

AP Final Portfolio

Katelyn Kurzeja, 2026

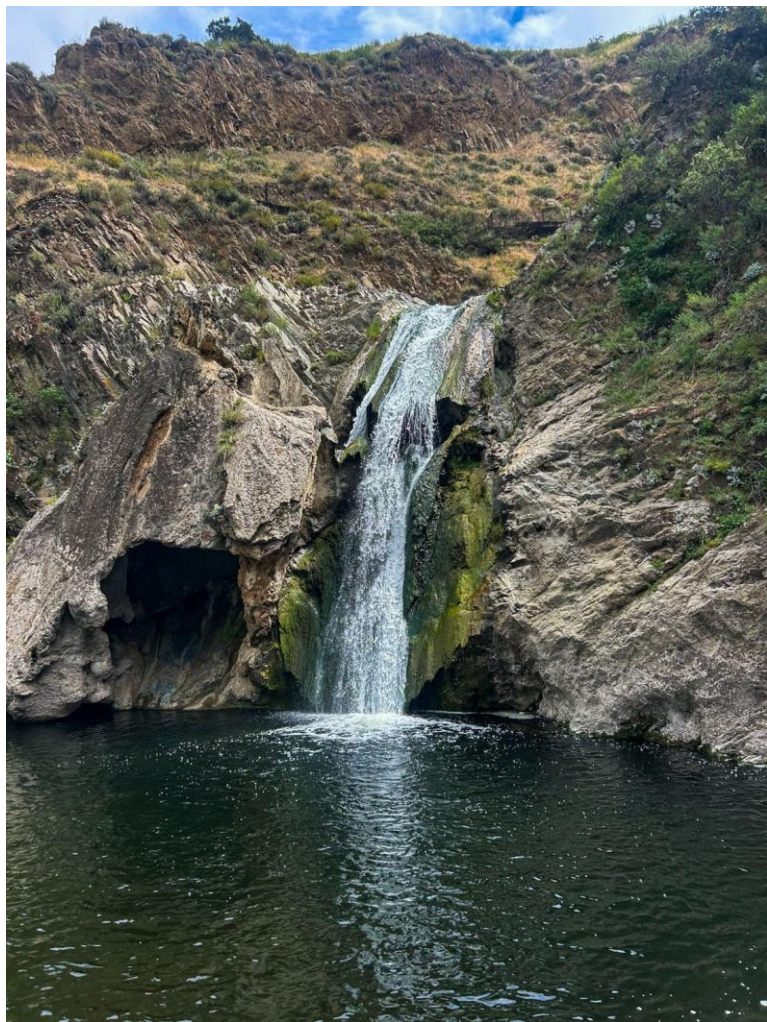
Sustained Investigation

Written Evidence

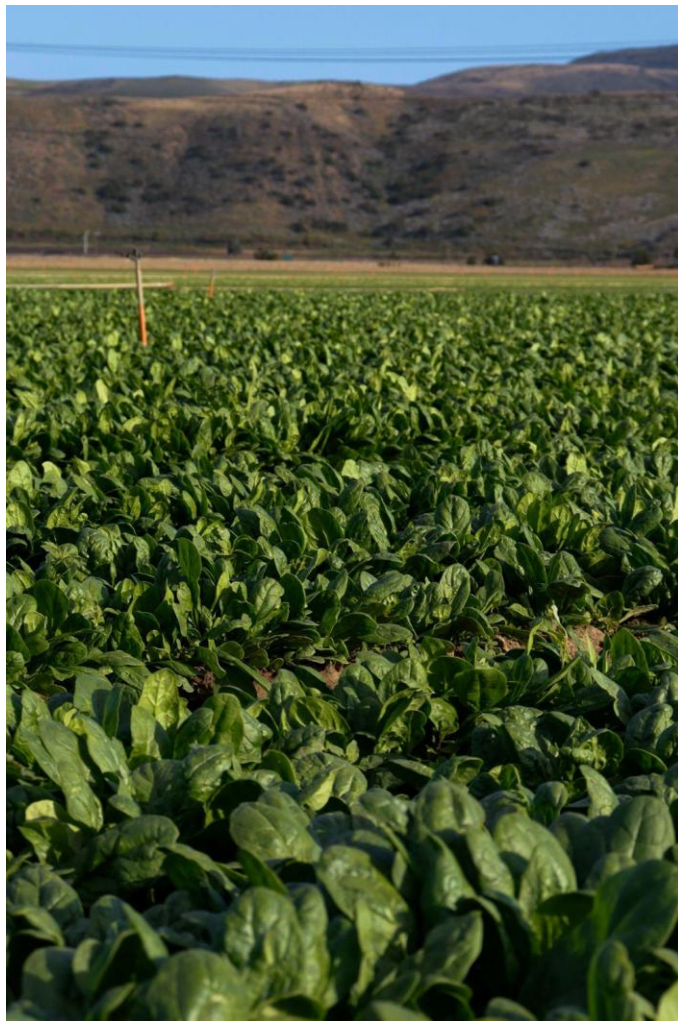
In today's age, people get so caught up in the internet, politics, and consumerism, they often forget the beauty of the natural world. For my sustained investigation, I decided to photograph the diverse landscapes of California. I did this in order to highlight the various environments California provides, and the emotional relationship between individuals and nature. Even though it is a very desirable place to live, residents often take the beauty for granted. Through my photos, I captured the physical beauty of the landscape to encourage appreciation for all that California has to offer.

By experimenting with different lighting techniques and compositions in various areas of California, I capture physical beauty. Through practicing, I was able to improve my skills regarding framing and editing. I also learned when the best time of day was to shoot in order to capture a certain mood. Image #1 is shot at an iconic location, the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH), while images #2-14 are shot all over various parts of CA, displaying waterfalls, agriculture, mountains, snow, lakes, & beaches. Image #15 is shot at the PCH, to create a cohesive effect of the various landscapes of CA.



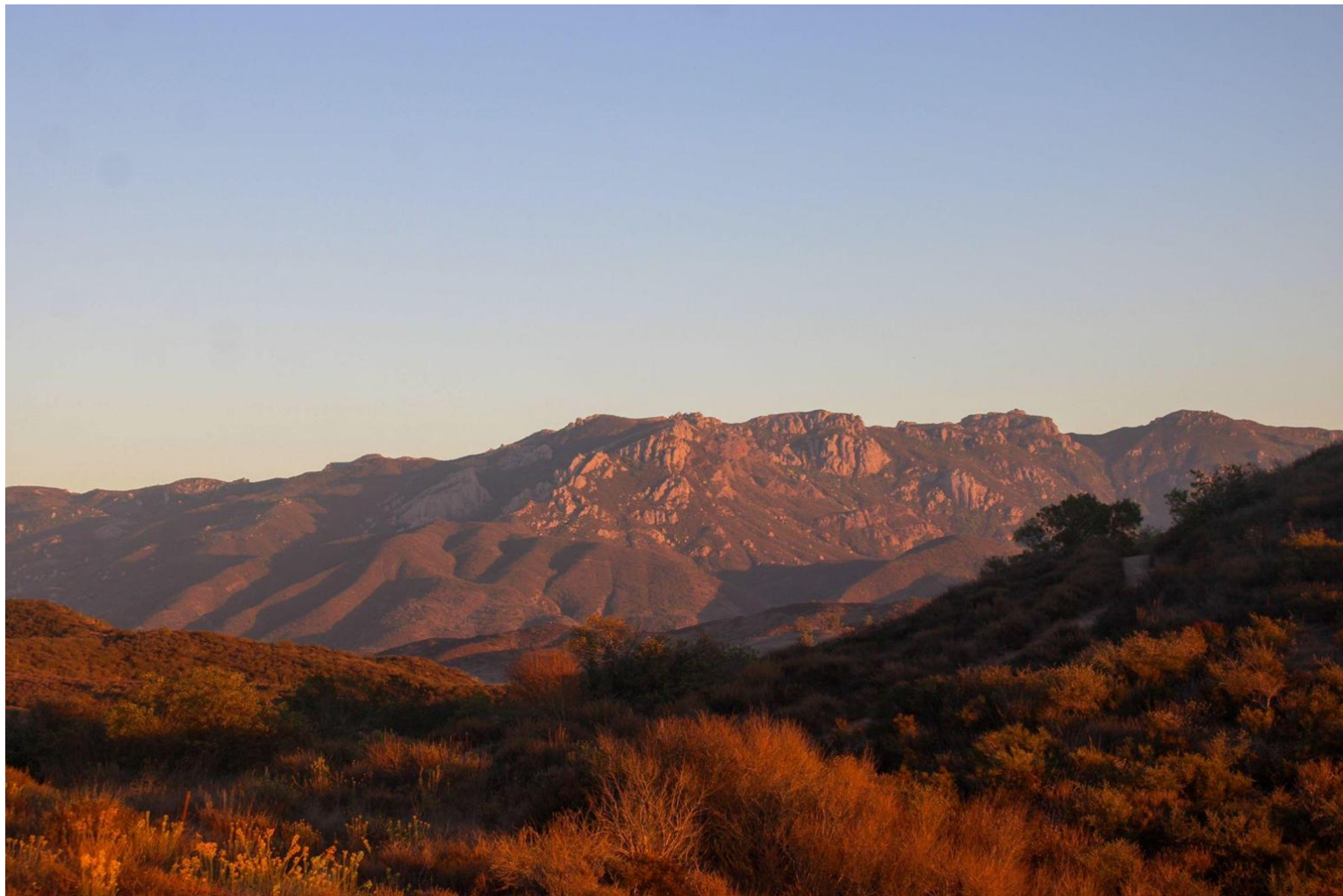




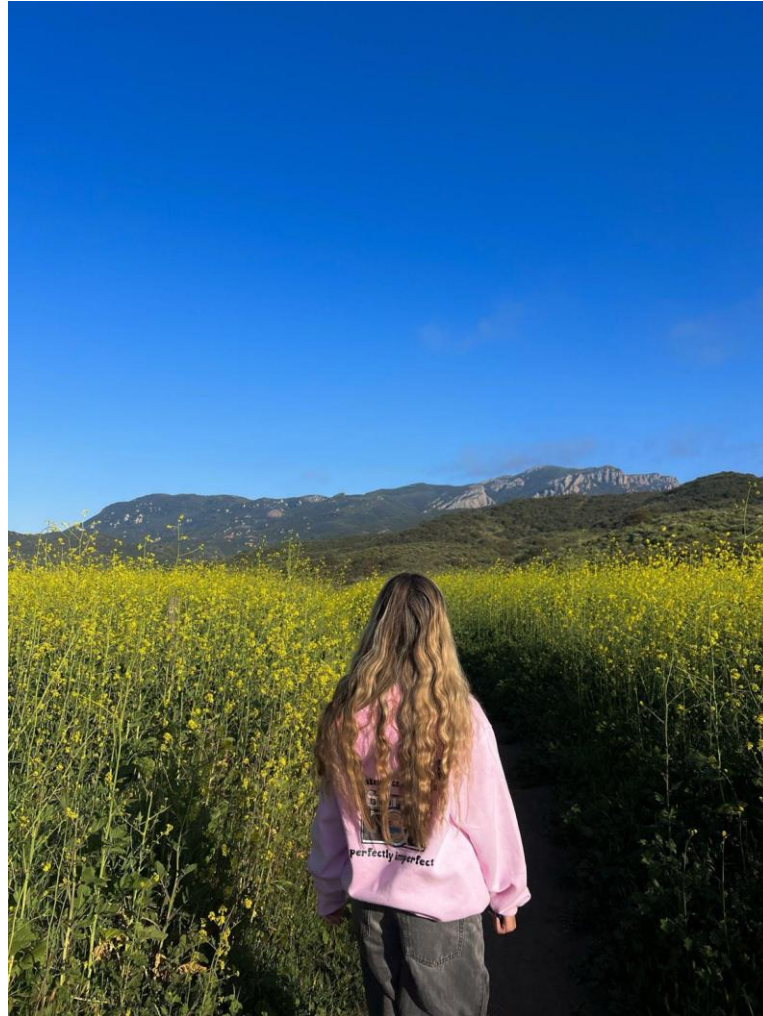


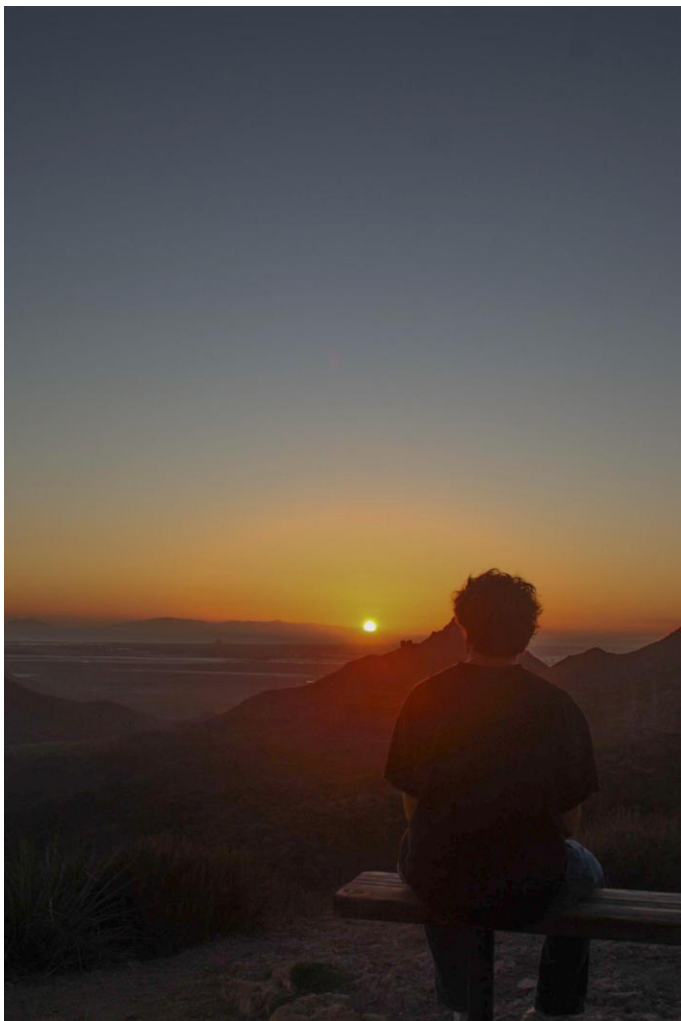








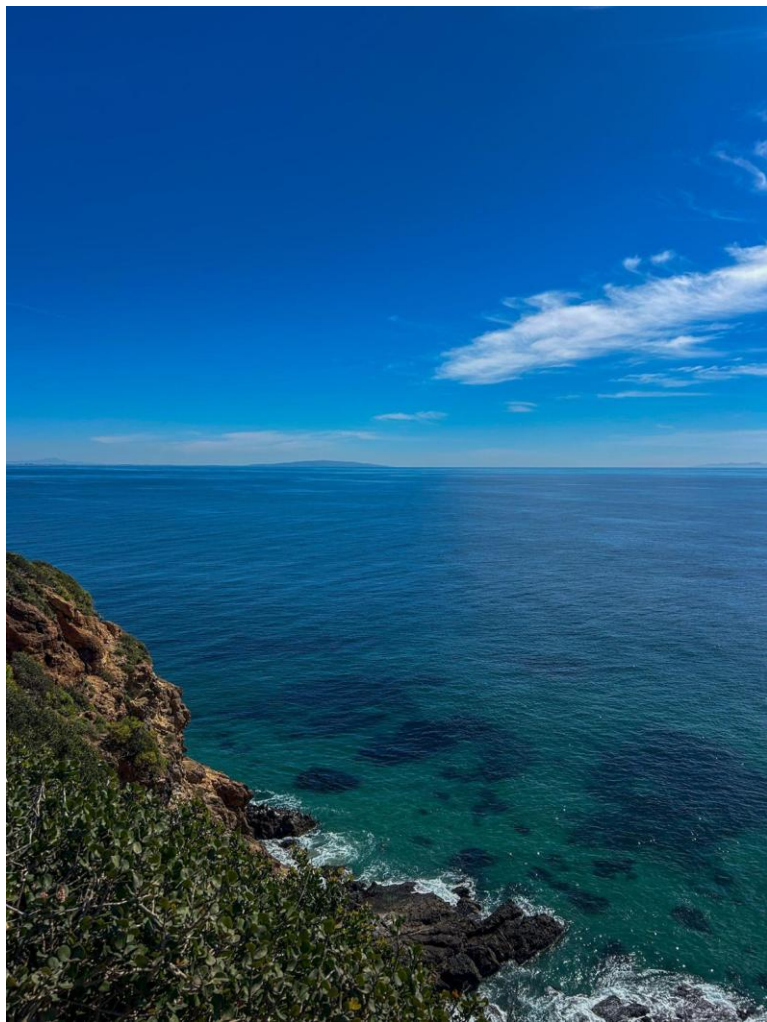


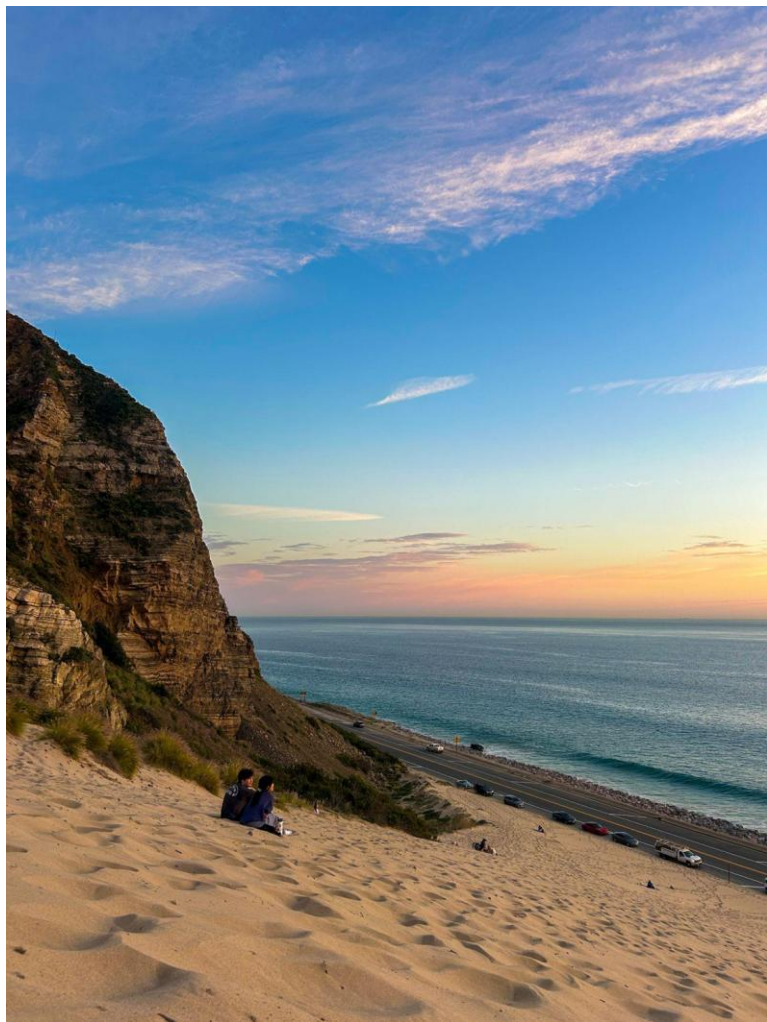










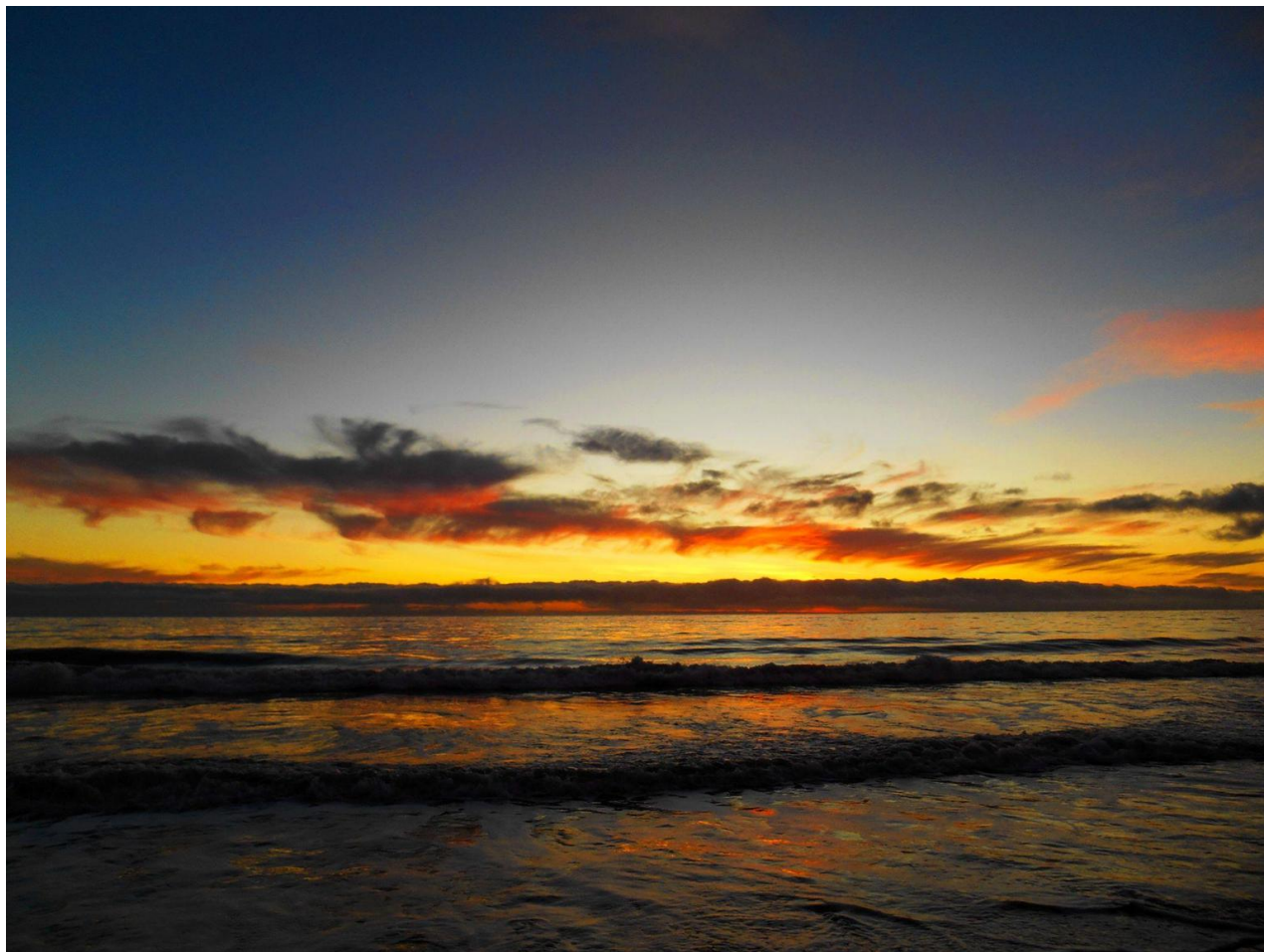


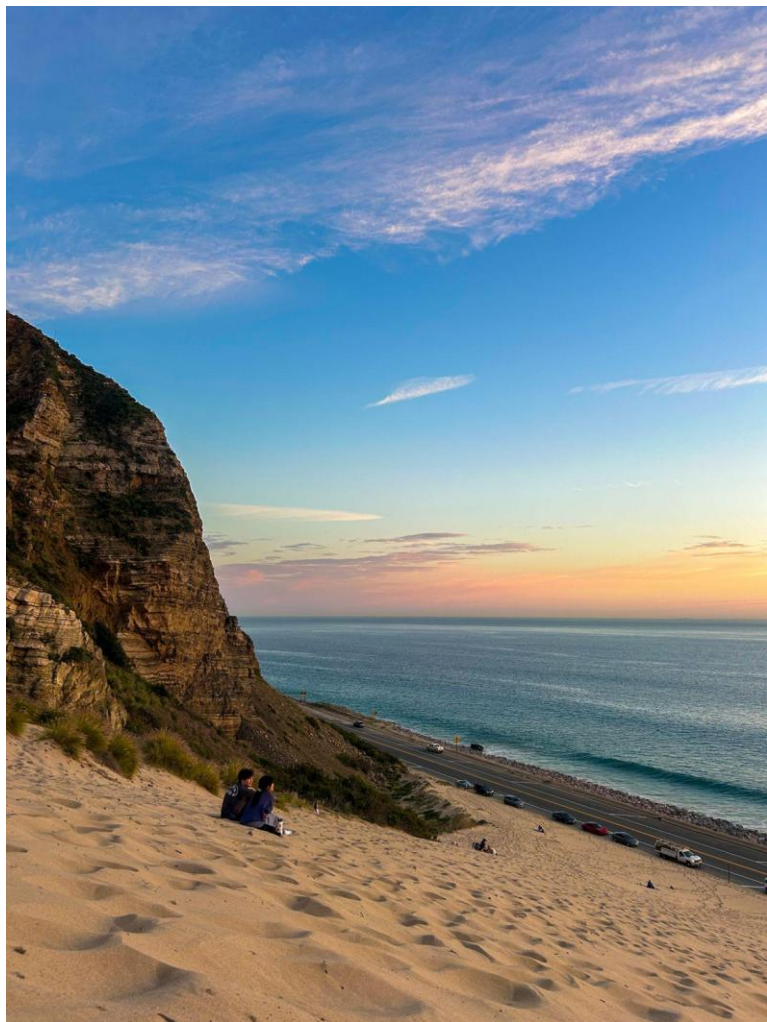
Select Works











Text for Sustained Investigation Images

1. Material(s) *Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, saturation tool, contrast tools, vibrancy tool
2. Material(s) * Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool
3. Material(s) *Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool
4. Material(s) * Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool
5. Material(s) * Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool
6. Material(s) * Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, coloring tool, filter
7. Material(s) * Photoshop, DSLR camera, Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool, tint adjustment
8. Material(s) * Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, filter, touch up tool
9. Material(s) * Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool, coloring tools
10. Material(s) * Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) * Contrast tool, lighting adjustment
11. Material(s) *Photoshop, digital camera/ Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, coloring tools
12. Material(s) *Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, coloring tools, eraser tool
13. Material(s) *Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool
14. Material(s) *Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, coloring tools
15. Material(s) * Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool

Text for Select Works

1. Idea(s) *I wanted to display an iconic California location (The Pacific Coast Highway)/ Material(s) *Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, saturation tool, contrast tools, vibrancy tool
2. Idea(s) *I wanted to capture the beauty of California's agriculture, and the resources it provides / Material(s) *Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool
3. Idea(s) * I wanted to capture the natural beauty and peaceful mood of Yosemite Valley, CA. / Material(s) * Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, coloring tool, filter
4. Idea(s) * I wanted to capture the way the sunlight reflects on the ocean, and the relationship between them. / Material(s) * Photoshop, DSLR camera / Process(es) *Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool
5. Idea(s) * I wanted to capture the beauty and enjoyment that nature provides for humans / Material(s) * Photoshop, digital camera / Process(es) * Levels adjustment, contrast tool, saturation tool.