



Channelkeeper staff conducts stormwater and sediment sampling at Southern California Edison's Goleta facility on March 10, 2021.

SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT WITH SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA EDISON WILL HELP PROTECT WATERWAYS FROM TOXIC POLLUTION

Channelkeeper and the Ecological Rights Foundation recently reached a settlement agreement with Southern California Edison (Edison), under which the power provider has agreed to clean up utility pole storage facilities identified as sources of toxic contaminants that flow into waterways.

Edison operates 27 facilities in its service region that serve as storage and processing locations for wooden utility poles treated with the chemical pentachlorophenol. Pentachlorophenol is a wood preservative used since the 1930s that contains substantial quantities of chemicals known as dioxins and furans, which are toxic to wildlife. Water samples demonstrated that these facilities lacked appropriate water quality protections.

Over the course of the next seven years, Edison will execute a strategy to cover all areas where treated wood is stored or processed or it will contain, filter, or treat storm runoff from its properties to meet specific water quality targets that protect the environment. Edison will also conduct monitoring to demonstrate that its methods satisfactorily eliminate pollutants from running off its facilities.



EDUCATION



ADVOCACY



FIELD WORK



ENFORCEMENT



Point Conception, traditionally known by the Chumash people as the "Western Gate." Credit: Robert Schwemmer, NOAA

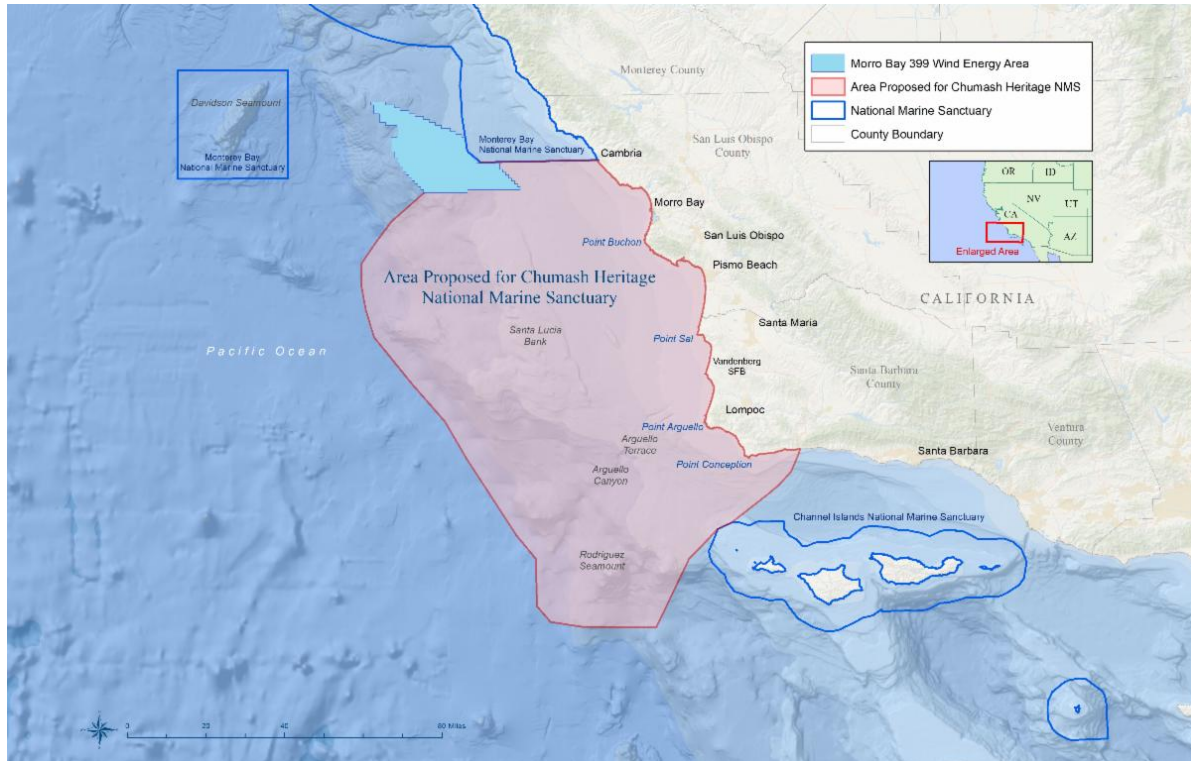
SHARE YOUR INPUT ON THE PROPOSED CHUMASH HERITAGE NATIONAL MARINE SANCTUARY

The Chumash Heritage National Marine Sanctuary is currently being considered for designation by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA). The nominated area stretches along 156 miles of coastline connecting the boundaries of Monterey Bay and Channel Islands national marine sanctuaries. The Northern Chumash Tribal Council submitted the sanctuary nomination in July 2015, and NOAA is considering sanctuary designation to protect the region's important marine ecosystem, honor the cultural values of the local Indigenous communities, and protect a collection of historically significant shipwrecks and cultural sites.

Virtual public meetings will be held in December and January to gather input on

the scope and significance of issues that are related to designating this area as a national marine sanctuary and should be examined as part of the environmental impact statement that will be prepared. NOAA requests input on specific topics including the sanctuary name, boundary alternatives, and analyses relevant to the designation. We invite you to participate in the process, learn more, and provide comments in the public meetings on December 8, December 13, or January 6. Over the next few years, the public will have more opportunities to participate in the designation, including public comments on a draft management plan.

[Register Here](#)





CARPINTERIA STREAM TEAM MONITORS WATER QUALITY WITH STUDENTS FROM CATE SCHOOL

Channelkeeper is thrilled to resume our water quality monitoring program in the Carpinteria Valley with Cate School after a two-year hiatus due to the pandemic. In November, Channelkeeper staff and a new cohort of Cate School students spent a day together going over sampling protocols, collecting water quality data, and learning how to process bacteria samples in the lab.

Since 2010, Channelkeeper has trained Cate School students to conduct monthly water quality monitoring at sites located on Arroyo Paredon, Santa Monica, Franklin, and Carpinteria Creeks as well as two sites in the Carpinteria Salt Marsh. This partnership increases our capacity to conduct monitoring in Carpinteria while providing a valuable educational and leadership opportunity for the students. Students follow quality assurance procedures and the data collected is ultimately submitted to the State Water Quality Control Board.



HELP DOCUMENT KING TIDES JANUARY 1st, 2nd & 3rd

The term King Tide describes an especially high winter tide when the sun, the Earth, and the moon line up. Each winter, high tide events provide us with a great opportunity to understand how sea level rise will impact California's 1,100 miles of coastline. During the first week of December, our beaches experienced extreme high and low tides, and King Tides return during the first week of January.

You can take part in an exciting community science initiative! On January 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, take photos of beaches at high tide and share them with the California King Tides Project, an initiative led by the California Coastal Commission.

The [California King Tides Project](#) engages the public to help visualize future sea levels by observing the high tides of today and how those tides interact with our coastal infrastructure, recreation areas, and ecosystems. Photos and observations by citizen scientists help document current flood risk in coastal areas, visualize the impacts of future sea level rise in a community, validate climate change models by comparing predictions with the high-tide reality, and serve as a living record of change for future generations.

Head to the beach on January 1st, 2nd, and 3rd to document this winter's King Tides. The highest tides will take place during the morning hours:

- Jan. 1, 2022 - high 7:34 AM / 6.95 ft.
- Jan. 2, 2022 - high 8:21 AM / 7.09 ft.
- Jan. 3, 2022 - high 9:08 AM / 7.00 ft

Click [here](#) to participate.



CHANNELKEEPER'S WATERSHED BRIGADE PARTNERS WITH PATH TO CLEAN UP SANTA BARBARA'S LOWER EASTSIDE

Each month, Channelkeeper organizes a Watershed Brigade event, which is a volunteer opportunity with a focused objective. In November, we partnered with our good friends at PATH, an organization focused on ending homelessness, to remove trash from the streets of Santa Barbara's lower Eastside neighborhood before it could be flushed into storm drains and ultimately end up on East Beach and in the ocean.

PATH began routine cleanups of this area six months ago after noticing increased trash accumulating in the streets around their office. Joining forces and bringing volunteer support to this area was a perfect fit for the Watershed Brigade! Thanks to the nine Brigadiers who came out and spent a rewarding 3 hours picking up nearly **130 pounds of trash!**

Make sure to check out our [Facebook Group](#) and [Instagram pages](#) to be inspired by what the Watershed Brigade is accomplishing and check out our [event page](#) to join our next event!



WATERSHED BRIGADE POST-ALISAL FIRE EROSION CONTROL EVENT
December 18
9:00 am to 1:00 pm

Calling all Watershed Brigade Volunteers!
Help Keep Fire-Related Contaminants and Debris Out of Creeks!

In October of 2021, the Alisal Fire burned 16,970 acres in Santa Barbara County, leaving a large area of exposed soil and contaminants from burned structures. Now, as potential rain events approach, the burn scar and areas cleared of vegetation for fire prevention are vulnerable to erosion. Sediment, ash, heavy metals, and other contaminants from burned sites can run off into local creeks, impairing water quality, damaging habitats, and increasing risk of pollutant exposure for wildlife.

Over the past few weeks, Santa Barbara Channelkeeper has been working with property owners and several other organizations to establish temporary barriers around burned sites to prevent these pollutants from reaching local creeks.

The Harris Family Farm on the Gaviota Coast was impacted by the Alisal Fire and has invited Channelkeeper to install runoff containment measures on a large area of exposed soil to protect Las Zorrillas Creek.

On December 18th the Watershed Brigade will gather for a workday at the Harris Family Farm to help prevent soil loss, flooding, and waterway contamination in the burn area near Refugio. We will work from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to do some digging and recontouring, to install straw wattles to manage stormwater runoff, and to spread straw and vegetation to cover exposed dirt areas and mitigate erosion.

Please RSVP below for more details and location information.

SIGN UP



HELP US MAKE MEANINGFUL CHANGE

As 2021 comes to a close we hope that you'll consider supporting Channelkeeper with a tax-deductible donation. Help us protect this special place, including our precious beaches, creeks, coast, and offshore waters for future generations. You can make a difference for our environment by supporting Channelkeeper today.

Your Gift Will Help Channelkeeper:

- Monitor our waterways to track down and eliminate pollution sources;
- Stop offshore oil fracking by challenging the federal government's decision to allow for these harmful activities without appropriate environmental review;
- Remove thousands of pounds of trash, marine debris, and abandoned fishing gear from our waterways and coastline;
- Revive the Ventura River by working to secure a lasting agreement so that the river's flow in its lower reaches support fish, wildlife, and local communities' access to recreation and nature;
- Secure stronger water quality rules to prevent agricultural pollution;
- Educate local students about the environment.

[DONATE](#)



CELEBRATE SUSTAINABLY THIS HOLIDAY SEASON

Did you know that between Thanksgiving and New Year's Day, Americans' household waste increases by 25%? That extra waste amounts to 25 million tons of garbage, or an additional one million tons of trash each week to our landfills during this time period. But there are plenty of easy ways to cut down on holiday waste that can ease the strain on both your wallet and the environment.

Reusing packing and shipping materials is a great first step; if every American family wrapped just 3 presents in reused materials, it would save enough paper to cover 45,000 football fields.

Other options include giving personal treasures like a favorite book, plant, or antique. You can purchase organic Channelkeeper T-shirts or a gift that benefits the environment like a Cora ball microfiber-catching laundry device, a reusable utensil set, or a rain barrel conversion kit on Channelkeeper's website.

[Visit Online Store](#)



JOIN OUR FLOCK

Channelkeeper is looking for a Development Director. This individual will serve as the organization's principal fundraising strategist and will be responsible for planning, managing, and implementing all fundraising programs, including the annual fund, major gifts, planned giving, fundraising events, institutional grants, and capital/special gifts campaigns. Candidates should be passionate about the mission and work of Santa Barbara Channelkeeper, enthusiastic about fundraising, and experienced in asking for financial support from a diversity of sources.

Find the full job description and application guidelines [here](#).

Including Santa Barbara Channelkeeper in your estate planning will provide the funds needed to protect water quality, fight pollution, and educate our community about the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds for years to come. [Contact us](#) to learn more.

KEEPING WATCH FOR CLEAN WATER
SINCE 1999



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