



March eNewsletter

CHANNELKEEPER VOICES CONCERNS AT CRUISE SHIP SUBCOMMITTEE'S FEBRUARY MEETING

The Harbor Commission's Cruise Ship Subcommittee reconvened on February 22nd to discuss the City of Santa Barbara's cruise ship program and hear from a panel of cruise ship industry representatives and the U.S. Coast Guard.

Representatives from Cruise Lines International Association, an industry trade organization, and Holland America provided information related to cruise ship waste management, discharge practices, and regulations.

Later, a U.S. Coast Guard official outlined its role as the agency responsible for monitoring compliance through annual inspections and for enforcing compliance issues that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency notifies them about.

During the meeting's public comment period, many community members expressed concerns about the environmental impacts of cruise ship visits to Santa Barbara.

Channelkeeper Executive Director Ted Morton spoke out about the importance of finding ways to reduce the environmental risks of cruise ships on the Santa Barbara Channel. He explained that Channelkeeper is working to develop policy

recommendations that would limit cruise ship visitation based on ship technologies, practices, and compliance history.

The subcommittee members will review the public input from the session. It will meet again in a few months to gather additional information and take public comments.

If you would like to stay updated on future opportunities to support this cause, email cruiseship@sbck.org to join our advocacy efforts.



CALIFORNIA'S REVIEW OF ITS NETWORK OF MARINE PROTECTED AREAS IS UNDERWAY

In January the California Department of Fish and Wildlife released the first Marine Protected Area (MPA) Decadal Management Review report. This report provides an overview of the last ten years of management activities and evaluates the effectiveness of the MPA Network in meeting Marine Life Protection Act goals. The report indicates that California's MPA Network has provided beneficial protection for populations of marine species and their habitats as well as enhanced opportunities for research, education, and recreation. Read it [here](#).

The report was presented to the Fish and Game Commission on February 9th and will be discussed again at public meetings hosted by the California Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Ocean Protection Council, and the California Fish and Game Commission on March 15th and 16th in Monterey. Channelkeeper will participate in these meetings and continue to raise community awareness about MPAs.

If you're interested in learning more about MPA science and research, we invite you to check out the Ocean Protection Council's MPA Monitoring webinar series,

“Ask the Researcher,” which shares the results of the latest state-funded MPA long-term monitoring projects through an 8-part webinar series. Click [here](#) to view the webinars.



HELP SANTA BARBARA COUNTY DEVELOP ITS CLIMATE ADAPTATION PLAN

In an effort to increase local resilience to climate hazards such as extreme heat, drought, flooding, and wildfire, the Santa Barbara County Planning and Development Department is producing a Climate Adaptation Plan. The plan will identify key strategies and priority actions needed to address the greatest risks, reduce vulnerabilities, and protect people, places, and critical infrastructure.

The County recently released a short survey—part of the information-gathering process—that it hopes will provide insight into the lived experiences of county residents in addressing climate hazards. It is requesting community input via the survey and explains that your participation will support a more comprehensive, community-informed Climate Adaptation Plan. Learn more about this project at www.countyofsb.org/adaptationplan.

[Take Survey](#)



Save the Date!

Announcing Channelkeeper's

BLUE WATER BALL

Sunday, May 7, 2023

5:00 pm to 9:00 pm

NEW DATE FOR THE 2023 BLUE WATER BALL

Mark your calendars! Channelkeeper's **2023 Blue Water Ball** will take place on **Sunday, May 7th**, and you won't want to miss it!

Now in its 21st year, the Blue Water Ball is Channelkeeper's biggest event of the year, raising critical funds that make it possible for us to protect the splendor of the Channel, our beaches, creeks, and coast.

We hope you'll join us on Sunday, May 7th, at the Cabrillo Pavilion in Santa Barbara, to celebrate the impressive environmental impact we've made together and our future work.

Keynote speaker **Benjamin S. Halpern**, recently named among the World's Most Influential Scientific Minds, will present "Healthy Oceans in a Changing Climate."

Keep an eye out for event updates and ticket sales info!



CHANNELKEEPER'S TED MORTON FEATURED ON 805 FOCUS

Curious about Channelkeeper's clean water work and legacy of environmental accomplishments? Check out this 805 Focus interview hosted by Dr. Cynder Sinclair. During the 20-minute segment, Executive Director Ted Morton highlights the organization's community education and water quality monitoring programs, as well as its political advocacy and energetic corps of volunteers.

[Watch Now](#)

ILLUMINATE CONSERVATION PRESENTS

"BYGONE"

AN ART EVENT FOR THE
STEELHEAD

- ARTWORK BY MICHAEL AND NATHAN IRWIN INSPIRED BY THE CRITICALLY ENDANGERED SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA STEELHEAD AND THE LOSS OF 2/3 OF THIS SPECIES HABITAT ON THE SANTA YNEZ RIVER.
- 30% OF PROCEEDS FROM ART SALES WILL BE DONATED TO ORGANIZATIONS WORKING TO SAVE THE STEELHEAD.
- EXPERT PRESENTATIONS ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS SPECIES AND THE HEALTH OF OUR WATERSHEDS BY CALIFORNIA TROUT, THE ENVIRONMENTAL DEFENSE CENTER AND THE SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER.

SAT

MARCH 25

5-9

PM

- ORIGINAL ART FOR SALE
- PRESENTATIONS BEGIN AT 6:15

AT THE COMMUNITY ARTS WORKSHOP

631 GARDEN STREET
SANTA BARBARA, CA 93101



LEARN MORE
ABOUT THIS EVENT:



STEELHEAD ART & ADVOCACY March 25th

Join us on March 25th for “Bygone: A Night of Art and Advocacy for the Southern California Steelhead,” presented by [Illuminate Conservation](#). The event will take place from 5 pm to 9 pm at The Shed at the Community Arts Workshop (631 Garden Street). It will raise awareness around this endangered species through educational presentations, steelhead paintings by father-son duo, Michael and Nathan Irwin, and projected watershed images by [Elevated Horizon](#). Art will be available for purchase with a percentage of the proceeds benefiting local advocacy groups.

Organizations working to protect California Steelhead Trout will provide informative presentations and be available to answer questions. Channelkeeper will be there, along with the Environmental Defense Center and California Trout. We hope you’ll come by our table and say hello!



**ANNOUNCING CHANNELKEEPER'S 20th ANNUAL STUDENT ART SHOW
Reception May 4th**

What could be more inspiring than art produced by young people that honors the remarkable beauty and biodiversity of the Santa Barbara Channel?

Each year, Channelkeeper's Student Art Show celebrates the connection between young people and the ocean. Local high school students are invited to create and submit their interpretations of what the Santa Barbara Channel means to them. Their colorful and poignant pieces are featured at an artists' reception and remain on display in order to inspire our community to protect the Santa Barbara Channel.

This year represents the Student Art Show's 20th consecutive year. Local artist Michael Irwin, who for a decade supported the show as an art teacher, will jury the show and select prize winners.

We hope you'll join us in celebrating the artists and the show's 20-year legacy at a student reception on Thursday, May 4th, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Jodi House Gallery at 625 Chapala Street in Santa Barbara.

We'd like to thank the show's sponsors, Trillium Enterprise, Inc. for their generous support.

KEEPING WATCH FOR CLEAN WATER
SINCE 1999



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