**TIDE CHARTS**

**TRACKING THE EBB AND FLOW OF COASTAL ENVIRONMENTALISM**

**Giant Penguins**

 Forget “Happy Feet,” if these penguins were alive today they’d be starting their own mosh pits. Peruvian paleontologists discovered these two new species of penguins off the southern coast of Peru. The first of the new species, *Icadyptes salasi,* stood 5 feet tall and lived about 36 million years ago. The second new species, *Perudyptes devriesi,* was alive about 42 million years ago, and is about the same size as a living King Penguin (2 ½ to 3 feet tall).

**Flesh-eating Bacteria On The Rise**

Great. Just when you thought that sinus infection you caught surfing was a bummer along comes *Vibrio vulnificus* to rear its ugly head at you. Reportedly, the number of cases found in warm seawater are on the rise in parts of the country. This bacteria can cause skin lesions, gastrointestinal illness and even death. Increased water temperature and salinity in areas where shellfish are harvested in summer could be a reason for higher contamination rates, say some researchers. Current “hot spots” to watch out for are the states in and around the Gulf Coast and Chesapeake Bay.

**I Felt The Earth … Move … Under My Feet**

Normally, new oceans form in slow motion. However, the Afar Triangle near the Horn of Africa is another story. A new ocean is forming there with staggering speed—at least by geological standards.

Local scientists had just stepped out of their helicopter onto the plains of Ethiopia when the ground began to shake. As the pilot shouted for them to get back in, they watched the Earth literally split open—crevices racing towards them like an unzipped fly. This may have marked the first time that human beings were able to witness the first stages in the birth of an ocean.

The movement of three tectonic plates is cracking open the Afar Triangle, splitting through the African continent and soon (by geological terms) the Red Sea will flood this area creating a new ocean. Will we still be surfing in ten million years and will this ocean serve up some killer breaks? We sure hope so.

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**Making Waves**

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

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Cover photo by Branden Aroyan. Dig this cover shot? You can download it at: www.surfrider.org/wallpaper.asp
A year or so ago I wrote a column in Making Waves called “Big Tent.” The piece made the case that if we, as a coastal culture, are going to maximize a positive impact we’re going to have to act together. We need everyone, all ages, all professions, and people spanning the entire political spectrum. At the end of the column it said, “We are you. In order to be twice as effective we need to also be your next-door neighbor. Look the other way and let’s get three times as effective, that’s right … get your other neighbor involved in preserving your local coast.”

Well, Brian Ostrow took me literally. He’d never gone door-to-door in his life yet this time he felt the need to talk to every one of his neighbors. He signed up his entire cul-de-sac. Brian signed up 18 families on Berryfield Court as Surfrider Foundation members.

Great story. I put out what I thought was needed … and someone bit into it. Someone took the idea and made it their own.

I remember writing that piece. It was written to be taken literally, but of course, I didn’t think anyone would do that. Brian and all the families of Berryfield Court prove that we CAN pool together and influence a movement of coastal care. We CAN collectively teach our kids, and our neighbors’ kids, why trash shouldn’t end up on our beaches. We CAN work together to protect those very areas that we love so much.

Berryfield Court, you made my day.

As you might guess, my job takes me to some interesting places; it takes me to places that are at serious risk (or are already lost) and it takes me to places that have been preserved and/or saved. Places like Oahu’s North Shore, Puerto Rico’s Rincón and San Clemente’s Trestles come to mind. These are places that haven’t changed much in the past twenty years. Anyone who has spent time in areas like these—areas that have been preserved for long spans of time—will share with you that such preservation doesn’t come easily. The fight to preserve Oahu’s North Shore has been going on for twenty years. Rincón and Trestles have had preservation fights going back a decade.

The truth is that environmental campaigns like these really aren’t campaigns with a beginning, middle and an end. The real truth is that protecting coastal regions is more of a lifestyle. Ask Peter Cole or Larry McElheny about the North Shore and they’ll share stories that go back two decades and the fact that their kids are now taking the helm. Our coasts require entire neighborhoods to engage and to care for them.

I have to say, I feel better knowing that all 18 families on Berryfield Court are making a commitment to preserving the coast. I feel better knowing that as they end up on the beaches together this summer they will be a bit more aware of the water quality, beach access and that their kids, together, will make the difference that no others can.

Be like Brian. Go ahead, talk to your neighbor.

—Jim Moriarty, Chief Executive Officer

To listen to our podcast with Brian Ostrow go to: www.surfrider.org/podcasts
CAMPAIGN SEASON IS COMING...

By Steve Blank

...workplace-giving campaign season that is. The end of the year is the time when many companies promote their workplace-giving opportunities. This is your chance to take advantage of one of the simplest and most convenient ways to give to the Surfrider Foundation.

The Surfrider Foundation is a member of Earth Share, a nationwide network of the most respected environmental and conservation organizations. Earth Share partners with employees and employers across the country to support hundreds of environmental groups through efficient and effective payroll-deduction giving and offers a simple way to care for the environment.

Workplace giving is probably the easiest way to make a charitable gift. If your company offers an Earth Share workplace-giving program, you can choose an amount that you wish to have deducted from your paycheck each pay period. These payroll deductions are fully tax deductible and take place automatically.

Think about it . . . If you get paid every two weeks and choose a payroll deduction of $25 (That’s a half a tank of gas! Or, four large mochas!) from each paycheck, that will translate to a $650 donation by the end of the year.

Through Earth Share’s workplace-giving programs, you can elect to contribute only to the Surfrider Foundation or you can donate to all of the environmental and conservation charities you normally support by designating them in your Earth Share gift.

Federal employees and military personnel can get involved too. Each year, from September to December, the US government offers its employees the chance to participate in the Combined Federal Campaign (CFC). Through this workplace-giving fundraising drive, Federal and military employees raise millions of dollars that benefit thousands of charities. Earth Share is a part of many state and municipal government agencies’ giving programs as well.

PLEASE NOTE: CFC codes for all charities have been changed beginning in 2007. Surfrider Foundation’s new CFC code is 10642. For a listing of new codes for other charities please visit www.earthshare.org.

If Earth Share is not offered in your campaign, or if there is no campaign at your workplace, you can help us introduce the program to your employer. To learn more, or to request an Earth Share workplace presentation for your company, please contact Steve Blank, Surfrider Foundation’s Director of Development at (949) 492-8170.
When you meet Jan Klippert, he looks like an ordinary retired guy from Seattle. But he is far from ordinary; he is a champion of coastal conservation. In 1997, when he was hiking a portion of the remote coastline in the Olympic National Park, he was amazed with the amount of trash he saw on the beach. When he got back to Seattle, he began talking to the people he knew in the park service about cleaning up the mess that he found.

Two years later, he retired from the King County Public Works Department where he worked with communities to determine changes that the city may make. When he retired, he started the Olympic Coast Cleanup. A completely volunteer-driven effort, the cleanup takes place every year on Earth Day.

For the first two years, Klippert focused on a 60-mile stretch of the Olympic National Park. Then the Makah Tribe in the northwestern part of the Olympic Peninsula got involved. Since then, the cleanup has stretched from the most northwestern point of the continental U.S., south to the popular surf beaches of Westport, Washington collecting trash on 120 miles of remote beaches.

This past Earth Day weekend in April, Klippert coordinated the 8th Annual Olympic Coast Cleanup. More than 800 volunteers came out and collected almost 25 tons of trash. The cleanup stretched from the Makah Reservation to Long Beach in southwest Washington. The cleanup has grown to be more than just a beach cleanup. Jan coordinates with the Olympic National Park, Washington State Parks, and the Olympic Coast National Sanctuaries to educate community members about the marine ecosystem and the importance of removing garbage that not only pollutes our beaches, but threatens the health of seabirds and marine mammals. At the end of the cleanup, the Washington State Surfrider Chapters host BBQs to feed the volunteers up and down the coast.

In the eight years that the cleanup has been held, Klippert estimates that over 150 tons of debris have been removed from Washington State beaches. It has been an enormous pleasure to work with Jan on this significant event.

Jess is the Washington Field Coordinator for the Surfrider Foundation.
Stormwater runoff is one of the greatest threats to water quality in this country, impacting the health of our coastal habitats and resources. It is also one of the primary causes of beach closures and swimming advisories across the nation. As cities and towns grow, large portions of our watersheds are being paved over with concrete or other impervious surfaces. Impervious surfaces interrupt the normal water cycle by preventing rainwater from soaking into the ground. Stormwater is then channeled directly into lakes, rivers and coastal waters through storm drain systems. As the stormwater travels across rooftops, parking lots, and highways it picks up oil, fertilizers, animal waste and other pollutants. While the consequences of stormwater runoff are most apparent in highly urbanized areas, it takes only a small increase in the percentage of impervious cover in a watershed for negative water-quality impacts to occur.

Low-impact Development (LID) is a new approach to urban planning and site design that aims to maintain and restore the water cycle in developing watersheds. LID uses site-specific engineering designs that utilize Best Management Practices (BMPs) to infiltrate, filter, store and treat stormwater runoff close to its source. Water is given a chance to infiltrate into the ground, recharging local water supplies and protecting the water quality of nearby waterways. LID techniques are most effective when they are incorporated into the design for new development, but both commercial and residential properties can be retrofitted to hold more rainwater on-site. There are many different types of BMPs that can be used to maintain a

WATER QUALITY

ISSUES

Number Four in a series of Five.
Low-impact Development
By Mara Dias and Rick Wilson
site’s pre-development hydrology while still allowing development. The success of each is dependent on the specific conditions of a site such as soil type, topography, and precipitation.

Bioretention areas are vegetated depressions that collect and filter runoff. They are used to increase the amount of water a property can absorb and can include vegetative strips and filters, rain gardens, shallow surface ponds and underground drainage systems. Bioretention areas are often more advantageous than the more traditionally used retention ponds. They can often handle a larger amount of water, and they also generally require less space than ponds, providing added economic incentives.

Permeable pavement is also being used with great success across the country. Permeable pavement allows rainwater to percolate through the pavement’s surface into the ground. It has been successfully used to build parking lots, driveways, fire lanes, horse trails and bicycle paths. Although typically more expensive to construct than traditional asphalt pavement, costs of these systems may be offset by the reduction of traditional curb and gutter systems to convey stormwater. Benefits of these alternate pavement types include better infiltration, ground-water recharge, reduction in runoff volume and treatment of stormwater for pollutants. One of the University of North Carolina’s commuter parking lots was built with permeable pavement. This parking lot actually produces less stormwater runoff than a grass field! In contrast, traditional parking lots produce up to 16 times as much runoff as a grassy meadow of the same size.

Green roofs are another innovative LID technique used to reduce runoff from the rooftops of large—usually commercial—buildings. Plants that can tolerate drought and extreme temperature conditions can be planted in rooftop gardens to absorb rainwater. Green rooftops not only reduce roof runoff, but they can help cool buildings and decrease urban heat.

Residences can be retrofitted with rain barrels and cisterns to minimize stormwater runoff. Seattle Public Utilities is piloting a project to decrease the burden on the city’s combined stormwater system by disconnecting residential roof downspouts from the storm drains and attaching them to rain barrels.

With less water going into the system, they are hoping to see water-quality improvements in Lake Washington as a result of fewer combined sewer-system overflows.

Rain gardens are another popular LID technique that can be installed on residential properties. Designed to hold and infiltrate rainwater, rain gardens can also increase property values by adding to the aesthetic quality of the landscape. Native plants which vary by region and can tolerate standing water are planted in rain gardens. The city of Tallahassee, Florida is offering 50 grants of up to $175 each to residents who plant a rain garden in their yard.

Surfrider Foundation is piloting an Ocean Friendly Gardens program in southern California that allows individual Surfrider Foundation members and homeowners to apply many low-impact development and bioretention techniques using a concept termed CPR (conservation, permeability and retention) to protect the ocean and our beaches by reducing urban runoff. At the same time, you will save water, save money and end up with a beautiful, low-maintenance garden! Surfrider Foundation Chapters in such diverse locations as Ocean City, Maryland; Northwest Straights, Washington; and Maui, Hawaii are participating in native-garden planting projects.

The intent of this article is to give an overview of the LID techniques available and to illustrate to our members that there are better ways to build that do not disturb the water cycle that we depend on for clean water and beaches.

For more information and many useful links on LID, visit Surfrider Foundation’s “Coastal A-Z” webpage on LID at www.surfrider.org/srui.aspx?uiq=a-z/lid_biotretention.

Mara holds a MS in Environmental Studies from the University of Charleston. As Surfrider Foundation’s first East Coast environmental staff, Mara works on national and chapter-specific water quality campaigns and monitoring programs.

Rick Wilson is Surfrider Foundation’s Coastal Management Coordinator.
2007
STATE OF THE BEACH REPORT—
A FOCUS ON WATER QUALITY
By Rick Wilson
The latest print summary version of Surfrider Foundation’s State of the Beach Report is scheduled to be released in late summer 2007. This is the eighth year Surfrider Foundation has produced this annual update on the health of our beaches.

The complete 2007 State of the Beach Report is available on our web site at www.surfrider.org/stateofthebeach. This document provides information on and evaluates the status of nine “beach health indicators” (beach access, surf zone water quality, erosion data, erosion response, beach fill, shoreline structures, beach ecology, surfing areas and Web site) for 25 coastal states and territories.

In each section of each state report, numerous links are provided to allow for easy access to additional information, data and reports produced by state agencies, academic institutions and other organizations. The status of recent and current coastal projects is discussed, many of which are issues for our Chapters. Accessing our Chapter Web sites through each state’s “surfing areas” section allows Surfrider Foundation members and others the chance to “plug in” and identify an issue that could turn a passive member into an activist and gives the general public a window into the world of Surfrider Foundation that may help recruit additional people concerned about protecting the oceans, waves and beaches.

Additional State of the Beach report sections include:

- **Bad and the Rad** - actions and policies that are indicators of what’s going wrong and what’s going right along our coasts.
- **For CZMs** - provides examples of state programs that we believe should be models for other states on how to protect our coastal resources.
- **Perspectives** (all new each year) - articles written by Surfrider Foundation staff, activists and other environmentalists regarding the state of our beaches and coastal waters.
- **Beach Manifesto** - our goals for coastal conditions and coastal management policy.

**FEATURED INDICATOR – SURF ZONE WATER QUALITY**

Each year our State of the Beach report focuses on a particular Beach Health Indicator. The featured indicator this year is surf zone water quality.

Water quality concerns are one of the main issues that caused Surfrider Foundation to be formed in 1984 – surfers were tired of getting sick from surfing in polluted waters and wanted to do something about it. Although a lot has happened in the interim, Clean Water initiatives and campaigns remain at the forefront of Surfrider Foundation’s work 23 years later. Water quality at our beaches around the country continues to be impaired on a regular basis by both nonpoint source pollution (polluted surface runoff from land during both dry and wet weather) and episodic sewer spills (sanitary sewer overflows and combined sewer overflows).

**SEWER SPILLS**

Several large sewer spills that resulted in beach closures and/or environmental effects occurred in 2006 and early 2007. These included:

- **Honolulu, Hawaii**

  This was the granddaddy of the 2006 sewer spills. Fifty million gallons of untreated sewage were spilled into the Ala Wai Canal, which flows into the ocean at the west end of Waikiki Beach, near the famous Ala Moana Bowls surf spot. Officials were slow to post closure signs at Waikiki and adjacent beaches and there seemed to be a lack of planning on how to respond to such an event. Honolulu officials, the Hawaii Department of Health and the local sanitation district all were aware that the sewer line in question was being stretched beyond capacity and was long overdue for repair or replacement. However, they delayed committing the necessary resources to sewer infrastructure improvements until it was too late.

- **Hermosa Beach, California**

  A month prior to the Honolulu spill, a 2 million-gallon sewer spill occurred in Hermosa Beach near Los Angeles. A main sewer pump station failed and backup power and alarm systems also failed. The result was a spill that was largely “contained” on the sand at the beach. After the sewage either was pumped back into the sewer system or seeped into the sand, the issue became—how to decontaminate the sand? As it turned out, little precedent existed for determining how clean was clean and there was a lack of consensus on the best way to achieve the cleanup.
**Carlsbad/Oceanside, California**

In April 2007 a break in a sewer line near the Buena Vista Lagoon at the border between Oceanside and Carlsbad in San Diego County caused over 7 million gallons of sewage to flow into Buena Vista Lagoon, which empties into the ocean. Beaches were closed for several days. The sewer line that ruptured was 25 years old. Besides the age of the sewer line, the location of the force main sewer immediately adjacent to the lagoon was cited as being problematic, since the line is continuously wet (and therefore more subject to corrosion) and there is little chance of containing a spill should one occur.

**Port Angeles, Washington**

A sewage spill estimated at 6 to 8 million gallons occurred in Port Angeles in May 2006. In response, Surfrider Foundation’s Olympic Peninsula Chapter issued a press release that pointed out that this spill was not the first—in 2005 the city reported 110 overflows into Port Angeles Harbor, discharging a total of over 33 million gallons of pollution into the harbor and adjacent waters.

**Wilmington, North Carolina**

An estimated 3 million-gallon sewer spill occurred into Hewletts Creek in New Hanover County in July 2005. Wilmington officials were criticized for not taking action to correct a history of sewer spills even after being warned by state officials in 2004 that their sewer system was among 25 “problematic” systems. Additional sewer spills occurred in 2005 and 2006 and local media reported that a total of about 4 million gallons of raw sewage had leaked into area waterways in the preceding year from about two dozen different spills. Surfrider Foundation and other groups have urged that new hookups to the sewer system be limited and strictly overseen, and that efforts be expedited to both complete temporary improvements and construct a parallel sewer line.

**LESSONS LEARNED**

A common thread in all these cases is neglected sewer infrastructure. Sewer lines and other sewer conveyance and treatment infrastructure are often truly “out of sight, out of mind.” But the reality is that they do corrode, degrade, break, plug and become undersized as the years go by and growth continues. Government investment in wastewater infrastructure has waned in recent years and the above case studies point out the consequences. Surfrider Foundation urges sewer agencies, local government, state government and the federal government to commit to revitalized programs to stop and reverse the deterioration.

**DEVELOPMENTS IN MONITORING AND HEALTH PROTECTION**

**BEACH Act and Beyond**

Thanks to a lot of hard work by Surfrider Foundation activists and other environmental groups, the Beaches Environmental Assessment and Coastal Health Act (BEACH Act) was signed into law in October 2006. Although the BEACH Act has resulted in increased beach water testing and a greater degree of uniformity in testing standards between states, large differences still remain in testing frequency, number of test locations per beach, responses to test results that are above standards, and methods of public notification. A continuing problem with the BEACH Act (due for reauthorization this year) is that although up to $30 million per year in state grants can be authorized, the allocated funding has been stuck at about $10 million per year since the program’s inception.

Surfrider Foundation encourages Congress to re-authorize the BEACH Act, fully fund it, and utilize new epidemiological studies conducted at saltwater beaches to revise the recreational water-quality standards. Beyond that, more attention must be devoted to identifying and eliminating sources of pollution so that we can move closer to a goal of clean beaches where swimmers and surfers don’t have to worry about getting sick.

Research and field trials are being conducted to develop “Rapid Indicator” tests that would give beach water-quality results in 1 to 4 hours, instead of the present 1 to 2 days. A large-scale epidemiological study that includes the use of rapid test methods is being conducted at Doheny State Park in California during summer 2007.

**LOOKING FORWARD – SOLUTIONS?**

Faster testing is good, but what about solving the problem? We need to move beyond monitoring to identifying and implementing water-quality solutions. Surfrider Foundation believes that this will involve looking at our
water usage and coastal impacts in a holistic manner. Our coastal water-quality problems often result from a lack of planning and a failure to look at the “big picture.”

Three promising and complimentary strategies to address our seemingly intractable water-quality problems that we discuss in our report are Ecosystem-based Management, Low-impact Development, and Climate-adapted Landscaping.

Ecosystem-based Management (EBM) is an approach that integrates ecological, social, and economic goals and recognizes humans as key components of the ecosystem. It also considers ecological—not just political—boundaries and is concerned with the ecological integrity of coastal-marine systems and the sustainability of both human and ecological systems.

Low-impact Development (LID) uses various land planning and design practices and technologies to simultaneously conserve and protect natural resource systems and reduce infrastructure costs. A key goal of LID is to maintain the “predevelopment hydrology” (surface-water volume, frequency and recharge). For more on Low-impact Development, see the separate article on this subject.

In arid climates the use of native or climate-adapted landscaping can result in multiple economic and environmental benefits—lower water usage and costs, lower chemical and maintenance costs and less water and pollutant runoff that causes water-quality problems at the beach. Surfrider Foundation, in cooperation with several water agencies, is promoting an “Ocean Friendly Gardens” program in southern California to advance these concepts.

**POSITIVE INDICATORS**

The good news is that surveys conducted for our State of the Beach report indicate a growing awareness and use of these concepts and techniques to address ocean water pollution problems. A few examples include:

**In California,** Orange County’s Groundwater Replenishment System will take about 70 million gallons per day of secondary-treated sewage that was formerly discharged to the ocean off Huntington Beach, cleanse it further with three additional stages of treatment, and percolate the treated water into the ground to re-charge underground aquifers.

**Georgia’s** Green Growth Guidelines help local governments, developers, engineers and land planners, landscape architects and natural-resource managers compare the environmental, social and economic benefits of using sustainable development strategies with conventional development approaches.

Under **New Jersey’s** Coast 2005 initiative the state will strengthen standards and regulations that protect coastal ecosystems, enhance public-access opportunities, and expand protection for coastal wildlife and wildlife habitats.

The **New York** Ocean and Bays Protection Council was created to coordinate state marine resources decisions and encourage ecosystem-based management approaches. A goal is for the Council to create a comprehensive, ecosystem-based ocean management plan by the fall of 2008.

**In Oregon,** the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team (POORT) is a community-initiated organization that is planning for the establishment of a Community Stewardship Area that would encompass the community’s fishing grounds and associated watershed.

**Rhode Island** completed the Greenwich Bay Special Area Management Plan to limit development on Greenwich Bay and improve water quality, recreation and fish harvests.

**In South Carolina,** North Myrtle Beach has spent $13 million for stormwater system improvements, has re-routed drainage away from the ocean as part of road-improvement projects and has been incorporating “smart growth” principles by encouraging clustering of development, larger open spaces and buffers to minimize runoff.

**In Virginia,** a program has been approved to allow the use of treated wastewater for non-potable uses such as irrigation, industrial cooling, dust control, fire protection and street cleaning.

The overall message here is that we can and are doing things around the country to address water-quality problems.

We hope that you read our report and make use of the information that we’ve gathered to help us in our mission to protect the oceans, waves and beaches.

If you would like a copy of this report or to give us feedback, contact us at: stateofthebeach@surfrider.org.

Rick Wilson is Surfrider Foundation’s Coastal Management Coordinator.
This past June 21st, surfers across the world once again came together for International Surfing Day. Founded in 2005 by the Surfrider Foundation and Surfing Magazine, International Surfing Day provides surfers an opportunity to celebrate their sport, as well as give something back to our beach and ocean environments.

Over the last three years, International Surfing Day has grown from a handful of modest observances here in United States, into a full-fledged global event.

“The first year we had sixteen Chapters host International Surfing Day beach cleanups here in America,” says Surfrider Foundation’s Laura Mazzarella. “This year we had close to fifty Chapters participating here in the United States, along with over twenty-five international observances in over a dozen countries, including Canada, Australia, New Zealand, France, England, Costa Rica, Brazil, Argentina, Japan, Israel, South Africa and more...”

All told, this year’s International Surfing Day included over 80 separate celebratory events or observances world wide.

The day kicked off with a bang down unda’ as surfers from Australia and New Zealand woke up to a massive swell, which produced solid overhead waves for much of the region.
Young kiwi surfer Rosa Peterson, 14, took it upon herself to mobilize fellow groms from the Wildcoast Boardriders Club to plant native trees on the Tasman Lookout Track at Piha. The area, which sits above the local surf break, was stripped of vegetation years ago and was badly in need of assistance. On between heats of the club’s surf contest, Rosa and crew braved the cold southeasterly wind to carry Pohutukawa saplings up the hill and to the track for planting.

As if that wasn’t enough, the Wildcoast Boardriders followed up their surf competition and replanting efforts by conducting a beach cleanup: Hardcore!

Up in the Northern Hemisphere, Adrian Nelson from Surfrider Foundations’ Vancouver Chapter Organizing Committee reports that a few souls paddled out to get some waves, while others celebrated the day by gathering to help pick up trash along the beach.

According to Nelson, When the sun finally started to dip behind the horizon, the night heated up as the party moved to Library Square where local Surfrider members rocked the night away to a great band, Under the Sun.

A bit further south, Shannon Barns and the rest of the South Sound Chapter Organizing Committee met up at Westhaven Park in Westport, Washington for a quick surf session and beach cleanup.

Over on the East Coast, South Jersey Chapter Chair, Steve Mullen and crew once again held their successful International Surfing Day festival, complete with an international-inspired potluck and beach cleanup competition.

Meanwhile up in Maine, Jeanne Gribben and her fellow activists from Surfrider Foundation’s Northern New England Chapter showed how they roll, by braving 57 degree water to paddle out and catch a few waves.

Closer to home, the stars turned out as the Surfrider Foundation’s Malibu/West Los Angeles and South Bay Chapters combined forces to stage a morning beach cleanup in Venice, California. On hand were actors David Chokachi and Sonya Balmores (from the hit series “Beyond the Break,”) as well as pro surfers Dino Andino, Mike Parsons and Sanoe Lake, as well as former World Surfing Champion Shaun Tomson. “David (Chokachi) called me and asked if I could come down to the event, and I was like ‘when and where?’” said Balmores. “I’m stoked to do anything I can to help keep our beaches clean.”

Not all the International Surfing Day events were on the coast however … Many landlocked surfers in Southern California flocked to Raging Waters in San Dimas to try out the park’s new Flowrider machine. Tackling the 8-foot-high standing wave proved more challenging than it appeared, but by the end of the day many of the riders were throwing carves and cutbacks. In honor of their new Flowrider attraction and International Surfing Day, Raging Waters donated $5,000 to the Surfrider Foundation.

“We are really happy with how International Surfing Day has grown and taken hold across the globe,” says Ross Garrett, event founder. “This is an incredible opportunity for us to not only celebrate our sport, but to help raise awareness and support of beach and coastal environments world wide.”

The Surfrider Foundation and Surfing Magazine wish to thank this year’s International Surfing Day partners, without whose assistance this event would not be possible: SoBe Life Water, Billabong, Islands Restaurants, Pac Sun, Simple Shoes, Earthpack, Surftech Surfboards and WaveWatch.

Michelle Slade is a frequent contributor to Making Waves and Matt McClain is Surfrider Foundation’s Director of Marketing and Communications.
CALIFORNIA
Mendocino County Chapter
For a couple of years, the Mendocino County Chapter has been campaigning to create a designated parking area and trail for beach enthusiasts to access a popular beach at Virgin Creek just north of the City of Fort Bragg. The Chapter has been able to enlist the support of the State Coastal Conservancy and California State Parks in obtaining a land appraisal on the one-acre parcel that is currently for sale (and where a designated access trail already exists). The plan is for state agencies to provide funding for the project and incorporate the property into the MacKerricher State Park. The one-acre property has also been identified as having protected plant species and provides Highway One with a scenic view corridor to the coast. A small portion of the property could be developed to allow parking for enhanced coastal access. The creation of this parking area will also serve to eliminate a hazardous situation that exists when beachgoers park on the east side of Highway One and try to cross the busy highway dodging traffic to get to the trail and beach.

South Bay Chapter
On June 8, 2007, the South Bay Chapter celebrated the first annual Children’s World Ocean Day in Playa del Rey. The local event was organized by our partners and friends at the EcoStation in Culver City and successfully brought nearly 1,200 inner-city kids to the beach for a day. Despite living within several miles, many of these kids had never seen the ocean before. We can only imagine the same thrill being experienced by young people across the globe. The event included short lectures by government agencies and educational institutions. The point of the event was just to have fun and let the children know that the coast belonged to them and was free for them to enjoy any time.

It is an understatement to say that it was a chore keeping 1,200 children organized and moving through the programs. But it can’t be overstated how much fun the children had. The temporary Surfrider Foundation tattoos were a big hit with the kids. Our biggest challenge was getting the kids to stand still long enough to apply the tattoos. The most difficult were those who wanted the tattoos on their cheeks – but couldn’t quit smiling long enough to get the “tats” to stick.

It was a wonderful day and we hope to see these kids at the beach more often. We know that people only protect the things they love—and these kids will hopefully love and enjoy the coast and ocean from this day forward.

MORNING AFTER MESS BEACH CLEANUP DAY WAS ANOTHER HUGE SUCCESS!

The 4th Annual Morning After Mess presented by Sun Diego Boardshops on Thursday July 5th had over 1,000 volunteers clean up over 9,000 pounds of trash at seven different cleanup sites throughout San Diego County. “I was shocked and speechless when I got to the beach this morning and saw the mess that was left behind. After seeing what our volunteers accomplished and a much cleaner beach, I went to work with a renewed bounce in my step. We owe it all to the volunteers that worked so hard” said Ken David from the Surfrider San Diego Executive Committee.
San Diego County Chapter
California State water quality regulators dismissed a petition on June 5th, challenging the proposed Poseidon Resources Corporation desalination plant in Carlsbad. The Surfrider Foundation and Coastkeeper had filed the petition that sought to overturn the plant’s discharge permit, issued in August by the San Diego Water Quality Control Board.

The $300-million plant would have the capacity of converting 100 million gallons of seawater into 50 million gallons of drinking water per day. Poseidon hopes to have the plant up and running in 2010. The project still needs approval from the California Coastal Commission. Poseidon submitted its fourth application to the commission on June 1, said Scott Maloni, a political consultant to Poseidon. The company also needs a lease from the California State Lands Commission. The Surfrider Foundation will continue our efforts to stop this ill-conceived plant at the state and local levels.

Santa Cruz Chapter
Music students from the new Pajaro Valley High School (PVHS) in Watsonville recently teamed with the Santa Cruz Chapter to stencil storm drains on their campus and in the surrounding neighborhood. Built overlooking the ecologically sensitive Harkins Slough system, PVHS was given permission for construction by the California Coastal Commission dependent on the fact that the school would be an environmental education institution. Also on site, is an ecological education center, Wetlands Watch of Watsonville (http://watsonvillewetlandswatch.org/).

Young reflects: “At the end of the day, my students said that they really enjoyed actually doing something about helping the environment instead of just being lectured to in a classroom. The students asked to schedule another stenciling day!” The group plans to continue stenciling the remaining storm drains on the PVHS campus and also branch out into the outlying community.
San Luis Bay Chapter
After years of hard work from the San Luis Bay Chapter of Surfrider Foundation and their allies, the era of the 301(h) waiver for the Morro Bay/Cayucos Wastewater Treatment Plant is about to come to an end. In June, the Cayucos Community Service District Board and Morro Bay City Council both unanimously voted their intent to upgrade the Morro Bay/Cayucos Wastewater Treatment Plant to tertiary-treatment standards. The plant currently operates under a 301(h) waiver that has exempted it for decades from meeting federal Clean Water Act standards and allows it to discharge effluent that has received only partial secondary treatment. The upgrade would increase the treatment to full secondary and include additional tertiary treatment—which means cleaner effluent and the opportunity to reclaim water for non-potable use. This is a landmark moment for the Chapter, the communities of Morro Bay and Cayucos, and all Californians, as the upgrade of this plant will eliminate one of the two remaining 301(h) waivers in the state.

PACIFIC NORTHWEST
Clean Water Classic
For Pacific Northwest surfers, the Clean Water Classic surf contest has become a sort of family reunion and every year the family gets a little bit bigger. Now in its sixth year this gathering has turned into an international affair, seeing competitors from Australia, Hawaii, Brazil, South Africa, France, Canada and the United States. The contest has become the marquee surf contest for the region, and also acts as a major fundraiser for Surfrider Foundation Chapters in Oregon, Washington, and British Columbia.

A large part of this year’s success is due to returning sponsor, Global Surf Industries (GSI), who really stepped up the event with more prizes and some great new heats and formats. Every division was closely contested and the level of surfing was incredible. Everyone seemed to find their groove in the six-foot sets, as surfers traded off powerful cutbacks and bucket-throwing snaps.

“The surfing community of the Pacific Northwest should be very proud of itself,” says Mark Kelly, President of Global Surf Industries. “The quality of surfing I saw that weekend was sensational. The local guys can hold their head up high on the performance side of things.”
Northwest Straits Chapter
Chapter activists have implemented a new beach-monitoring program for the summer in conjunction with Beach Watchers. The program documents physical and biological characteristics of nearby beaches to determine restoration projects and monitor any possible dangers.

The South Sound Chapter Organizing Committee
The Organizing Committee is becoming active in the South Puget Sound area. The committee has been getting their name out in the community by hosting a movie night (with a hundred-plus people attending), conducting beach cleanups, regional events and are currently working on legislation to fund an oil response tug in Neah Bay, Wash. Thanks for the hard work!

OREGON
Summer Blue Water Task Force testing for the south coast is well on its way thanks to Jared Tarr, Pacific High School student and Surfrider Foundation water quality intern and Leesa Cobb and Julie of the Port Orford Ocean Resource Team (POORT). Jared, while testing water quality bi-monthly in the Port Orford area, is working with Surfrider Foundation on engaging community volunteers and expanding the program to include local watershed councils, city and county planning, commercial and recreational fisherman, state parks and other regulating agencies. The long-term goal of the project is to engage the community in a process to identify water-quality influences on a local watershed and ocean stewardship area. The multi-organizational project headed by POORT is significant in that it is preceding a broader statewide process of establishing marine reserves and protected areas. The project will ultimately help position the community well for this process and possibly serve as a model for statewide community engagement. Big thanks to all our partners on this amazing project!

Newport, OR Chapter
Victory! Chapter efforts were successful in helping to pass Senate Bill 737, which provides Oregon with a roadmap for reducing toxic pollution in our rivers, streams and Pacific Ocean. Thanks to all of you who participated in the Action Alert, sent letters, and testified in Salem! Also, a big thanks to our coalition partners Sierra Club and The Riverkeepers for getting this ball rolling. The bill will require the Dept of Environmental Quality to prepare a priority list of the most dangerous toxins that are accumulating in sediment, fish and human tissue, and produce a report for the legislature identifying the sources of this pollution, the levels entering the environment, and steps that can be taken to prevent, reduce or eliminate these toxins. While the bill is not as strong as originally written, it’s a major step towards stronger implementation of the Clean Water Act in Oregon.

The Chapter also formed two new water-quality and beach-monitoring partnerships to help advance our mission on the central coast. The Adopt-a-Park Program is partnering with Oregon Parks and Recreation Department that includes the installation and maintenance of recyclable pet-waste bag dispensers, regular water-quality monitoring, beach cleanups and trail maintenance at South Beach State Park. The Volunteer Water-Quality Monitoring Project is another partnership recently entered with Lincoln Soil and Water Conservation District, Dept of Environmental Quality (DEQ) and the Chapter’s Blue Water Task Force. DEQ’s comprehensive watershed approach for protecting water quality includes developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) affecting both point- and non-point sources of pollution. The goal of this project is to acquire sufficient data to develop a TMDL for bacteria in the Mid-Coast Basin. Learn more at: www.newportnewstimes.com/articles/2007/07/05/news/news17.txt.

Portland Chapter
In June, the Chapter wrapped up the annual executive council training and planning, and quickly moved into an invigorating summer of new programs, campaigns and outreach events. For the first time, Portland and Newport Chapters collaborated to pull off an amazing line-up of International Surfing Day Events from beach cleanups to The Art of Surfing event. The Art of Surfing took place in Newport and brought together seven amazing artists for a water-quality fundraiser at the Rogue Brewery Museum. Amazing surf and skate art, new members, executive recruits, and a great deal of local water-quality awareness were some of the many benefits of the fundraiser.

Recognizing that much of the Chapter’s strength comes from Portland, but their influence and mission is on the coast, the executive council agreed to launch stronger coastal efforts in programs and campaigns for the coming year. First Saturdays, a monthly outreach and beach cleanup program, was organized and initiated by Chapter Chair Mike Albers, as a way of reaching out to the coast, where Portlanders surf the most and have the highest coastal impact. The Chapter has been creating and presenting various outreach materials to let surfers and other ocean users know about our coastal programs and campaigns from beach cleanups and water quality to beach access and marine reserves. In addition, the Chapter is utilizing new biodegradable trash bags to help lessen their environmental impact and highlight their new ban on non-biodegradable plastic bags campaign. In the coming months, the Chapter also has arrangements to establish their Blue Water Task Force coastally at Astoria High School’s Applied Science Center.
HAWAII
Kauai Chapter
According to Kauai Chapter activist, Sheri Sarri, the Chapter had an outstanding International Surfing Day event with over 60 attendees, local businesses donated food and flowers, and a few folks paddled out and of course, drank lots Life Water donated by SoBe. The Chapter enlisted about 25 new volunteers on different sign-up sheets for Chapter Projects including: Blue Water Task Force, Net Patrol, Beach Cleanups, and “Keep it Blue” State Campaign Planning. Kids dissected Albatross boluses and surveyed marine debris that seabirds are ingesting. The Chapter sold t-shirts and networked. And Sheri also tried her luck for the first time on a megaphone to try and boost membership—“The latter, probably not such a good idea.”

TEXAS
South Texas Chapter’s Children’s Surf Clinic
On June 21st the South Texas Chapter celebrated its first official International Surfing Day. The Chapter chose to observe this wonderful occasion by putting on two free surf clinics for local and visiting children. The First Annual Surfrider Foundation South Texas Chapter’s Children’s Surf Clinic proved one awesome feat. It showed that “The Aloha Spirit” is not only alive and well, but flourishing in the surfing community in South Texas and on South Padre Island.

“Through the generosity and enthusiasm of local businesses and surfers, the Chapter was able to give fifty kids a unique experience,” states Robert Nixon, Volunteer Coordinator for the Chapter.

Thanks to On the Beach and Island Native Surf House, there were enough surfboards to make sure that all of the students had multiple opportunities to go out and catch some waves! Everyone ended up standing up and riding a wave all the way to the beach by the end of each session.

As you would expect with kids, there were some really unforgettable moments. One little boy who could not have been more than 8 or 9 even made it in and out of a barrel on his second or third wave! Then there was Keeshawn. No matter how tired or cold he got, he would not stop flagging down instructors to take him back out for some more waves. He showed up at 8:30 Thursday morning and was still there at the end of the day! Another boy, Hector, was petrified when we took him out for his turn on one of the boards. Ten minutes later, after he had been pushed into two or three waves, all his fears had been overtaken by the excitement of riding the waves.

The stoke was not only felt by the children, but by the instructors as well. It seemed that no matter how tired, sore or sunburned the volunteers got from chasing kids to and from the beach there was nothing but smiles and laughter coming from the water. It seemed as though—by watching these kids catch their first waves and the resulting excitement in their faces—the volunteers were taken back to that same moment when they caught their first waves. In fact, on the lunch break many of the instructors paddled out instead of eating lunch! All in all the South Texas Chapter had a blast putting on this event! Volunteers, parents and, most importantly, the kids, all left the beach that day with a smile and great memory. With any luck we just made the line-up a little more crowded!

The South Texas Chapter would like to thank Island Native Surf House, On The Beach, PsychaDeli, South Padre Island Convention and Visitors Bureau, Si Creations, Surfs Up! and Toucan Graphics for all of their generous contributions to our event. We would also like to thank Becky McCormick for the photos!

EAST COAST
Outer Banks Chapter
Surfrider Foundation would like to welcome our Outer Banks Chapter’s new executive members: Ivy Ingram, Chair; Herman Hall, Vice Chair; Trahey Maner, Treasurer; Cara Muglia, Secretary; and Caleb Chik, Volunteer Coordinator

Ivy and the crew aren’t wasting any time and implemented a storm drain-stenciling project in conjunction with the Dare County Soil and Water Conservation District. Over the next few weeks, don’t be surprised if you see people in Dare County painting signs on the street! They are part of an education campaign to remind all of us that stormwater pollution begins at the drain on our streets.
They will be using two stencils, depending on the location of the storm drain and where it [the storm drain] flows.

Stormwater is not cleaned before it enters our waterways. This means that lawn-care byproducts (including grass clippings), animal waste, automobile products—such as antifreeze or oil—and other chemicals can enter the water through the drainage ditches and storm-drain systems. These wastes may contain bacteria that are harmful to humans. There are many things we can do to help protect our coastal resource and a message next to the storm drain is a simple reminder of what we can do to prevent stormwater pollution.

**New Hampshire Chapter**
The New Hampshire beach monitoring program has been extended beyond the typical summer season. This important victory can be attributed to the energy and motivation of the newly formed New Hampshire Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation.

One of the first issues they tackled after forming was the lack of water-quality information available to the public year-round. The New Hampshire Department of Environmental Services (NHDES) had been monitoring public beaches for over 20 years during what they considered to be the swimming season—from Memorial Day to Labor Day. With some exception, water-quality monitoring at beaches is typically limited to the summer in states along the northern and mid-Atlantic. The New Hampshire Chapter, however, has been successful in prompting their state government to do more.

The Chapter initially approached the NHDES with their concerns that people who swim or surf in the ocean are not provided with important information about the quality of the water throughout the year. In response, the manager of the state’s beach program was able to secure funding from an Environmental Protection Agency grant to pay for extending the sampling program three months into the spring and three months into the fall. Surfrider Foundation Chapter volunteers are providing the work force for this program. Chapter volunteers collect water samples weekly from eight sampling sites at two of New Hampshire’s most popular surfing areas. Samples are delivered back to the NHDES for analysis. The NHDES also provided training to the volunteers on sampling protocol. Chapter volunteers collected the first water samples on April 1, 2007. Now that the “swimming season” has arrived, the state will resume their full monitoring effort while the Chapter gears up for the fall. All swimming advisories are posted on the NHDES web site at [www.des.nh.gov/Beaches/current.asp](http://www.des.nh.gov/Beaches/current.asp).

**New York City Chapter**
Dozens of volunteers from the New York City Chapter and the Rockaway surf community joined the Barefoot Wine Beach Rescue Project at Rockaway Beach on a recent June day. After cleaning the beach and dodging a thunderstorm, participants got to hang out with Surfrider Foundation supporters Sal Masekela (from the E! Channel’s Daily Ten) and actor Andrew Keegan. Volunteers were also treated to a live performance by Jill Cuniff (lead singer of the band Luscious Jackson) from her new album, City Beach. All the folks at Hunter PR helped make the day a success as did Surfrider Foundation Northwest Regional Manager, John Weber and Alexi Remnek, who coordinated the volunteers. It was a great event that helped connect the Chapter to the Rockaway community as they strive for more surfing access there.

**Eastern Long Island Chapter**
In June, the Eastern Long Island Chapter held their first-ever Interscholastic Surf Contest that included 60 students from eight local high schools. But this wasn’t all about who is best in the surf, it was about creating future activists. As part of their entrance fee, students became members of the Surfrider Foundation and marine biologist and Surfrider Foundation member, Joe Warren, from Stony Brook University in Southampton spoke to all of the students about Surfrider Foundation’s mission and our Respect the Beach program. Many volunteers helped make this a great event, but special thanks go out to Bruce Lieberman, Jay Fruin and Tom Naro for making it a success.
Dana Point Headlands. Age unknown; Pristine coastal stretch north of Dana Point Harbor best known for peaceful beach getaways and multiple surf breaks with minimal crowding.

“Strands” Beach, adjacent to the Dana Point Headlands isn’t dead today, but will be in the future due to complications resulting from new development. The once scenic ocean-front land endured a multi-year battle led by the Surfrider Foundation to protect its health but succumbed to terminal illness after permits were issued and earth-moving equipment was brought in. The Headlands was preceded in death by its brother, Killer Dana, and is survived by its sister, Trestles, who is rumored to also be in danger of possible extinction. In lieu of flowers donations can be made to the Surfrider Foundation: www.surfrider.org/donate.

This is what happens when we lose. Please continue to support our efforts to prevent further destruction of our coasts. Once it’s gone, it’s gone forever.
Surfrider Foundation partnered with Live Earth for their Rio de Janeiro concert event, which took place on the famed Copacabana Beach on July 7, 2007.

Surfrider Foundation Brazil was approached by Live Earth event organizers, who were concerned about the potential environmental impact of the huge numbers attending the beach concert. Over 350 Surfrider Foundation volunteers were stationed around the venue, educating concertgoers about Surfrider Foundation initiatives and passing out portable cigarette butt ash cans and trash collection bags to the almost 700,000 concertgoers so everyone could participate in making an immediate difference in the coastal environment.
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