



Photo by Luke Butcher

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Sammi Butler

Living on an ranch surrounded by the Los Padres National Forest, Sammi Butler is known for her upbeat attitude, friendly demeanor, and ability to organize a great party. Working with many businesses to set up Papyrus Fine Paper displays, Sammi is locally known as the avocado lady, and sells delicious avocados to local stores and restaurants, including The Nook. If you love to order avocados when you're out on the town, there is a good chance you've had one of her creamy fruits.

An active member of Santa Barbara's Graduates Club, Sammi became friends with ForestWatch, and introduced members of the club to our mission by helping plan a fun gathering one warm evening last April.

Since that time, Sammi has become an indispensable and tireless ForestWatch volunteer. Joining our first-ever Santa Barbara WILD! Event Committee last August, Sammi became the Team Leader of the Silent Auction Committee, and then invited all of her friends to join in the fun! She and her hard working team of volunteers encouraged local businesses and friends of ForestWatch to donate to our silent auction. Through diligence, good organization, and a lot of fun, Sammi and her team put together our most fabulous auction ever, with amazing deals on over 150 local, fun, unique, and interesting auction items including custom made furniture, a private sailing cruise, exclusive bottles and tours of private wineries, and fun family outings. Their hard work paid off, setting a new Santa Barbara WILD! record, raising over \$14,000 in our silent auction alone!

Sammi's good work confirms that there is more than one way to make a big difference and conserve our local National Forest. Thank you for your hard work Sammi, and showing us how to do with fun and flair!