



Support Clean Water Today

ACTION ALERT!
Act Now to Save the Clean Water Act!



President Trump's Environmental Protection Agency and Army Corps of Engineers have proposed a [new definition of the Waters of the United States \(WOTUS\)](#) which would drastically reduce the number and types of waters protected by the Clean Water Act, allowing untreated pollution to be discharged into waters across the US without meeting any of the Act's permitting and treatment standards. The proposal, which has no basis in science, would be disastrous for our waterways, removing safeguards from historically protected rivers, streams, lakes, wetlands, and other waters, including up to 60% of creeks and streams in California. For example, the rule explicitly excludes all "ephemeral streams," which flow only in response to rain or snow but provide many essential ecological functions and flow into downstream waters and drinking water supplies. Join Channelkeeper, [Waterkeeper Alliance](#) and other Waterkeepers around the US in saying "NO" to this dirty proposal by submitting your comments [here](#) by **April 15th**.

Photos & Auction Items from 2019 Blue Water Ball

Relive the magic of Channelkeeper's record-breaking 19th Annual Blue Water Ball by checking out our new photo album [here](#)! Also,



you have one last chance to bid on our few remaining auction items, including **two 7-10 day luxury Caribbean vacations, two days of kids' surf camp, an REI Outdoor School Field Class, and art by Jeff Johnson and Anastarr.** Click [here](#) to view the items, and [email](#) or call 805.563.3377 ext. 2 to buy now!

Carpinteria Passes Strong Single-Use Plastic Reduction Ordinance

On March 11th, the Carpinteria City Council unanimously adopted one of the most progressive single-use plastic reduction ordinances in California. The new ordinance, which enters into effect on January 1, 2020, bans plastic straws, cutlery and



MPCA Photos

stirrers, with an Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) exemption for those who need straws for medical reasons. The ordinance also directs local restaurants to offer plastic lids and condiments for take-out only upon request, and mandates that take-out food containers be marine-degradable, compostable or recyclable. Many thanks to Carpinteria for their leadership on this critical issue! Channelkeeper continues to work with Goleta and Santa Barbara County to advocate that they adopt Styrofoam bans and consider including other single-use plastic items like straws and stirrers as well.



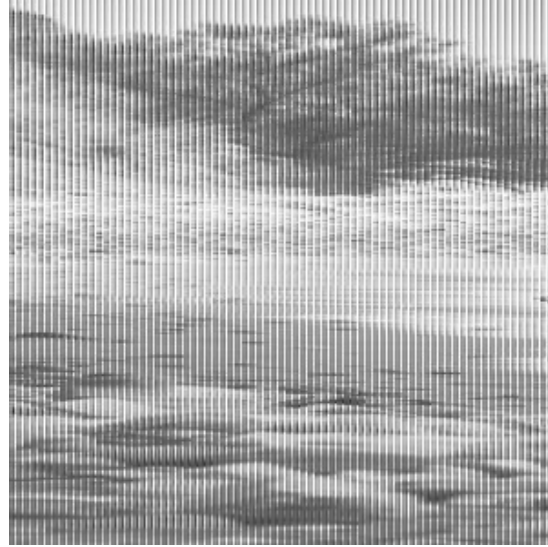
Film Plastic Recycling in SB

Channelkeeper is proud to be part of [Ablitt's Fine Cleaner's](#) project to recycle film plastic for reuse in

home-building materials. As we've been collecting and sorting the film plastic dropped off, we've learned a few things along the way. Most importantly, the film plastic must be clean and dry! The only food bags that can be accepted are bread bags, and we're asking that they be turned inside out to shake out the crumbs. Also, please remember to pop your air pillows. Any contaminated plastic can cause the whole batch to be thrown out and head to the landfill. There's also another way you can help if reducing plastics is your passion! Ablitt's is seeking volunteers to help with sorting film plastic for recycling on an ongoing basis for a few hours a week. Students can receive community service hours. [Email](#) us to learn more and get involved.

Channelkeeper on Oil Spill Prevention and Response

Four years after the Plains All American Oil Spill, Channelkeeper remains engaged in oil spill prevention and response planning. Last month, the County of Santa Barbara released the final draft of the much-needed update to its Operational Area Oil Contingency Plan (OSCP). The update incorporates many valuable lessons learned from the 2015 oil spill, and Channelkeeper has been a lead advocate to ensure better communication and transparency with the public and improved sampling protocols. Channelkeeper recently reviewed and commented on the draft updated OSCP, [which will be presented to the County Board of Supervisors on April 9th.](#)



Channelkeeper also submitted comments on the State Fire Marshall's draft regulations to implement Assembly Bill 864, enacted after the spill in 2015, which mandates the use of best available technology on pipelines located near environmentally and ecologically sensitive areas in the coastal zone.

We are also tracking Plains' application to replace Lines 901 and 903, which have been shut down since the 2015 spill, and recently submitted comments on the scope of the Draft Environmental Impact Report (DEIR) on the proposed pipeline replacement project. Finally, Channelkeeper served on the steering committee to plan a day-long symposium on Improving Oil Spill Preparedness and Response in Santa Barbara on April 5th. The symposium is one of five regional workshops being hosted around the nation by the University of Southern California Sea Grant. The symposium will convene practitioners and stakeholders to address social and economic dimensions of oil spills, public health, public communication, spill prevention, and identification of research needs for future oil spill response.

Goleta Stream Team April 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 monitor and protect our local waterways. Goleta Stream Team will meet on Sunday, April 7th at 10 am. Please RSVP via [email](#). For more information, visit our [website](#), [email](#) us or call 805.563.3377 ext. 3.



Tidepool Monitoring Opportunity!

April 15



Channelkeeper is looking for volunteers to join our Citizen Scientists for Tidepool Assemblage Research (CSTAR) project on April 15th at Coal Oil Point! The data we collect will help the federal Bureau of Ocean Energy Management's (BOEM) and their 45+ research partners to evaluate the health of

the rocky intertidal ecosystems, inform important coastal resource management decisions and climate change adaptation strategies, and to help assess impacts from future oil spills. Check out our [website](#) for more information on the project, and [email](#) us to get involved!

Special Screening of Patagonia's *Artifishal* April 18

Please join us on Thursday, April 18th at [Patagonia Great Pacific Iron Works](#) in Ventura for a special screening of *Artifishal*, Patagonia's new documentary about wild rivers and wild fish. The event is free, and Channelkeeper will be tabling there with information on our current work to protect and restore our local rivers and the Santa Barbara Channel, so come check it out! Doors open at 6:30pm and the film starts at 7:30pm. Light snacks and drinks will be available.



MPA Watch Volunteer Training Workshop April 23

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 also helps inform MPA management. Becoming an MPA Watch volunteer is easy and fun! Our next volunteer training workshop will take place on Tuesday, April 23rd at 6:30pm in Bren Hall Room 4016 at UCSB. 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.

Channelkeeper Benefit Days at Riviera Towel Co. April 25-28

We love our friends at [Riviera Towel Company](#)! After very generously donating 250 custom-made Turkish towels embroidered with the Channelkeeper logo for our Blue Water Ball guests, Riviera Towel Co. will host a four-day shopping event at their beautiful store at 17 W. Gutierrez Street to benefit Channelkeeper. Riviera Towel Co. will donate a percentage of all sales made from April 25-28 to Channelkeeper, and will kick the spree off with an evening cocktail hour on Thursday, April 25th. Please come by and join us for a glass of wine and stock up on a rainbow of their beautiful, luxurious Turkish towels for you and yours - summer is right around the corner!



Celebrate the Earth at the SB Earth Day Festival April 27-28

Celebrate the Earth at the Community Environmental Council's annual Santa Barbara Earth Day Festival, a two-day extravaganza on Saturday, April 27th from 11 am-7 pm and Sunday, April 28th from 11 am-6 pm at Alameda Park. This year's festival features a new Opening Night Concert on

Friday, April 26th. Stop by Channelkeeper's booth over the weekend to learn about and take action to support our current clean water initiatives. We hope to see you there! #SBEarthDay

Channelkeeper Staff Join Fellow Waterkeepers at Pacific Waterkeepers Summit



The entire Channelkeeper staff traveled to the Bay Area last week to attend the 2019 Waterkeeper Alliance Pacific Regional Summit at the Marin Headlands Institute. We joined staff from Waterkeeper Alliance and other Waterkeeper organizations across the West to learn and share strategies and best practices for ensuring swimmable, fishable, drinkable water for our communities, including how we can work together to help strengthen and protect federal environmental laws like the Clean Water Act. We were inspired, learned a lot and had a blast with our fellow Waterkeeper warriors fighting the good fight for clean water in the West!



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](#).

STAY CONNECTED



