October 2018 E-Newsletter



Support Clean Water Today



Channelkeeper Teams Up with World Surf League and Pro Surfer Lakey Peterson

Channelkeeper is honored and stoked to be partnering with the <u>World Surf League</u>'s non-profit arm, <u>WSL PURE</u> (Protecting, Understanding, and Respecting the Environment), and pro surfer (currently ranked 2nd in the world!) and Carpinteria local <u>Lakey Peterson</u>, to inspire, educate, and empower the surf community to protect our oceans. Lakey spent a full day with Channelkeeper and the WSL PURE film crew in August to shoot this awesome <u>video</u>, which was broadcast on the big screens and live WSL-TV coverage at the <u>Surf Ranch Pro</u> in early September. Lakey also shared the

video with her massive following on social media, spreading the word about our work and her support for us to tens of thousands of ocean lovers! Many, many thanks to Lakey and WSL PURE for their support and this awesome exposure!

Huge Win in Battle Against Agricultural Pollution!

In a monumental decision that will have far-reaching implications for waterways across California, a



California Court of Appeals ruled late last month that the State Water Board has failed in its duty to protect public health and the environment from agricultural pollution on the Central Coast. Channelkeeper has been working tirelessly for the past 15 years to convince the State and Regional Water Boards to adopt regulations that effectively address the widespread and well-documented contamination of California's groundwater and surface waters by agriculture. We succeeded in securing a strong "Ag Order" for the Ventura/LA region in 2016, but the Water Board has consistently adopted weak and ineffectual rules that have utterly failed to address the problem on the Central Coast.

Channelkeeper and a coalition of conservation, environmental justice and fishing groups filed a lawsuit challenging the Central Coast Ag Order in 2013, and the State Superior Court ruled in our favor in 2015. The Water Board and ag industry groups appealed that ruling, but again the court sided with us, affirming that the Order is illegal and directing the Water Board to go back to the drawing board and develop a new Order that complies with the law. This decision is a massive victory for waterways, coastlines and communities that are negatively impacted by chronic and severe agricultural pollution, and will set a precedent for how agriculture is regulated across the entire state. Click here for more information.



California Trumps Trump's Oil Expansion Plans

In a power move to protect California's resources from the Trump Administration's plan to expand oil development off our coast, the California Legislature

voted to enact Senate Bill 834 and Assembly Bill 1775, and Governor Brown signed the bills into law on September 8th. The bills prohibit the State Lands Commission from permitting any new leases or infrastructure that would support new or expanded oil development in federal waters (greater than three miles from shore). Thanks to our members, Channelkeeper sent hundreds of support letters to legislators and the Governor to ensure the bill's passage. Channelkeeper sincerely thanks our local representatives, Senator Hannah-Beth Jackson and Assemblymember Monique Limon, who authored and championed the bills throughout the legislative session, for their leadership in protecting our coast, and to all who sent letters of support.

Get Out the Vote!

There's a lot at stake in the 2018 midterm elections, and the results could have profound impacts on our communities, our health, our water and our future. So please VOTE ON NOVEMBER 6TH and make sure to prioritize clean water and the environment this election.

Democracy is not for spectators.

Stand up, speak out, and cast your ballot!





Oil Spill Resource Guide Now Available

After the 2015 Refugio Oil Spill, many people in our community were hungry for information and eager to get involved but didn't know where to start or how to help without getting in the way of the official response. Thanks to funding from the Fund for Santa Barbara, the J.S. Bower Foundation, Patagonia, the Santa Barbara Foundation, and the Crawford Idema Family Foundation. Channelkeeper developed an Oil Spill Resource Guide that provides useful information and resources to help concerned

citizens understand the threats posed by oil spills, the mechanics of oil spill response, what to do (and not do) to get involved, and more. The Guide is available online here and, in the event of a future spill, will be updated with pertinent spill-specific details. We hope this resource will help empower our community to engage in oil spill planning and response and will facilitate improved public access to information about oil spills moving forward.

Channelkeeper is Hiring!

Channelkeeper is seeking a fulltime Science and Policy Associate to join our team and support the



implementation of our advocacy, monitoring, and outreach initiatives to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds. Click <u>here</u> to learn more and apply!



2018 **Friendship Paddle**

On September 23rd, Channelkeeper was proud and honored to offer our boat and staff to support the 2018 Friendship Paddle. The Friendship Paddle began in 2003 and organizes open-ocean paddle events to provide

emotional and financial support to Santa Barbara County residents fighting life-threatening illnesses. This year's paddle was organized to support and benefit Channelkeeper's good friend and long-time local environmental leader, Cameron Benson. Nearly 180 paddlers crossed over 30 miles from Santa Rosa Island to Santa Barbara. The event raised nearly \$180,000 to support Benson and his family in his ongoing battle with neuroendocrine cancer. Click here to contribute and learn more about the Friendship Paddle.

Stream Team Sunday, October 7

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. Goleta Stream Team will meet on Sunday, October 7th at 10 am. Ventura Stream Team will not meet in October. For more information, visit our website, or email us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 3.



Santa Barbara Harbor & Seafood Festival October 13th

When it comes to fresh seafood, you can't get it any fresher than right off the boat. On Saturday, October 13th from 10am-5pm, the annual Santa Barbara Harbor &

<u>Seafood Festival</u> will lure seafood lovers of all ages to Santa Barbara's thriving Harbor for one of our community's most beloved and flavorful events. Stop by and say hello to Channelkeeper at our booth on the pier!

MPA Watch Volunteer Training Workshop October 16th

Do you enjoy long walks on the beach and helping to promote ocean conservation? Channelkeeper is looking for dedicated volunteers to help us record and track human



activities in and adjacent to Santa Barbara's Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) through our MPA Watch program. The data we collect provides important information to understand how people are using MPAs and helps inform MPA management. Becoming an MPA Watch volunteer is easy and fun. Out next volunteer training workshop will take place on Tuesday, October 16th at 6:30pm at UCSB in Bren Hall Room 4016. Snacks and drinks will be provided! If you want to attend or learn more about MPA Watch, please email or call us at 805.563.3377 ext. 4. Every MPA Watch volunteer will receive a free Channelkeeper t-shirt, and volunteers that complete 10 surveys will receive an additional exciting treat!



Patagonia 2018 Salmon Run October 28th

Join Channelkeeper on Sunday morning, October 28th at Patagonia's annual <u>Salmon</u> Run along the lower Ventura River. This year's race will benefit the Thomas Fire Trail Fund, a

coalition of local groups coming together to restore some of the landscape burned in the Thomas Fire. The race has sold out in the past, so be sure to register early <u>online</u> to guarantee your spot! All are welcome to cheer on runners and check out the great raffle prizes!

Art & Ocean November 8th



Please join us on Thursday, November 8th for our third

Art & Ocean event at the Gilded Table in The Waterline! Ocean-inspired works of art created by local artists Kelly Clause and Emilie Lee will be displayed and available for sale, with the artists donating proceeds from each piece sold to support Channelkeeper's mission to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds. There will also be live music, raffle prizes, and good company with like-minded ocean lovers! For information, visit www.sbck.org.



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 cleanwater 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 freeChannelkeeper 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.

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