



VOLUNTEERS CLEAR LOBSTER TRAPS FROM LOCAL BEACH

Channelkeeper volunteers and members of the commercial fishing community worked together on May 21st to dig out and remove lobster traps that had washed ashore at Black Rock Beach, below More Mesa.

During the cleanup event, volunteers used shovels and bolt cutters to pry buried traps out of the rocks and sand. The heavy, metal-framed traps were clipped onto a buoyed rope and winched through the surf to the Bella B, a commercial fishing vessel owned by local fisherman, Chris Voss. Two kayakers towed the buoyed rope to shore. The traps were loaded onto the Bella B and transported to the Santa Barbara Harbor for recovery or proper disposal.

This community effort successfully removed more than forty lobster traps—approximately 1000 pounds of marine debris—from the beach and prepared another twenty traps for future removal.

We're grateful to the Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara for their generous logistical support and the more than fifty volunteers for their hard work and positive energy.



CHANNELKEEPER STAFF HELPS CLEAR ALISAL FIRE DEBRIS

In recent months, Channelkeeper has worked with partner organizations supporting the Alisal Fire Assistance Project to manage stormwater runoff and clear debris from burned sites in Refugio Canyon.

This community effort aims to support property owners, many of whom have struggled to clear debris due to challenges related to the remote location or the absence of disaster relief funding.

In April, Channelkeeper staff spent a day working with members of the Santa Barbara Bucket Brigade and Habitat for Humanity to remove debris from a burned site in Refugio Canyon. Our team collected pieces of metal and transported them by wheelbarrow to a dumpster for safe disposal and loaded large metal items, such as burned bicycles, car parts, tools, and appliances into a track loader that carried the debris to the dumpster.

We were honored to participate in this community effort.



EDUCATION



ADVOCACY



FIELD WORK



ENFORCEMENT



THE CITY OF SANTA BARBARA CONSIDERS STAGE-TWO WATER WARNING TO ENHANCE CONSERVATION EFFORTS

California is heading into a third year of severe drought and despite calls for voluntary reductions of water use by up to 15 percent, California has not come

close to meeting that.

In response to the dry conditions and depleted snowpacks and reservoirs, Governor Gavin Newsom signed an **executive order** in March, requiring the state's 420 largest water providers to augment their drought responses and implement level-two water restrictions in their water shortage contingency plans.

Under the order, water suppliers are asked to operate as if their water supplies have decreased by ten to twenty percent. By June 1st water agencies were required to outline what actions this degree of reduction would prompt.

A Stage-One Water Warning indicates that the water supply is adequate to meet 90% of projected demands and puts operations in place to reduce water usage by 10% from the normal water demand level. In contrast, a Stage-Two Water Warning indicates that the water supply can meet only 80% of projected demands and prompts a 20% water usage reduction.

Santa Barbara County has been under a state-declared drought emergency since July 2021. The City of Santa Barbara is currently operating at a Stage-One Water Warning. However, at its June 21st meeting, the Santa Barbara City Council will consider declaring a Stage-Two Water Warning to comply with the Governor's Executive Order and the State Water Board's recently adopted regulations.

In addition to enacting several "commonsense" measures from the Stage-Two Water Warning actions (such as prohibiting the use of hoses without shut-off nozzles), the City is also proposing to increase available funding for its water conservation rebate program in order to help residents replace turf grass with water-efficient plants. During the last drought, this rebate program helped to convert 1,500 residential and commercial landscapes from turf to drought-tolerant landscaping.

Throughout California, water districts are on different water shortage contingency levels based on their unique supply portfolio. However, no matter which county or city you live in, water conservation remains ever-important as we head into what will be another dry and hot summer. Water providers, including the City of Santa Barbara, offer **free water checkups** to assess water use and identify leaks, which is a great way to improve water efficiency in both indoor and outdoor uses.



OPERATION CLEAN SWEEP CLEARS DEBRIS FROM THE SANTA BARBARA HARBOR

On May 7th, Channelkeeper staff and volunteers participated in Operation Clean Sweep, the Santa Barbara Waterfront Department's annual harbor floor cleanup event. This year, forty volunteer divers and dock workers removed 1.5 tons of debris from the seafloor around Marina One, including crab receivers, two outboard motors, urchin baskets, carpet, long sections of galvanized pipe, cell phones, electrical wire, steel cable, fishing poles, trash cans, dock carts, dock steps, tires, traffic cones, and a large tree trunk. Our team was pleased to help with this annual cleanup project!



WEBINAR SERIES DIVES DEEPER INTO CALIFORNIA'S MARINE PROTECTED AREAS

The California Marine Sanctuary Foundation is presenting an exciting webinar series to share the results of California's long-term MPA monitoring studies.

These presentations provide an opportunity to learn directly from the researchers who conducted monitoring of key habitats both inside and outside of MPAs, including kelp forests, rocky reefs, rocky shores, estuaries, and sandy beaches. The results from the researchers' monitoring projects will help inform the first MPA Decadal Management Review report to the California Fish and Game Commission in February 2023. Participants are invited to interact with the scientists and ask questions. With no pre-registration necessary, just click below to join!

Ocean Conditions Observing Systems

Thursday, June 23, 2022
12:00p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

Sandy Beach & Surf Zone Ecosystems

Friday, June 24, 2022
12:00p.m. - 1:00 p.m.

[Join Webinar](#)



OCEAN-POSITIVE ACTIONS FOR WORLD OCEANS DAY June 8

This year's United Nations World Oceans Day celebrates **Revitalization: Collective Action for the Ocean**. The celebration intends to honor the many ways in which the ocean connects, sustains, and supports us all. However, it also acknowledges that the ocean's health is at a tipping point, as is the well-being of all that depends on it. The UN's goal for 2022 is to work together to create a new balance with the ocean that no longer depletes its bounty but instead restores its vibrancy and brings it new life.

Channelkeeper works to ensure that clean beaches, flowing streams, and a healthy ocean support a thriving economy, offer healthy habitats for fish and wildlife, and provide clean water and safe places for recreation for all people and for future generations. In honor of **World Oceans Day**, we invite you to perform one ocean-positive action this month. Spend an hour **picking up trash** in your watershed, learn more about **plastic reduction policies**, or **donate** to an organization that is focused on marine conservation. You can also join Santa Barbara's **World Oceans Day Festival** at the Santa Barbara Museum of Natural History's Sea Center on Saturday, June 11, from 10:00 am to 5:00 pm.



VISIT TIDEPOOLS AND HELP COLLECT DATA

Our colleagues at the California Academy of Sciences are looking for volunteers throughout California to join the [2022 Snapshot Cal Coast](#) event from **June 13th-July 4th**. You can help document California's incredible coastal biodiversity!

Snapshot Cal Coast is an annual statewide community science effort that encourages people to make and share observations of plants, animals, and seaweeds along the California coast using the [iNaturalist](#) app. The goal is to create a valuable snapshot in time of where species are located along our coast.

Using the [iNaturalist](#) app (for iPhone or Android) participants visit a local beach or tidepool and take photos and make observations of seaweeds, plants, and animals. Local areas of particular interest include Coal Oil Point in the Campus Point MPA and the Carpinteria Tar Pits.

Be sure to follow the [Snapshot Cal Coast 2022](#) project in iNaturalist and use the [#SnapshotCalCoast](#) hashtag when recording your observations. Check the [NOAA tide tables](#) for info.

Enjoy the tidepools and please remember to follow tidepooling best practices for your safety and the protection of wildlife. Never remove any animals or seaweeds, take care to step on bare rock wherever possible, never move animals from place to place and, leave the tidepools as you found them.



HELP KEEP BALLOONS OUT OF THE ENVIRONMENT

With graduation season upon us, Channelkeeper would like to remind the community to please use balloons responsibly. Each year, thousands of Mylar balloons blow from the mainland and litter our ocean, where they can be mistaken as food by sea creatures or entangle wildlife.

We encourage our community to avoid using balloons. Instead, choose eco-friendly alternatives and take the pledge to be Mylar-free at MylarMistake.com. However, if you decide to use balloons, please be sure to secure them well and toss the deflated remnants in the trash. Deflated Mylar balloons can also be dropped off at Channelkeeper's office to be recycled.



SUPPORT CLEAN WATER

Want to make a difference for the environment and your community? Making a tax-deductible contribution to Santa Barbara Channelkeeper today is an investment in clean beaches, healthy watersheds, and a more sustainable future.

[Donate](#)

KEEPING WATCH FOR CLEAN WATER
SINCE 1999



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