

# Virtual 30x30 Workshop 2 of 8



**Local Conservancy Funding Opportunities**  
There are 10 state conservancies under the California Natural Resources Agency and several of them include lands and waters in Southern California. This workshop focuses on the Southland Conservancies and their respective funding programs and priorities, which make funds available for organizations like yours to apply.

**Thursday, May 25, 2023**  
**10 - 11:30 am | Zoom Webinar**



**GREG**  
**Gauthier**  
State Coastal  
Conservancy



**JIM**  
**Karpiak**  
Coachella Valley  
Mountains Conservancy



**RORIE**  
**Skei**  
Santa Monica Mountains  
Conservancy



**CAN'T MAKE IT?**  
All workshops will be recorded and uploaded to FHBP's YouTube channel.



**ACCESSIBILITY / INCLUSION**  
All workshops include Spanish interpretation and closed captioning.

**FREE, BUT REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED**



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# Presentation Abstracts

Thursday, May 25, 2023  
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**GREG**  
Gauthier

## State Coastal Conservancy Funding Opportunities & Programs

The presentation will cover the State Coastal Conservancy's (SCC) 2023 – 2027 Strategic Plan, and SCC funding programs, priorities, and grant opportunities. It will further present SCC's climate resilience initiatives and how these support the state's 30x30 goals to use conservation of natural areas to protect biodiversity and combat climate change.



**JIM**  
Karpiak

## Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy Funding Opportunities & Programs

Jim's presentation will begin with an overview of how the Conservancy is expanding its acquisition program from one that formerly focused on habitat conservation alone to one that achieves 30x30 objectives with an emphasis on expanding equity in access to outdoor amenities. He will describe the partnership approach taken among Coachella Valley conservation organizations, with examples of how it has maximized the benefits of various local government, state and federal programs, as well as the use of private donors. Then he will explain the Conservancy's four major funding programs that support land acquisition, restoration and water related improvements, recreational endeavors and climate change programs, detailing eligibility requirements, application steps and timelines, and available technical assistance.



**RORIE**  
Skei

## Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Funding Opportunities & Programs

The Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy has, through direct action, grants, and partnerships, preserved well over 80,000 acres of open space parkland in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties within its jurisdiction, the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy Zone, and Rim of the Valley Trail Corridor. It also plans and develops trails and urban nature parks, restores and connects wildlife habitat, provides planning and restoration for the Upper Los Angeles River Watershed and Tributaries, and promotes recreational access for all communities (including access to Malibu beaches). SMMC can grant state bond funds it receives to agencies, non-profits, and tribes. Proposition 1 and 68 are two such measures. SMMC has funded land acquisition, restoration, project planning and design, fire resiliency, and park improvements.





# Presenter Biographies

Thursday, May 25, 2023  
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**GREG**  
Gauthier

## State Coastal Conservancy

Greg Gauthier is a Deputy Regional Manager for the State Coastal Conservancy, South Coast Region. He has been with the Conservancy since 2006. Prior to that, he was a Manager and Task Force Coordinator for the Southern California Wetlands Recovery Project. He is a marine and wetland scientist with a passion for California's coast, mountains, and deserts. He holds degrees from the University of Wisconsin and The Johns Hopkins University.



**JIM**  
Karpiak

## Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy

Jim Karpiak has served as Executive Director of the Coachella Valley Mountains Conservancy since May 2013. The Conservancy is a state agency that seeks to preserve open space and conservation land in the Coachella Valley and its surrounding mountains, along with providing for public recreational and educational activities on those lands. He oversees the Conservancy's land acquisition, management and restoration work, as well as its grant programs that provide funding to local public agencies and non-profits that support the Conservancy's mission. Previously, Jim served as a city and public agency attorney in Northern California with a focus on conservation-related real estate matters such as open space acquisitions, land donations, mitigation banking, easements for public purposes such as trails and developing visitor-serving facilities. In addition, Jim has substantial planning and land use experience, including work in CEQA compliance and the preparation of habitat conservation and trail plans.



**RORIE**  
Skei

## Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy

Rorie Skei has served the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy (SMMC) in several capacities since 1983, first as the City of Thousand Oaks appointee to the SMMC Advisory Committee, then representing the County of Ventura on the SMMC Board, then as staff to the Mountains Recreation and Conservation Authority (MRCA), and by 1998 as Conservancy staff. As Conservancy Chief Deputy Director since 2002, Ms. Skei oversees grants, acquisitions, park development; planning partnerships with local, state and federal governments; and resource protection of the 80,000+ acres of parklands that have been preserved for the public to date. She represents SMMC and MRCA on the executive team overseeing the landmark Wallis Annenberg Wildlife Crossing project, a land bridge over the 101 Freeway at Liberty Canyon in Agoura Hills. She also represents the agencies on Southern California fire resiliency collaboration and efforts.

