



CELEBRATING CLEAN WATER AT THE BLUE WATER BALL

We are grateful beyond words for the generous support of our community. This year's Blue Water Ball, held at the Cabrillo Pavilion, was an elegant and engaging evening celebrating Channelkeeper's clean water accomplishments and plans for the future.

This year's event—which opened with a heartfelt welcome and song by Mia Lopez, a member of the Coastal Band of Chumash Nation—featured a Channelside Chat with Ryan Gellert, CEO of Patagonia, hosted by Channelkeeper's executive director, Ted Morton. Gellert spoke about the transformative power of local, grassroots efforts to protect the environment.

Guests enjoyed artwork from fourteen local artists and sweeping views of the Santa Barbara Channel while connecting with friends. During the dinner hour, emcee Andrew Firestone entertained with lively auction commentary, while Catering Connection served a sumptuous three-course meal.

We had so much fun while raising critical funds that make it possible for Santa Barbara Channelkeeper to protect local beaches, creeks, and coast, and defend your right to clean water and healthy habitats.

We would like to extend special thanks to event sponsors Patagonia, Montecito

Bank & Trust, MarBorg Industries, and NatureTrack Film Festival, and the many individual sponsors, underwriters, and honorary committee members, artists, auction donors, and guests, who made the evening so special.

Click below to see more photos from the evening!

[View Photos](#)



SANTA BARBARA CITY COUNCIL TO TAKE ACTION ON CRUISE SHIP PROGRAM

On April 9th, the Santa Barbara City Council is expected to take final action on recommendations to reshape the City's cruise ship program. This represents a **culminating moment** in Channelkeeper's efforts to help shape the program's future and bring it into alignment with our community's environmental priorities.

The Harbor Commission recently approved a set of recommendations based on those developed by Channelkeeper and community partners. The Santa Barbara City Council will review these recommendations at the April 9th meeting, and take decisive action.

Public input is essential to this process. Please consider attending the April 9th meeting to share insights, ideas, and recommendations with City Council.

Date: Tuesday, April 9

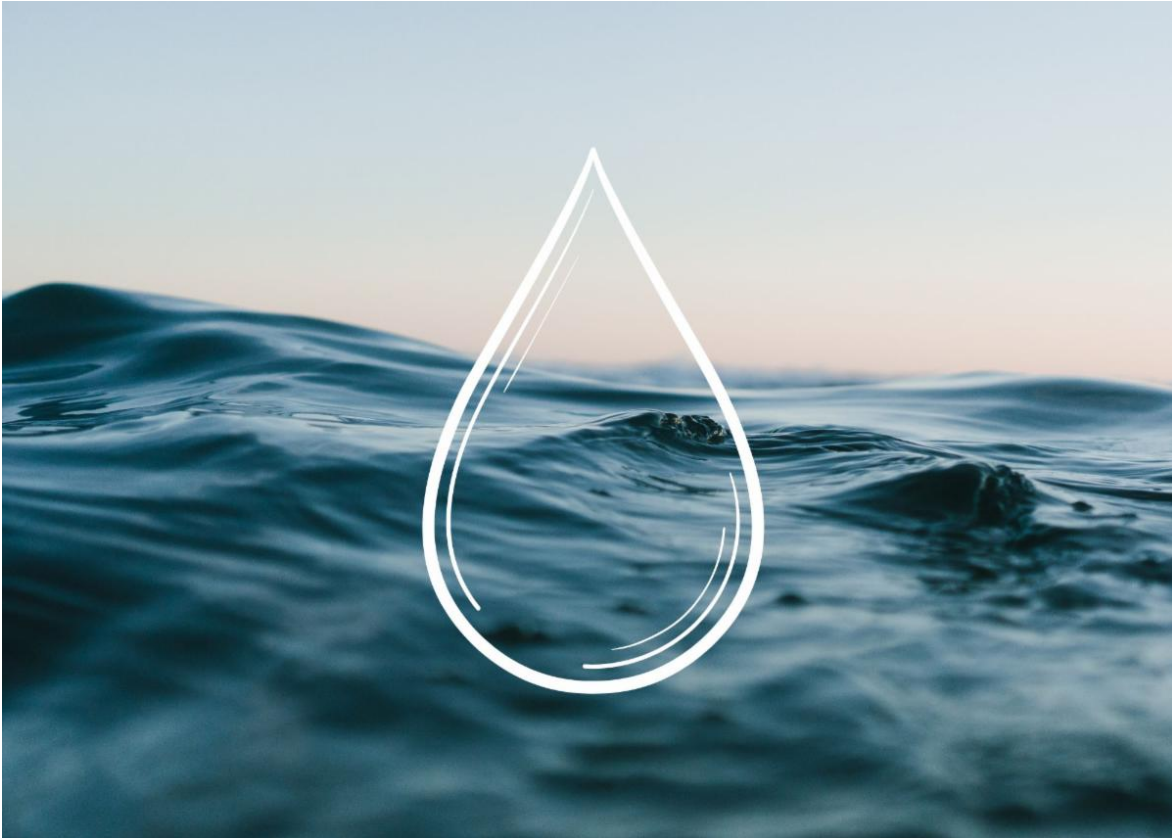
Time: Council Meeting starts at 2:00 pm

Please note: the Cruise Ship Agenda Item will likely come up later during the meeting. Channelkeeper will send a subsequent email with updated meeting details and a targeted time window.

Location: Council Chambers at City Hall,
735 Anacapa Street, Santa Barbara, CA

Remote Participation:
Click [HERE](#) to Participate via Zoom

Written Public Comment:
Public comments may be submitted via email with the subject line “**April 9 City Council Meeting - Cruise Ship Program**” to Clerk@SantaBarbaraCA.gov prior to the beginning of the Council Meeting.



ADVANCING WATER CONSERVATION

Channelkeeper continues to advocate for policies to promote water conservation on both local and state levels. Our current conservation efforts are focused on ensuring that the California State Water Resources Control Board adopts strong, forward-looking water efficiency standards to protect potable supplies for our communities, which helps us to be prepared for the next drought.

In 2018, two bills were passed, [AB 1668](#) and [SB 606](#), to "make conservation a California way of life." These bills established guidelines for efficient water use and provided a framework for implementation and oversight.

To reach the conservation goals outlined in these bills, the California State Water Board is working to update its Urban Water Conservation Regulations. The revision process has been a laborious one.

On March 12, the California State Water Board released an updated draft of the Urban Water Conservation Regulations, which included language that weakens and delays meaningful conservation standards that were part of the original regulation draft. Channelkeeper staff attended the State Water Board's

Workshop on March 20th and spoke in favor of prioritizing strong conservation regulations and against delaying conservation standards.

Channelkeeper also recently joined over 100 other organizations in signing onto a [Statement of Principles](#) that encourages the State of California to invest aggressively in water conservation.



BUILDING MEANINGFUL CAREERS: AN INTERVIEW WITH OUR MPA WATCH INTERNS

Channelkeeper is fortunate to have three UCSB undergraduate interns—Madi Trudeau, Brynn Campos, and Raven Berse—who support our MPAWatch community science program. These exceptional young women conduct weekly surveys to ensure consistent coverage of all the coastal MPAs, and they perform data entry of volunteer surveys and data quality control checks. They also assist with volunteer training workshops and lead volunteer field training sessions.

Click below to learn more from our amazing interns about how their internship with Channelkeeper has shaped their undergraduate experience while supporting their career goals.

[Read Interview](#)



Channelkeeper's April Board Walk

Saturday, April 20th
10:00 am to 12:00 pm
Cold Spring Trail

APRIL BOARD WALK

Saturday, April 20
10:00 am - 12:00 pm
Cold Spring Trail

Our April Board Walk will be a loop around the Cold Spring Trail. Please meet us at the trailhead at 811 East Mountain Drive on Saturday, April 20th, to learn about the significance of this perennial stream, its journey to the Channel, and the important role that the Cold Spring plays in the surrounding ecosystem.

This short hike will be led by Channelkeeper board member Benjamin Goedert, Development Director at the Santa Barbara International Film Festival.

The walk includes a moderate climb on a dirt trail. Participants should wear sturdy shoes and bring a hat, water, and sunscreen. Any dogs joining the walk must be kept on a leash.

Channelkeeper Board Walks are occasional walks and talks around town to explore water from different perspectives. They are designed for the whole community to understand our place in nature, especially with respect to life-giving water, and the importance of protecting our environment. Each is led by a Channelkeeper board member, drawing upon their expertise as naturalists, hydrologists, nature film producers, native plant gardeners, and more.



HELP REMOVE BEACHED LOBSTER TRAPS
Saturday, April 13
8:30 am - 12:00 pm
Goleta Beach

Attention volunteers! Channelkeeper has identified an onshore lobster trap debris hotspot between the Goleta Slough and More Mesa.

On April 13th, from 8:30 am to 12:00 pm, you're invited to help dig out buried lobster traps and place them at collection points along the beach where they will be loaded onto a commercial fishing vessel and transported to the Santa Barbara Harbor for reuse or proper disposal.

In addition to cluttering up our beaches, derelict lobster traps can entangle marine wildlife, release microplastics, and create safety hazards for vessels and beachgoers. We hope you'll join us and help get these traps off of the beach!

Volunteers will gather at Goleta Beach and will walk down the beach towards More Mesa to remove traps. Protective clothing and closed-toe shoes are required as traps can have sharp edges.

Volunteers will use shovels, bolt cutters, and pry bars to dig out buried traps, remove rocks and debris, and stage traps in piles for removal offshore to a commercial fishing boat. Fisherman Chris Voss from Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara and his team will provide vessel support to load traps and transport them to the Santa Barbara Harbor.

This is the fourth year of shoreline cleanup collaborations with the Commercial Fishermen of Santa Barbara. We're excited to work together on this community event and we hope you'll join us! Sign up below!

[Sign Up](#)



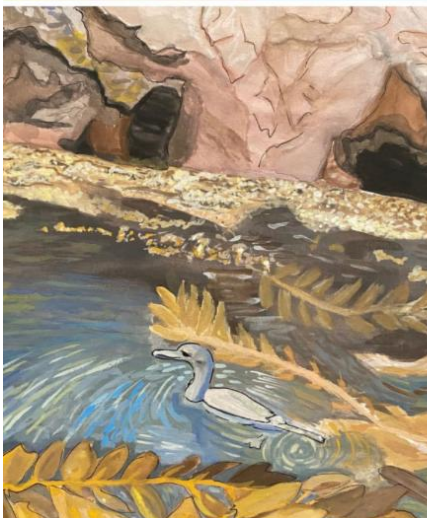
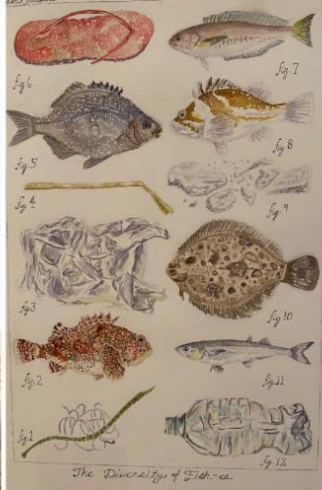
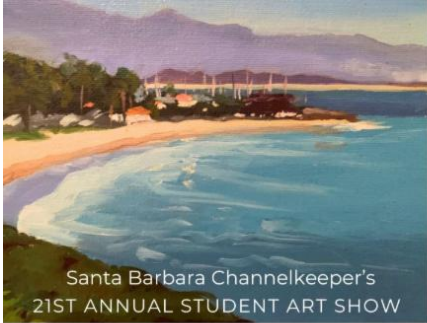
EARTH DAY 2024 April 27 & 28

We're excited to participate in this year's Earth Day Festival hosted by the Community Environmental Council!

We hope you'll join us on April 27 and 28 in Alameda Park for two days of inspiring events focused on the environment, live music performances, great speakers, a green car show, and the Environmental Hero Awards presentation. Stop by Channelkeeper's booth to say hi and spin the wheel to win prizes!

This year's theme is Planet vs Plastics, which inspires us to advocate for rapidly phasing out single-use plastics, generating awareness of the health risks of plastics, and pushing for a strong UN Treaty on Plastic Pollution by the end of 2024.

[More Info](#)



CHANNELKEEPER'S 2024 STUDENT ART SHOW Thursday, May 2nd

With its colorful array of shapes, textures, contours, and patterns, the artwork produced by local teens for Channelkeeper's Student Art Show honors the remarkable beauty and biodiversity of the Santa Barbara Channel, and it also inspires our community to protect it.

For over twenty years, high school students from Carpinteria to Lompoc have been invited to create and submit their interpretations of what the Santa Barbara Channel means to them. Their artwork is featured at an artists' reception in order to inspire our community to protect the Santa Barbara Channel.

This year, local artist Kelly Clause, who, once upon a time participated in the Student Art Show as a student, will jury the show.

We hope you'll join us in celebrating the artists and the show's twenty-year legacy at a student reception on Thursday, May 2nd, from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm at the Jodi House Gallery at 625 Chapala Street in Santa Barbara.

We would like to thank the show's sponsors, Trillium Enterprise, Inc. and the City of Goleta Grant Program for their generous support.



VOLUNTEERS NEEDED TO KEEP THE HARBOR CLEAN
Saturday, May 4
8:00 am

Santa Barbara Harbor's Operation Clean Sweep, a seafloor debris cleanup program, will hold its 15th annual event on Saturday, May 4th. A team of volunteer divers, supported by volunteer dock workers, will remove junk from beneath the Marina. Divers will locate the junk and dock volunteers will cart it off for disposal.

During past events, volunteers removed over twenty tons of debris from Santa Barbara Harbor, including bicycles, plastic barrels, boat propellers, outboard engines, phones, and marine batteries.

The event begins at 8:00 am, with a briefing on the Travel Lift Pier beneath the Harbormaster's Office, complete with free coffee and donuts. It concludes with a hearty lunch at 11:30 am.

We always look forward to joining the City of Santa Barbara's Waterfront Department for this great event.

[Sign Up](#)



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. Thank you for your support!

[Donate](#)

KEEPING WATCH FOR CLEAN WATER
SINCE 1999



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CHANNELKEEPER®



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