



# THE CHANGING TIDE

Summer/Fall 2013

## Wait...

*I don't have to leave my slip?*

We've all been there. Your sewage tank is getting full, but you really don't care to spend the 30 minutes to motor over to the pumpout system. Maybe you don't have the time, or maybe you are just really tired and now you have a tank full of sewage and a conundrum. Previously, you pulled yourself up by your bootstraps and took care of business, but soon, there might be another option: technology!

*Contributing Author: James Muller  
San Francisco Estuary Partnership*

No, we haven't seen the advent of the automated robo-pumpout machine, but we're getting closer. Over the past decade, pumpout companies have been working with marinas to install new pumpout systems that will make the entire process much quicker and simpler. So simple, in fact, that you won't even need to move your boat to the pumpout dock. Slip pumpout systems allow every boat at a given marina to pumpout without ever having to leave their slip.



West Point Harbor (San Mateo County) in-slip pumpout system

*Photo: Vivian Matuk, DBW/CCC*

The idea is relatively simple; bring the pumpout to the boat rather than the other way around. The system requires a hydrant every two to three slips on all docks. These hydrants are directly tied into the pumpout system and can be uncapped to attach a pumpout hose. This static infrastructure is combined with a wheeled cart that has an on/off switch with a handy wireless transmitter... meaning you don't have to go to the pumpout motor to turn it on. The only way this could get any easier is if you had someone doing it for you, like a mobile pumpout company, or a robot.

These systems have been installed all over the nation, but oddly enough, California has not embraced this system as prolifically as other regions. Currently, we have seven marinas in Southern California and one in Northern California. One option marinas can look into when considering these systems would be the Clean Vessel Act Pumpout Grant that will cover up to 75% of the installation costs, bringing these systems within financial grasp of many California marinas. In any case, these new systems have the potential to play an important role in protecting the environment from raw sewage discharge.



*Photo: Michelle Staffield, SMBRF*

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## RECLAIMED NATURE BEACH at Peter's Landing Marina

Contributing Author:

Joanie Seaton, Peter's Landing Marina

Peter's Landing Marina is a 325-slip marina located on the Orange County Coast in beautiful Huntington Harbour, just 24 nautical miles across the sea from Avalon on Catalina Island. Scott and Joanie Seaton have managed this property for 17 years for Pegasus Group.

*This is their story....*



Resident Great Blue Heron (dubbed 'George')

All Photos this page: Peter's Landing Marina

“After 15 years managing Peter's Landing Marina, imagine our surprise when it was discovered that the small beach (approximately 1/3 acre) adjacent to a large condominium project, which our boaters walk on their way to their boats on our A-Dock, was not under the jurisdiction of the condos as we had been led to believe all these years. Truth be told, it had been the object of several deeds over the decades since 1979 which resulted in the confusion. We were thrilled to find that this little ‘pocket beach’ tucked into the ecological reserve of Huntington Harbour, and that had been relegated to a place where folks let their dogs walk, do their thing, and chase the resident birds, was now able to be rescued.

Joanie put out an S.O.S. to the local Bolsa Chica Land Trust and Kim Kolpin answered. We couldn't have asked for a more knowledgeable and enthusiastic guardian angel for this project as Kim headed up their Stewards Program for over a decade overseeing the restoration of the natural habitat on the Bolsa Chica Mesa before recently being named as their Executive Director. She deemed that the salt marsh, the area at the water's edge, was healthy. Kim shared her knowledge on how to best start the process of removing the non-native invasive weeds by hand, root by root, from the mid-section, also called the Salt-Pan and upper area, or coastal dune/strand. She also passed on local sources for seedlings of native vegetation that would hopefully thrive with extended fencing now in place to discourage family pets from encroaching.”

One and a half years later and some number of back-breaking afternoons, Scott and Joanie Seaton are still weeding! The natives are thriving and providing not only cover for the local wildlife to feed, nest, and raise young, but also an attractive spot to sit a spell on the adjacent seating and enjoy this tiny embodiment of how the original marshlands appeared pre-civilization.



Nature Beach as inherited in original state



Rakes and hoes would have further spread the 'bad seeds' so all weeding was done by hand over many work days



Verbena lilacina ready to plant among newly established *Limonium californicum*

Marina at dusk



## Honey Pot Unlimited

Untreated sewage from a single boat toilet flush can cause the same environmental impacts as 10,000 flushes from a home whose sewage passes through a treatment plant. So what do you do with all that boat waste?

Honey Pot Unlimited is a pilot program aimed at helping boat owners maintain their holding tanks and keep our local waterways clean. This year SMBRF selected Del Rey Yacht Club to receive three months of unlimited free mobile sewage pumpouts from April to June. The goal of this program is not only to encourage boaters to properly dispose of their waste but also to get a marina or yacht club to adopt a marina-wide mobile pumpout program as a permanent environmental amenity and start a culture where this happens all over Southern California.

The program was a huge success. Over 60 boaters participated and over 4,200 gallons of waste was properly disposed of. "I am very pleased to see such a convenient service provided" said a participating boater.



Mobile pumpout service visiting a boat in Marina del Rey

Photo: SMBRF

If you are interested in applying for three free months of mobile sewage pumpouts for your marina or for more information please contact Victoria Ippolito at [vippolito@santamonocabay.org](mailto:vippolito@santamonocabay.org). This program is funded by the Division of Boating and Waterway's Clean Vessel Education Program.

## Save the Date!

## October 17, 2013

SANTA MONICA BAY  
RESTORATION FOUNDATION  
INVITES YOU TO SAVE THE DATE FOR OUR

# 25<sup>TH</sup>

ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION  
OF STORIES & ACCOMPLISHMENTS  
AT THE ANNEBERG COMMUNITY BEACH HOUSE  
OCT 17TH 2013 | 6-9PM COCKTAIL RECEPTION

Santa Monica Bay  
Restoration Foundation's  
25th Anniversary Cocktail Party

*Where:*

Annenberg Community Beach House  
415 Pacific Coast Highway  
Santa Monica, CA 90402

*When:*

Thursday, October 17, 2013

Please join us in celebration of 25 years as a National Estuary Program and stewards of Santa Monica Bay. Dine on sustainable, locally caught seafood from Santa Monica Bay, enjoy signature beverages, and watch the sunset with us for this special event.

To RSVP, please go to [www.eventbee.com/v/smbmf25](http://www.eventbee.com/v/smbmf25) or contact [Grace Lee at glee@santamonocabay.org](mailto:Grace.Lee@glee@santamonocabay.org)



Quagga Mussell

Photo: CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

## Keeping Invasive Mussels Out of the Delta

Quagga mussels (*Dreissena rostriformis bugensis*) were first discovered in California in Lake Havasu and the Colorado River in San Bernardino County in January 2007. Since that time, they have become established in a total of 27 waterbodies in California, (<http://nas.er.usgs.gov/taxgroup/mollusks/zebramusel/maps/CaliforniaDreissenaMap.jpg>). Additionally, zebra mussels (*Dreissena polymorpha*) have become established in two waterbodies in San Benito County.

Contributing Author: Anna Ewing, CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Quagga and zebra mussels (commonly referred to as “dreissenid mussels”) are small (up to 2 inches in length) freshwater bivalves that are native to the Ukraine and Russia. The reasons these mussels are so invasive is that both spawn multiple times per year and produce millions of free floating larvae which settle and attach to both hard and soft surfaces such as aquatic plants, watercraft, trailers, and recreational equipment. Mussels can be transported between waterbodies in the larval stage when suspended in water or as adults when attached to surfaces. Both mussels are filter feeders and consume large quantities of plankton, which disrupts the food web of the ecosystems they invade. Additionally, when adult mussels attach to water conveyance and flood control structures such as pipes, intakes, and screens, they can hinder the delivery of potable water and weaken the integrity of these systems.

This article focuses on efforts to prevent the spread of these invasive mussels to the Delta. The California Department of Fish and Wildlife (CDFW) is the lead agency cooperating with other state, federal, and local agencies to respond to the mussel invasion in California. CDFW scientists based out of the Department’s six interior regional offices are responsible for coordinating and collaborating with local agencies and other organizations to implement prevention, monitoring, outreach, research, control, and eradication activities for mussels. Mussel-related activities for the Sacramento-San Joaquin Delta region are implemented by CDFW’s Bay-Delta Region Stockton Office.

CDFW’s management strategy for quagga and zebra mussels includes three main goals: 1) prevent further introductions of mussels into the state, 2) contain mussels within currently infested waterbodies, and 3) eradicate mussels from infested waterbodies if feasible.

Some of the activities conducted by CDFW scientists in the Delta include: identifying waterbodies vulnerable to mussel invasion and coordinating with water managers to develop prevention programs designed to prevent mussel introductions; posting and distributing educational materials about mussels at marinas, boat launches, and tackle shops; conducting early detection monitoring for new mussel infestations; inspecting and cleaning watercraft and other vessels; providing outreach to local agencies and organizations regarding mussel biology, distribution, impacts, and management; and training water agencies and managers in watercraft inspection and decontamination and early detection monitoring.

## Keeping Invasive Mussels Out of the Delta - continued from facing page



ABS Pipe with mussels

Photo: CA Department of Fish and Wildlife

Although efforts to prevent the introduction of dreissenid mussels into the Delta are well underway, managers must be prepared to take action if and when prevention measures fail. In 2011, CDFW funded and assisted the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in the development of the Bay Delta Rapid Response Plan for Dreissenid Mussels. The purpose of the Plan is to assist state and federal agencies in initiating a unified, timely, and thorough response to a quagga or zebra mussel introduction into the Delta. The Plan provides a step-by-step overview of the rapid response process and guidance on how to organize and conduct the response in a quick and efficient manner.

Prevention is the most effective and economical strategy to prevent aquatic invasive species introductions. CDFW will continue to coordinate with other agencies and stakeholders to conduct activities and implement measures to help prevent the introduction of dreissenid mussels into the Delta. Boaters and other recreational users can enhance prevention efforts by always remembering to clean, drain, and dry their watercraft, trailers, and other recreational equipment after each day out on Delta waters. For more information about dreissenid mussels and preventing their introduction, or for a copy of the Plan, please visit the CDFW Invasive Species Program website at: [dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/](http://dfg.ca.gov/invasives/quaggamussel/)

## Abandoned Vessels in the Delta

Contributing authors: Dan Jordan, Contra Costa County Public Works Dept. and Susy Sykes, Division of Boating and Waterways

The last thing anyone wants to see on an afternoon boat ride in the Delta is a half-sunken boat someone tried to scuttle. Rather than pay for disposal, some boat owners opt for the easy – and illegal – way out when the vessel has outlived its usefulness and value.

Examples can be found throughout the Delta, but the wrecked views only tell part of the story. Below the waterline, abandoned vessels damage the environment by leaking pollutants such as fuel and oil into the water. These public safety and environmental concerns resulted in the created of the Abandoned Watercraft Abatement Fund (AWAF) in 1997 to help local governments pay to remove and properly dispose of abandoned vessels.

In 2010 an additional program was created called the Vessel Turn-In Program (VTIP). This program provides an alternative for boat owners to surrender unwanted recreational vessels, free of charge, to participating public local agencies. The agencies are reimbursed most of their expenses through VTIP grants administered by the Division of Boating and Waterways.



Abandoned Vessel

Photo: Vivian Matuk, DBW/CCC

If you see an abandoned vessel, be sure to report it to your marina operator or your local Sheriff's Department. Together we can keep our waters safe for navigation and recreation.

For more information, please visit [www.dbw.ca.gov/Funding/AbandonedVessels.aspx](http://www.dbw.ca.gov/Funding/AbandonedVessels.aspx).

Did you know that removing an abandoned vessel from the water costs about \$200 per foot, which means that removing one small houseboat can cost upwards of \$5,000?

## Clean Boating Program Gets Rejuvenated

### in *Morro Bay*



Morro Rock Aerial View

Photo: Dean Sullivan

Located 90 miles north of Santa Barbara, Morro Bay supports a vibrant commercial fishing industry. Morro Bay is also a popular destination for locals and tourists who engage in water sports, birding, hiking, and other activities. Thousands of commercial and recreation fishing vessels, maritime vessels, and paddle sports travel in the bay annually. In addition, Morro Bay is recognized as an estuary of national significance and is an important stop along the Pacific Flyway for migrating birds.

*Contributing Authors: Eric Endersby, Morro Bay Harbor / Kathryn Winfrey, Morro Bay National Estuary Program*

This summer, the Morro Bay National Estuary Program is teaming up with multiple partners to rejuvenate a Clean Boating Program in Morro Bay. On many fronts clean boating practices in Morro Bay are already encouraged; however, this new effort will strengthen current practices with support from the California Division of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program (BCGP) and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation.

Because people and wildlife depend upon a healthy bay for recreation, livelihood, and well-being, clean water is a top priority for the Estuary Program (EP). The EP is partnering with the organizations mentioned above, the Morro Bay Harbor Department and the US Coast Guard Auxiliary (USCG Aux) to increase awareness about clean boating practices. The EP uses a multi-pronged approach to educate the community about keeping water clean in Morro Bay; the Clean Boating Program is just one of many such programs in effect.

The Clean Boating Program educates all users of the estuary about clean boating practices, such as properly managing waste and minimizing boat maintenance on the water. In May 2013, the BCGP facilitated a Dockwalker Training. Now, more than 25 community members, including EP staff, Morro Bay Harbor Patrol staff, and USCG Auxiliary, are equipped with informational Clean Boating Kits and are "walking the docks," sharing them with boaters.



Morro Bay

Photo: Russ White



Fishing Boats in Morro Bay

Photo: Sue Lichtenbaum

In 2006, Morro Bay Harbor was certified as a Clean California Marina. This designation means the Harbor Department successfully encourages boaters, employees, and waterfront facilities owners to use best management practices to help keep the water clean and preserve this amazing natural resource. Morro Bay Harbor offers the following environmental services: sewage pumpout; porta-potty dump station; oil absorbent exchange program; and oil bilge water pumpout. Collection services are available for used oil, oil filters, coolant, zinc anodes, and marine batteries. Trash, recycling, and scrap fishing line receptacles are accessible throughout the waterfront.



# Northern California Chapter

## New Clean Boating Videos for You!

The Division of Boating and Waterways and the California Coastal Commission's Boating Clean and Green Program developed two clean boating videos in partnership with the San Francisco Estuary Partnership, the Keep the Delta Clean Program and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation. The purpose of these videos is to increase environmental awareness and clean boating practices related to oil and fuel management to ensure that safe and clean boating is part of the boaters' experience.

Videos include tips and tools to prevent oil and fuel discharges; how to report oil and chemical spills; how to properly dispose of used oil; environmental laws; and information on other clean and safe boating practices recommended for before, during and after fueling boats.

The educational videos are a great resource not only to boaters, but to boating facility operators in their efforts of keeping their facilities clean. Please share these valuable resources by posting the videos on your websites. Videos may be viewed and downloaded at [www.BoatingCleanAndGreen.com](http://www.BoatingCleanAndGreen.com) (Look for DBW TV).



Video Production Team  
Photos: Vivian Matuk, DBW/CCC



Working on the Fueling Video

Staff developed the video content with assistance, review and support from a Technical Advisory Group comprised of members with the marine industry and boating associations (listed in the videos credits).

The videos were shot in October 2012 in Sacramento (Riverbank Marina) and in Oakland (Oakland Yacht Club and Marina Village Yacht Harbor). During the fuel video shot, staff worked with Captain Tommy Holtzman (Boat Owner and US Coast Guard Auxiliary), his boat the "Shady Ladies" and his crew (John Derrick Jr. and Warren Golubski (Boaters and US Coast Guard Auxiliary) and Chloe Golubski, an adorable dog. In the oil clean boating video, staff worked with Captains Robert J. & Susan Engelhart and their boat "Music."

## The 34<sup>th</sup> America's Cup Event in San Francisco

### - What You Need to Know

In 1851, a radical new schooner, named America, swiftly sailed through the Royal Yacht catching the eye of Queen Victoria as well as beating the British to win the Royal Yacht Squadron's 100 Pound Cup. A symbolism of great victory for the new world was born. The trophy was later donated to the New York Yacht Club under a Deed of Gift, which stated the trophy was to be "a perpetual challenge cup for friendly competition between nations." Thus was born the America's Cup, named after the winning schooner America.

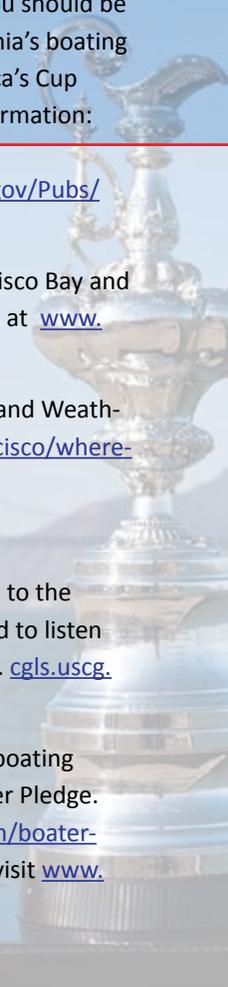
In 2013, San Francisco Bay will be hosting this worldwide event where 7 teams (Defender: Oracle team-USA; Challengers: Artemis Racing - Sweden; Emirates Team-New Zealand; Luna Rossa-Italy; China team; J.P. Morgan - United Kingdom; Energy Team-France) will be competing from July 4 to September 21. The 34th America's Cup (AC34) consists of three different stages: The America's Cup World Series, The Louis Vuitton Cup and the America's Cup Finals.

The Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW) recognizes this great feat in maritime history. We also recognize AC34's commitment to sustainability optimizing social, economic and environmental impacts of its activities and the importance to protect natural ecosystems.

As a boater, you can make a positive impact when participating in this fun and amazing event. You should be aware of safe boating practices and California's boating laws prior to setting out to view the America's Cup races. Visit the following links for more information:

- ABCs of California Boating [www.dbw.ca.gov/Pubs/Abc/ABCFull.pdf](http://www.dbw.ca.gov/Pubs/Abc/ABCFull.pdf)
- Download the Boater Guide to San Francisco Bay and the San Francisco Bay Clean Boating Map at [www.americascup.com/en/sustainability](http://www.americascup.com/en/sustainability)
- Check the Race Course/Regulated Areas and Weather at [www.americascup.com/en/sanfrancisco/where-to-watch](http://www.americascup.com/en/sanfrancisco/where-to-watch)
- [www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/marine.php](http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/mtr/marine.php)
- Boaters are also encouraged to subscribe to the U.S. Coast Guard's Notice to Mariners and to listen via marine band radio (VHF-FM Channel). [cgls.uscg.mil/mailman/listinfo/eleventh-cg-dlnm](http://cgls.uscg.mil/mailman/listinfo/eleventh-cg-dlnm)

Finally, pledge to practice clean and green boating practices by taking the America's Cup Boater Pledge. It's easy to do! Visit [www.americascup.com/boater-pledge](http://www.americascup.com/boater-pledge). For additional Information, please visit [www.americascup.com/](http://www.americascup.com/)



# What is AB 2443?

Contributing Author: Gloria Sandoval,  
Division of Boating and Waterways

Assembly Bill 2443 requires an increase, not to exceed ten dollars annually, in boat registration fees and requires revenues to be deposited into the Harbors and Watercraft Revolving Fund. This bill creates a new statewide local assistance grant program, administered by the Division of Boating and Waterways (DBW), which will pay for dreissenid mussel prevention programs at reservoirs that allow boating and fishing recreation .

DBW will soon determine the increase in boat registration fees, which will provide funding to cover administrative costs and generate grant funds for eligible applicants of the new grant program. Fees will not be collected until Jan. 1, 2014.

## tidebits

Did you know?



Channel Islands

Photo: Terrisa Duenas

July 1, 2013 marked an important milestone for the Department of Parks and Recreation (State Parks) and the Department of Boating and Waterways. It is the date in which Boating and Waterways officially became a Division under State Parks.

For more information visit:  
[www.dbw.parks.ca.gov](http://www.dbw.parks.ca.gov)

To go paperless, contact Victoria Ippolito at [ippolito@santamonicaabay.org](mailto:ippolito@santamonicaabay.org) or 213-620-2271

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.



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