix Yan Caroline Zimmerman

\$500-\$999

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Crystal Cove Conservancy

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awaiting restoration. Crystal Cove Conservancy turned to the community and raised \$19M to start the infrastructure renovations. \$19M is still needed to complete the historic restoration of these beloved gems, completing the vision of a sustainable Crystal Cove State Park, full public access, twice the affordable overnight stays and educational programs just steps from the ocean.

Get In Touch

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