Huge Victory in the Battle Against Plastic Pollution

July 17th was a monumental day for our beaches and ocean! The Santa Barbara City Council adopted ordinances banning Styrofoam food and drink containers as well as plastic straws, two of the most pernicious types of plastic pollution that are literally choking our oceans and marine life. Santa Barbara Channelkeeper and our friends at the Community Environmental Council have led the charge for the past decade to advocate for policies that reduce our community's use of single-use plastics, first with the plastic grocery bag bans and now the foam and straw bans, which enter into effect on January 1, 2019. We enthusiastically applaud and thank the Santa Barbara City Council for showing leadership on this critical environmental issue! Three cheers for plastic-free seas!

Support Legislation to Protect California from Offshore Drilling

The Trump Administration's Draft 2019-2024 National Outer
Continental Shelf (OCS) Leasing Plan proposes to open more than 90% of the total OCS to potential new and expanded oil drilling, including the Santa Barbara Channel. This new plan threatens the progress California has made to protect our coastal resources and to transition from dirty fossil fuels toward cleaner, renewable energy sources.

California legislators are fighting back and have introduced two bills that urgently need your support! Senate Bill 834 (Jackson-Lara) and Assembly Bill 1775 (Muratsuchi-Limón) would help protect the California coast by prohibiting the State Lands Commission from approving new, modified, or extended leases for oil and gas production or associated infrastructure (including pipelines) in state waters that would result in an increase of production from federal waters.

If you haven't already, please join us in voicing your support for these important bills! Click [here](#) for more information and a sample email of support.

### Turning the Tide on Invisible Pollution

Channelkeeper Op-Ed in the Independent

Check out this great [op-ed](#) co-authored by our executive director Kira Redmond, SB County Supervisor [Das Williams](#) and [UCSB Bren School](#) Professor Bob Wilkinson, which was published in the *Santa Barbara Independent* on July 12th. The authors call on California’s next Governor and Water Boards to step up to better protect our precious water resources from storm water and agricultural pollution.

### A Day at the Beach Shouldn't Make You Sick

Check out this [blog](#) penned by California Coastkeeper Alliance (CCKA) Policy Director Sean Bothwell honoring Swimmable California Day (July 25th) and
calling out the State Water Board for adopting weak Bacteria Provisions that will fail to protect swimmers against exposure to harmful pollutants during a day at the beach. The new rules they are poised to adopt on August 7th will mean that for every 28 people you see swimming or playing on a California beach, one of them will go home sick with diarrhea, nausea, vomiting or sinus infections. CCKA has been and will continue to lobby the State Water Board to adopt stronger standards that are more protective of public health.

Help Channelkeeper and Have a Ball at Waterman's Ball August 4

Channelkeeper has been a lucky and grateful beneficiary of the Surf Industry Manufacturers Association (SIMA) Environmental Fund's annual Waterman's Ball for the past several years, and we want to spread the love! To help SIMA raise more money for Channelkeeper and the other environmental beneficiaries, we're asking our followers - you! - to buy tickets or become a sponsor of this year's Waterman's Ball, which takes place on Saturday, August 4th at The Ranch in Laguna Beach. Tickets include complimentary cocktails, a three-course farm-to-table dinner, epic live and silent auctions, and inspiring messages from this year's honorees - World Surf League and Dirk and Natasha Ziff (Watermen of the Year), Doug and Kris Tompkins (Environmentalists of the Year), and Wayne Rabbit Bartholomew (Lifetime Achievement Award). Click here to learn all about this awesome who's who surf event, and here to get your tickets today! Please be sure to enter "Santa Barbara Channelkeeper" in the "How did you hear about Waterman's" section of the online ticket purchase form. Thank you!

Stream Team August 11 & 12

Stream Team is Channelkeeper's
volunteer-based water quality monitoring program. Every month, volunteers join Channelkeeper staff to test for common water quality parameters at numerous stream sites across the South Coast. Come join us to help protect our local waterways. Ventura Stream Team will meet on Saturday, August 11th at 9 am and Goleta Stream Team will meet on Sunday, August 12th at 10 am. For more information, visit our website, or email us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 5.

Calling all Yacht Club and Coral Casino Members! Help Channelkeeper Win Beneficiary of The Biltmore Cup

Santa Barbara Channelkeeper has been selected as one of four potential beneficiaries of the 2018 Biltmore Cup, a paddle race for members of the Santa Barbara Yacht Club and Coral Casino and their guests, which takes place on Sunday, August 26th. All types of human-powered watercraft may be used (stand-up paddleboards, kayaks, surfboards, etc). The $20-30 entry fee includes one vote (additional votes can be purchased for $20), and the organization with the most votes wins proceeds from the event. So if you're a member of the Yacht Club or Coral Casino, please sign up and paddle in the race, invite friends to join you, and cast your vote for Channelkeeper! You can also visit our table at the post-race festivities at the Coral Casino. Click here for more info. Thank you!

Dive Naples and Campus Point MPAs!

Join Truth Aquatics and Channelkeeper on a special, limited-time discounted trip to the Naples and Campus Point Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) on Sunday, August 26th from 7 am-4 pm. Dive in and experience the breathtaking beauty of this stunning stretch of coastline and the diversity of marine life that makes these MPAs so unique. For a glimpse at what's under the surface, check out Channelkeeper's Naples Reef and Campus Point Dive Portals, including dive maps and videos. Excursions cost $70 per person (including meals and air fills). LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE SO RESERVE NOW by
clicking here or calling 805.962.1127. Dive gear and snorkeling rentals are available at your own expense.

Sea Grant Seeking Citizen Science Volunteers

California Sea Grant is seeking dedicated volunteers for the Community Alliance for Surveying the Topography of Sandy Beaches (CoAST SB) citizen science program. Sandy beaches are continually changing, sometimes threatening structures and wildlife. Your help is needed to document these changes so we can better understand and manage these valuable systems. Dedicated volunteers are needed to conduct simple surveys on sandy beaches along the Santa Barbara-Ventura coast. Volunteers survey a beach once per month at low tide by measuring the slope and width of the beach using a quick and simple survey technique. No prior experience needed; infield training and materials are provided. Volunteers work in teams of three and must be 12 or older (children under 18 must be with an adult). Please email Aaron Howard with Sea Grant to learn more and sign up.

Surf Ranch Pro Friends and Family Discount September 7-9

Channelkeeper is super stoked that we've been invited to have a booth at the inaugural Surf Ranch Pro, stop #8 on the World Surf League (WSL) Championship Tour from September 7-9 at Kelly Slater's Surf Ranch in Lemoore, CA. WSL has also extended its Friends and Family discount - 20% off all general admission tickets - to Channelkeeper's circle of friends, including you! So grab your friends and head to the heartland to watch your favorite surfers tackle the longest engineered open-barrel wave in the world, then enjoy live music after the competition by night. Go to the event website, click "Tickets," then enter the promotional code SURFRANCHPROFAMILY to unlock your special discount. Click here to learn more about the event, competing athletes and Surf Ranch. We hope to see you there!
Become a member!

Your support for Channelkeeper's efforts is needed now more than ever. **Become a member** of the Channelkeeper crew today with your **tax-deductible donation**. You'll be investing in clean water and healthy communities along the Santa Barbara Channel today and for future generations. With your membership, you will receive our regular newsletters, news updates and action alerts, invitations to special Channelkeeper events and fun volunteer opportunities, and a free Channelkeeper sticker. All new donors contributing $50 or more can also receive a Channelkeeper t-shirt, and for donations of $250 or more, bi-annual issues of **Waterkeeper magazine**. Sign up today by calling 805.563.3377 ext.1, emailing us, or clicking [here](#).