

STATE OF THE BAY

explore our estuary through science



MORRO BAY
NATIONAL ESTUARY PROGRAM

March–May 2020

During State of the Bay 2020, the Morro Bay National Estuary Program invites you to explore the estuary through science! Join us for fun hikes, a beach and bay cleanup, and lively events focused on the health of the estuary.

MORRO BAY SCIENCE EXPLORATIONS WITH THE ESTUARY PROGRAM

This annual series of talks features guest speakers who share new research to expand your understanding of Morro Bay.

March 5, 6:15 p.m. Estuary Health Update—experts discuss climate change, unveil a comprehensive map of the bay floor, and hone in on the health of local bird populations.

May 7, 6:15 p.m. Creek Health Update—experts discuss water quality challenges, share a major local floodplain restoration project, and detail their work to conserve and restore sensitive lands.

ANNUAL POETRY CONTEST: A NATIONAL TREASURE IN WORDS

March 1–31: Haiku and free verse submissions accepted. Open to students ages 8 through 18 and adults 18 and older. Judges and winners will give a celebratory reading at Coalesce Bookstore in May. [MBNEP.org/Poetry2020](https://www.mbnep.org/Poetry2020)

TALK NERDY TO ME TRIVIA NIGHT

April 15, 8 p.m. Woodstock Pizza in San Luis Obispo. Gather all the science nerds you know and test your knowledge of marine and environmental science, oyster farming, natural history, and more. Study up at [MBNEP.org/state-of-the-bay-2020](https://www.mbnep.org/state-of-the-bay-2020)



GET OUTSIDE

THREE GUIDED HIKES AROUND THE ESTUARY

Explore the peaks and trails of the watershed with docents from ECOSLO and Estuary Program staff.

March 14, 9:00 a.m. Los Osos Butterfly Grove to the dunes at Sharks Inlet

April 11, 9:00 a.m. Portola Point trail in Morro Bay State Park

May 9, 9:00 a.m. Chumash, Crespi, and Hutash trail lollipop loop in Morro Bay State Park

PADDLE FOR A CAUSE

May 16, 8–11 a.m. Launch your kayak or paddleboard from Tidelands Park and pick up trash while you paddle. You'll enjoy some time on the water and help keep the bay clean, safe, and wildlife friendly. Bring your own kayak or paddleboard, or reserve one now at a reduced rate.

Details at [MBNEP.org/events](https://www.mbnep.org/events).

[MBNEP.ORG/STATE-OF-THE-BAY](https://www.mbnep.org/state-of-the-bay)

#exploreourestuary   

