



### CHANNELKEEPER RESUMES CRUISE SHIP MONITORING PROGRAM

Seventeen cruise ships are scheduled to visit Santa Barbara between March and April this year after a two-year hiatus. Channelkeeper's cruise ship monitoring program has relaunched with plans to engage a number of cruise ships as they arrive in our area.

The City of Santa Barbara requires ship captains to sign a commitment not to dump any waste within 12 miles of shore. As ships enter the voluntary no-discharge zone, Channelkeeper staff, aboard our 31-foot vessel, hail the captain via marine radio to remind the crew of the no-discharge commitment and to let them know that Channelkeeper will monitor for discharges during the ship's time in the Santa Barbara Channel.

Cruise ships generate enormous volumes of waste. A typical cruise ship generates 30,000 gallons of sewage, 250,000 gallons of greywater (wastewater from galleys, showers, sinks, and laundry), 5,000 gallons of oily bilge water, 15 gallons of toxic chemicals, and seven tons of solid waste, as well as air pollution equal to that of 12,000 cars—every day.

By communicating with captains upon arrival, the organization's cruise ship monitoring program aims to safeguard the coastal environment and provide accountability through watchful presence.

[Read More](#)



EDUCATION



ADVOCACY



FIELD WORK



ENFORCEMENT

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### CONNECTING KIDS WITH NATURE TO SPARK WONDER AND ENVIRONMENTAL SENSITIVITY

A growing number of studies suggest that connection with nature has significant physical, psychological, and academic benefits for kids. Time in the wild can also inspire greater sensitivity to the surrounding world, a deeper understanding of environmental issues, and real-life opportunities to practice problem-solving.

Channelkeeper's education programs aim to nurture environmental awareness and stewardship in young people with the understanding that today's youth are the decision-makers of tomorrow. Their environmental ethics are critical to our planet's future. By fostering a connection between young people and the natural world, we hope to inspire the next generation of clean water leaders.

To extend our discovery-driven curriculum beyond field trips and classroom visits, we've gathered a few playful, hands-on educational activities for young explorers and families to experience together.







### INTRODUCING OUR NEW STREAM TEAM INTERN!

We're pleased to welcome Jillian Allison to our crew as Channelkeeper's new Stream Team Intern. Jillian grew up in San Jose and moved to Santa Barbara in 2018 to attend UCSB, where she majored in Earth Science. She recently graduated, and will be continuing her education at the Bren School of Environmental Science and Management to study Environmental Data Science this fall! She's interested in water quality work because it combines fieldwork with data analysis and science communication. Outside of work and school, she enjoys playing instruments, singing, cooking, and reading. We took a moment recently to learn more about Jillian. We feel very fortunate to have her on our team!

#### **What do you appreciate most about local watersheds?**

I appreciate that our streams, creeks, and lakes provide us with beautiful spaces to enjoy nature. I always enjoy biking along creekside paths, walking my housemate's dog near the slough, and camping by the lake!

#### **Why do you believe that monitoring water quality is important?**

Water quality directly impacts ecosystems and human health, which makes it a critical component of environmental management and restoration. Human behavior has a large impact on creeks—it's easy for the chemicals and trash we produce to make their way into our creeks. Monitoring water quality allows us to determine where pollution hotspots are so we can make efforts to prevent further environmental degradation. Long-term water quality monitoring can alert us of environmental changes,

allowing us to alter our behavior to prevent negative impacts or continue beneficial practices!

**What's the most interesting thing you've noticed while gathering Stream Team data? What have you learned?**

The streams that we collect data at are all very close to homes, businesses, and farms. They are so well integrated into the urban environment that I hadn't noticed many of them before beginning this internship, even though I've lived here for several years! This represents the idea that our behavior in urban environments has a much farther-reaching environmental impact than we might expect. The stream's surroundings have a strong impact on its water quality.

**What would you like our community to know about local creeks and streams?**

Maintaining healthy creeks and streams in Santa Barbara is especially important because our streams flow directly to the ocean! That means that any waste or chemicals in our waterways will likely end up in the ocean, which is detrimental to marine ecosystems.

**If you were a stream-dwelling organism, what would you be? Why?**

I would be a fallen tree on the side of the stream, preventing erosion and trapping organic material that will provide nutrients to other (more living) stream dwellers. I think lying down next to a stream is pretty representative of how I like to spend my time, and I try living in a way that is beneficial to others!

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**19th ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL OCEAN FILM FESTIVAL**  
**April 7-10 in San Francisco (in person)**  
**April 11- 24 (virtual screenings)**

This year, the International Ocean Film Festival has gathered more than 50 independent ocean films from around the world for viewings in San Francisco starting April 7 - 10 and virtually from April 11-24.

You're invited to tune in to the virtual event for inspiring ocean films and to engage with filmmakers and thought leaders in the ocean community through their livestream Q&A sessions. What an opportunity!

Click [here](#) to browse this year's films and pre-order screenings to watch some of the most anticipated ocean films of the year!

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## THE WATERSHED BRIGADE EARTH DAY CREEK CLEAN UP CHALLENGE

April 23 & 24

Lets celebrate Earth Day by giving our creeks some love!

Over Earth Day weekend, the Watershed Brigade will pick up trash from as many creeks as possible between Gaviota and Ventura.

We hope you'll join us! Find more information [here](#) and sign up below!

[Sign up](#)

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**CELEBRATE EARTH DAY AT THE CEC's  
2022 SANTA BARBARA EARTH DAY CELEBRATION!**

Channelkeeper is pleased to join Community Environmental Council (CEC) in person this year for the [Earth Day Celebration](#) on Saturday, April 23rd from 10 am to 5 pm at the Arlington Theatre.

We'd like to invite the community to join in on conversations with climate leaders and organizations, cruise the Green Car and E-bike shows, check out the art contests, build community, connect with eco-minded exhibitors, and learn how you can take climate action.

Be sure to stop by Channelkeeper's table to say hello and take time to view Channelkeeper's student art show exhibit that will be on display as part of the celebration! Find the event schedule and more information [here](#).

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## 19th ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW April 23rd

Enjoy beautiful, ocean-inspired art created by local teens at Channelkeeper's 19th annual Student Art Show. This year, the student awards ceremony will take place as part of the Santa Barbara Earth Day Celebration hosted by the Community Environmental Council on Saturday, April 23rd at the Arlington Theatre in Santa Barbara.

The student artwork, celebrating the natural beauty and biodiversity of the Santa Barbara Channel, will be on display for all community members to view and enjoy during the event from 10 am to 5 pm. The student award winners will be announced on stage between 1:15 pm to 1:45 pm.

The goal of the show, which features artwork by high school students from across the South Coast, is to inspire local youth to create art that celebrates the Santa Barbara Channel, and for their art to inspire others in our community.

This year's show will be juried by local artist, Molly Gwitt and cash prizes will be awarded to winning students thanks to the show's long-time sponsor, Trillium Enterprise, Inc., and the City of Goleta Grant Program. We hope to see you on April 23rd at the Arlington! Click [here](#) for more information or send us an [email](#).

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### SNOWY PLOVER NESTING SEASON HAS BEGUN!

Snowy plovers (*Charadrius nivosus*) are small shorebirds that feed on invertebrates near the water's edge. Once numbering in the thousands, fewer than 1,500 breeding plovers remain in California and they are currently listed as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act. Snowy plovers nest along our coast from March through September.

Snowy plovers make their nests in shallow divots in the sand, which they line with bits of shell, grass, pebbles, and kelp. Their nesting attempts are often disrupted by human visitors who unknowingly keep birds away from their nests.

As a result, snowy plover populations have recently declined. Therefore, in the coming months, we'd like to encourage respectful plover watching from a distance and responsible dog walking so that chicks can safely hatch and snowy plover populations in our area can flourish.

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### ARE YOU A DEVELOPMENT ROCK STAR?

Channelkeeper is looking for a Development Associate to join our team. The ideal candidate is committed to environmental work, enthusiastic about fundraising, and experienced in confidential data management. The Development Associate will help manage donor databases, process gifts and acknowledgment letters, assist with event coordination, and support grant management.

Click [here](#) for the full job description and application details.



KEEPING WATCH FOR CLEAN WATER  
SINCE 1999



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