



# baywire

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

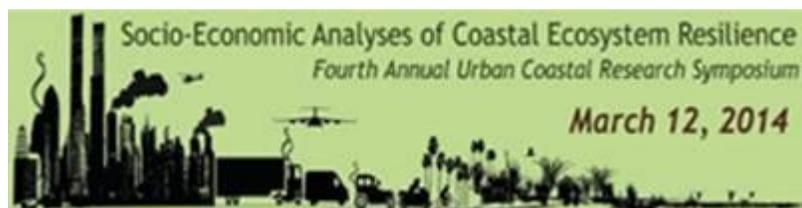
## **BAYWIRE Happy New Year 2014 Edition!**

**Happy New Year from the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission and The Bay Foundation! 2013 was an exciting year for us and we look forward to an even more rewarding 2014. Here is some recent news and upcoming events for you:**

### **Join Us at the SEACER Symposium in March. Spaces Will Fill Up Fast!**

Please join us for our 4<sup>th</sup> annual urban coastal research symposium entitled, “*Socio-Economic Analyses of Coastal Ecosystem Resilience (SEACER)*”. This event will highlight current and pressing issues, taking a deeper scientific look at the social and economic benefits of resilient coastal systems. Presenters from throughout California will discuss a diverse array of topics from wetland restoration to Marine Protected Areas, green building, and watershed-level greening efforts.

A selection of our distinguished speakers includes Dr. Matthew Kahn, UCLA Professor and environmental economics book author; Shelly Backlar, Executive Director of the Friends of Los Angeles River; Tom Ford, The Bay Foundation’s Director of Marine Programs; and Dr. Richard Shope, LMU Professor.



Please go to The Bay Foundation’s website ([www.santamonibabay.org](http://www.santamonibabay.org)) to register. Make sure to register quickly, as space is limited and registration will close when we are at capacity or on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014. This event is co-hosted by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, the Center for Urban Resilience, and Loyola Marymount University. We’ll see you in March!

### **Do You Love the Bay? What's YOUR Story?**

This December, we shared 25 Days to Love the Bay by posting on social media one video per day of heart-warming stories shared by a range of people – surfers, environmentalists, kids, an architect, a radio host and many others. We couldn't think of a better end-of-year gift than presenting everyone's love for the Bay; but it's also a great way to celebrate the New Year!

All the videos are now posted on our YouTube Channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCebNmtfPpWeimK93p72wG4w>. Feel free to peruse and share your favorite video from the page on your *own* social media. AND feeling creative? Got your own great story? Take that extra step and post **your own** story (text, photo or video) about the Bay on our pages. To post:

Facebook: [@Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation](#)

Twitter: @SMBRF

Instagram: [@The Bay Foundation](#)

Or email us your own video story to: [jdubrow@santamonicabay.org](mailto:jdubrow@santamonicabay.org)

### **Watershed Advisory Council Members Elected to SMBRC Governing Board for a New Two-Year Term**

The SMBRC Governing Board elected seven Watershed Advisory Council (WAC) members to the Governing Board at the December meeting. The elected WAC members and their positions are:

- Utilities/Industry/Business (1 position):
  - Brash Industries (Marvin Sachse)
  
- Environmental Organizations/User Groups (2 positions):
  - Heal The Bay (Sarah Sikich)
  - Los Angeles Waterkeeper (Liz Crosson)
  
- At-Large (3 positions):
  - Santa Monica Mountains RCD (Dennis Washburn)
  - West Basin MWD (Ron Smith)
  - Marina Del Rey Anglers (Robert Godfrey)

The newly-elected WAC members serve as voting members of the Governing Board for a term of two years. Welcome new members!

### **Bay Restoration Plan Update Completed**

After extensive stakeholder input, the Bay Restoration Plan Update was approved by the SMBRC Governing Board by unanimous vote at the December 2013 meeting. The process to update the Bay Restoration Plan (BRP) began early this year and has been undertaken through a public process with involvement of the Governing Board, the Technical Advisory Committee (TAC), the Watershed Advisory Council (WAC), and other interested stakeholders. Several meetings and workshops were convened specifically to share information, discuss related issues, and receive public input.

You can view the plan on our website at [www.smbrc.ca.gov](http://www.smbrc.ca.gov) .

For more information, contact Guangyu Wang at [gwang@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:gwang@waterboards.ca.gov) .

### **Green Street and Water Quality Improvement Project at Vermont Avenue Recommended for Funding**

At its December meeting, the SMBRC Governing Board voted to recommend to the State Water Resources Control Board that a green street and water quality improvement project at Vermont Avenue in the City of Los Angeles be funded through Proposition 84.

Requested by the City of Los Angeles Watershed Protection Division, the project will provide a multi-benefit retrofit along the public right-of-way bordering Vermont Avenue through the installation of Best Management Practices found in the City's Green Street Standard Plans. Green Street Standard Plans are pre-approved engineering and construction details for stormwater BMPs that improve water quality and increase water use efficiency by diverting street runoff into vegetated areas to cleanse stormwater and urban runoff, provide irrigation for landscaping, and recharge groundwater. Potential Green Street Standard BMPs being evaluated include; parkway swales, vegetated stormwater curb extensions, tree wells, and dry wells.

For more information on the project, contact Jack Topel at [jtopel@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:jtopel@waterboards.ca.gov)

### **Join The Bay Foundation at an Upcoming Sustainable Seafood Symposium!**

On February 27, 2014, Sustainable Seafood L.A. is hosting a dialog on Sustainable Seafood, along with a seafood tasting and cooking demonstration. The event will include an excerpt from the documentary "Can the Oceans Keep Up with the Hunt?", followed by a panel discussion on the range of issues related to sustainability and seafood and progress being made in wild-capture and aquaculture fisheries. The panel will feature Tim Aupperle, Regional Seafood Coordinator of Whole Foods Market; Sheila Bowman, Manager of Culinary and Strategic Initiatives of Seafood Watch; Mary Sue Milliken, Co-chef and Owner of Boarder Grill; Paula Daniels, Founding Chair of the Los Angeles Food Policy Council; and Mark Helvey, Highly Migratory Species Program Lead for NOAA Fisheries West Coast Region.

Sustainable Seafood L.A. is a group of the L.A. Food Policy Council, comprised of the The Bay Foundation, Aquarium of the Pacific, Cabrillo Marine Aquarium, Heal the Bay, and Whole Foods Market. Join us for an engaging dialog to encourage consumer support for sustainable local seafood and responsible aquaculture by making informed choices at local fish counters and restaurants. 6:00 - 9:00 PM, Thursday, February 27, 2014, St. Roberts Auditorium, Loyola Marymount University.

### **Social Media IS Important and Fun!**

If you're a social media maven or even a dabbler, we ask that you engage, share and use our Social Media avenues.

**Facebook:** LIKE us at "Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation", or click [HERE](#).

**Twitter:** Follow us at @SMBRF

\*Please go that extra step and invite colleagues, friends and family to also Like or Follow.

And did you know you can find a Clean Bay Restaurant certified by SMBRC on our site? Check out your local DINING option at

<http://www.santamonicabay.org/CleanRestaurants/cleanrestaurants.html>

### **2014 SMBRC Governing Board Meeting Dates Announced**

The SMBRC Governing Board meets on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of the even-numbered months from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. at the Del Rey Yacht Club.

The 2014 meeting dates are:

- February 20
- April 17
- June 19
- August 21
- October 16
- December 18

The Del Rey Yacht Club is located at 13900 Palawan Way, Marina del Rey CA 90292.

For additional information concerning any meeting, please contact Scott Valor at 310-922-2376 or by e-mail at [svalor@santamonicabay.org](mailto:svalor@santamonicabay.org) . You may also visit our website at [www.smbrc.ca.gov](http://www.smbrc.ca.gov) .

### **Check Out Our Website**

Please check out SMBRC's website: [www.smbrc.ca.gov](http://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 Bay Foundation, continues to support their existing website at [www.santamonicabay.org](http://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](mailto:svalor@santamonicabay.org) .