



## “Sharing the Road” with Marine Mammals



Humpback (Delta/Dawn) breaching in Sacramento River. Photo by: S. Wilkin/NOAA OPR  
Contributing Author: Mary Jane Schram, Media specialist for San Francisco-based Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary

All along California’s coast, from late spring through autumn, hungry humpback whales target our exceptionally nutrient-rich waters for a seafood feast. Though open-ocean by nature, whales and dolphins sometimes stray into bays and inlets. In 1985 and 1990, Humphrey, a humpback, made two legendary San Francisco Bay appearances. In spring 2007, a female humpback and her calf, nicknamed Delta and Dawn, swam all the way upriver to Sacramento. Shoals of baitfish at the Golden Gate may have induced the female to enter the bay, calf in tow. Sadly, both suffered injuries from boat strikes.

Each winter and spring, gray whales migrate near shore between Arctic feeding and Mexican breeding grounds. In spring, especially, gray whales wander into San Francisco Bay, San Diego’s Mission Bay, and into Tomales Bay – a shallow arm of Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary.

While here they face dangers from disturbance, shipstrike, disorientation, entanglement in fishing gear, stress from harassment, and skin disease.

To prevent disturbance, the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary advises watching for a whale’s blow, or exhalation, which looks like a puff of smoke. Humpback and gray whale blows are bushy, and rise to about 10 feet. Be aware there may be whales nearby that you do not see! Boaters, including paddle boarders and kayakers, should not approach a whale within 300 feet (the length of a football field); cut across its path, make sudden speed or directional changes, or get between a cow and her calf: if separated, the calf could starve. Marine mammals – whales, dolphins, porpoise, seals, sea lions and otters – are covered under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and some, additionally, under the Endangered Species Act. Disturbance to them could result in significant fines and penalties.

Entangled whales should be reported immediately to the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA’s) Whale Entanglement Hotline: 1-877-SOS-WHALE. Never attempt to free a whale yourself. Injured marine mammals should be reported to the Marine Wildlife Rescue regional agencies. Check this information at <http://www.coastal.ca.gov/ccbn/educationmaterials.html#EMERGENCY> (under MARINE WILDLIFE RESCUE).

Should you have an encounter with marine mammals, make sure you “share the road” and maintain a respectful distance from our amazing marine wildlife.



Wounds on humpback cow Photo by: P. Folkens/NOAA OPR





## Destination Series:

## King Harbor

The City of Redondo Beach is primarily a residential community encompassing an area of 6.20 miles. Redondo Beach's King Harbor is located in Santa Monica Bay just north of the Palos Verdes Peninsula in Los Angeles County. This 150-acre harbor is home to more than 1,450 slips and is well-known for its pier and waterfront area. It also marks the beginning of a 21-mile bike path that ends at Will Rogers State Beach in Pacific Palisades.

There are four private marinas located in King Harbor; King Harbor Marina, Port Royal Marina, Portofino Marina, and Redondo Beach Marina. Arrangements for guest slips can be made directly through any one of the four private marinas or by contacting the harbor patrol.

In addition to sailboat racing, recreational boating shows, and exhibits, area attractions include, SEALab, Seaside Lagoon Waterpark, free waterfront summer concerts, as well as festivals celebrating kite flying, fresh seafood, and local art. Residents and visitors can enjoy a family-friendly atmosphere of relaxation, shopping, and international dining in Redondo Beach.

The City of Redondo Beach offers many free environmental amenities to the boating public throughout the harbor. These amenities include two sewage pumpout facilities located at the Harbor Master's Dock and a Bilge Pad Exchange Program located at Rocky Point Fuel Dock. The fuel dock accepts and recycles used motor oil, oil absorbent bilge pads, and oil filters. Additionally, King Harbor Marina's Marine Center maintenance yard offers recycling of used motor oil and oil absorbent bilge pads.



In order to help provide additional public access to visiting boaters, the construction of transient vessel moorings was approved in 2011. The City of Redondo Beach received a \$250,000 grant from the California Department of Boating and Waterways, and matched these funds with an additional grant of \$150,000 provided by the City of Redondo Beach. The new mooring field will be managed by Redondo Beach Marina and leased to vessels greater than 26 feet. Seaflex elastic ropes will be used instead of traditional mooring chains, ropes, and cables. These elastic ropes limit the environmental impact on the seafloor typically associated with mooring fields. The project requires a pre-and-post construction survey for invasive caulerpa algae and eelgrass.



## Honey Pot Day 2012

In 2009, the Honey Pot Day Program was born. It began as a pilot project in Marina del Rey with four major goals: 1) share information on the effects of sewage discharge directly into marina waters; 2) increase awareness about sources of boat pollution and ways to prevent it; 3) increase awareness and use of sewage pumpout stations; and 4) introduce mobile pumpout services as a viable and convenient option for sewage disposal. In its first year 44 boaters were educated and more than 2,400 gallons of sewage was potentially prevented from entering the Marina del Rey Marina.

Today the goals of this program remain the same, however the effort has expanded. It now includes four harbors: Marina del Rey, King Harbor, Port of Los Angeles, and Port of Long Beach. As of June, a total of 45 boaters have participated and 411 gallons of sewage have been pumped out. Help us to reach our goals of reaching 300 boaters and pumping 5,000 gallons of sewage!

In order to participate in this program and receive a FREE mobile pumpout service simply go to [www.honeypotday.org](http://www.honeypotday.org) and sign up by filling out a registration form. After registering for the program you will be contacted to set up a 30-minute seminar about pollution prevention and the adverse effects of sewage. At this meeting you will receive a free clean boating kit and a mobile pumpout service voucher that can be used until the end of September. Don't have internet access? Call Victoria Ippolito at (213) 620-2271.

This program is brought to you by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation, in partnership with the DBW Clean Vessel Education Program. The clean boating kits are produced by the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation and the Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program.



### New Honey Pot Day Website!

Check out our new website, [www.HoneyPotDay.org](http://www.HoneyPotDay.org). Boaters can use this website to register for a free mobile sewage pumpout and to learn more about the program.

To sign up for Honey Pot Day, click the "sign up now" button (at the top) and complete the registration information, or simply meet us at one of the events listed in our frequently updated calendar!

Help improve California's water quality along coastal waterways and marinas by participating in Honey Pot Day.

**Save the Date!**  
**Saturday, September 15, 2012**

## Coastal Cleanup Day

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation will captain the Marina del Rey in-water cleanup site for the eighth consecutive year. This is the only kayak, stand up paddle board, canoe, whatever floats site in Los Angeles County. Be sure to sign up come September, and help keep trash out of our ocean. For more information, visit our website, [www.santamonicabay.org](http://www.santamonicabay.org) or email Michelle Kearney, [mkearney@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:mkearney@waterboards.ca.gov).

If you would like to find out more information about other Los Angeles County cleanup sites, contact the county Coastal Cleanup Day coordinators, Heal the Bay, by visiting their website at [www.healthebay.org](http://www.healthebay.org).



Photo by: Sarah Woodard



Boat Launch Ramp at Tiki Lagun  
Photo by: Dan Mellish, Tiki Lagun Marina Operator

## Destination Series:

### Tiki Lagun Resort & Marina

Welcome to Tiki Lagun Resort & Marina one of the best kept secrets on the delta. When visiting Tiki you say, "It's always noon at Tiki Lagun" and that is no secret.

Contributing Authors: Dan Mellish, Tiki Lagun Marina Operator and Vivian Matuk (DBW,CCC)

Tiki is located on Turner Cut (San Joaquin County), about two miles from the main channel and Lost Isle. The marina is situated just under six miles from downtown Stockton by water.

As member of the Keep the Delta Clean Program, the marina provides several pollution prevention services to its tenants and visitors including: sewage pumpout, port-a-potty dump station, used oil and oil filter collection, marine battery recycling, used oil absorbent distribution and collection and fishing line recycling. In addition the marina offers fueling services.

Tiki offers a double wide launch ramp and is ideally located in the middle of great open areas for water skiing and wake boarding. For fishermen, beginner or pro, the marina carries fishing bait in its store, and there are fish for you: striper, bass, catfish, and more to challenge your skills. Or for that slower pace, just relax and enjoy the beautiful views of nature and the wonderful weather of the Delta.

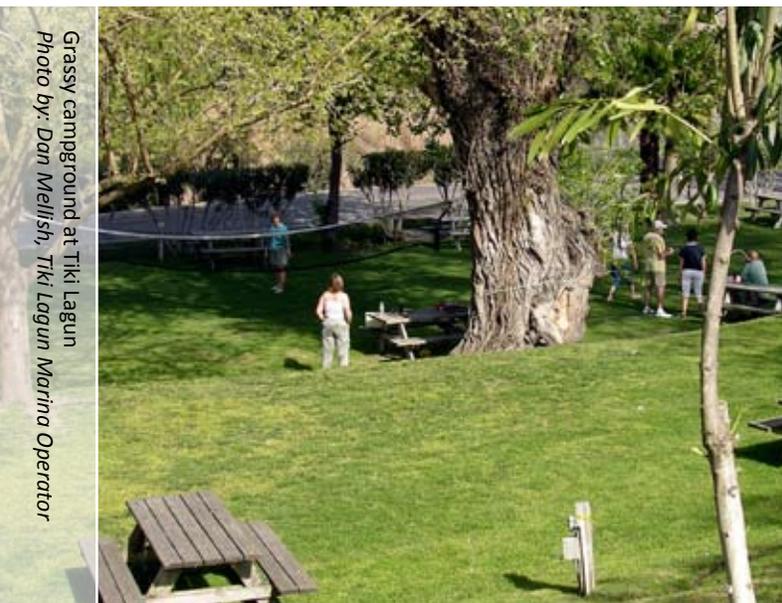


Boaters at Tiki Lagun  
Photo by: Dan Mellish, Tiki Lagun Marina Operator

For those who seek some quiet relaxation off the water, the marina offers a shady grassy campground and some areas for BBQ. It is an ideal place to relax after a full day of fun in the sun.

The marina also offers a convenient store and a grill open mid-May to mid-September from 8:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m. for breakfast and lunch.

Overall, marina staff is available to make sure your stay is an enjoyable one.



Grassy campground at Tiki Lagun  
Photo by: Dan Mellish, Tiki Lagun Marina Operator



## Get your 2012 Updated Delta Clean Boating Map



The 2012 Delta Map is now available to order. This map has location information for more than 75 marinas in the Delta, including everything from environmental services like sewage pumpouts and used oil and absorbent recycling to fuel docks and restrooms. In addition, the map lists 54 certified used oil collection centers and three mobile sewage pumpout services.

The reverse side of the map lists valuable safety and environmental tips such as preventative engine maintenance and boat cleaning guidelines, emergency phone numbers, safe boating advice, and even VHF marine radio and household hazardous waste location information.

This map was created by the Keep The Delta Clean Program and the California Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green program

For ordering information, e-mail [djord@pw.cccounty.us](mailto:djord@pw.cccounty.us) or call (925) 313-2023.



## The Delta Needs Your Help

The Delta has been in the news a lot lately and for good reason. While it supplies drinking and agricultural water to most of California, it is threatened on multiple fronts: levee's stability, water quality, economics, habitat, etc. With so many issues affecting the region, there are many agencies and organizations with different opinions about the causes and solutions to the Delta's problems. Over the past several years several entities have released reports about the state of the Delta. And while different reports have reached different conclusions, one fact is clear in all of them: the Delta is in trouble.

While many of the problems facing the Delta will require broad, political solutions, some of the solutions can be much closer to home. By caring for this resource, we can all work to improve the health of the Delta. You can go to [http://www.keepthedeltaclean.com/boaters\\_clean.aspx](http://www.keepthedeltaclean.com/boaters_clean.aspx) for some helpful tips on boat maintenance, oil, bilge care, and many other topics.

The Delta is a very valuable resource for California's wildlife, boating and fishing, agriculture, and drinking water. It needs our help, so remember to take good care of it.



The Delta  
Photo by: Vivian Matuk, California Department of Boating & Waterways and California Coastal Commission



Looking at Mount Diablo in The Delta  
Photo by: Vivian Matuk, California Department of Boating & Waterways and California Coastal Commission

## Destination Series:

### The Emerald Lakes of Mariposa

Fifty miles downstream from Yosemite National Park the wild and scenic Merced River flows into the waters of Lake McClure and Lake McSwain. The two lakes lay nestled in the foothills just below Hwy 49, and above Lake Don Pedro in Mariposa County, and are owned and operated by the Merced Irrigation District (MID).



*Contributing Author: James "J" Mills, Director of Parks & Recreation, Merced Irrigation District, Chief Operations Officer*

Spillway below Lake McSwain  
*Photo by: James "J" Mills, Merced Irrigation District*

Lake McClure is the 12th largest lake in California offering a great variety of recreational opportunities with more than 500 camp and full-hookup RV sites at four lakeside resort campgrounds, including the Bagby, Horseshoe Bend, Barrett Cove, and McClure Point Recreation Areas, all with boat launch, shoreline access, and day-use facilities.

The Barrett Cove Recreation Area boasts a full service marina (Barrett Cove Marina) with store, restaurant, boat rentals, transient and long-term dock rentals, fuel dock, pump-out, marine services, and launch ramp facilities. McClure Point Marina at the McClure Point Recreation area also offers a full menu of marina services for campers, fishermen, water skiers, wake-boarders, and other visitors, including store, fuel, and boat rentals. Lake McClure also provides year-round moorings for more than 240 houseboats with a variety of services including on-the-ball pump-outs, garbage pick-ups, and water-taxi, and a full-service boatyard offering contract and do-it-yourself facilities. Fishing for trout, salmon, and bass is seasonal but generally good year-round.

Just below the Exchequer Dam of Lake McClure is the quiet little Lake McSwain where you will find 100 camp and RV sites, a lake-side swim beach, horseshoe pits, and a large Pavilion with deep-pit barbecue perfect for that family gathering and outdoor event. Lake McSwain is a ten-mile-an-hour lake, and is best known for its diverse trout fishery featuring native Rainbow and Brook Trout, and German Brown, with great fishing from both boat and shore. The Lake McSwain Marina is a full service facility with restaurant, store, boat and dock rentals, fuel and launch facilities.

Fishermen can properly dispose of their fishing line thanks to a partnership the lakes have with the Department of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program and BoatUS Foundation in the fishing line collection program. The fishing line recycling stations are found at the following locations:

- ⚓ Lake McClure: Barret Cove Marina South Ramp, East of Camp Store and McClure Point Marina Ramp
- ⚓ Lake McSwain: Lake McSwain marina, west of launch ramp.

For other fishing line recycling stations please check: <http://g.co/maps/brqvk>

For more information about the lake and marina facilities call Twin Lakes Management Company at (855) 222-5253. For campground and parks information contact the MID Parks & Recreation Department at (855) 800-2267 or online at [www.lakemcclure.com](http://www.lakemcclure.com).



Merced River Branch at Bagby Recreation Area.  
*Photo by James "J" Mills, Merced Irrigation District*



# Northern California Chapter

## New Cleanup Day Program for Marinas and Yacht Clubs

Does your yacht club or marina want to organize and be part of the state's largest volunteer and family-oriented event?

Keep reading because this article will tell you how your yacht club or marina can organize a fun and unique event and be part of the 2012 California Coastal Cleanup Day (CCD) **Sat., Sept. 15, 2012**, from **9 a.m.–Noon**. CCD is an annual beach and shoreline cleanup event that has seen participation from more than 1.1 million volunteers who have collected more than a million pounds of debris since 1985!



Last year alone more than 71,700 volunteers removed 1.3 million pounds of trash and recyclables from our waterways, beaches and lakes.

As reported in the Changing Tide's Winter 2011 issue, last year the recreational boating community increased its contribution to the cleanup efforts. Working with the California Coastal Commission (CCC) and the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW), two yacht clubs (Port Royal Yacht Club in Los Angeles County and Sequoia Yacht Club in San Mateo County) participated in California Coastal Cleanup Day and assisted the effort to further engage the boater community. With their help, along with Heal the Bay and the San Mateo County Water Pollution Prevention Program, 63 enthusiastic volunteers collected 1,267 pounds of trash and recyclables from the shoreline, and on the water with dinghies and kayaks. Through this pilot program, information was collected to understand what needs and resources recreational boaters require to participate in CCD.

Based on this successful pilot project, CCC and DBW want to invite more marinas and yacht clubs all over the state to be part of this important effort. Your yacht club or marina can easily be part of this event. To get involved follow these simple steps also included at [www.coast4u.org](http://www.coast4u.org) (click on Coastal Cleanup Day and Marinas and Yacht Clubs).

1. Contact the Statewide Coastal Cleanup Day and Environmental Clean Boating Program Coordinators:

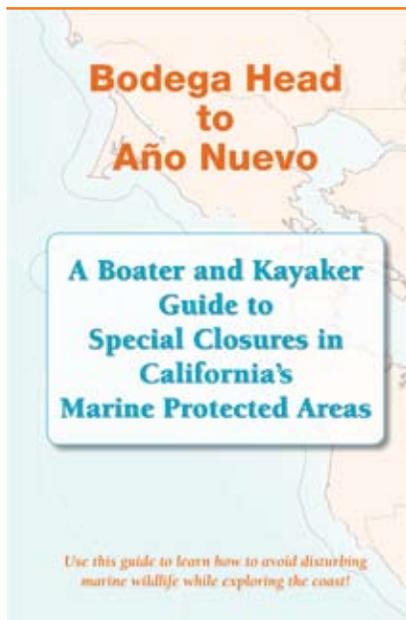
Vivian Matuk - DBW/CCC  
Environmental Boating  
Program Coordinator  
[vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:vmatuk@coastal.ca.gov)  
(415) 904-6905

Shannon Waters - CCC  
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Public Education Program  
[swaters@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:swaters@coastal.ca.gov)  
(415) 904-5214

2. Become a Site Captain for your facility, work with us and your County Coordinator on planning your event.

3. Participate in the event and be part of the solution to marine pollution!

*We hope your boating facility can be part of this great event!*



## Know Before you Go - Learn about Areas Closed to All Watercraft

Are you an avid boater who regularly explores the outer coast of central California? If so, get yourself a copy of the waterproof Boater and Kayaker Guide to Special Closures in North-Central California from the Seabird Protection Network.

Perfectly sized to fit in your gear bag or on your boat, the guide highlights six areas in the North-Central California region, which are closed to all motorized and non-motorized watercraft. These special closure areas were designated by the California Department of Fish and

Game to protect seabirds and marine mammals from disturbance from close approaching watercraft. The Seabird Protection Network works to reduce disturbance to seabird colonies along the central California coast.

Contact the Seabird Protection Network to receive your FREE waterproof Boater and Kayaker Guide. Phone (415) 970-5248 or email [California.Seabirds@noaa.gov](mailto:California.Seabirds@noaa.gov).

*Contributing Author: Sage Tezak, Project Coordinator, Seabird Protection Network, Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary*

## Sewage Pumpouts Upgrade with Remote Sensing

With all the pleasures of boating in California’s picturesque waterways, sometimes boaters must “take care of business.” One obstacle to managing boat sewage are non-operational sewage pumpout stations. To address this challenge and to promote the reliability of amenities for boaters, the California Department of Boating and Waterways (DBW) launched a pilot project to install wireless remote monitoring systems at several pumpouts stations in San Diego Harbor.

Attributes of remote monitoring units provide early problem detection and automatically alerts responsible parties of equipment failure, in real time. The pilot project was so successful, it is now a new requirement under DBW’s Clean Vessel Act Grant Program, which funds the construction,

renovation, operation, and maintenance of pumpout and dump stations, to include installation of remote monitoring systems with the installation of pumpout stations.

There are currently two companies that provide this new technology, MarineSync and Pumpwatcher. Remote monitoring hardware is installed on site and web-based software can be used to monitor various aspects of the pumpout station. Marina managers can use remote monitoring to access information about their units’ runtime and cycles that tell how many boaters used the equipment and for how long, volume pumped, power loss events, early leak detection, early alarm function that indicates a potential clog or engine malfunction, and tank levels.



Look for this National Sewage Pumpout Logo for stationary facilities

The remote monitoring also automatically shuts the pumpout off if there is even a small leak detected. Notifications about the pumpout station can be sent directly as an email or text to the responsible parties. Talk about immediate gratification!

For more information, contact Grace Lee at (213) 576-6757.

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The Changing Tide newsletter is a great resource for you to get California’s latest clean boating information. Help to reduce our carbon footprint and the amount of trash added to the waste stream by going paperless.

To go paperless, contact Victoria Ippolito at [viippolito@waterboards.ca.gov](mailto:viippolito@waterboards.ca.gov) or 213-620-2271