



baywire

News and Updates from the Governing Board of
the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

BAYWIRE **April 2012 Edition**

The Latest Issue of *Urban Coast* is Now Available On Line

The latest issue of the *Urban Coast* journal (Vol. 3, Iss. 1) is now available online for download! *Urban Coast* is a multidisciplinary journal that highlights the opinions, research, policies, and projects that are impacting and informing the most pressing issues and conditions of our urban coastal resources. It is produced by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation and the Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies at Loyola Marymount University.

This issue contains pertinent, interesting articles on a variety of coast-related topics, and is our longest and most visually compelling issue yet. Our feature topic for this issue is Sustainable Seafood. Other highlights include: urban greening, public access, coastal opinion poll, beach water quality, historical ecology, Ballona Wetlands assessment, diversifying environmental education, preserving habitat, Colorado Lagoon restoration, and sustainable infrastructure.

Thanks to all who contributed to this issue of *Urban Coast*. Enjoy the online publication and please share it with your contacts, too. The link is here:

<http://www.santamonicabay.org/Documents/documents.html> (Click on the Current Issue, and you can also check out previous issues.)

Watershed Advisory Council Recommendations To Be Included in Annual Work Plan

Key recommendations made by the Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) at its February meeting have been incorporated into the SMBRC's annual Work Plan recently adopted by the Governing Board in April. WAC members come from a variety of entities—local government, non-profit, agency, etc.—and from multiple disciplines, resulting in a series of varied recommendations made to the SMBRC Governing Board and staff.

WAC recommendations placed in the adopted Work Plan include:

- Working with local Councils of Government to advance the Clean Bay Restaurant Certification Program
- Work with partners to promote a better understanding of beach ecology through stakeholder outreach and citizen monitoring
- Work with the Technical Advisory Committee to review and disseminate information regarding fish die-off and other marine habitat protection issues
- Continue rocky reef restoration work and explore reef enhancement and creation projects in the Bay
- Increase monofilament recycling, continue updating marine debris signage, and investigate additional funding sources for these activities
- Explore formation of a monitoring coalition and other mechanisms for the Comprehensive Bay Monitoring Program in order to secure new funding sources and fill monitoring gaps
- Populate the new Bay Restoration Plan progress tracking system and make the information available on line

The annual Work Plan is a living document, subject to amendment as new issues arise and older issues are resolved. We look forward to further recommendation from the WAC members and others as we continue to tackle the issues facing our watershed.

Ballona Wetlands Land Trust Appointed to the Watershed Advisory Council

The Ballona Wetlands Land Trust (BWLT), a local non-profit organization that works within the Ballona Wetlands ecosystem, was appointed by the Governing Board to the SMBRC's Watershed Advisory Council at the April meeting.

BWLT has helped to facilitate public acquisition of land within the greater Ballona Wetlands ecosystem, to assist in the restoration of the acquired land, and to educate the public about that important ecosystem's values.

We look forward to BWLT helping us in our ongoing mission to enhance and restore the watershed's habitats and resources. Welcome!

Annual Report Now Available On Line

The SMBRC Annual Report for 2011, outlining our accomplishments and on-going projects, is now available on our website. Highlights of the report include the completion of the Ballona Rain Gardens and the Culver City Rainwater Harvesting Program, removal of urchins to restore healthy kelp forests, expansion of our popular Boater Education Program, and our certified Clean Bay Restaurants program.

The report summarizes our programs in broad categories that include Wetland and Coastal Habitats, Green Neighborhoods, Ocean, Outreach, and Planning & Policy Development.

Go to www.smbrc.ca.gov to download a PDF copy of the report (about 20 Mb).

Remaining 2012 SMBRC Governing Board Meeting Dates

All Governing Board meetings are held on the 3rd Thursday of even-numbered months (starting with February) at 9:30 a.m. at the Del Rey Yacht Club in Marina del Rey. Agendas and a map to the facility are available on our website.

The remaining meeting dates for 2012 are:

- June 21
- August 16
- October 18
- December 20

If you would like information about the meetings, agendas, staff reports, or other related items, we encourage you to first visit our website at www.smbrc.ca.gov . Otherwise, please contact Scott Valor at svalor@santamonicabay.org for further information.

Check Out Our Website!

The SMBRC has a new website: www.smbrc.ca.gov . To streamline access to our Governing Board agendas, schedules, and staff reports, the new website features only information that is most critical to following the month-to-month activities of the SMBRC's bodies.

The SMBRC's partner, the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, continues to support their existing website at www.santamonicabay.org and includes links to Foundation activities, reports, and other information.

If you have any questions or comments, contact Scott Valor at svalor@santamonicabay.org .