



baywire

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

BAYWIRE February 2012 Edition

Watershed Advisory Council to Meet On February 22nd

The Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) will meet on February 22nd, from 1 to 4 p.m. at the Dockweiler Youth Center (12505 Vista del Mar, Los Angeles, CA 90245). The meeting will be convened to review SMBRC's progress in implementing the Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) and our program priorities for the coming year. At this meeting, SMBRC staff will provide an overview of the major accomplishments and challenges of the SMBRC in the last few years. WAC members will then have an opportunity to discuss and provide suggestions regarding how to advance progress in several program areas including:

- Water resources and quality improvement
- Wetland and other coastal habitat restoration
- Marine habitat protection and restoration
- Education and outreach
- Planning, monitoring, and research

Input received at the meeting will help the SMBRC develop its annual work plan and update the BRP. The agenda and other materials are available on the website at www.smbrc.ca.gov and will be distributed to the listserv.

If you are a WAC member and have not already done so, please RSVP to Scott Valor at svalor@santamonicabay.org.

Governing Board Elects New Chair & Vice-Chairs for 2012 Term

The SMBRC Chair and Vice-Chairs for 2012 were elected by the Governing Board at its February meeting. The following Governing Board members were unanimously elected:

Chair:

Richard Bloom (At-Large Member, City of Santa Monica)

Vice-Chairs:

State Senator Fran Pavley

LA Regional Water Quality Control Board (represented by Fran Diamond)

LA County Flood Control District (represented by Mark Pestrella)

South Bay Cities COG (represented by Mike Gin, Mayor, City of Redondo Beach)

Santa Monica Baykeeper (represented by Liz Crosson)

Heal The Bay (represented by Sarah Sikich)

The Chair and Vice-Chairs comprise the SMBRC's Executive Committee and serve one-year terms. Congratulations to all!

Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve Workshop Coming March 12th

Please join us on Monday, March 12th, from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. for a scientific symposium that will highlight monitoring and research at the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve and other Southern California wetlands. Featured keynote Speaker Dr. Joy Zedler will present along with wetland scientists from throughout southern California.

This event is co-hosted by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, Loyola Marymount University, and the Center for Urban Resilience and Ecological Solutions. It will be held at Loyola Marymount University.

Registration is \$20 and seats are filling up fast – only a few spots are left! Please go to www.ballonarestoration.org for more information and to sign up.

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).

2012 SMBRC Governing Board Meeting Dates Announced

The 2012 Governing Board meeting dates have been set. 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 meeting dates for 2012 are:

- February 16 (completed)
- April 19
- 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 New 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 .