



Twentieth Anniversary Edition

2014

ANNUAL REPORT



VISIT & EXPLORE

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NATURE CENTER
OPEN EVERYDAY

10am - 6pm

(January & February
open 10am - 5pm)

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MBNEP.org

Watercolor artwork
in this report generously
donated by local artist

KATHY MILLER
Morro Bay, CA

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NUMBERS & FINANCES

SUPPORT

Volunteers	20
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MORRO BAY NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

Morro Bay National Estuary Program works to protect and restore the Morro Bay Estuary for people and wildlife. The Estuary Program is a collaborative, non-regulatory, nonprofit organization that brings together citizens, local governments, nonprofit organizations, state and federal agencies, and landowners to support a healthy environment and vibrant local communities. Our staff conducts habitat protection and restoration, monitoring and research, and public education in an effort to keep Morro Bay clean and healthy.

VOLUNTEER

DONATE

LEARN

MBNEP.org



MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT & DIRECTOR

Next year is the 20th Anniversary of Morro Bay being accepted into the National Estuary Program (NEP). What started out as a “long-shot” dream by a dedicated and passionate group of people at the Friends of the Estuary and the Bay Foundation eventually resulted in the Morro Bay Estuary being recognized as one of only 28 estuaries in the United States to receive the NEP designation.

Morro Bay is one of the smallest of the designated estuaries, and was challenged to complete a Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan (CCMP) in just five years. The challenge was substantial. The staff at the Morro Bay National Estuary Program not only succeeded, but many of the Estuary Program efforts (like our volunteer monitoring program) have been recognized as a model for all of the NEPs.

Many community members have helped the Estuary Program get to where it is today. Some of these supporters are highlighted in this report, along with the many accomplishments we’ve been able to achieve together in the last 20 years. This year, we have continued this legacy of conservation and stewardship. We held our 5th State of the Bay, engaging over 800 community members in estuary protection. We also broke ground on our new rural-road improvement project that will help reduce chronic sedimentation of our creeks and bay.

Now the Bay Foundation and the Estuary Program look forward to the next 20 years. Many new challenges lie ahead, such as addressing the decline in eelgrass and the future effects of a changing climate. While sources of funding are constantly changing, the Estuary Program will continue to monitor the health of our estuary, restore natural habitats, and educate residents and visitors on how to keep our bay clean and healthy for all of us.

Gary Ruggione
Gary Ruggione
President
Bay Foundation

Adrienne Harris
Adrienne Harris
Executive Director
Morro Bay National Estuary Program



In 2014, the Bay Foundation welcomed two new board members – Mark Rothe and Dr. Deanna Richards.

Mark has an MBA with an emphasis in accounting and nonprofit management as well as 30 years of experience in academic, nonprofit and for-profit contexts. He previously was a professor of accounting at State University of New York. He and his wife Penny recently moved to Morro Bay from New York and run a nonprofit SummerSongs, which provides songwriting instruction to adults. Mark took over Treasurer duties for the board this fall.



NEW VOICES

Dr. Deanna Richards is a local financial advisor who enjoys working with individuals and organizations on strategies to reach their financial goals. Raised in Malaysia, she has spent the majority of her adult life here in the United States, earning a Ph. D. in environmental engineering from the University of Pennsylvania and working as an environmental engineer for many years before “retiring” to SLO County. In the 1990s, she directed a program on Technology and Environment at the National Academies of Science and Engineering.



THANK YOU

We said goodbye to long-time Bay Foundation board member Bob Semonsen in 2014. Bob tirelessly served on the board for 25 years and was instrumental in forming the Bay Foundation and the Morro Bay National Estuary Program. Bob also gave his time as Treasurer of the board for the past five years. Wanting to be closer to their grandchildren, Bob and his wife Tina moved to Southern California this fall. He will be missed. We hope they come to visit often.

A large, stylized graphic in the background features two white silhouettes of people standing side-by-side, enclosed within a white circular shape. The entire graphic is set against a light beige background with a subtle gradient. The word "Celebrate" is written in a dark blue, cursive script across the top, and the years "1995 - 2015" are printed in a bold, grey, sans-serif font below it.

Celebrate

1995 – 2015

Let's look back on all the achievements of the program.

Your help has made us succeed.

We asked community members and contributors to the program to tell their Estuary Program tales. Read on as these local voices share their stories celebrating our beautiful estuary. Together, we'll dive into the years ahead.



“Our scientific and technical knowledge was limited. But we held in our hearts a love for this location and its wildlife.”

In 1989, 25 years ago,

Friends of the Estuary and the Bay Foundation were formed. These organizations, along with the Morro Bay Task Force, came together to spearhead efforts to preserve the bay. Made up of residents from across the county, Friends was given the task of developing and maintaining wide public and political support.

While most of us knew that changes to the estuary were inevitable, we could see that human influence was speeding up those changes in an unacceptable way. Many informative and educational programs were held, offering insight into the natural history of the area and the elements that form the ecosystem.

Some of us had never heard terms like nutrients and sedimentation rates before. We didn't understand what a watershed was or why a meander is important in a stream. Our scientific and technical knowledge was limited. But we held in our hearts a love for this location and its wildlife. Our concern was that it could be irreparably harmed by overdevelopment.

I served as the Friends of the Estuary's president during the National Estuary Program (NEP) transition, and was honored to represent the Friends on the NEP Executive Committee. Though the Friends of the Estuary organization is no more, I am still a member of the NEP's Public Outreach and Education

Committee, studying and approving grant monies for projects that benefit the estuary and align themselves with the action and management plans.

For those of us who were ecstatic about our inclusion as a State and National Estuary, our delight is tempered by the fact that more work needs to be done. Our job continues as we face the unknowns associated with climate change. Twenty (five) years and counting!

– *Ruth Ann Angus*

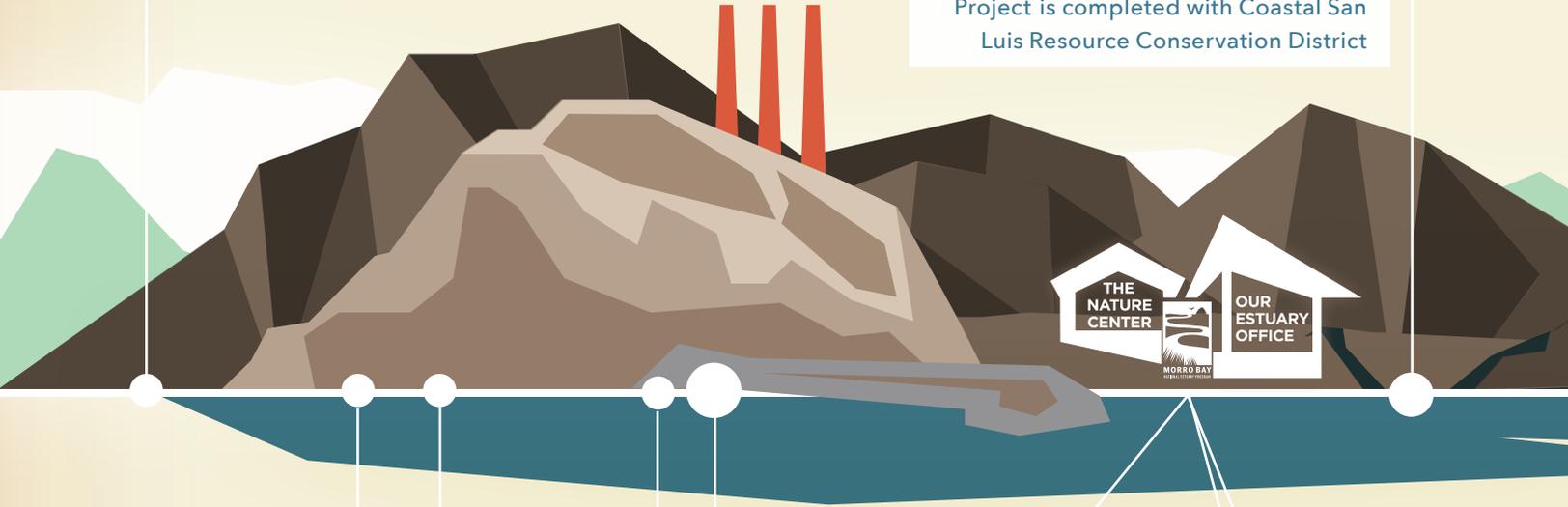
1986

The Morro Bay Task Force is re-established to provide a comprehensive approach to managing the watershed and estuary

2001

Comprehensive Conservation and Management Plan is signed by the governor

Chorro Flats Floodplain Enhancement Project is completed with Coastal San Luis Resource Conservation District



1989

The Friends of the Estuary and The Bay Foundation are established to handle outreach and research, respectively, to encourage estuary preservation

1994

Morro Bay is recognized as a state estuary

1993

The Volunteer Monitoring Program is established by Friends of the Estuary

1997

The Volunteer Monitoring Program is reorganized and becomes part of the National Estuary Program

1991

The First State of the Bay Conference is held. The nine-day event is designed to increase awareness of the need to protect Morro Bay



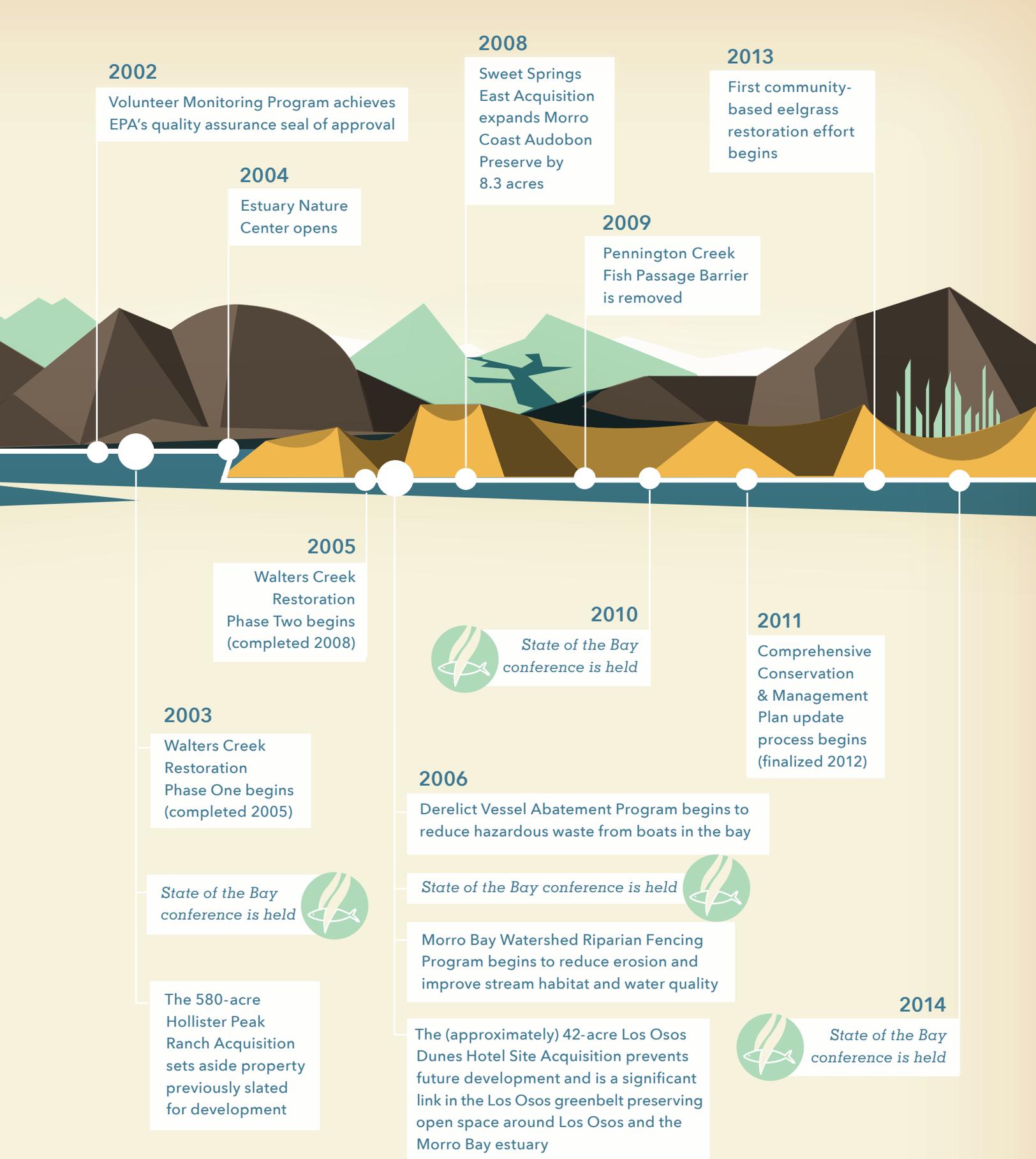
1995

Morro Bay gains National Estuary Program status from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

1999

Draft Management Plan (CCMP) is finalized. Over 700 individuals helped to draft the plan over a four-year planning process

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS...



SIGNIFICANT EVENTS ALONG THE WAY

When I retired, I wanted to put my time into activities related to my cherished Morro Bay. After becoming a docent at the Morro Bay Museum of Natural History, I got caught up in the efforts to save the bay. With evidence that some 45 tons of silt were entering Morro Bay annually due to erosion, there was general concern.

I began working with Friends of the Estuary, who had decided to establish a management plan through the National Estuary Program. We worked with strong determination to achieve that goal, knowing that it could take ten years. As we worked, I was impressed and pleased that people, organizations, and

government agencies were so supportive of keeping Morro Bay's special natural environment. We relished the opportunity to take on an important project.

Now that we are well along in the program, I take great satisfaction that so many in this community worked together to get the job done. I admire former County Supervisor Bill Coy, and am greatly impressed with Steve Eabry's ability to put together such a strong network of concerned people, organizations, and agencies. I appreciate Don Parham, Jean Cartwright, and Eileen Bowen, who took the lead with Friends of the Estuary, recruiting the board. We could

not have built a membership of 2,000 supporters without funding from PG&E for the campaign. I remain thankful for the passionate dedication of Dave Paradies in getting people working together on the management plan, and Mary Leizear who ran our local NEP office. My strong feelings are for all the many people who worked to make it all possible.

– *Bill Newman*



“As we worked, I was impressed and pleased that people, organizations, and government agencies were so supportive of keeping Morro Bay's special natural environment.”

You might not be there every day, you might not even think about it for a week or two, but it's, you know, that special place.

– Terry Hooker
Local Resident

We love the winter mostly because it's so calm and also the amount of bird species that are here in the winter... In and around Morro Bay there are often up to 200 different species of birds in the winter. It's a major bird watching hot spot, an international hot spot.

– John Flaherty
Owner of Central Coast Outdoors

All of us love our beautiful estuary, our beautiful harbor...

Consequently we are always vigilant and care for it, so we end up with a beautiful place that we certainly can appreciate. The Estuary Program is always working with us and us with them. It keeps the community involved.

– Jeremiah O'Brien
President of Commercial Fishermen's Organization

LOCAL VOICES

One of the unique things about living aboard [our boat] was that I got to see all the different seasons pass. My husband and I really felt Mother Nature. We really experienced all the different species that would come to the bay as they're migrating through. So when we put on our all-weather suits to ride in the dinghy back to the car to go to work every day in town, I was bolstered by what I was experiencing every day here on the bay. It just furthered my resolve to help protect our entire county. I get to do that in my line of work.

– Kaila Dettman
Executive Director of the Land Conservancy

The [initial meetings of the Morro Bay Task Force] were really great because it was across all kinds of normal boundaries and unconventional partnerships. It was conservation folks, retired folks with interest in recreation, commercial interests, and [local] government... I think that's what the Estuary Program can be most proud of. It is not a regulatory program. It's a program of trying to put together projects that can improve the health of the estuary and preserve the quality in this incredible asset that we have.

– Rick Algert
Former Harbor Director for the City of Morro Bay

Inhaling the Sea The Bay fills then stills: breathless waiting to exhale

Breathe by Tim Crowley, *Local Resident*

Our fishing industry is very much part of the city. That's what founded Morro Bay. Our whole community supports [it]... Every so often, when there are a lot of fish in the water, we will have these congregations of birds, cormorants, pelicans... and they're fishing, they're feeding. It's wonderful. It's just fabulous to watch.

– Janice Peters
Former Mayor of Morro Bay

We never get tired of being out here, it's just a phenomenal place. It changes every single day.

– Virginia Flaherty
Owner of Central Coast Outdoors

CONTINUING OUR IMPORTANT WORK

EELGRASS RESTORATION UPDATE



Eelgrass, an underwater seagrass, is an important part of the estuary ecosystem. It provides food and shelter to a variety of sea-life and wildlife. Unfortunately, eelgrass beds have been dwindling since 2007. We have been working to understand and counteract this decline through strategic restoration and monitoring efforts.

Environmental Reporter David Sneed wrote about our restoration efforts in the August 13, 2014 edition of San Luis Obispo's Tribune:

"This crisis has sparked a remarkable restoration effort by the Morro Bay National Estuary Program. Over the past three years, hundreds of shore-side workers and scuba divers have volunteered to harvest and replant thousands of bundles of eelgrass throughout the estuary..."

Volunteers tying bundles of eelgrass... said they were motivated to help out of a desire to see the estuary thrive and out of respect for the work the National Estuary Program does. 'The sponsor of the program is my main reason for wanting to volunteer,' said Kristen Nelson of San Luis Obispo."

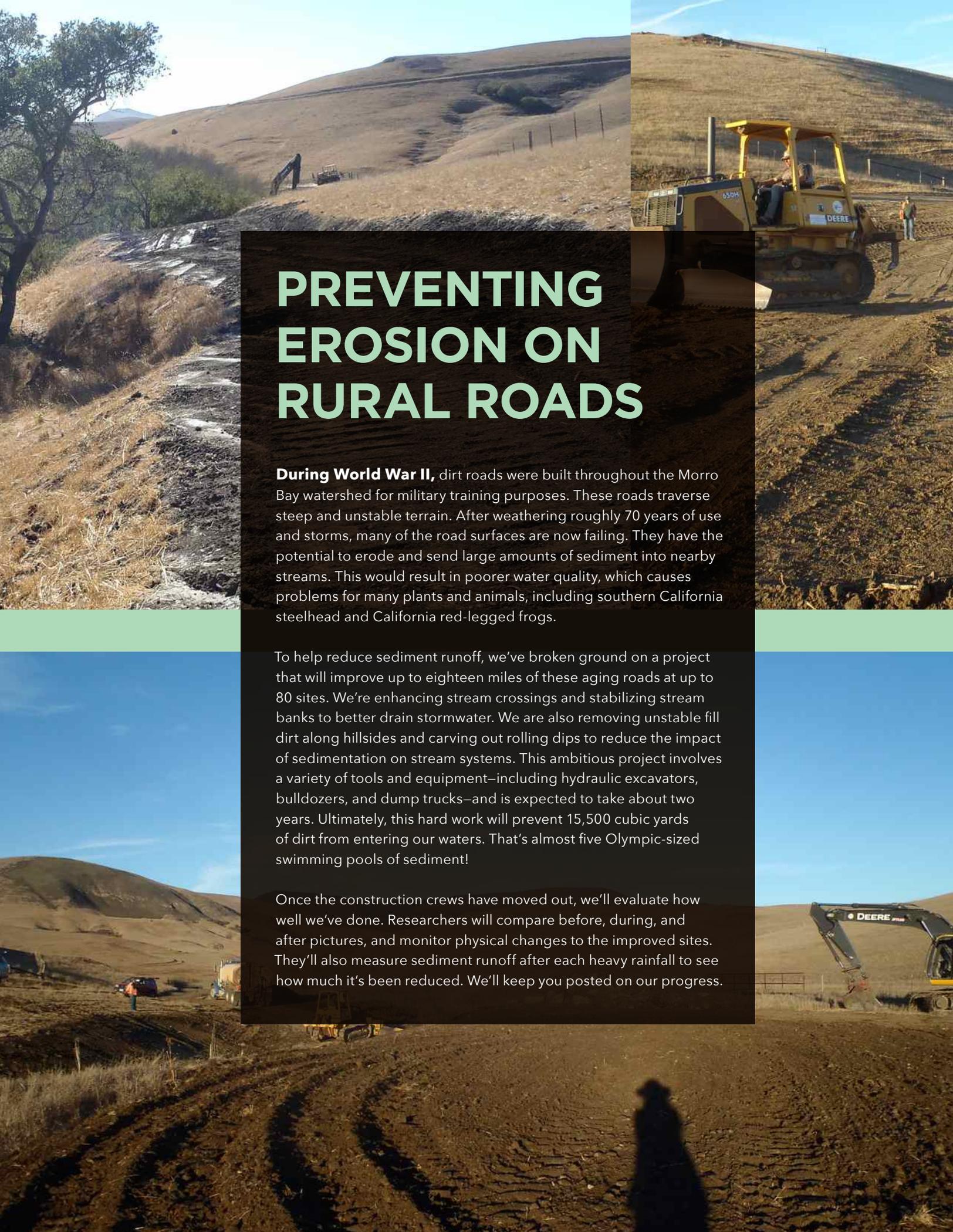
Thanks to over 200 hard-working volunteers like Kristen, our 2014 community-based restoration was a great success. We're currently developing a new volunteer eelgrass monitoring and restoration program that will allow us to make a positive impact on the eelgrass beds year-round.

To read more of David's article,
"Volunteers work to restore Morro Bay's vital eelgrass beds,"

Visit: http://www.sanluisobispo.com/2014/08/13/3194727_volunteers-work-to-restore-morro.html?rh=1

2014

THIS YEAR
IN FOCUS...



PREVENTING EROSION ON RURAL ROADS

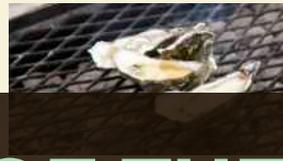
During World War II, dirt roads were built throughout the Morro Bay watershed for military training purposes. These roads traverse steep and unstable terrain. After weathering roughly 70 years of use and storms, many of the road surfaces are now failing. They have the potential to erode and send large amounts of sediment into nearby streams. This would result in poorer water quality, which causes problems for many plants and animals, including southern California steelhead and California red-legged frogs.

To help reduce sediment runoff, we've broken ground on a project that will improve up to eighteen miles of these aging roads at up to 80 sites. We're enhancing stream crossings and stabilizing stream banks to better drain stormwater. We are also removing unstable fill dirt along hillsides and carving out rolling dips to reduce the impact of sedimentation on stream systems. This ambitious project involves a variety of tools and equipment—including hydraulic excavators, bulldozers, and dump trucks—and is expected to take about two years. Ultimately, this hard work will prevent 15,500 cubic yards of dirt from entering our waters. That's almost five Olympic-sized swimming pools of sediment!

Once the construction crews have moved out, we'll evaluate how well we've done. Researchers will compare before, during, and after pictures, and monitor physical changes to the improved sites. They'll also measure sediment runoff after each heavy rainfall to see how much it's been reduced. We'll keep you posted on our progress.



Sycamores by Kathy Miller, Local Artist

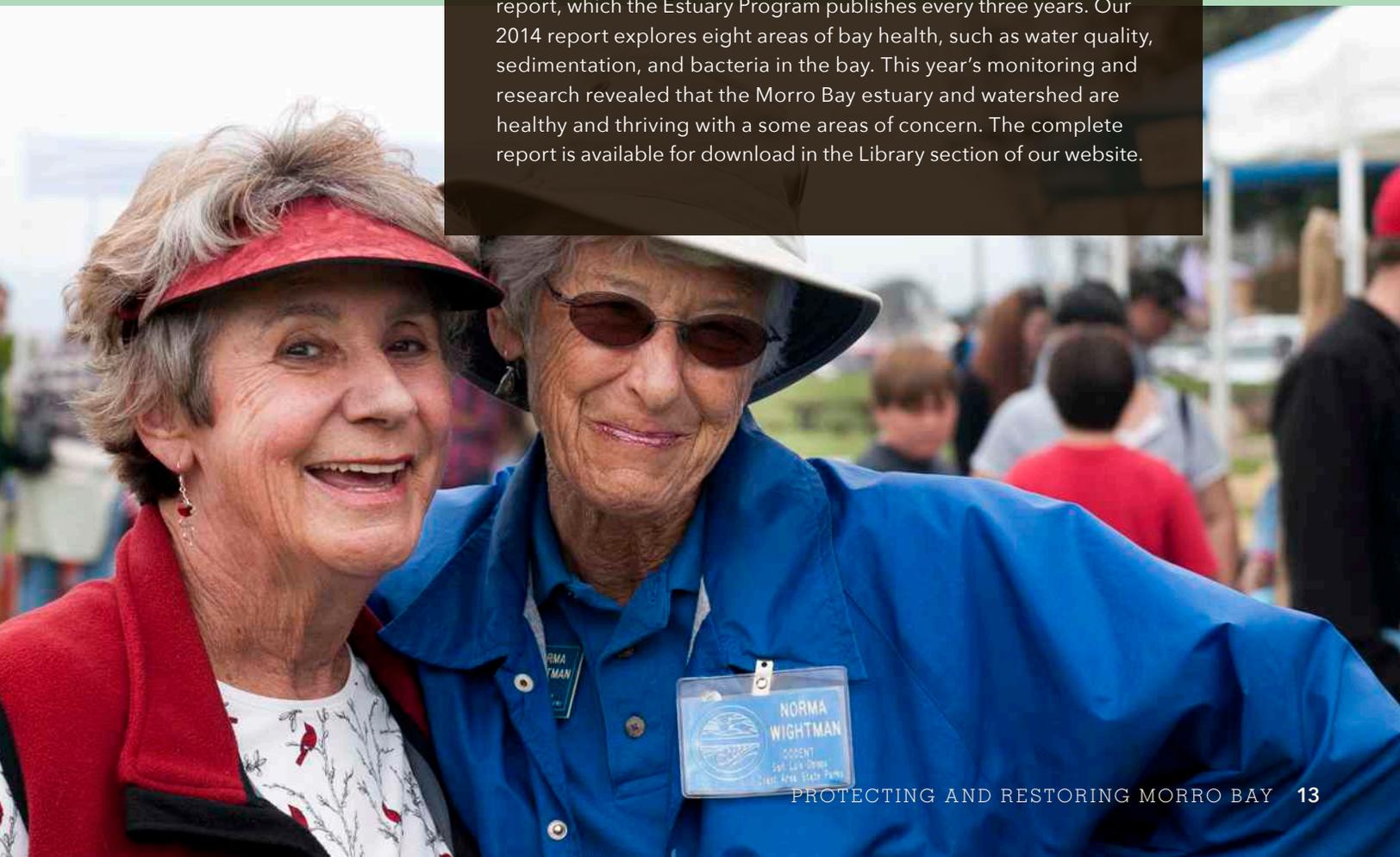


STATE OF THE BAY

Our 2014 State of the Bay event series invited people to learn about the health of the Morro Bay estuary and watershed in a fun and interactive way. The event series offered something for everybody, from young students to marine science professionals, and over 800 people participated.

Thanks to a grant from Harold J. Miossi Charitable Trust, we were able to present a wide variety of events. Activities included bay health and science presentations, a hike up Black Hill with program staff, a family event, our first annual Dog Fest, a presentation on bay-friendly gardening, and a haiku contest. (An entry from the contest is featured on page 9 of this report.)

The State of the Bay event series was inspired by the State of the Bay report, which the Estuary Program publishes every three years. Our 2014 report explores eight areas of bay health, such as water quality, sedimentation, and bacteria in the bay. This year's monitoring and research revealed that the Morro Bay estuary and watershed are healthy and thriving with a some areas of concern. The complete report is available for download in the Library section of our website.



YOUR INVOLVEMENT MEANS FUTURE CELEBRATIONS!

Help keep our bay beautiful and healthy — volunteer with the Morro Bay National Estuary Program. There are opportunities in water quality monitoring, education and outreach, events, eelgrass monitoring and restoration, and more!

LEARN MORE!

with our newly revamped website
www.MBNEP.org

or call our offices
805.772.3834

CELEBRATE IN 2015

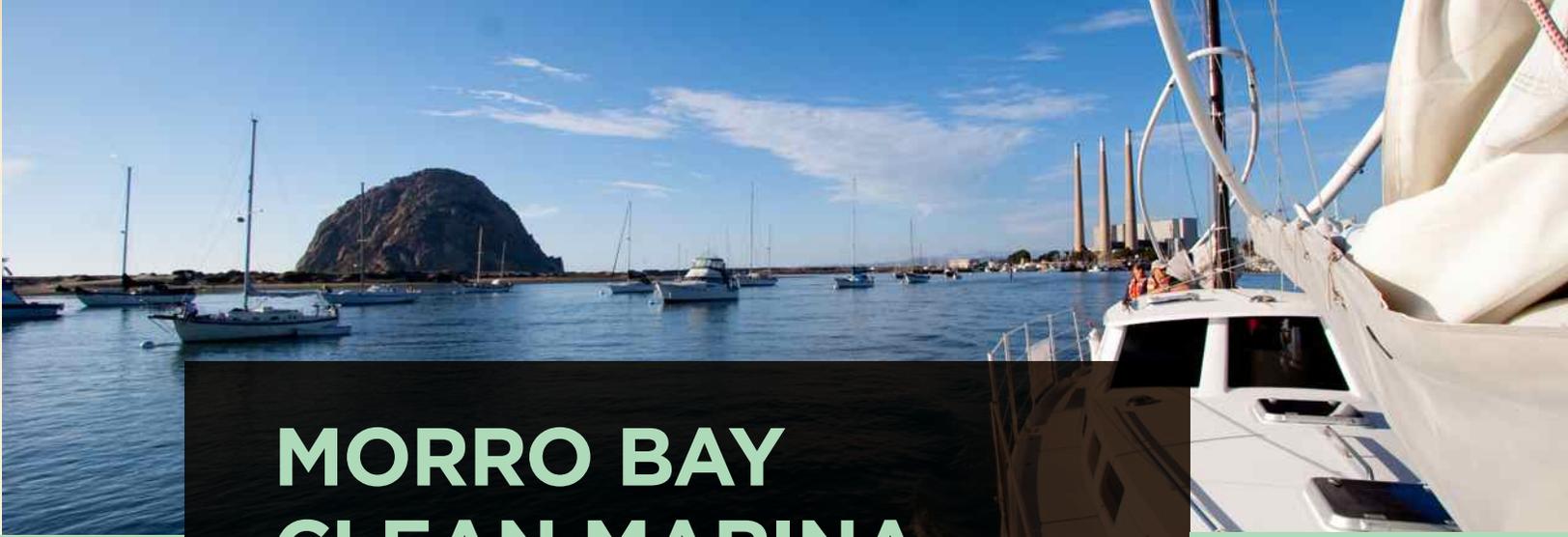


In 2015, we will be holding many anniversary events and would love for you to join! Keep an eye on our calendar and Facebook page for invitations and dates of upcoming events.

As part of our celebrations, we are collecting stories that showcase the wonders and beauty of the bay through community members' recollections. *(Interviews in action pictured on this page.)*

Stay tuned to web and radio in 2015 to hear these great interviews conducted by Simo Nylander and Tom Wilmer.





MORRO BAY CLEAN MARINA

The Morro Bay Harbor, with hard work from the city's Harbor Department, has been a certified California Clean Marina since 2006. The Estuary Program is proud to work with the Harbor Department and other partners to promote clean marina practices and prevent water pollution. Thirteen aspects of the harbor must meet the Clean Marina Program requirements: emergency procedures, boat maintenance, solid and liquid waste management, debris management, stormwater runoff, and more.

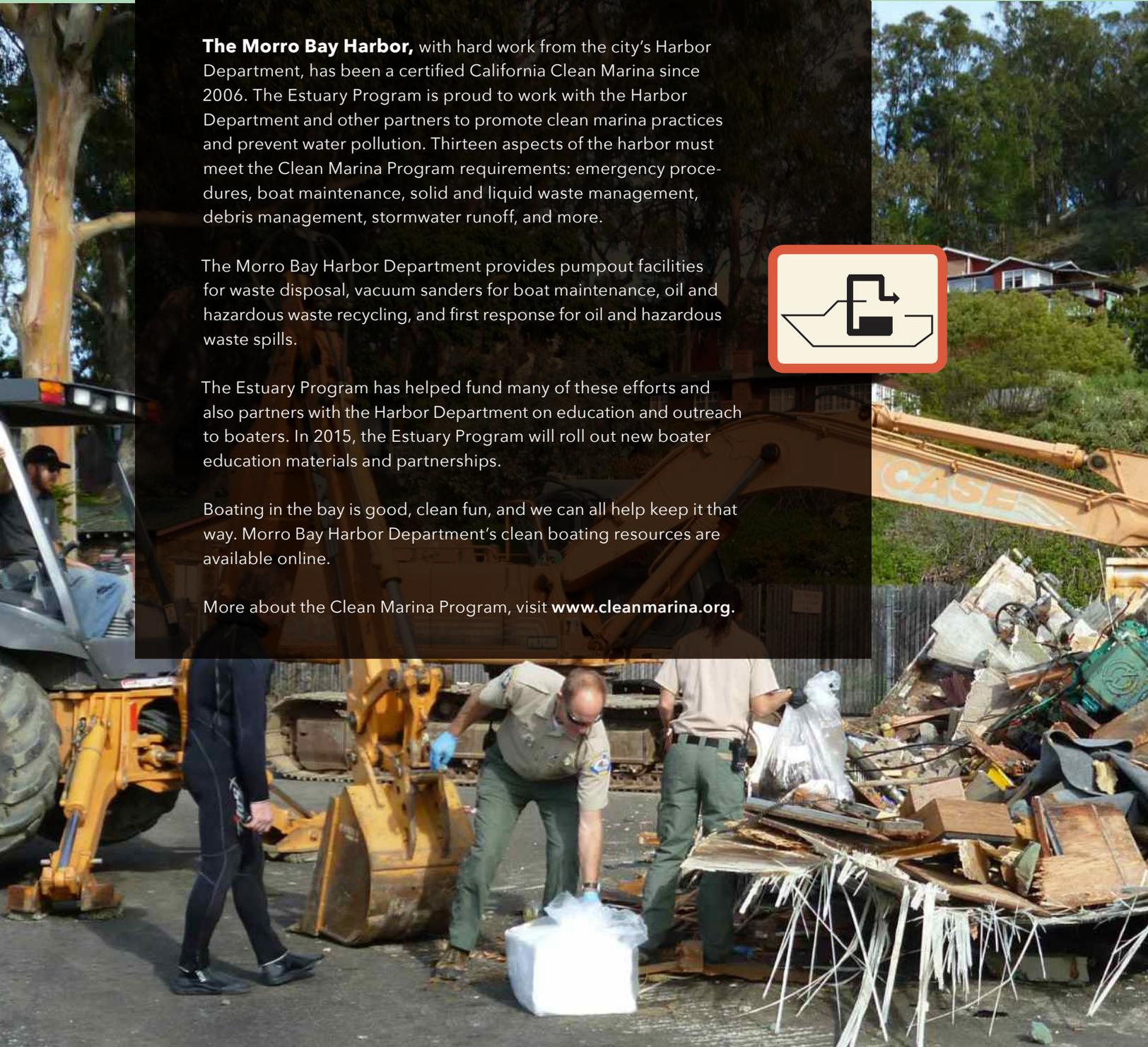
The Morro Bay Harbor Department provides pumpout facilities for waste disposal, vacuum sanders for boat maintenance, oil and hazardous waste recycling, and first response for oil and hazardous waste spills.



The Estuary Program has helped fund many of these efforts and also partners with the Harbor Department on education and outreach to boaters. In 2015, the Estuary Program will roll out new boater education materials and partnerships.

Boating in the bay is good, clean fun, and we can all help keep it that way. Morro Bay Harbor Department's clean boating resources are available online.

More about the Clean Marina Program, visit www.cleanmarina.org.





\$1,960

San Luis Obispo Botanical Garden

Fire Safe Demonstration Landscape

When complete, the Fire Safe Garden will provide a working model of landscape design principles aimed specifically at protecting life and property from the devastating effects of wildfire. This grant supported erosion control measures in the garden, in addition to previous funding for grading, pedestrian paths, and educational materials.



The Community Grants Program fosters creative projects with the community to address the priority issues facing the Morro Bay estuary. The following projects were awarded Community Grants in the 2014 Fiscal Year.

COMMUNITY GRANTS AWARDED

INSPIRE & IMPLEMENT



\$1,018

Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization

Vacuum Sander Boat Maintenance Project

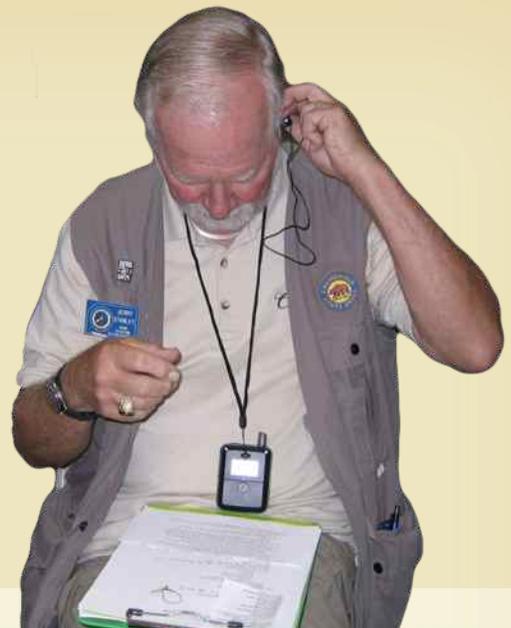
One source of toxic pollutants to the bay is in-water boat maintenance. Because access to proper boat haul-out facilities is limited in this region, many boat owners do as much maintenance in water as possible. Under this grant, the Morro Bay Commercial Fishermen's Organization purchased dust extractor vacuum sanders that capture up to 98% of dust generated. The dust-extractor system on each sander helps decrease pollution into Morro Bay. These sanders are available to be checked out by boat owners from the Morro Bay Harbor Department.

\$2,700

Central Coast State Parks Association

Communication Devices for Walks & Tours

The Central Coast State Parks Association (CCSPA) increased accessibility of docent-led walks and tours around the estuary by purchasing transmitter and receiver communication devices. The devices ensure that all participants can fully hear the talk leader, even those who have difficulty hearing or who have a hard time keeping up with the pace of the group. Now, all participants can stay engaged in learning about the bay.



\$5,000

Achievement House, Inc

Achievement House Hydroponics Water Reclamation Project

Achievement House constructed a 2,600 square-foot hydroponic greenhouse to grow vegetables and flowers to sell to the general public. The greenhouse will generate approximately 4,900 gallons of nutrient-enriched water every 15 days. In order to save and recycle this limited resource, the Achievement House constructed a 5,000-gallon waste water reclamation storage facility next to the greenhouse. The captured waste water will be used to provide water to adjacent greenhouses and a community garden.



PROGRAM MILESTONES

Over the past 20 years, there are many uncounted hours of field work, research, and help from volunteers that have made our program thrive. The efforts we have been able to record across our history are exciting. Thank you to those who have helped build our program, databases, and educational opportunities. We look forward to future collaborations.

3,040 SAMPLES

Bacteria monitoring has been ongoing in the watershed for nearly 15 years. In the past 13 years alone, 3,040 samples have been collected.

In the lifetime of the MONITORING PROGRAM,

604 VOLUNTEERS contributed
17,574 HOURS, which totals
462,899 DOLLARS in labor!

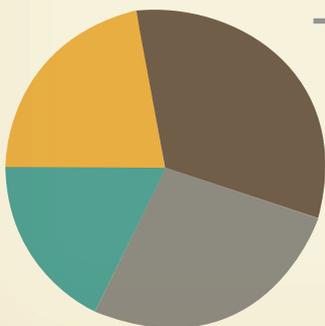
2,700 MONITORING EVENTS

Creek water quality monitoring has been conducted for 15 years, with over 2,700 monitoring events during that time.

NUMBERS & FINANCES

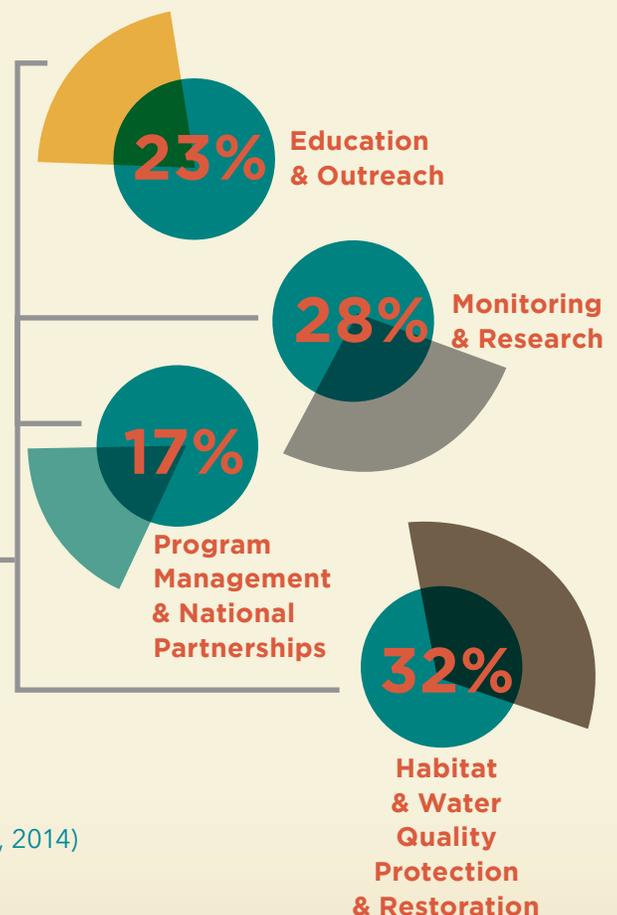
2014 FISCAL DATA

Morro Bay National Estuary Program is one of 28 National Estuary Programs around the country. As a member of this group, the Estuary Program receives an annual grant from the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). The Estuary Program has been able to leverage each dollar of this federal funding received into nearly ten dollars in support for local conservation work and goals for the Morro Bay estuary and watershed. The majority of these funds are provided to partners and local organizations through grants and collaborative projects.



EXPENSE DISTRIBUTION

The proportion of funds that are used in each of four program areas for the 2014 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014)



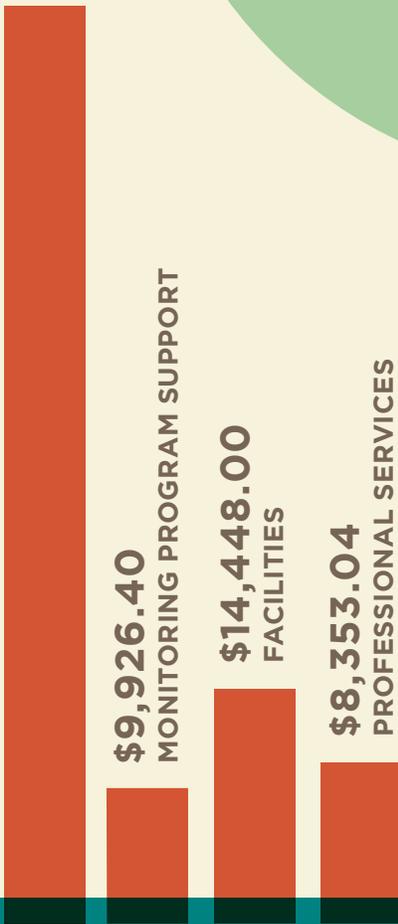
\$56,574.97
VOLUNTEER TIME

\$593,383.00
FEDERAL FUNDS

INCOME SOURCES

The value of cash and in-kind income from federal and non-federal sources for the 2014 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014)

\$338,169.41
NON-FEDERAL FUNDS



DONATED SERVICES

The dollar value of donated services received by the Estuary Program during the 2014 Fiscal Year (October 1, 2013 - September 30, 2014)

56
%

IN-KIND

21
%

STATE

6
%

PRIVATE

17
%

RESTORATION FUND

In 2014

714
HOURS
of work were
completed by

56
MONITORING
VOLUNTEERS

VITAL HELPING HANDS VOLUNTEERS OF THE YEAR



Monitoring Program Volunteers of the Year

LIZ CURREN

After visiting friends on the West Coast, this St. Louis native just couldn't leave the area. After a few months in Southern California, she and her husband made their way to the Central Coast. Liz grew up loving and exploring the outdoors and instilled that same passion in her own children. Her community work is not limited to the outdoors, however, as she will be retiring from the Los Osos Library soon. With a daughter in Los Angeles and son and granddaughter in Japan, Liz takes time to travel for fun family visits.

(Pictured above)

SUE HOOD

Sue has always loved the outdoors. Initially from Massachusetts, her passion for being on the water started as she explored the river she grew up on via her rowboat, sweetly named "Thumbelina." Her residence on the Central Coast began in the 1970s, as she and her husband chose to raise their two boys in Los Osos. Hiking, backpacking, and, again, being on the water was part of family life. Her family continues to keep her busy with her two sons, now in Alaska. Sue takes trips to see her family there, especially the grandkids.

(Pictured above right)

Sue and Liz initially met as Los Osos neighbors and quickly found they enjoyed each other's company while graciously helping in our program. Liz began lending a hand in the fall of 2005, while Sue joined the following summer. By monitoring the water at specific sites, especially Pennington Creek, the pair are able to visit with each other and enjoy the outdoors. The duo agrees that their sites are special and they enjoy the unique opportunity to interact with the changing seasons throughout the years. We thank both women for dedicating their time and passion to the important work they have accomplished with the MBNEP.

Community Volunteer of the Year

SKIP ROTSTEIN

Skip moved to Los Osos only last year. He began his career as a high school biology teacher and, since retiring, ran a cactus nursery in the desert. Leaving his plants behind, his second retirement finds him in our area. An important community contributor, he lends his time to the Morro Bay Natural History Museum and National Estuary

Program. Phytoplankton sampling, bioassessment, and the eelgrass restoration program, have been Skip's specialties and his work has been vital to the success of the project. We so appreciate his time and effort and hope that he finds moments for the hiking and road biking that he loves so much during his new retirement.



TWO VOLUNTEERS RETIRE!

Their work, spanning 11 years, has been a great contribution to the estuary and our community.

MIMI KIMBALL

Involvement in the Central Coast community is nothing new to Mimi, who is a Lionness and a volunteer to foster kittens. Mimi retired from nursing to settle full time in Cayucos. She has contributed 327 hours to our program since 2003.

This dedication came in the form of bacteria monitoring in the bay. This work has been particularly important because no one else (state, county, city, etc) is monitoring bacteria in the bay to determine if the waters are safe for swimming. We thank Mimi for her relentless care for the people and wildlife that surround her and inhabit Morro Bay.

B.K. RICHARD

After retiring from an engineering career in Southern California, B.K. became very active on the Land Conservancy Board as well as a volunteer with our program here in Morro Bay. Beginning in 2003, his work with the Estuary Program included water quality monitoring, bioassessment monitoring, and bacteria monitoring totaling 510 hours. B.K. provided monitoring

for on a project that fenced cattle out of a local creek to reduce bacteria in the water. His monitoring data detected a measureable drop in bacteria levels in the creek, demonstrating the effectiveness of this project. We would like to recognize B.K. with appreciation for his dedication to the Morro Bay landscape and his significant contributions the Estuary Program.





Thank you to the Dougherty family, who contributed so much through their lasting memorial gift in honor of their relative, Frances. She was a special woman with a deep appreciation for nature and cherished memories at the ocean, especially in Morro Bay. She and her late husband, Andrew, took annual trips to the area in their spare time. The Let It Rain fundraiser conducted in Spring 2014 was a success with every donation up to \$1,000 matched by the Estate of Frances Dougherty. The effort and donations from those involved are greatly appreciated.

THANK YOU 2014 SUPPORTERS

GENEROSITY THAT MOVES US FORWARD

The generosity of the following individuals, companies, and organizations has allowed us to have a greater positive impact on the Morro Bay National Estuary this year.

IN-KIND SERVICES & PRODUCTS

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Art Center Morro Bay | Christopher McMains |
| Beach Butlerz | Miner's Ace Hardware |
| Corwin Bidwell | Mutt Mitt |
| Central Coast Stand Up Paddling | Jennifer Nix |
| Central Coast State Parks Association | Pleasant Inn Motel |
| City of Morro Bay | The Rock Espresso Bar |
| Cuesta College | Sage Ecological Landscapes & Nursery |
| Marv and Pet Daniels | San Luis Obispo Children's Museum |
| Deovlet Wines | Still Waters Vineyards |
| Eco Rotary Club of Morro Bay | Shane Stoneman |
| Forever Stoked | Sunshine Health Foods |
| Gentle Touch Pet Training | Tolosa Winery |
| Grassy Bar Oyster Company | Trader Joe's |
| Elisabeth Haug | Windows on the Water |
| The Joycup Co. | Wine Therapy Time |

GUARDIAN'S CIRCLE

(\$1000 to \$4999)

The Frances Dougherty Trust

LEADERSHIP CIRCLE

(\$500 to \$1000)

Grassy Bar Oyster Company*
Morro Bay Garden Club

STEWARD OF MORRO BAY

(\$250 to \$499)

Virginia Cahill*
Dorothy Christie*
Dynegy*
Laurie & Bruce Keogh
William & Delayna Luffee
Luhr Design & Construction, Inc.*
Morro Cove HOA*
Piedra Environmental Consultants
Rotary Club of Morro Bay*
Paul & Shirley Vinson*
Wine Shed

PROGRAM FUNDERS

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
California Department of Fish and Wildlife
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
State Water Resources Control Board
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Harold J. Miossi Charitable Trust

FRIENDS OF MORRO BAY (\$100 to \$249)

Anonymous
Homer Alexander*
Kate Anderson*
Anna Aven*
Alyssa Ball*
Bonnie Baron*
Lexie & Michael Bell*
Benchmark Woodworks
Monica & Edward Bischof*
Beverley Wainwright & Dr. Frederic J. Sloan II*
Terry & Lucy Brown, in honor of Peaka
Elaine & Jim Crescenzi
Leslie Dougherty & Rick Tripp
Janetta Evers*
Jack A. Franklin, Franklin Real Estate
Rickey Gilligan*
Carolyn Hodge*
Myron & Sue Hood
Thomas Justine*
John Kerchinski
Diane Ludin*
Neal Maloney, Morro Bay Oyster Company, LLC
Alaina Morgan
Morro Bay Marine Rehabilitation Center
Denise Fourie & Mike Multari
Barbara & Oscar Muñoz*
Joel Neel
Bill & Sarah Newman
B.K. Richard
Gary & Stephanie Ruggione
Sage Eco Landscapes & Nursery
Dr. Eric & Betsy Sorensen
David & Helianthe Stevig
Shaunna Sullivan
Yolanda & Joseph Waddell
Candi Fred Wickman*
Linda Williams*
Janice & Rex Wolf

SUPPORTERS (Up to \$99)

AmazonSmile Foundation
Vickie Baggett*
Robert Bailey
Patricia Boyd
Judith Carlson
Carol & Paul Courcy
Rhonda & Keith Crowfoot*
Jill Denton & Caroline Hall*
Joy & John Diercks*
Steve Eddy, Eddy Co. Drywall*
Jacob Erdman
Natalie Feinblatt
Jean & John Fergus*
Ann & Bruce Follette*
Doreen & Michael Gardner
Jan Goldman
Raymond & Armida Gonzalez*
Patsy & Herbert Harsch*
Bill Henry
Patt Holmes*
Earle Hoyt*
Chris & Mary Hudson, in memory of
Don Stegman and his love of nature
Jamie Irons, in honor of Curt Beebe
Caroline Israel*
Sandra Jennings*
Gabriele Jensen*
Heidi Kausch & Jean Fergus*
Sue Kay*
Lemos Feed & Pet Supply*
Julian Lipschitz*
Catherine and Donald Lockwood*
Don & Liz Maruska
Frankie McGuire*
Cynthia & Richard Milhem
Kyoko Mitsuoka*
Kate Montgomery
Gail Morgan*
Rhonda Norelius*
Joanna Osborn*
Jamie Palmer*
Gary & Freddie Ream*
Marilyn Roberts*
Jacqueline Rogers*
Dominic Roques & Beth Fillerup
Jim Ruddell, Ruddell's Smokehouse
Sandprints Photography*
Lynne & Steven Sanoian*
Holly Sletteland
Ray & Julie Smith
Cheri & Scott Subler*
Rochele Ullum*
A.L. & Laurie Viselli*
Robert & Carol Walker*
Richard & Karen Watts*
Mary Whiteford*
Kathryn Winfrey & Sven Hammer



* MUTT MITTS
PROGRAM
SUPPORTER



The Morro Bay National Estuary Program is a nonprofit organization that works on behalf of the **LOCAL COMMUNITY** to protect and restore Morro Bay. The Estuary Program frequently gathers community input to guide its work.

BAY FOUNDATION BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Our fiscal sponsor for the Estuary Program that applies for grants, manages funding for the Estuary Program, and employs the staff.

- Gary Ruggeron** President
- Shauna Sullivan** Vice-President
- Bill Henry** Secretary
- Mark Rothe** Treasurer
- Rick Algert**
- Joel Neel**
- Deanna Richards**
- Carla Wixom**
- * Bob Semonsen** Former Treasurer
- * Greg Smith** Former Board Member

ORGANIZATION STRUCTURE

**(Contributed to projects in 2014)*

OUR STAFF

- Adrienne Harris** - Executive Director
- Lexie Bell** - Assistant Director
- Cynthia Milhem** - Office Manager
- Ann Kitajima** - Monitoring Program Manager
- Karissa Willits** - Monitoring Coordinator
- Tom Sanford** - Water Quality Technician
- Jen Nix** - Restoration Projects Manager
- Larissa Clarke** - Restoration Technician
- Rachel Pass** - Communications & Outreach Coordinator
- Sara Markham** - Communications Intern
- *Kathryn Winfrey** - Former Communications & Development Coordinator





EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

The program also invites community members to serve on the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee provides policy direction for the program, assesses progress, and approves grant requests.

MEMBERS SERVING AT THE PLEASURE OF THEIR RESPECTIVE ORGANIZATIONS

Federal Government
US Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA)

Suzanne Marr
MBNEP Program Manager

State of California
Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board

Jennifer Epp
Control Engineer

San Luis Obispo County
Bruce Gibson
District 2 Supervisor

City of Morro Bay
Noah Smukler
City Council Member

Los Osos Community Services District
Marshall Ochylski
CSD Board Member

Bay Foundation of Morro Bay
Gary Ruggerone
Bay Foundation President

Implementation Committee Chair
Becka Kelly
Harbor Patrol Supervisor

MEMBERS REPRESENTING SPECIFIC STAKEHOLDER GROUPS

At Large Government Agency
Sam Schuchat
State Coastal Conservancy

Environmental Interests
Holly Sletteland
Environmental Professional

Agricultural Interests
Marc Lea
SLO County Agricultural Weed Control

Tourism/Recreation Interests
Dean Sullivan
Photographer/Businessman

Science and Research
Kristin Hardy
Associate Professor Marine Sciences, Cal Poly

Local Fisheries
Sharon Rowley
Central Coast Women for Fisheries



