



## **SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND**

### **2006 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT RECIPIENT REPORT CARDS**

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## REPORT CARDS

### 2006 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT RECIPIENTS

The following are report cards submitted by the ocean-environmental organizations that received a SIMA Environmental Fund Grant in 2006. These reports allow the grant recipients to share with Waterman's Weekend supporters how the grant monies have been used.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
ALASKA WILDERNESS LEAGUE**

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[www.alaskawild.org](http://www.alaskawild.org)

**Who We Are:**

The Alaska Wilderness League is the preeminent environmental organization championing Alaska wilderness. Public lands in Alaska continue to be threatened by the administration, oil and gas industries and the State of Alaska who wish to develop these national treasures for short-term economic gain. We have the proven ability to run successful campaigns and build the capacity needed to counter such attacks. Two of our goals in 2005 were to prevent the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas leasing and to work to protect marine and coastal areas offshore the Arctic Refuge. With the SIMA Environmental Fund's support, we accomplished much during 2005 to achieve these goals.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

Two of our goals in 2006 were to prevent the opening of the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas leasing and to work to protect marine and coastal areas offshore the Arctic Refuge. With the SIMA Environmental Fund's support, we accomplished much during 2006 to achieve these goals. During the past 12 months, the administration has launched an all-out offensive on Alaska's incomparable lands and waters. As has been the case for years, the administration and its allies in Congress tried yet again to open up the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge to oil and gas development. At the same time, their focus increasingly turned to the pristine oceans that surround, or are inter-linked with, the Arctic Refuge and its wildlife.

One of the biggest threats to Alaska's marine environment emerged in the autumn, when the Interior Department's Minerals Management Service unveiled a new five-year plan for allowing offshore oil and gas development on the nation's Outer Continental Shelf, which typically runs from 3 to 200 miles off a state's coast. The plan would go into effect July 1, 2007, and run through June 30, 2012. Leases are sold to drill on areas included in the plan and, disturbingly, the plan proposes a staggering amount of oil and gas drilling in areas of Alaska that have remained untouched, as well as additional development in areas already reeling from an increasingly frenzied pace of offshore development.

The five year plan put the Beaufort Sea and Chukchi Sea on the chopping block, imperiling the Arctic Refuge and its wildlife, as well as marine mammals, fisheries, birds and native communities that depend on these seas for their traditional livelihoods:

- More than 33 million acres would be offered for drilling in the Beaufort Sea, which is home to one-tenth of the world's polar bears, as well as seals, migratory birds, and whales;
- More than 40 million acres in the Chukchi Sea would be up for grabs by the oil industry, starting as early as this November. The Chukchi's ecosystem is linked to the Beaufort's, and the Chukchi supports another one-tenth of the world's polar bears, along with several species of whales, and walrus and sea lions.

The Alaska Wilderness League has been leading the charge to defend the Beaufort and Chukchi Seas from oil and gas development. As part of its work, Alaska Wilderness League:

- Expanded its staff: Hired Beth Millemann, the former executive director of the national environmental coalition Coast Alliance, to evaluate the threats to Alaska's coasts and design a campaign to help protect these areas. Alaska Wilderness League also hired Betsy Goll, a life-long Alaskan to head up the League's first field office in Alaska, to be even more effective in our efforts to protect this amazing place.
- Prepared detailed evaluations of threatened actions: Prepared detailed comments on the proposed five-year plan, as well as preparing comments on proposals to begin exploratory drilling in the Beaufort Sea and open up the Chukchi Sea. The League also submitted extensive comments on the Department of Interior's proposal to consider the polar bear a "threatened" species under the Endangered Species Act;
- Led a network of legal experts, scientists, Native leaders and conservation organizations: Hosted a national Alaska Oceans summit in Washington, D.C. that brought together Native leaders, legal experts, scientists and policy experts to build a common strategy for opposing oil and gas development in sensitive Alaskan waters. As part of the summit, Native leaders held a press briefing in the Capitol to share their stories of dependence on, and interconnection with, Alaska's oceans. The League also organized a briefing on the impacts from global warming on Alaska's lands and waters that was attended by the leaders of major national conservation groups. Alaska Wilderness League also hosts a weekly conference call for the network, which has generated the involvement of an unprecedented number of Native leaders.
- Activated the grassroots: Sent action alerts about the polar bear and offshore leasing to the League's dedicated activists across the country. Hundreds of comments were generated to decision-makers, bringing the message from the public directly to Washington D.C.
- Educated lawmakers: Coordinated outreach to elected officials to educate them about the value of Alaska's ocean life, and the threats it faces from misguided drilling proposals. Alaska Wilderness League has been working with Congressional leaders to shine a spotlight on the administration's assault on Alaska's oceans.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
ALGALITA MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION**

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[www.algalita.org](http://www.algalita.org)

**Who We Are:**

Algalita Marine Research Foundation (AMRF) is a Long Beach, California based non-profit environmental organization. AMRF is dedicated to the preservation of the marine environment. With the help of its chartered research vessel, The Oceanographic Research Vessel (ORV) Alguita, AMRF is actively engaged in innovative research, education and restoration of the marine environment.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

The Algalita Marine Research Foundation (AMRF) received grants from the SIMA Foundation in 2005 and 2006. Each of those grants has allowed AMRF to continue research and education projects which focus on marine conservation. The following projects were funded all or in part by the SIMA Foundation:

Our original episode of “Watershed Wonders” followed a drop of water down the San Gabriel River from the mountains to the sea. SIMA funds were used to distribute 150 copies of the documentary and curriculum booklet to educators in Oregon. The wide success of this initial episode prompted AMRF, with the help of the SIMA Foundation, to continue the series.

In 2005 the SIMA Foundation grant was used to film episode two, “Watershed Wonders: Coastal Wetlands and the Journey of Fluke.” Our Director of Education, Dr. Marcus Eriksen, and 60 students from the Environmental Charter High School in Lawndale, California built a recycled boat named

Fluke, which floats on 800 plastic bottles, has rope weaved from 1000 plastic bags and a sail stitched from 50 polyester shirts. Fluke was launched in Santa Barbara and sailed 250 miles to San Diego, visiting 14 schools, two aquariums, and two maritime museums along the way and made it into six newspapers and two television news segments. The purpose of the journey of Fluke was to educate the public about the plague of plastics that inundate coastal California and accumulate in the North Pacific Central Gyre. Students worked with Dr. Eriksen to meet the public and share their knowledge. A documentary film of the entire project was produced.

SIMA funds were also used to create the curriculum book for “Watershed Wonders: Coastal Wetlands and the Journey of Fluke.” A 48-page curriculum booklet was prepared to accompany the video documentary of the same title. The curriculum book targets upper elementary age students with a delightful story of the journey, interviews with scientists, information about coastal wetlands and classroom activities. The curriculum book, packaged with the DVD will be available for educators upon request.

SIMA funds have also supported AMRF's unique education program Portals to the Sea. “Portals to the Sea” is an opportunity for scientists underwater to communicate with teachers and students wherever they are via a live satellite link. Whether scientists are in the Los Angeles Harbor or in the middle of the North Pacific Gyre 1,000 miles west of Los Angeles, thanks to the SIMA Foundation, AMRF will be able to share marine science with classrooms as it happens around the world.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
HEAL THE BAY**

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[www.healthebay.org](http://www.healthebay.org)

**Who We Are:**

Not so long ago, at a time when Santa Monica Bay was treated daily as a dump site, a small group of concerned people took it upon themselves to heal this troubled part of the world. That small group swelled into an organization and movement that has done more to recover the Bay's coastal environment than anyone could have expected. But in the process, they did more than that. They showed us that it's not too late for Southern California, that no agency is too big to fight and win, that we can heal our environment and that we can heal our Bay.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

**TMDL Advocacy & Research:** In 2006, Heal the Bay staff reviewed and provided detailed comments on numerous draft TMDLs in the Los Angeles region including the Ballona Creek Bacteria TMDL, San Gabriel River Metals TMDL and Calleguas Creek Metals and Selenium TMDL. These comments resulted in several modifications to these TMDLs making them stronger and more protective of our region's water quality. Heal the Bay also provided comments to the State Water Board on the final TMDLs to ensure that they were not weakened prior to final adoption.

Heal the Bay staff also submitted extensive written comments to the State Water Board and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency on the State's draft 2006 Clean Water Act Section 303(d) List of Water Quality Limited Segments during several public comment periods. The 303(d) List is an integral part of the TMDL process as it sets forth a comprehensive list of all waterbodies throughout the State that are impaired and for which TMDLs must be developed under the Clean Water Act. It is therefore critical that all waterbodies impaired by pollutants are placed and maintained on this List until they are no longer impaired. Heal the Bay utilized its Beach Report Card™ database to analyze bacteria levels at coastal beaches statewide and provided a detailed summary to the State Water Board to support placing or maintaining all of the State's impaired beaches on the 2006 303(d) List. As a result of these efforts, 30 Santa Monica Bay beaches originally proposed for de-listing to the "Being Addressed" 303(d) List for indicator bacteria impairments were maintained on the List. Also 44 statewide beaches were added to the 303(d) list as impaired by bacteria indicators.

**Speaker's Bureau:** In 2006, members of Heal the Bay's Speakers Bureau educated an average of 30,418 listeners about the impacts of coastal pollution on human health and marine life (405 educational presentations were provided in 2005, while 328 were provided in 2006). Speakers deliver informative presentations to hundreds of schools, businesses, and community groups each year; approximately 70% of audiences are students in grades K-12. We trained 23 new volunteers during 2006; enabling Speaker's Bureau to continue educating our local communities.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
KAHEA**

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[www.kahea.org](http://www.kahea.org)

**Who We Are:**

KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance is a Hawaiian-led community-based organization that includes Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners, environmentalists and many others concerned about the need to protect fragile island resources and traditional and customary rights.

Rooted in the 'ōlelo noeau, oral tradition, “ho'okahi no ka 'āina a me na kānaka,” the land and the people are one, KAHEA generates public involvement in protecting public trust resources, including the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands (NWHI), near-shore marine resources, and the sacred summit of Mauna Kea.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

KAHEA is pleased to send you this mid-year update highlighting the recent activities and achievements we accomplished with the generosity of SIMA's Environmental Fund. We deeply apologize for our oversight in not getting this report to you on time.

Hawai'i's oceans have had an exciting year so far. The legislative session brought both opportunity and danger to the protection of our ocean resources. We successfully passed significant ocean protection measures like the gillnet rules and prevented the passage of deeply flawed bills that would have seriously undermine ocean management efforts in the Hawaiian Islands. And who can forget the Northwestern Hawaiian Islands, which were finally honored with the name Papahānaumokuākea this Spring. Implementing the mandates of this, the world's largest marine protected area, continues to pose a challenge that requires our vigilant oversight.

Thanks to the support from SIMA, KAHEA is able to keep the public fully involved in the protection of Hawai'i's one-of-a-kind public trust ocean resources. We continue to serve as a watchdog over the state and federal entities charged with protecting the health of our oceans. To this end, KAHEA is working to build a broad coalition of ocean lovers, including paddlers, surfers, snorkelers, divers and all of those who appreciate our ocean, that will educate and empower the public to defend our delicate oceans.

We produce accurate, reliable information for the public in the form of easy-to-read fact sheets and brochures. And we are increasing the distribution of this information with a continued commitment to attend at least one public outreach event every month. These efforts improve the efficacy of our Calls to Action on important public trust resource management decisions.

**Outreach and Education**

Most recently, our educational materials have focused on the management changes for the NWHI. We have produced detailed explanations about the new monument and its unique management regime. We have also kept the public informed about the uses and abuses of this new system, including violations of access and research permits, as well as regulatory attempts to dilute current protections. We are also in the midst of producing our bi-annual electronic newsletter that updates our members about all of our program areas.

KAHEA continues to partner with local groups and organizations to provide educational materials and programs to the public. In February, we hosted an informational table at one of many screenings of the educational, award-winning, and compelling film *Oasis of the Pacific: Time is Running Out*; this one was part of the University of Hawai'i at Manoa's political film series. We will continue to work with partners to offer educational outreach opportunities with this film and others.

Outreach is the cornerstone of KAHEA's success. We strive to host at least one informational table every month. In the last six months, we have participated in at least 10 outreach events, including the 2-day Kokua Festival Concert, the 4-day Merrie Monarch Hula Festival, and many Earth Day events. This month we will host an informational table at the Malama I ke Kai Ocean Awareness Festival hosted by Punana Leo O Kawaiaha'o at Kapi'olani Park in Waikiki.

### **Empowering The Public**

The Action Alert Network is an efficient and effective tool for organizing the public and engaging decisionmakers. It helps to keep distant communities with similar concerns connected to each other and well-informed on issues. KAHEA continues to use this technology to mobilize surfers, paddlers, divers, etc. to help push for local and federal protections of our marine resources. To be a successful advocate for change, however, this network of individuals and organizations must be fine tuned. KAHEA is committed to keeping our network up-to-date and growing. Due to our thriving outreach efforts, new members join our network on a daily basis.

Our Na Maka O Ke Kai/Be the Eyes of the Ocean project is progressing well. We are empowering ocean users to protect our oceans by creating a system to report and catalog ocean dumping incidents. KAHEA is compiling a database of individual reports of fouled waters that can be connected to possible cruise ship dumping events. We cross-reference reports of fouled water (albeit anecdotal) against cruise ship routes and schedules to develop a report of pollution patterns. With this data we can help to make the case to lawmakers, businesses, and consumers for protecting Hawai'i's irreplaceable marine environment by regulating cruise ship pollution. We have already received over 20 such reports, many from surfers, swimmers, and divers.

### **Promoting and Defending Ocean Protections**

KAHEA works to protect Hawai'i's delicate and dynamic ocean by promoting protective regulations and preventing the weakening of current protective measures. Thanks to KAHEA's outreach and advocacy, the NWHI are protected by both the state and federal governments as the largest marine protected area in the world. We are now working to implement the protective mandates of both the state refuge and marine monument.

KAHEA, together the NWHI hui, helps to developed informed comments on all state and federal plans for the NWHI. Earlier this year, we provided comments on the Midway Atoll Visitor Plan. This substandard plan fails to protect this delicate and contaminated environment, including the fragile bird colonies and surrounding marine habitats. As one example, the plan fails to provide a cap on the total number of tourists allowed to access.

Now, this same team, along with a blue-ribbon panel of scientists, is currently conducting a detailed assessment of the management plan for the Papahānaumokuākea Marine Monument. This plan, based on the original sanctuary management plan that was abandoned when the NWHI were designated a monument, is deeply flawed. When this assessment is complete, KAHEA will use its extensive outreach network to educate the public and encourage well-informed public comments on this document.

KAHEA also works to regulate destructive fishing practices, like gillnets, and support Marine Protected Areas, which allow healthy fish stocks and coral reef habitats to recover. In the last few legislative sessions, the “right to fish” lobby attempted to undermine Hawaii's Marine Protected Areas and fishing regulations by misleading legislators to support counter-productive fishing bills. This session was particularly dangerous because commercial fishing interests had convincingly misappropriated Native Hawaiian cultural principles. KAHEA partnered with other environmental and cultural rights organizations to educate legislators, fishers, and the general public about the detrimental implications from passing these bills. Thankfully, none of the “right to fish” bills passed this session.

Despite our efforts, however, we did lose a crucial ally to the marine protection effort. The Director of the Department of Land and Natural Resources, Peter Young, was not confirmed by the Senate for a second term. The confirmation hearing process was plagued by procedural irregularities and party politics. Although the public had overwhelmingly supported Young's confirmation - collecting more than 2,000 signatures and over 500 pieces of written testimony in support - the Senators turned a deaf ear and voted against Young's confirmation based on vague and unsubstantiated claims. In our loss, however, the public gained something greater. The extraordinary outreach effort during the Young confirmation hearings helped to re-invigorate communities to stand up for the protections we had all worked so hard to achieve. KAHEA's own Cha Smith was even named to the selection committee for the next director of the department.

Mahalo nui loa for SIMA's continued support in our efforts to protect Hawaii's unique cultural heritage and natural environment through greater public participation in the management of our public trust resources.

E Malama Pono,

Marti Townsend

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
OCEAN INSTITUTE**

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[www.ocean-institute.org](http://www.ocean-institute.org)

**Who We Are:**

The Ocean Institute, founded in 1977, educates over 80,000 students, 8,000 teachers and 50,000 public visitors annually through over 60 marine science and maritime history programs. Located on 2.4 acres in the Dana Point Harbor, at the edge of the Pacific Ocean and adjacent to a Marine Life Refuge, the site is ideal for hands-on learning about the sea.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

**Watershed Education Program**

- The Watershed Education Program inspires fifth graders from throughout Southern California to preserve and protect their local watersheds, the surfzone, and the ocean.
  
- As one young student said, “This is important because everyone is polluting our oceans and we don't want to swim in trash.”
  
- Many of the students get out on the ocean for the first time...they are hooked when they become oceanographers for the day on our R/V Sea Explorer.
  
- This behavior-changing environmental education program reached 2,500 students this year, teaching about watersheds and the fact that ocean water quality is dependent on what happens to the water before it reaches the ocean. Students' families helped with their in-class research projects and everyone in the community gained a new environmental awareness.
  
- During the Kids' Conference, the students presented their projects to their peers, teachers, and community leaders. Each day, water-quality professionals interacted with the students to reinforce the importance of not polluting watersheds and the ocean.
  
- An outstanding class of fifth graders from Martin Luther King Elementary School won the City of Santa Ana Community Building Award over several university-level projects for 'the best research project bringing long term benefits and valuable insight to the community.' On an evening before the street sweeper came through, the students documented the quantity and kind of debris in neighborhood gutters. They made the startling results public in English and Spanish, making people feel personally responsible.
  
- As another student said, “Before this, I thought we lived too far from the ocean to hurt it...now I know...no more oil changes or car washing in the driveway and always pick up after the dog!” After all, the fight against ocean pollution begins at home.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER**

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[www.coastkeeper.org](http://www.coastkeeper.org)

**Who We Are:**

The Orange County Coastkeeper is a pro-active conservation organization dedicated to the preservation and protection of our coastline, marine habitats and watersheds through education, advocacy, restoration and enforcement. Affiliated with the Waterkeeper Alliance of 154 Keeper organizations, we maintain a full-time staff of skilled professionals, including scientists and attorneys to protect California's most precious natural resource-our Coastline.

**Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

Coastkeeper's staff and volunteers have accomplished numerous achievements in enhancing water quality with documented measurable results. OCCK has built partnerships with business, industry, and government that ARE making a difference. Our ongoing programs have:

- Educated of 55,000 elementary to high-school age children and adults on water quality, urban runoff, and water conservation issues.
- Worked with every major development project in the past 8 years to ensure each water quality management plan is state-of-the-art and does not pollute.
- Successfully advocated for stricter regulatory permits and ocean discharge standards.
- Exclusively negotiated with OCTA to get the \$243 Million "Water Quality Clean Up Funds" included in the Measure M extension approved on last November's ballot. This will fund public works projects to clean up ocean discharges along our coastline.
- Successfully litigated against polluters; developers that do not comply with clean water laws, cities that do not maintain their sewers adequate enough to prevent sewage spills, and scrap yards that negligently pollute our water ways and channels that discharge to the ocean.
- Collected and analyzed thousands of water samples used by regulatory agencies to develop solutions to the impacts of polluted urban runoff at our harbors, beaches and coastline. All of our data is reported and utilized by the State Water Resources Control Board.
- Completed the most extensive sediment and water quality monitoring studies ever done in Anaheim Bay, Huntington Harbour, and in the Rhine Channel of Newport Harbor.
- Litigated successfully to preserve historic coastal wetlands
- Published Coastkeeper Magazine, a coffee-table style magazine that teaches adults to appreciate and protect many of the region's coastal resources.
- Building Coastkeeper Garden; a 2.5 acre water conservation demonstration garden featuring California friendly drought tolerant plants and ways to turn your residence into one that produces no

runoff. The Garden is located near the corner of Jamboree and Chapman Ave. in Orange on Santiago Canyon College.

SIMA, Thank you for your continued support of our programs that allows Coastkeeper to actually make a measurable difference!

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
REEF CHECK**

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[www.reefcheck.org](http://www.reefcheck.org)

**Who We Are:**

The Reef Check Foundation was established in 1996 to provide local communities around the world with the tools needed to scientifically monitor coral reef health and to manage their local reefs. With teams in over 80 countries and territories around the globe, Reef Check manages the world's largest coral reef monitoring network - and it is almost entirely volunteer-based. Reef Check's mission incorporates science, public awareness and the sustainable management of reefs to provide education about marine ecology, raise public awareness about the coral reef crisis and solutions, train volunteers how to scientifically monitor reefs, and guide individual communities in managing their local reefs.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

2006 was a productive and successful year for the Reef Check California program (RCCA). After our founding year of development in 2005, we entered 2006 by conducting a total of 7 trainings, including 2 in the Monterey area, 1 in the San Luis Obispo area, 1 in the Santa Barbara area, and 2 in the Los Angeles area, certifying more than 70 recreational divers in RCCA protocols. The newly trained divers went right to work and exceeded all expectations by completing surveys at 18 sites along California's coast from Gerstle Cove State Marine Reserve in Sonoma County to the Avalon Dive Park on Catalina Island in Los Angeles County. During these surveys RCCA certified divers surveyed 324 transects recording 5,671 fish, 8,549 invertebrates, and 2,591 individual seaweeds over an area of 19,500 m<sup>2</sup>.

RCCA continued to build strong collaborative partners with agencies, community members, and academic institutions. RCCA recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Department of Fish and Game formalizing a close working relationship and recognizing the usefulness of RCCA data in improving the management of California's living marine resources. RCCA staff conducted numerous public presentations throughout the state and, in an effort to reach a greater number of divers, five new RCCA instructors were certified representing Carmel High School, Humboldt State University, Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Long Beach Aquarium of the Pacific. The RCCA program is constantly striving to collect and analyze high quality scientific data. To evaluate the rigor of data collected by RCCA trained divers, we conducted a comparison study with Dr. Mark Carr and the Partnership for Interdisciplinary Studies of Coastal Oceans (PISCO, University of California, Santa Cruz). This study used a double blind approach where both PISCO and RCCA divers were deployed at two sites, one within a reserve and one outside a reserve, one day apart to complete fish surveys without the knowledge that the survey data would be compared. The analysis is on-going and will help further establish the legitimacy of the RCCA approach and training methods.

Leveraging SIMA funds and funds from other sources, RCCA successfully secured a grant from the California Ocean Protection Council to fully expand into southern California, completing the statewide network. These funds have enabled RCCA to hire a full-time Southern California Manager

to focus on research and outreach in San Diego and Orange counties to complement our efforts on the central coast.

Notable accomplishments in 2006:

- Completion of Memorandum of Understanding with the California Department of Fish and Game. This MOU formalizes the collaboration between Reef Check and the Department to achieve the following goals:
  - Develop a long-term statewide community-based subtidal monitoring network
  - Design, develop, and implement a user-friendly web-based GIS application for entering and querying marine subtidal data
  - Maintain a collaborative and cooperative relationship for the effective collection and dissemination of data
  
- Reef Check California teams surveyed ~19,500 m<sup>2</sup> of California's rocky reefs at 18 sites along from Humboldt County to Catalina recording 5,671 fish, 8,549 invertebrates, and 2,591 individual seaweeds
  
- Completion of a training on Isla Natividad, Baja California Sur to teach members of the local fishing cooperative how to scientifically monitor their local marine resources utilizing Reef Check California methods
  
- Commencement of a quality control assessment in conjunction with University of California, Santa Cruz.
  
- Initiated plans to expand into southern California in 2007 which include:
  - Hiring of a full time Southern California Regional Manager
  - Scheduling of trainings in San Diego and Orange Counties
  - Outreach to various stakeholders throughout the region

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
SAVE THE WAVES**

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[www.savethewaves.org](http://www.savethewaves.org)

**Who We Are:**

Save the Waves Coalition is a non-profit organization dedicated to the preservation of surf spots worldwide. Our goal is to protect the best surfing locations on the planet and to educate the public about their value. Save the Waves works in partnership with local communities, foreign governments and other conservation groups to prevent coastal development from entering the surf zone.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

Save the Waves Coalition has applied the SIMA 2006 grant donation towards the following programs and accomplishments:

**1. Direct Action Campaigns to Protect the World's Surfing Environment:**

The 2006 year brought many new challenges to the organization, especially in regard to the increase in number of surf spots threatened around the world. We made substantial progress in resolving issues related to our ongoing campaigns, both in assisting grass-roots organizations on the ground in foreign countries, as well as increasing our own efforts with respect to certain issues: These efforts include:

- **Chile Program Initiative:** Save the Waves hired Proplaya founder Joshua Berry to head up our program to solve one of the ocean's greatest crises: pulp mill pollution in the country of Chile. Josh was hired in June 2006, and immediately went to work to find acceptable solutions towards reducing the environmental impact of pulp mill effluent. Save the Waves co-sponsored a benefit concert in Santiago, Moda por el Mar, to raise public awareness of the threat of pulp mills on public health, fishing, and the tourism industry. We also began an independent water-testing program on the Rio Itata, which is suffering from pollution from Chile newest and largest pulp mill in Nueva Aldea, in partnership with Universidad Austral in Concepción. The data will be used to supply FIMA, Chile's most powerful consortium of environmental lawyers, with data to bolster possible legal action against negligent polluters.
  
- **Panama:** Will Henry and James Pribram, in the first "Eco-warrior" mission for the Surfer's Path Magazine, visited the site of Playa Teta in order to assess the proposed project to build a dam on the river that supplies sand to the break. In 2005, Save the Waves paid for a secondary EIR, which halted construction of the dam. The visit brought more publicity to the issue, and the dam now appears unlikely to gain government approval.
  
- **Canary Islands:** Eco-Warriors Will Henry and James Pribram traveled to Tenerife in January 2007 to meet with government officials, to discuss a proposal for a marina that would have destroyed a wave known as La Enramada. Together with Angel Lobo, President of the Canary Islands Surfing Federation, the group argued for the preservation of the wave, as well as presented the idea of replacing many of the island's unsightly seawalls with artificial surfing reefs. At the meeting, the government announced that it would refuse the application for the marina, thus preserving the wave. In April 2007, the government announced plans to build the island's first artificial surfing reef, which would replace a seawall in the Las Americas region.

- **Madeira:** Following the media attention created by the screening of Save the Waves Coalition's film (described below), Save the Waves sent Kerry Black of ASR Limited to Madeira. Dr. Black presented a proposal to the government to use artificial surfing reefs to protect its new marina in Lugar de Baixo, and a plan to repair the surf spots that were damaged by seawall development.

- **Tortola, British Virgin Islands:** The famous wave at Cane Garden Bay was reputedly under threat by an un-permitted project to build a seawall that would compromise the quality of the wave, Save the Waves leapt into action, bringing international media attention to the issue, which pressured the developers to stop its construction.

## **2. Lost Jewel of the Atlantic:**

The full-length documentary film, produced by Save the Waves Coalition and directed by Jacob Holcomb, debuted in more than 9 film festivals in 7 different countries of the world. The film raised awareness of the high social and economic value of surf spots, and the need to preserve them for eternity. Highlighting the organization's early work in Madeira, and the aftermath of construction projects that damaged world-class waves, the film used a real-life example of the economic losses that can be directly attributed to the destruction of waves.

Upon the film's release in the Santa Cruz Film Festival in May 2006, the government of Madeira threatened to sue the organization for defamatory comments about the government's alleged misuse of EU funds. Save the Waves responded by showing the film in Madeira, to high critical acclaim, in 9 sold-out shows. To date, no legal action has been initiated by the government.

## **3. Surf Market Research:**

The graduate-level research project with Oregon State University began in the summer of 2006, to determine the strength of the surf tourism industry worldwide, and to emphasize the high economic value of a quality surf spot. The first phase of the study is nearing completion, and focused on two highly regarded international surfing destinations: Costa Rica, and Mundaka Bay, Spain.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
SEYMOUR MARINE DISCOVERY CENTER**

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<http://seymourcenter.ucsc.edu>

**Who We Are:**

The self-funded Seymour Center is a marine science education facility that provides ocean education programs for the public and K-12 students, teaching them about the role science plays in the understanding and conservation of the world's oceans.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

THANK YOU SIMA Environmental Fund!

The Seymour Marine Discovery Center provides exciting marine science experiences for the public and K-12 students. The self-funded Center is dedicated to educating youth, families, and the general public about the role science plays in the understanding and conservation of the world's oceans. We focus directly on marine science, as we know that a scientifically literate population will make more informed decisions about managing and protecting the coastal zone and the ocean.

In the 2006-07 fiscal year, the SIMA Environmental Fund helped us engage people from our own community and from the world far beyond Santa Cruz in five special programs.

**School Programs**

The Seymour Center served more than 11,000 kindergarten through community college students last year, providing them with a sense of what it's like to study the ocean in a seawater laboratory. Students delved into topics from "spines, slime, and tube feet" (kindergarteners) to marine mammal anatomy and physiology (high school students). All school programs are based on the California Science Content Standards.

This year we enriched our web resources for teachers, continued enhancing links to current research efforts, and developed Sea Search, a new high school program created to help teens experience ocean science firsthand at a working marine lab.

Sea Search is a set of activities that focus on marine science topics and current research projects portrayed in the Seymour Center. High school biology teachers collaborated with our educators to make each activity interactive and fun, while challenging older students to practice observation, critical thinking, and data analysis. Logistical challenges often prevent high school teachers from organizing field experiences, hence Sea Search was designed for motivated students to use on their own time, outside of school hours. The program was also designed to be easy on teachers (requiring almost no prep time).

**Volunteer Docent Training**

The Seymour Center is extremely grateful to our 200 volunteers, including our 100 docents. Extensive training was offered for new docents, January through March (10 weeks, 80+ hours), and 30 community members became new "ambassadors for the oceans." These highly skilled volunteers are the backbone of our visitor education programs--this training course is key. Docents learned

directly from world-class scientists and professional educators. Working together, faculty, staff, and all our volunteers are committed to sharing the wonders of marine science with the public. Volunteers worked 18,677 hours at the Seymour Center last year--equivalent to nine additional staff positions, each working 40/hours week, without taking a single day of vacation!

### **Apprentice Guide Training**

Our youngest volunteers (teens 15 and up) add a special spark to the Seymour Center. Twice this past year, motivated teens (and some adults as well) participated in a two-day training sessions and joined the volunteer team. These apprentice guides “got their feet wet as educators” while learning about marine research and the 300 individual animals from 60 different species featured in the Seymour Center's aquarium. Apprentice guides assisted visitors at the seawater table (touch tank) and helped in the aquarium and exhibit hall. Working alongside experienced docents, they continue to increase their knowledge of marine science, gain valuable public speaking skills, and provide important volunteer support to the Seymour Center. More than 60 apprentice guides participated.

### **Visitor Education Programs**

The Seymour Center's exhibit hall and aquarium are open to the public six days a week--year round. Small group tours, live demonstrations, hands-on science activities, close encounters with marine invertebrates, kelp, and fossils, scavenger hunts, treasure maps, Seaside Storytime, Seaside Crafts, and more are ready for our visitors every day. Specialty programs were ongoing throughout last year, and included activities from tidepooling, to behind-the-scenes marine mammal research tours, to holiday-themed events such as Jingle Shells and The Night of Scary Aquary (a marine masquerade!)

Designed for the lay public, content-rich, scientific lectures are regularly presented to help adults and older children understand why research is so important to the conservation of our oceans. Last year's lectures included the Seismic Centennial (looking at the 1906 Earthquake in retrospect, as well as the Indian Ocean tsunami) and an in-depth series with seven leading scientists on Global Climate Change. The Seymour Center truly links scientists and society.

### **Ocean Explorers Youth Camps**

Ocean Explorers is a series of weeklong, intensive spring break and summer marine science programs held at the Seymour Center and field sites around Monterey Bay. Full scholarships were awarded to five children from limited-income families last year. These camps can be a pivotal experience in a child's life.

Children worked alongside researchers and trainers with seals, sea lions, dolphins, and sea otters to learn about important research at the marine lab. They gained hands-on experience in marine mammal care, training, and research techniques. They traveled to field sites to see elephant seals, experience tidepools, salt marshes, and research reserves. They explored the spectacular Monterey Bay by kayak, observing seals, sea lions, and sea otters in the wild. They visited other science institutions, enjoyed local beaches, and learned to snorkel.

THANK YOU SIMA for helping us do all these things. With your support, the Seymour Center team is making a difference every day for our oceans.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
SINADES**

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**Who We Are:**

Sistemas Naturales y Desarrollo, A.C. (SINADES) is a non-profit research organization established to help other civil organizations in their decision making. This group studies the relationships between the society and the natural environment and provides environmental research, education and consulting concerning sustainable natural resources. As biologists, we specialize in coastal zones with a particular effort on how the natural environment impacts fishing and tourism.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

(Translated from original text)

Last week we learned that as coastal inhabitants we are very dependent on the ocean, therefore we must learn to take care of it. Los Cerritos beach is very important to our community as a tourist attraction. In this important program we are learning that the sport of surfing is very fun and also good for the mind and body. As youth from Todos Santos and Pescadero, we need to work together to keep our beaches clean so those who come here to visit can enjoy them and leave knowing that we really care about our beaches.

This week we learned how to get out of the current and that this beach has a shallow sandy bottom so the waves break further out which make it a good beach for learning to surf. We also learned about the various species of snails, shells and crustaceans that live in the sand and in the tide pools. We also learned something really important today: that we must take care of our fresh water supply, as it could run out or become contaminated if we don't use it wisely.

The SIMA-funded program, Young Environmental Ambassadors, in Pescadero/Todos Santos, B.C.S., Mexico, will work with 12 youth in a combination environmental learning/surfing program. The students were selected from the two middle schools for their interest and successful participation, grade point average, a good attitude, availability every Saturday morning and parental permission, are all that were required to sign up. All materials, uniforms, instruction, snacks and transportation are made possible by the grant received from the SIMA Environmental Fund. So far the students have learned about the importance of caring for local beaches and their role in the future of their surfing breaks. They have collected shells, rocks and garbage, have probed around in tide pools, swam, skim boarded, eaten healthy snacks, ran relays races and been part of a dynamic team. Their enthusiasm makes it all possible and is an inspiration to me as an educator.

- Patricia Baum, Project Director  
Todos Santos, B.C.S. Mexico

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
SURFING EDUCATION ASSOCIATION**

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**Who We Are:**

The Surfing Education Association is dedicated to the preservation of our oceans, waves and beaches, including water quality and accessibility.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

1. Waikiki Beach: This battle started in 1972. To date we have stopped the city and state from going beyond crib walls at Kuhio Beach and expanding beach into surfing areas. Recent sand replenishment projects were kept shoreward of these crib walls.

2. Kaka`ako Makai: Our efforts to stop the state from selling public lands to be used for condominium construction have been successful. Through an organized effort of Save our Kaka`ako Coalition (which consists of Ala Moana / Kaka`ako Neighborhood Board, Friends of Kewalo Basin Park Association, Hawaii State Body Surfing Association, Hui O He`e Nalu, Hui O Malama Kaka`ako Paka, Kewalo Basin Boaters Association, Kaka`ako Business and Landowners Association, Kaka`ako Shoreline Park Plan, Life of the Land, Save Our Surf and Surfing Education Association, Sierra Club and Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter) hundreds of local elders and young surfers rallied and marched to the State Capital to gain Legislator's support. To fight this fire, local fire captain, Ron Iwami led the charge. The importance of stopping this land sale was to keep this shoreline where several surf sites including Kewalos, Flys and Point Panic are accessible for public use including the public park and parking. Also, this is the last piece of oceanfront land that is owned by the State of Hawaii for this purpose on the south shore.

3. Ala Moana Small Boat Harbor: State of Hawaii Division of Boating and Ocean Recreation (DOBOR) are working on plans to privatize concession stands and parking facilities, a portion of which are constantly used by surfers who surf at Ala Moana Bowls, Kaisers and Threes surf sites. S.E.A. has requested that the present area referred to as the "Heliport" be left open at no cost to the public-surfers, canoe paddlers, fishermen, etc.

Surfing Education Association would like to thank the SIMA Environmental Fund Board of Directors and members selecting S.E.A as a returning beneficiary for the 2007 Waterman's Weekend.

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## REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY SURFRIDER FOUNDATION

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[www.surfrider.org](http://www.surfrider.org)

### **Who We Are:**

The Surfrider Foundation is a grassroots, non-profit, environmental organization that works to protect our oceans, waves, and beaches. Founded in 1984, Surfrider Foundation's most important coastal environmental work is carried out by Surfrider Foundation's 60 chapters located along the East, West, Gulf, Puerto Rican, and Hawaiian coasts.

### **Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

The generous Waterman's Weekend grant from the SIMA Environmental Fund has enabled the Surfrider Foundation to expand the depth and breadth of our programs and campaigns to protect and preserve oceans, beaches and waves throughout the United States. The following pages describe our national accomplishments, including the scope of, and growth in, our programs, as well as key battles fought throughout our grassroots chapter network.

### **National Accomplishments**

Through our 50,000+ members and 64 domestic chapters, the Surfrider Foundation continues to implement key programs and campaigns focused on increasing public awareness of the need for ocean protection and involving community members in activities that help preserve coastal resources. Last year alone, Surfrider Foundation activists:

- Tested ocean water nearly 9,000 times and worked in their communities to identify solutions to poor water quality.
- Implemented over 200 outreach campaigns to involve the community in coastal issues.
- Presented coastal educational programs over 900 times to thousands of school age children.
- Coordinated over 600 cleanups on U.S. beaches.
- Took an official position on nearly 800 issues affecting local beaches and coastal areas.
- Donated volunteer hours valued at over \$2.6 million all applied directly to our beaches.

Also, the Surfrider Foundation is making tremendous progress furthering our worldwide impact. By adding staff capacity, we welcomed to our network international chapters in Argentina, Costa Rica, Mexico and Canada, with another coming soon in Peru. We enhanced the coordinated efforts of our existing four affiliates in Europe, Australia, Brazil and Japan. We also developed a replicable “start-up” model for international chapters - which includes an easy to use reference manual - to help groups of activists with the process of creating an International Chapter. This is an important step to increase the effectiveness and efficiency of our staff in supporting the many international activists interested in organizing a Surfrider Foundation chapter in their communities.

In addition to this impressive progress, the Surfrider Foundation released its 2006 State of the Beach report. In its seventh year, this annual report is simply the most comprehensive document chronicling the health of our nation's beaches and coastlines in existence today. In addition to providing a wealth of links to various studies, reports and websites pertaining to coastal health, the report contains a list of “beach health indicators” such as beach access, water quality, erosion, beach fill,

shoreline structures, beach ecology and surfing areas, for 24 of our nation's coastal states and territories. As in previous years, the 2006 Surfrider Foundation State of the Beach report spotlights a critical coastal issue - shoreline armoring; those ugly concrete walls, piles of rocks, sand bags and geotubes that have all too often covered up and replaced much of the natural beach, dune and bluff areas that used to exist. The full report can be found online at [www.surfrider.org/stateofthebeach](http://www.surfrider.org/stateofthebeach).

Finally, the Surfrider Foundation recently completed an update to our strategic vision, resulting in a plan to guide our efforts through 2010. In summary, our vision is "150 coastal victories by 2010." We define these victories as a decision made in favor of the coastal and ocean environment that results in a positive conservation outcome, improves coastal access, or both. As of April 30, 2007, we have achieved 44 victories (see the list at <http://www.surfrider.org/whoweare6g.asp>.) Available upon request is a copy of the Strategic Plan, which fully describes our vision and the seven Strategic Goals for achieving it over the next five years.

### **Chapter Highlights**

With support from the national Surfrider Foundation organization, our chapters are dedicated to implementing key programs and campaigns focused on increasing public awareness of the need for ocean protection and involving community members in activities that help preserve coastal resources. Examples of this work include:

- **Save Trestles** - Surfrider Foundation volunteers and staff alike are deeply involved in a highly-charged battle to stop the proposed sixteen-mile extension to the existing 241 toll road in southern Orange County, California. If constructed, not only would this project directly threaten the world class surf break at Trestles (including Uppers, Loweres, Middles, Church and Cottons), it would also result in the obliteration of Southern California's last remaining pristine coastal watershed and substantially degrade habitat that is critical for the survival of at least seven endangered species, including the Southern Steelhead trout.

Our staff and activists are working on all levels to win this campaign. From participating in high-level press conferences, to turning out thousands of citizens to crucial meetings and hearings, to local grassroots rallies to increase awareness of the issue, to maintaining a website ([www.savetrestles.org](http://www.savetrestles.org)) exclusively to provide information and updates about the campaign and provide ways for increased involvement, to generating an impressive amount of print, online and broadcast media for the Save Trestles campaign, Surfrider and our partners are committed to fighting the long battle to Save Trestles.

Your investment in our activism is paying off. In early May 2007, decision makers handed the Transportation Corridor Agency (TCA) and its project a one-two punch:

- o The House of Representatives passed an amendment to the National Defense Act forcing the TCA to comply with environmental laws. Before then, the TCA was enjoying little-known exemptions from state and federal environmental laws. Surfrider Foundation staff performed much of the research and developed talking points for Rep. Susan Davis as she prepared this amendment.

- o The California District Court of Appeals ruled that a lawsuit filed by the Save Trestles/San Onofre Coalition (of which Surfrider Foundation is a member) against the TCA for violating the California Environmental Quality Act must be heard in San Diego County. The TCA wanted the case tried in Orange County, the home of most of their remaining supporters.

While these decisions represent significant setbacks for the TCA and the proposed toll road extension project as a whole, the Surfrider Foundation and its coalition partners remain focused on doing all we can to protect Trestles and the San Mateo Creek watershed from this continuing threat.

• **Ventura, California** - The Ventura County Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation has been working with local and state government agencies for a decade or more to solve beach erosion problems at Ventura County's most popular coastal recreation area, Surfers' Point. Fueled by the momentous decision to remove the Matilija Dam, we continue to work as part of a community-wide coalition for the recovery of the bioregion, which will restore the natural sediment supply to the beaches of Ventura. This project has the potential to serve as a regional, if not national, model for ecosystem-based management programs, and we are leveraging SIMA funding to attract additional funders to our efforts. Over the next year, we plan to add staff capacity in Ventura to support this important project.

Also in Ventura, the California Coastal Commission unanimously supported a Surfrider Foundation Ventura Chapter project to relocate a crumbling bike path from Ventura's coastline and rebuild the shore with cobble and sand. In recognition of those activists who have spent the past decade working toward a solution to the erosion problems at Surfers Point, Peter Douglas, Executive Director of the Coastal Commission commended the project, calling it an excellent example of progressive coastal management. The commission's approval clears the way for completion of the final design, and applications for grant funding to construct the project can proceed. This decision marks a major milestone in the Ventura Chapter's 15 year effort to work within the community to solve the erosion problems at Surfers Point.

• **North Shore, Oahu** - Facing a proposed expansion of the 500-unit Turtle Bay Resort on Oahu's rural North Shore to 4,000 hotel and condominium units, Surfrider Foundation activists in the Oahu Chapter are working as an integral part of a community coalition to protect the North Shore from the blatantly harmful aspects of large scale development. The expansion plans are based on an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and development agreement dating back more than 20 years. Oahu Chapter activists are working to compel local agencies to require preparation of an updated Supplemental EIS before the expansion can proceed.

Furthermore, the massive expansion project is widely opposed by residents as well as lawmakers. According to the Hawaii Tourism Authority, a full 76 percent of Hawaii residents do not want more hotels built on their islands. The area's cultural heritage, exceptional environment, agricultural resources and rural lifestyle are extremely threatened by an outdated agreement and need our safeguarding and stewardship. Surfrider Foundation activists, supported with leadership and campaign planning assistance by National staff, are working to mobilize this public sentiment into real conservation action.

• **Delaware** - Our Delaware Chapter was recently successful in convincing the Delaware Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC) to expand their beach monitoring program beyond the normal tourist season to year-round testing. After receiving numerous calls from local surfers who were experiencing some illness, mostly extreme sinus infections, after surfing near a storm water outfall following winter storm events, the chapter organized a meeting with the DNREC and the University of Delaware's College of Marine Studies to discuss their concerns with the water quality at their local surfing beaches and the lack of information and testing throughout the year. Both the State and the University agreed to start bi-weekly testing of seven ocean beaches during the "off-season". The first samples were collected by Delaware Chapter volunteers in February 2007 and analyzed at the College of Marine Studies' water quality laboratories. The water quality data are then posted on the DNREC's website at [http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/dnreceis/Div\\_Water/Apps/RecWater/Asp/RecWaterPublic.asp](http://www.dnrec.state.de.us/dnreceis/Div_Water/Apps/RecWater/Asp/RecWaterPublic.asp)

• **Palm Beach County, Florida** - The sewage treatment plant in Delray Beach, Florida, sending an average of 13 million gallons per day of partly treated wastewater onto endangered corals and reef tract, will now be the first outfall of six in South Florida to discontinue dumping over the next few years. In their recent decision to discontinue use of the outfall pipe carrying Delray and Boynton Beach waste, utility board members took a major step toward resolving the plant's 18-month-long expired permit in the face of mounting public resistance and criticism from county environmental officials. The decision was the culmination of a four-year struggle by the Palm Beach County Surfrider Chapter and its nonprofit partners to draw attention to the effects of the outfall on the nearby coral reef system, which has been suffocating in recent years under a pollution-fed toxic algae bloom.

• **Westport, Washington** - After a seven-year battle, the developer behind the Links at Half Moon Bay golf resort proposal made huge concessions on behalf of wetlands, water quality, and beaches. Thanks in large part to activists in the Surfrider Foundation's Westport Chapter, along with our NGO partner, the Friends of Grays Harbor, the "Links" project will use a quarter of the proposed pesticides and herbicides, and the proposed large condo complex off the beach of Westhaven State Park will be relocated to an area that is less threatened by erosion, away from the most heavily used natural areas of the beach, and closer to existing urban development. Golfers will have to take a shuttle to the golf course, rather than be allowed to park at the Westhaven State Park parking lot, which is a key access point to the beach. In addition, the development will no longer be constructed in a high erosion area avoiding the inevitable need for bulkhead construction.

These are just a few highlights of the efforts undertaken by our chapters to protect and preserve our precious coastal resources and habitats. Our 23-year track record of victories for the coast shows the effectiveness of the organizational system we have in place to support our chapters. We firmly believe that working in this way to promote the stewardship of our coastal resources at the local level protects human and environmental health for generations to come.

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**REPORT CARD SUBMITTED BY  
WILDCOAST**

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[www.wildcoast.net](http://www.wildcoast.net)

**Who We Are:**

WILDCOAST protects and preserves coastal ecosystems and wildlife in the Californias and Latin America by building grassroots support, conducting media campaigns and establishing protected areas.

**Examples of Work Done With Previous SIMA Environmental Fund Grants:**

Surf Break Protection in Southern California and the Baja California Peninsula

WILDCOAST protects coastal ecosystems and wildlife in the Californias and Latin America by building grassroots support, carrying out media campaigns and establishing protected areas. With the support of the SIMA Environmental Fund, WILDCOAST is working to defend the most threatened surf breaks in the California's from pollution and development pressures.

1. Anti-marina and Anti-LNG Campaign to Stop Destruction of Surf Spots in Baja California

- WILDCOAST formed part of a coalition that asked the Mexican government to halt a LNG terminal off of the Coronado Islands just offshore from the U.S.-Mexico border. The project was cancelled.
- WILDCOAST was part of a coalition that successfully contested an EIA for a proposed cruise ship terminal at Punta Abreojos.
- WILDCOAST was part of a coalition that opposed the construction of a port at Punta Colonet. The Mexican government has rejected the first project EIA.
- WILDCOAST advised stakeholders in Scorpion Bay on providing public access to surfing resources at the point and maintaining the surf camp there.
- WILDCOAST filed a complaint with federal authorities in Mexico and halted the illegal construction of a breakwater at Punta Camalu.
- WILDCOAST purchased a 360-acre point break in Baja California to prevent its development.
- WILDCOAST helped preserve 140,000 acres of land between Punta Abreojos and Scorpion Bay.
- WILDCOAST was a part of California coalition that successfully opposed the LNG terminal at Long Beach.
- WILDCOAST participated in a campaign to mitigate the development of a marina at the San Jose del Cabo Estuary. The issue was featured in the New York Times.

2. Clean Water Campaign to Reduce Beach Closures Along the U.S.-Mexico Border

- WILDCOAST expanded its Clean Water Now! Campaign along the U.S.-Mexico border to highlight the more than 200 million gallons of sewage a week that are dumped into the ocean of the border

region-closing Imperial Beach 198 days in 2006 and resulting in the almost permanent closure of Baja Malibu (we recommend that you don't surf there unless you like visiting an Emergency Room).

The border beach pollution crisis and the Bajagua sewage treatment plant scandal was featured as a front-page story in the Wall Street Journal and reached over 120 newspapers worldwide thanks to the Associated Press.

- WiLDCOAST met with Senators Feinstein and Boxer to ask for help in combating border pollution.
- WiLDCOAST filed a complaint about the management of border sewage collector pipes. Veolia, the contractor to the U.S. government responsible for maintaining the pipes is now cleaning them up.
- WiLDCOAST generated more than 1,500 letters and postcards from surfers to elected officials demanding a solution to the border sewage crisis.
- WiLDCOAST is collaborating with HBO to introduce our Clean Water Now! campaign in the upcoming television series, John from Cincinnati, that is filmed outside of our office (literally) in Imperial Beach.
- WiLDCOAST spokesperson, soccer star Jorge Campos received the “Environmental Hero” award from the Monterey Bay Aquarium for his role in our “Defiende el Mar” campaign.
- WiLDCOAST organized a Clean Water Now! Rally for 300 surfers in Imperial Beach that was televised on every new program in San Diego and Tijuana.
- The WiLDCOAST Clean Water Now! Campaign was featured on over 25 television news broadcasts.
- Establishing a coalition of clean water advocates including the development of a local Waterman's Council including business owners.
- Organized 13 tours of the U.S.-Mexico border region for policy makers, journalists and elected officials including Congresswoman Susan Davis.

### 3. Campaign to Save Trestles

- WiLDCOAST participated in a trip to Sacramento to lobby elected officials to stop the TCA toll road project.
- WiLDCOAST published anti-toll road articles and letters in the Voice of San Diego and the Orange County Weekly.
- WiLDCOAST partnered with Surfrider to organize support for an anti-toll road resolution by the City of San Diego.