

2009 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

Grant Recipients



THE SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND SELECTED 18 ENVIRONMENTAL ORGANIZATIONS AS BENEFICIARIES OF THE 2009 WATERMAN'S WEEKEND. THESE ORGANIZATIONS WILL DEDICATE THE FUNDS TO PROGRAMS THAT WILL ADDRESS WATER QUALITY AND OCEAN POLLUTION ISSUES, DEFEND BEACHES AND SURF BREAKS FROM DEVELOPMENT, OR PROVIDE PUBLIC EDUCATION ABOUT OCEAN CONSERVATION.

RETURNING BENEFICIARIES

Alaska Wilderness League
Algalita Marine Research Foundation
Assateague Coastal Trust
Sierra Club's Friends of the Foothills Campaign
Heal the Bay
KAHEA: Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance
North Shore Community Land Trust
Ocean Institute
Orange County CoastKeeper
Reef Check
Santa Barbara Channelkeeper
Save the Waves Coalition
Seymour Marine Discovery Center
SINADES
Surfing Education Association
Surfrider Foundation
WILD COAST

NEW BENEFICIARY

Santa Monica Baykeeper

The following pages provide both photos and written highlights, provided by each beneficiary, of the type of work the returning beneficiaries have accomplished by using their 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant. You will also be introduced to our new beneficiary, Santa Monica Baykeeper, and the type of work they conduct.

The SIMA Environmental Fund thanks you for your continued support of the Waterman's Weekend beneficiaries and their efforts to make a difference in the state of our beaches and waves.

ALASKA WILDERNESS LEAGUE

www.alaskawild.org



MISSION: Alaska Wilderness League leads the effort to preserve Alaska's Wilderness by engaging citizens, sharing resources, collaborating with other organizations, educating the public, and providing a courageous, constant, and victorious voice for Alaska in the nation's capital. The League's goals for 2008 were: Keeping the Mineral Management Service from leasing any additional offshore tracts in the Polar Bear Seas; stopping oil and gas development activities in sensitive areas already leased; identifying and defining environmentally sensitive areas in the Arctic Ocean, and developing a strategy to protect the sensitive areas that addresses state, national, and international issues.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL

FUND GRANT: DECREASED OFF-SHORE OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT: On April 17, 2009, a three-judge panel in Washington, D.C., found that the Bush administration failed to consider the effect of off-shore oil and gas development on the environment and marine life in the Beaufort, Bering and Chukchi Seas. In their unanimous decision, the three judges found the Bush administration Interior Department's plan to be illegal and "irrational." In a stunning move, the Court vacated the entire five-year outer continental shelf leasing program nationwide, handing the plan back to the Department of the Interior for reconsideration. Our League was one of three plaintiffs on the lawsuit.



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EDUCATED PUBLIC ABOUT THE POLAR BEAR SEAS: Secretary of the Interior, Ken Salazar, held four regional hearings across the country to hear from the public about the nation's energy needs and off-shore development. One thing all four hearings had in common was our Polar Bear Presence. Thanks to the efforts of our staff, members and volunteers, Alaska was front and center as our "bears" suited up to join the fray. For each hearing, League staff coordinated and led the public outreach effort. Those not dressed as a polar bear wore white t-shirts with the outline of a polar bear and the words "Save Me." In Atlantic City, Julia Shaw, our New Jersey field staffer, was on the evening news at the anti-drilling press conference spearheaded by Clean Ocean Action. In New Orleans, the League's Mark Stilp, who managed to enter the hearing side-by-side with Sec. Salazar, shared our concerns and delivered the League's impressive anti-drilling petition signed by hundreds of concerned supporters.

INCREASED COMMUNICATION WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR: A delegation of Alaska native leaders met with Secretary Ken Salazar while in D.C. for the League's twice yearly "Alaska Wilderness Week." Secretary Salazar was very gracious and extended the 15 minute appointment into a 45 minute discussion about life in their communities around Alaska. Salazar, in turn, held hearings and teleconferences in communities around Alaska dealing with ocean issues.

ALGALITA MARINE RESEARCH FOUNDATION

www.algalita.org



MISSION: The Algalita Marine Research Foundation is dedicated to the protection of the marine environment and its watersheds through research, education, and restoration.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL

FUND GRANT: INCREASED PUBLIC VISIBILITY: In just one year, we've been acknowledged in more than 75 print, television and web articles, such as: Discovery Channel, Good Morning America, The New Yorker, CNN, Wall Street Journal, and many others. Results include increased membership and donations from individuals.

SHIP-2-SHORE: In January 2008 Captain Charles Moore embarked on his sixth, and longest, expedition across the North Pacific Gyre – 4000 miles in 4 weeks. He and his crew of five kept in constant communication with family, friends, Algalita staff, and 26 schools in three countries. Questions poured in daily from students around the world asking questions about plastic at sea, suggestions about solutions, and life on a sailboat. In June 2009, Captain Moore will have traveled two-thirds the distance to Japan, his longest voyage yet, surveying the extent of plastic marine debris across the Pacific Ocean.

GIS: Mapping AMRF Research in Your Classroom: SIMA funds have helped



develop the GIS Student Research/Interaction and Public Education Program. We have been working hard to develop maps from Gyre sample data and are working towards a collaboration with the Clean Watersheds Program at the Center for Marine Studies. They are currently working on lining up laptop computers so that all 10 classes that attend the program will have the opportunity to complete a one hour + lesson from our GIS Student Research/Interaction curriculum.

MESSAGE IN A BOTTLE: PHASE 1 was the successful collection of 100 samples of plastic marine debris from the North Pacific Gyre. These were non-research samples of plastic and plankton to be given away to educators, legislators and organizations.

PHASE 2 was the successful journey of JUNK, a raft constructed from 15,000 plastic bottles that drifted 2,600 miles from Long Beach to Hawaii during the summer of 2008 to raise public awareness about plastic marine debris and the research of the Algalita Marine Research Foundation.

PHASE 3 was the journey two Algalita educators from the Vancouver Aquarium across the Canadian border to begin a 3-month, 2000-mile cycling/speaking tour down the west coast to Tijuana, Mexico. During this tour, the 100 samples of plastic marine debris were given away.

ASSATEAGUE COASTAL TRUST

www.actforbays.org



MISSION: Assateague Coastal Trust works to protect and enhance the natural resources of the Atlantic Coastal Bays watershed through advocacy, education and conservation.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

The purpose of the 2008 SIMA grant was to support the purchase of a new, larger boat, with the goal to increase and enhance the Coastkeeper's vital watershed monitoring activities that are the foundation of her water quality protection mission. The Assateague Coastkeeper, a program of Assateague Coastal Trust (ACT), is an on-the-water advocate who patrols and protects the Maryland and northern Virginia eastern shore Coastal Bays, standing up to polluters and guaranteeing everyone's right to clean water. The program must have an appropriate boat to patrol the 175 square mile Coastal Bays watershed.

The new boat (a 17' Carolina Skiff, center console, with a 60hp Suzuki 4-stroke engine) was purchased soon after SIMA grant funds were received, using the full grant amount plus about \$3,000 in ACT operating funds. The Carolina Skiff is the ideal patrol boat for the Coastkeeper, as it can better navigate the shallow Coastal Bays and is better able to accommodate monitoring equipment, supplies and passengers.

Given the climate in the Mid-Atlantic region, the Coastkeeper does not generally patrol the waters over the winter months. However, the boat embarked



on its maiden voyage (on a trailer) as part of ACT's float in the Berlin, Maryland Christmas parade with a group of ACT Coast Kids on board to help promote the health of the Coastal Bays.

During the summer months, regular patrols of the entire Coastal Bays watershed will proceed. Of note, the boat will also be used to access an area of Chincoteague Bay to monitor the stormwater run-off from a Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) that has a stormwater pond linked to a ditch leading directly into Chincoteague Bay. The Coastkeeper will be testing the ditch water for coliform, E.coli, arsenic traces, and if these are found in high enough levels the data will be used to pressure the State of Maryland to find better methods of stormwater control for CAFOs.

From a practical perspective, the new boat has increased and enhanced the capacity of the Coastkeeper's vital watershed monitoring activities that are the foundation of her water quality protection mission. These practical enhancements include improved direct access to shallow waters, and more room for monitoring equipment, shallow watercraft (i.e., kayak) and other passengers (e.g., research assistants, monitoring volunteers). More broadly speaking, the new boat enhances the Coastkeeper's ability to pursue her monitoring, enforcement, educational and advocacy agenda.

SIERRA CLUB'S FRIENDS OF THE FOOTHILLS

www.friendsofthefoothills.org



MISSION: The Sierra Club's Friends of the Foothills Campaign is dedicated to protecting the pristine San Mateo watershed, Donna O'Neill Land Conservancy, Trestles Beach, San Mateo Campground, and San Onofre State Beach from the proposed Foothill-South Toll Road. To achieve these goals, we 1) Educate the public statewide about the threat the road poses; 2) Elevate the public debate to a national level because the threat to the state park will set precedent for all our state parks; 3) Mobilize the public to stand up for our state parks and oppose the Foothill-South Toll Road; and 4) Pursue litigation to ensure that the toll road complies with regulations and highlight the legal shortcomings of those projects.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

In 2008 we had spectacular success in achieving our goals and objectives. In December, the Commerce Department refused the Transportation Corridor Agency's appeal of the California Coastal Commission decision that denied necessary coastal permits for the Foothill-South toll road—meaning that the road will not be built in the foreseeable future and may never be built. Various Sierra Club activities contributed significantly to record-breaking attendance at the Coastal Commission hearing and the equally impressive turnout for the Commerce hearing (more than 3,000).



We staged an event on the state capitol grounds, pitching 161 small tents symbolizing the camping sites that would be ruined by the toll road. We met with numerous members of Congress and the state legislature to secure letters of opposition to the toll road from 36 state representatives and 27 members of Congress. We collected 1,210 postcards at Trestles and mailed 352 photo cards of park campers to the Secretary of Commerce. More than 600 people attended four organizing meetings we held prior to hearings of the Coastal Commission and Commerce Department. Our volunteers called 1,400 people prior to the Coastal Commission hearing and 2,509 for the Commerce hearing. Working with Acjachemen tribe member Rebecca Robles, we sponsored a Native American tour of San Onofre State Beach with 85 participants. Taken together, these actions grew our activist ranks, engaging 125 people in phoning, collecting letters, and meeting with public officials.

While the TCA may try to resurrect its proposal, we have built a well-organized and highly capable community of residents in the region who will fight to protect the park. In addition, taking our toll road work into account with our concurrent advocacy to preserve a substantial portion of Rancho Mission Viejo, we made huge strides in protecting the San Mateo watershed, benefiting the many people in southern California whose recreation depends upon the protection of that watershed.

HEAL THE BAY

www.healthebay.org



MISSION: Heal the Bay is a non-profit environmental organization dedicated to making Southern California coastal waters and watersheds, including Santa Monica Bay, safe, healthy, and clean. We use research, education, community action, and advocacy to pursue our mission.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL

FUND GRANT: MARINE DEBRIS ADVOCACY PROGRAM: Over the last six months, Heal the Bay has actively reached its goals in collaboration with the Ocean Protection Council (OPC). On November 20, 2008, the OPC approved an ambitious implementation plan for preventing plastic bags, polystyrene food packaging, cigarette butts and other harmful waste from entering the Pacific Ocean in California.

The SIMA grant has also supported Heal the Bay's efforts to eliminate the distribution of single-use plastic bags in the cities of Malibu and Santa Monica. An ordinance banning single-use plastic bags went into effect in December 2008 in the City of Malibu. Heal the Bay is still working with the City of Santa Monica on the final adoption of an ordinance to ban single-use plastic carryout bags, which is expected to occur in 2009.

In addition, Heal the Bay is currently sponsoring Assembly Bill (AB 68) (Brownley), which would place a fee on plastic, paper and compostable



carryout bags. The program has significantly reduced plastic bag litter. **THE SPEAKERS BUREAU PROGRAM:** SIMA funding has supported Heal the Bay's goal of reaching thousands of individuals with information about the environmental, economic and social importance of the ocean and how everyone can help to make a difference through pollution prevention and marine conservation.

Through the Speakers Bureau Program, Heal the Bay staff and trained volunteers educated approximately 28,000 Los Angeles County-based individuals at 109 schools, 12 businesses, and 37 community groups about the harmful effects of coastal pollution on human health and marine life. The program has continued to successfully reach elementary school students and teachers, accounting for 50% of all talks made by Speakers Bureau volunteers. Volunteers are currently conducting more presentations at middle and high schools compared to last year. And as a result of Heal the Bay's partnership with the Adopt-a-Beach program, volunteers are reaching more college and adult populations, which historically has been a hard-to-reach demographic. Currently, the geographical location of all lectures is evenly distributed between inland and coastal communities.

KAHEA

www.kahea.org



MISSION: KAHEA: The Hawaiian-Environmental Alliance is a community-based organization working to improve the quality of life for Hawai'i's people and further generations through the revitalization and protection of Hawai'i's unique natural and cultural resources. We advocate the proper stewardship of our resources and for social responsibility by promoting multi-cultural understanding and environmental justice.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL

FUND GRANT: With the generous support of SIMA, we have been working within our communities of ocean and shoreline users—paddlers, surfers, hula halau, anglers, and beach-goers—towards malama i ke kai, securing strong protections for Hawaiian marine and coastal resources.

ENFORCEMENT OF HAWAII'S COASTAL ACCESS LAWS: Our focus for the 2008 SIMA grant was the improvement of opportunities to enforce Hawai'i's coastal access laws. Today, Hawai'i has approximately 319 total public-access sites for 360 miles of coastline, which is on average one access point every 1.1 miles.

There are a number of laws protecting public access to Hawai'i's shorelines, and local residents have historically relied upon these laws to successfully uphold the public's fundamental right to open and safe access. KAHEA helped organize support for a new state law providing an important citizen suit provision to



“guarantee the right of public access to the sea and shorelines.” Thanks to support from SIMA, we are very close to seeing this citizen suit provision become law in Hawai'i!

PROTECTING THE ENDANGERED MONK SEAL: KAHEA, in partnership with the Ocean Conservancy and the Center for Biological Diversity, also filed a Monk Seal petition. The petition called to protect the beaches and surrounding waters of the Hawaiian Monk Seals as critical habitat areas under the Endangered Species Act. In response to our petition, the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration announced they will consider designating additional areas as critical habitat for monk seals. This is a crucial first step forward!

COMMUNICATIONS MATERIALS SUPPORTING COASTAL EFFORTS: KAHEA is now developing a brochure on threats to coastal resources. We are working with local surfers, beach-goers and Native Hawaiian cultural practitioners to collect and document stories affirming the importance of Hawai'i's nearshore ocean and coastal resources, the mandate for public access, and the increasing threats of inappropriate developments, sedimentation, beach erosion and coastal armoring. This grant from SIMA helped KAHEA grow our action network by more than 1,400 members in the first six months of our 2008 grant.

NORTH SHORE COMMUNITY LAND TRUST

www.northshoreland.org



MISSION: The mission of the North Shore Community Land Trust (NSCLT) is to protect, steward, and enhance the natural landscapes, cultural heritage, and rural character of ahupua'a (watersheds) from Kahuku Point to Kaena Point. SIMA provided support in 2008 for the Pupukeya Paumalu Stewardship Fund and NSCLT priority conservation projects that support clean water, surf break protection, and ocean environmental education.

NSCLT's work creates on-going opportunities to safeguard and strengthen Oahu's near shore environment, cultural heritage, famous surf breaks and world-class beaches, and quality of life by permanently protecting an ecologically significant area that is highly used and appreciated by Hawaii residents and millions of visitors each year. The North Shore's 30-miles of coastline and over 60,000 acres of agricultural landscapes are under severe development pressure and this serves as added motivation to the community to mobilize the resources needed to protect these lands.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

SIMA's support in 2008 allowed NSCLT to aggressively undertake our work to protect and restore special natural areas on the North Shore of Oahu. SIMA's support also helped build NSCLT's organizational capacity so that we have the continued ability to pursue voluntary land conservation through our innovative



work with landowners, community groups, local government, and individuals. In 2008 NSCLT supported the conservation of 1,129 acres and worked toward the conservation of an additional 2,200 acres. NSCLT looks forward to protecting even more land in 2009 and beyond for the benefit of the public.

OTHER HIGHLIGHTS OF NSCLT'S WORK DURING 2008 INCLUDE:

- Supported Pupukeya Paumalu Long-term Resource Management Plan community planning process
- Developed stewardship agreements with the City and County of Honolulu, the State of Hawaii, and other partners for the Pupukeya Paumalu property
- Coordinated Pupukeya Paumalu on-site community stewardship activities including monthly trail clearing, community clean-ups, and erosion control on the 1,129 acre parcel
- Completed organizational strategic planning process
- Updated NSCLT educational and organizational materials including a completely new website
- Participated in the Governor's Working Group on Turtle Bay (effort to protect over 1000 acres along five miles of coastline)
- Began work on two new agricultural conservation easements for "Sunset Ranch" and the "Kukaniloko Birthing Stones" totaling over 1,200 acres

OCEAN INSTITUTE

www.ocean-institute.org



MISSION: The mission of the Ocean Institute is to inspire all generations through education to become responsible stewards of our oceans.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

The SIMA Environmental Fund grant helped the Ocean Institute excite and inspire more than 2,200 fifth graders about the ocean through the Watershed Education Program. The goal is to expose students to the ocean and their own watersheds and to provide an in-depth program that cleverly links ocean science to current issues in the students' own neighborhoods. As oceanographers for a day, and then back in their classrooms researching an aquatic environmental issue and developing a presentation, the crucial importance of protecting the ocean becomes relevant and fun for the students.

Eighty classes of fifth grade students from 29 primarily Title I schools in 19 different cities came to the Ocean Institute. Thirteen different watersheds throughout Southern California were represented. The teachers brought their students to the Ocean Institute for in-depth marine science experiences for no charge to the schools or the students' families. After three months of work together as a class, students presented their ocean-environmental projects during the Kids' Conferences that ran for 12 days at the Ocean Institute.

One class from Cypress called themselves "The Hydro-Bubbles" and



compared the health of the Carbon Creek Watershed to the San Gabriel River. They invited the Cypress Water Quality Manager, Gonzalo Vasquez, to visit their class to learn first-hand from him about the water in their community. They invited the OC Stormwater Program's mobile laboratory van and its manager to their school and tested the water samples they gathered from Carbon Creek and the San Gabriel River. The PowerPoint presentation the students made for the Kids' Conferences described the water cycle, the scarceness of fresh water, the pollution in their community, and what they could do about it. The students scientifically determined that the water quality of the San Gabriel River was significantly healthier than Carbon Creek. They hope to positively influence this by building community awareness.

The Watershed Education Program's impact is multiplied when the students teach their peers at school about watersheds and ocean pollution during school assemblies, and make presentations to community service groups and city council meetings to raise local citizens' ocean awareness.

The SIMA Environmental Fund grant has enhanced the Ocean Institute's ability to deliver top-notch, ocean-awareness programs to a population that is usually getting this exposure for the first time. This is very significant to our mission of inspiring the next generation to protect and preserve our oceans. Thank you.

ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER

www.coastkeeper.org



MISSION: The Orange County Coastkeeper's mission is to protect and preserve the marine habitats and watershed of Orange County through education, advocacy, research and enforcement.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

Now commencing our ninth year, Orange County Coastkeeper's Coastal Water Quality Improvement Program has produced an improved and enhanced ocean water quality environment along Orange County's forty-two mile coastline. The current SIMA Environmental Fund Grant partially funds Coastkeeper's coastal water quality initiatives.

The numbers of sewage spills are decreasing. Coastkeeper's on-going exclusive campaign focused on cities and sanitation districts to expedite inspections, repairs, and retrofitting of aging sewage collection systems. Through a combination of litigation, collaboration, and data monitoring Coastkeeper applies constant pressure on cities.

Coastkeeper begins chairing the Environmental Clean-up Allocation Committee of the Orange County Transportation Authority (OCTA) and will ensure funding goes to projects that improve coastal water quality. Coastkeeper alone lobbied for and achieved OCTA's agreement to add a \$432 million fund for Water Quality Clean-Up funding segment to the Measure M extension approved by the



voters. This fund will provide about \$10 million each year to cities and special districts to fund projects that reduce runoff pollution.

Coastkeeper has caused polluted discharges to be eliminated along the Newport Coast and significantly reduced in many other coastal areas of the county. For example, the massive Pacific City Development on PCH in Surf City—talling structural facilities to remove pollutants from urban runoff before it is discharged to the ocean.

This program directly improves water quality for surfing O.C. coastal waters. In April 2009, the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board added more O.C. waterways that discharge to the ocean to the Federal 303d list of impaired waterways, providing added regulatory protections and stricter water quality standards. This action was specifically a result of Coastkeeper's monitoring and scientific analysis data that was provided.

A new storm water permit that shifts the paradigm from runoff to retention, thus improving water quality and reducing the amount of runoff that is discharged. Through advocacy at the Santa Ana Regional Water Quality Control Board from December 2008 through May 2009, Coastkeeper was instrumental in initiating a coalition of stakeholders to redesign the County's Storm Water Permit.

REEF CHECK

www.reefcheck.org



MISSION: Reef Check's mission is to conserve and rehabilitate reef ecosystems worldwide. It does so through 'citizen science' – a community-based, volunteer approach to integrating scientific research, public education, and marine conservation in order to effect change. Through volunteer monitoring, immersion learning and education, and public engagement, Reef Check helps produce informed decision-making, policy, and behavioral choices that protect, promote, and nurture reef ecosystems.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

The 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant is being used to support outreach events and continue the development and growth of Reef Check's California (RCCA) program. SIMA funds are being used to support personnel critical for RCCA's education, outreach, and policy engagement in California. Sixty percent of the grant is going to support the Education/Outreach Coordinator and the Southern California Regional Manager (divided evenly), and 40% to support the Program Manager and the Science Director (divided evenly). Without this grant our program services would be drastically impacted. The SIMA grant has allowed RCCA to aim high and set ambitious goals for the 2009 season while ensuring that RCCA staff and volunteers will at the bare minimum maintain a status quo by continuing to survey and monitor all of the 65 reef sites throughout California. The



efficacy of the RCCA program is thus directly correlated to SIMA's generous and ongoing support.

The 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant has also allowed us to continue to reach out to the public through presentations, community events and conferences to promote public awareness of California's growing network of MPAs, the need for scientific data to support resource management decisions and the opportunity for stewardship through resource monitoring activities statewide. Thanks to SIMA's generous and ongoing support RCCA has to date surveyed 65 sites and completed 168 surveys counting more than 65,000 fish, 190,000 invertebrates, and 55,000 seaweeds, and expects 2009 to contribute handsomely to these totals. Though not immediately quantifiable, qualitative data shows that RCCA's training and monitoring effectively engage hundreds of California's ocean lovers in the understanding of reef issues and collection of quality scientific data. These volunteers, who range in experience from surfers to commercial fishermen to recreational ocean users to university students, come to RCCA because they are concerned about the changes they see in California's marine environment. They want to "make a difference" and "dive with a purpose." RCCA gives these concerned citizens an avenue for engagement in the education and conservation processes.

SANTA BARBARA CHANNELKEEPER

www.sbck.org



MISSION: Santa Barbara Channelkeeper is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization whose mission is to protect and restore the Santa Barbara Channel and its watersheds through citizen action, field work, education and enforcement. Channelkeeper works on the water and in the community to monitor local waterways, restore aquatic ecosystems, advocate for clean water, enforce environmental laws, and educate and engage citizens in identifying and devising solutions to local pollution problems. Our goals are to eliminate industrial and other pollution to the Channel, eliminate beach closures, protect local wetlands, monitor water quality, and monitor and restore aquatic ecosystems.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

With support from the SIMA Environmental Fund, Channelkeeper has focused our clean water advocacy and enforcement efforts including urban runoff pollution prevention, the proposed Clearwater Port Liquefied Natural Gas and Paredon oil and gas development proposals, Total Maximum Daily Loads for the Ventura River and Santa Barbara County beaches, and Marine Protected Areas in the Santa Barbara Channel.

WATER QUALITY MONITORING: Channelkeeper's water quality data was used by the Regional Board to directly support the listing of 16 new impairments on the 303(d) list.

OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT PROPOSALS: Channelkeeper is closely scrutinizing



the Environmental Impact Reports prepared for two potentially environmentally harmful oil and gas development projects being proposed in our area.

CALTRANS ISSUED A NOTICE OF VIOLATION FOR WORK ON HIGHWAY 101: Channelkeeper monitored a construction site's Best Management Practice implementation and documented discharges of contaminated stormwater.

GOLETA SLOUGH PROTECTED: We've been working with California Coastal Commission staff to address damage to the Goleta Slough from off-roading vehicles for more than four years, and our advocacy finally paid off as the area of the Slough was fenced off.

SAN ANTONIO CREEK ENFORCEMENT: Ventura County responded to our call for enforcement for illegal building by issuing several Notices of Violation to the landowner and criminal investigations are now being conducted.

DISPOSABLE BAG REDUCTION: We're working with the City of Santa Barbara to reduce the use of disposable shopping bags by refining and implementing the Single Use Bag Reduction Strategy for the City.

MARINE PROTECTED AREAS: Channelkeeper is playing a lead role in the state's Marine Life Protection Act initiative, which is mandated to create a network of marine protected areas along the entire California coast by 2011. We co-authored one of the nine proposals delineating a network of marine protected areas.

SANTA MONICA BAYKEEPER

www.smbaykeeper.org



MISSION: Founded in 1993, the Santa Monica Baykeeper's mission is to protect and restore the Santa Monica Bay, San Pedro Bay and adjacent waters through enforcement, fieldwork, and community action. We work to achieve this goal through litigation and regulatory programs that ensure water quality protections in waterways throughout L.A. County

NEW BENEFICIARY FOR 2009

EXAMPLES OF WORK TO BE DONE WITH 2009 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

Santa Monica Baykeeper is proud to be a first time beneficiary of the SIMA Environmental Fund and will use these funds to support projects within our Watershed Program. Today, SMBK is one of only a handful of organizations monitoring, collecting and analyzing water samples from known and suspected pollution sources beyond those found directly along our coastline. Data and information collected by our staff and volunteers is directly used by resource management agencies to guide and enforce water quality regulations that positively affect water quality in L.A. County.

SIMA FUNDS WILL SUPPORT A THREE-STEP STRATEGY:

STEP 1: SMBK will conduct extensive analyses on current beach, adjacent waterway and storm drain water quality monitoring programs throughout L.A. County to identify locations and pollutants that are not currently being tested,



especially those near scrap metal yards. The data will include the current location of monitoring sites, pollutants being analyzed, and sampling methodology used to assess pollution levels at L.A. county beaches. (four month duration at onset of funding)

STEP 2: SMBK will continue to recruit and train new volunteers to routinely collect water quality data at locations that are currently being tested and those sites identified in Step 1. (Ongoing for duration of grant – one year)

STEP 3: SMBK will create a water quality monitoring component on the SMBK Web site. The new Web site component will make data available to the public, decision makers, and resource management agencies to help resource managers better protect and enhance water quality and allow beach users to make informed decisions about which beaches provide cleaner water quality. The Web site will incorporate Geographic Information System mapping to allow the user to visually choose locations of interest and to evaluate water quality at those locations. The map and data will also serve as an important outreach tool for volunteers, residents of Los Angeles County and the millions of visitors who annually migrate to Santa Monica Bay's beaches. (To be completed at end of grant period)

Again, all of us at Santa Monica Baykeeper would like to thank the SIMA Environmental Fund Board and staff for this amazing opportunity.

SAVE THE WAVES COALITION

www.savethewaves.org



MISSION: Save the Waves is an environmental coalition dedicated to preserving the world's surf spots and their surrounding environments. Our goal is to preserve and protect surfing locations around the planet and to educate the public about their value. Save the Waves works in partnership with local communities, foreign and national governments, as well as other conservation groups to prevent coastal development from entering the surf zone.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

The SIMA Environmental Fund grant is specifically being used to support the World Wave Sites program, whose name is now changed to World Surfing Reserves (WSR), and to support STW's Chile program through its new local organization, the Maule Itata Coastkeeper, Chile's first representative of the international Waterkeeper Alliance.

WORLD SURFING RESERVES PROGRAM: The program mission of World Surfing Reserves is to proactively designate and help preserve special, outstanding waves and surf zones around the world. World Surfing Reserves is presently in its first year of operations and funds are being used to conduct necessary research, produce a detailed program document, form a selection committee, and initiate the first WSR designations at selected surf spots globally. In December 2008 a detailed program document was produced and presented to a panel of leading experts at the Value



of Waves Roundtable held in Half Moon Bay, California, and hosted by Save The Waves. From the participants a selection committee and vision council was formed. The established vision council and selection committee will be instrumental in guiding this program's vision and will assist WSR to choose from the long list of nominated international surfing reserves, with a goal of two surfing reserves to be implemented in late 2009 and early 2010.

STW CHILE PROGRAM: Save The Waves' Chile program entered a new and exciting phase with the initial planning, founding and implementation of Maule Itata Coastkeeper, Chile's first member program of the international Waterkeeper Alliance. Originally established to combat coastal water pollution problems from the forestry industry in Nueva Aldea and Constitución, the STW Chile program has since expanded to investigate and solve a variety of water quality concerns affecting citizens and public health. The new Maule Itata Coastkeeper is now a fully functioning Chilean organization based in the town of Curanipe in coastal Chile and which carries out public outreach, educational workshops for local citizens, water testing, independent supervision of industrial pollution problems, and acts as an aggressive legal advocate protecting the public interest for clean, highest quality coastal waters.

SEYMOUR MARINE DISCOVERY CENTER

<http://seymourcenter.ucsc.edu>



MISSION: The Seymour Marine Discovery Center is dedicated to educating people about the role marine science plays in the understanding and conservation of the world's oceans. Exhibit halls, aquarium, touch tank, and hands-on activities enhance the experience for more than 55,000 children and adults each year. Highlights include an 87-foot-long blue whale skeleton, guided tours of marine mammal areas, educational programs tailored for students of all ages, and an array of specialty programs focusing on different aspects of marine science. More than 180 skilled volunteers assist in every capacity.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

Volunteers are the heart of the Seymour Marine Discovery Center, an ocean science institution dedicated to educating people about understanding and conserving the world's oceans. With the 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant we are underway training new volunteers, creating enrichment opportunities for veteran volunteers, and continuing to develop our volunteer programs as follows:

1. **SCHOOL PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS** are team-teaching hands-on ocean science and environmental education activity stations to visiting school groups (grades K - Community College). They receive hands-on mentoring four days a week from professional marine science educators.



2. **DOCENT GUIDES** are serving as the Center's major contact with the public, leading tours, and serving as in-house specialists, enhancing the visitor's understanding of the oceans. With the support of the SIMA Environmental Fund we recruited and trained 25 new individuals in a 10-week (college level) course.
3. **APPRENTICE GUIDES** (including teens ages 15 and up) will assist visitors at the seawater table (touch tank) and with visitor programs in the aquarium and exhibit hall this summer.
4. **YOUTH PROGRAM VOLUNTEERS** will mentor young people this summer in on-the-water programs including kayaking, snorkeling, tidepooling, and learning through active hands-on science activities.

This past year, our visitation grew by a significant amount—in 2008, we served 57,000 people, an increase from 52,000 people the year before. During this same time, our small staff grew even smaller (from 12.5 to 10 positions). Over time, this will directly impact our ability to meet our goals. Our volunteers make all the difference—for example, during the past year seven volunteers gave more than 200 hours of their time. Without the assistance of the SIMA Environmental Fund, we could not recruit, train, and mentor this wonderful group of people. We are sincerely grateful.

SINADES

sinades@prodigy.net.mx



MISSION: To improve the quality of life of the inhabitants of rural communities through participating in environmental education programs. Realized through the implementation of workshops, training sessions, and the dispersion of resource materials, SINADES educates and empowers local residents to be in control of their natural resources. The ultimate goal is for community members to define and develop plans related to sustainable regional resource management that can be implemented at the local level.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

The SIMA Environmental Fund Grant helps fund the Young Environmental Ambassadors program. YEA involves 25 Todos Santos and Pescadero youth in an environmental education program that focuses on learning about dune and near shore ocean eco-systems through weekly visits to the Playa Los Cerritos. The students have witnessed deforestation, dune modification and large scale beach front construction projects, experiencing first-hand the impact that foreign investment and foreign held beach front concessions have had on the Playa Los Cerritos.

THE GOALS OF THIS PROGRAM ARE: To empower local youth to care for their local surfing break through environmental education and active participation; to educate youth about federal laws pertaining to beach access; to make a short



video about threats to local surfing breaks.

VIDEO: The YEA program is concentrating on documenting the rapidly changing profile of their town and its world-class surfing breaks. We are currently working on editing the video and will be doing voiceovers and shooting additional footage over the next few months to complete the video by mid-August.

FIELD LEARNING: The program will send 15 youth to attend the first environmental education/water safety session at Los Cerritos beach this summer.

The YEA project has brought an increased local awareness toward SINADES and our other service learning projects in the area. We also have youth from the middle school participating in another long-term project, the rehabilitation of a green area donated by the local land trust for an ecological park with bike paths, where a gray whale skeleton will be displayed.

SURFING EDUCATION ASSOCIATION

gdowning@hawaii.rr.com



MISSION: Dedicated to the preservation of our ocean, waves and beaches, including water quality and accessibility. Working with key individuals of organizations in dealing with issues consistent with Surfing Education Association and Save Our Seas goals and encouraging leadership and the building of a people power base.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND GRANT:

The contributions provided from the 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant will be directed towards the preservation of our ocean, coral reefs, waves, beaches, water quality, shoreline and beach accessibility. Our organization has set out to stop the feeding of sharks for commercial tour operations throughout the state of Hawaii as well as organizing a swim area at Ala Moana Beach Park that has become congested with swimmers and the new craze of stand-up paddle boarders.

The efforts of Surfing Education Association are ongoing. To date we have stopped the rock groin placement in Waikiki Beach. The project has been asked to complete an Environmental Impact State before moving forward with their plans. In the meantime, Surfing Education Association is educating the public as to why these groins should not be allowed. We have also stopped the state from privatizing the entire parking facilities in the Ala Wai Boat Harbor. This has allowed



300 parking spaces to remain free for recreational ocean users and 296 parking stalls to be available for 25 cents an hour.

The impact of our 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant has been monumental. We have helped to educate the population regarding these ocean issues and encouraged leadership and the importance of people power. The SIMA Environmental Fund grant has enabled SEA to tackle a greater number of issues with a stronger community presence.

SURFRIDER FOUNDATION

www.surfrider.org



MISSION: The Surfrider Foundation is a non-profit grassroots environmental organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's oceans, waves and beaches, through conservation, activism, research and education.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

GRANT: SAVE TRESTLES: Support from the SIMA Environmental Fund was instrumental in our ability to build tremendous grassroots support for the Save Trestles campaign. The success of the campaign means that the San Mateo Creek watershed – which includes Trestles and San Onofre State Park – has been rescued from a poorly-planned project that would have wreaked havoc on these precious and fragile resources. Our southern California chapters coordinated to turn out what may have been a record-setting attendance at Coastal Commission and Secretary of Commerce hearings. Despite the Transportation Corridor Agency's (TCA) concentrated lobbying, coordination of labor support, and constant public messaging, the Coastal Zone Management Act consistency review was denied. At both the Coastal Commission hearing in February 2008 and the Secretary of Commerce's public hearing in September 2008, thousands of activists turned out to voice their opposition to the project. Furthermore, Save Trestles is now serving as a launchpad for Surfrider Foundation-led campaigns around the issues of Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) and offshore drilling. Indeed, Save Trestles provides



a credible model to guide the design and implementation of coastal campaigns across the Surfrider Foundation grassroots network.

The Surfrider Foundation remains organizationally committed to the Save Trestles campaign, and we have not stopped monitoring the TCA. Since the Department of Commerce ruling, the TCA issued a statement pledging to "reach out to stakeholders and seek common ground for traffic solutions," and we will be pleased to respond to their outreach attempts. The Surfrider Foundation has called upon the TCA to make a public statement promising to give up on a route through the Park.

GRASSROOTS CAMPAIGNS, FLORIDA: Surfrider Foundation members statewide realized success in their campaign to improve management of Florida's inlets. Florida has more than 60 inlets around the state, many of which have been artificially deepened to accommodate commercial and recreational vessels and employ jetties to prevent sand from filling in the channels. A by-product of this practice is that the jetties and the inlet channels have interrupted the natural flow of sand along the beach causing a loss of sand to the beaches on the other side of the inlet. Now, the state's beach management efforts to finally address beach erosion caused by Florida's inlets (80% of the problem) will include recommendations to mitigate the erosive impacts of the inlet and recommendations regarding cost sharing among the governments.

WILDCOAST

www.wildcoast.net



MISSION: WILDCOAST protects and preserves coastal ecosystems and wildlife in the California's and Latin America by building grassroots support, conducting media campaigns and establishing protected areas.

EXAMPLES OF WORK DONE WITH 2008 SIMA ENVIRONMENTAL FUND

GRANT: The purpose of WILDCOAST's 2008 SIMA Environmental Fund grant was to hire a program coordinator for our Wildlands Conservation Program which functions to protect threatened pristine coastal land in Baja California. Since 2006, the program has successfully secured 14.9 miles of coastal wild lands in the Valle de los Cirios Pacific Coast through direct purchases and conservation agreements. This area includes several world-class, right-hand point breaks that have been targeted for marina project proposals and other development ventures.

The SIMA Environmental Fund grant was used to hire Zach Plopper, a recent graduate of the University of California, Los Angeles's School of Public Affairs Urban Planning graduate program. Zach has surpassed WILDCOAST's expectations as a program coordinator. Since Zach began at WILDCOAST, he helped obtain a \$1,000,000 grant from the Resource Legacy Foundation Fund for wild lands conservation in the Valle de los Cirios Pacific Coast. He authored detailed conservation plans for this region and for Laguna San Ignacio that outline threats, conservation status and priorities, potential protection strategies, project



management and project funding. In collaboration with Saul Alarcon, the program's manager, Zach's work has led to negotiations and the imminent acquisition of 4,178.6 acres and 3.9 miles of coastline of pristine wild lands in the Valle de los Cirios Pacific Coast.

Since Zach's hire in November, 2008, WILDCOAST's technical capabilities have been greatly expanded with his proficiency in GIS software. He has provided technical support to other WILDCOAST programs and has been a tremendous asset in funding acquisition for added GIS applications and licenses. Zach has also brought substantial media exposure to the organization and its campaigns. Articles by and about Zach and his role at WILDCOAST have appeared on Surfline, San Diego News Network, the Inter Press Service News Agency, USA Today online, the Wall Street Journal online, Surfer's Path online and Global Info.org. This publicity has significantly boosted traffic to our Web site and we anticipate continued exposure as Zach and the wildlands conservation program move forward. We anticipate that his continued work protecting threatened coastal wild lands in Baja California will lead to unparalleled advances in coastal conservation efforts to preserve pristine surf spots.