

# OCA News Splash!

September, 2015

*Calling All OCA Members:*

## **Volunteers Needed to Help the Bolsa Chica Wetlands**

The Amigos de Bolsa Chica is seeking volunteers who are interested in helping save and preserve the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve. These wetlands are a vital part of our ecosystem. If you're interested in helping us out, please reach out to [info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org). Also, check out our 2015 Volunteer Appreciation Picnic video here! Angelique Crest [crest.angelique@gmail.com](mailto:crest.angelique@gmail.com)

## **Accepting Citizen Scientist Applications for FLOW**

FLOW (Follow and Learn about the Ocean & Wetlands) is Amigos de Bolsa Chica's Citizen Science Program. Participate in the collection of scientific data, learn more about coastal ecology, and get involved in environmental quality monitoring efforts. We're accepting applications for school groups to visit the wetlands. Meetings are on Fridays (times depend upon the tide) at the Huntington Beach State Beach Visitor Center. We are also accepting Citizen Scientist applications for anyone interested – training is FREE; contact [flow@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:flow@amigosdebolsachica.org) or Terri Bidle

[programs@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:programs@amigosdebolsachica.org) Angelique Crest [crest.angelique@gmail.com](mailto:crest.angelique@gmail.com)

## **NOAA Marine Debris Program Announces Grant Program**

The NOAA Marine Debris Program is pleased to announce the FY16 Community-based Marine Debris Removal grant program. This opportunity provides funding to support locally-driven, marine debris prevention, assessment, and removal projects that will benefit coastal habitat, waterways, and NOAA trust resources. Projects awarded through this grant competition implement on-the-ground marine debris removal activities, prioritizing medium to large-scale debris, including lost or derelict fishing gear. The deadline to apply is November 2, 2015. Check out [Grants.gov](http://Grants.gov) for the full federal funding opportunity. Sherry Lippiatt - NOAA Affiliate [sherry.lippiatt@noaa.gov](mailto:sherry.lippiatt@noaa.gov)

## **Baja Adventure March 5 - 13, 2016**

Join CMA for a trip that truly is the journey-of-a-lifetime! During this nine-day ocean voyage we spend three exciting days anchored in San Ignacio Lagoon where friendly gray whales and their curious calves swim within arm's length of the skiffs. Naturalist-led hikes on remote, offshore islands provide exceptional views of elephant seal rookeries, Guadalupe fur seals, a multitude of birds, diverse geological formations and a wide range of native vegetation. Thirty participants will eat well and sleep comfortably on the 113-foot Royal Polaris, leaving from San Diego (bus transportation between CMA and San Diego is provided). For more information, trip photos and a complete itinerary visit our website; for questions and/or registration call Larry Fukuhara at 310-548-7562 x223. Juliette McAllister [juliette.mcallister@lacity.org](mailto:juliette.mcallister@lacity.org)

## **Join Shark Stewards**

Sharktober is nigh, and the Great White Sharks are returning to the Greater Farallones National Marine Sanctuary. Join Shark Stewards on their unique wildlife expeditions to the Farallon Islands, favorite feeding grounds for white sharks, and learn about sharks, whales, seabirds and the amazing marine ecosystem off the San Francisco shoreline. Learn more and book for vessel trips at <https://goo.gl/XZyzcx>

## **Now Open: Registration for Western Society of Naturalists (WSN) 2015 Meeting**

This year's annual WSN meeting will be held November 5th-8th in Sacramento, CA. Taking advantage of our location in a state capitol, components of this year's WSN meeting will highlight "Marine Science Informing Management" and showcase the opportunities for WSN members' work to aid decision makers. Special topics include Evaluating Protected Areas, Long-term Monitoring for Long-term Change, Broadening Participation in Research, Monitoring, Human Dimensions. Registration is now open: [www.wsn-online.org](http://www.wsn-online.org) #WSN2015 Contact: Hayley Carter, [hayley.carter@oceansciencetrust.org](mailto:hayley.carter@oceansciencetrust.org)

## **October 1 Deadline for Film Submissions: 13th Annual San Francisco International Ocean Film Festival**

Save the Date: March 10-13, 2016, Cowell Theater, Fort Mason Center, SF. Film submissions are currently being accepted for ocean inspired films of all genres. Early Bird Deadline is October 1st. Looking for key volunteers to help produce an amazing four-day film festival. Join the team, be a part of the fun, and learn more about the

behind- the-scene planning of a major film festival. For more info visit [www.oceanfilmfest.org](http://www.oceanfilmfest.org). Ana Blanco [ana@oceanfilmfest.org](mailto:ana@oceanfilmfest.org)

## **Sign Up For MPA Center Webinar**

The MPA Center's October 8 webinar features Claire Fackler, National Education Liaison, NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries. The webinar, 10- 11am, is "Inspire Ocean and Climate Literacy and Conservation through MPAs. The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) Office of National Marine Sanctuaries serves as the trustee for a system of fourteen marine protected areas, encompassing more than 170,000 square miles of America's ocean and Great Lakes. The National Marine Sanctuary System's education and outreach programs inspire ocean and climate literacy and stewardship of the national marine sanctuaries through engaging hands-on, STEM field programs, teacher workshops, student activities, social media and free online resources. Learn about the impacts of these unique programs through formative and summative evaluations and how you too can inspire ocean and climate literacy, as well as conservation and stewardship through your own marine protected area. This webinar is part of NOAA's National Marine Protected Areas Center's monthly webinar series which is co-sponsored with EBM Tools Network. The series is focused on building and strengthening MPA networks. For a list of upcoming webinars see: <http://marineprotectedareas.noaa.gov/resources/webinars/> Seminar POC: [Lauren.Wenzel@noaa.gov](mailto:Lauren.Wenzel@noaa.gov) ". Register at: <https://attendee.gotowebinar.com/register/4767509171814859778>

### *News for You:*

## **Big Blue LIVE Brings Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, Monterey Bay Aquarium to the World**

NOAA's Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary, one of the world's most extraordinary and biologically diverse marine ecosystems, was the host location for a global television and online event. BBC, PBS and Monterey Bay Aquarium joined together with the sanctuary for "Big Blue LIVE," nine LIVE hour-long broadcasts that brought together scientists, filmmakers, photographers and other experts to film and photograph marine life that feed in the sanctuary this time of year. Species captured on film and video included whales, sea lions, dolphins, elephant seals, sea otters, white sharks, shearwaters, brown pelicans and even the elusive blue whale. Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Office of National Marine Sanctuary research vessel Fulmar were platforms as viewers were treated to state-of-the-art filming technologies and live reports from air, sea and below the waves. Shows on August 23, 27 and 30 were viewed live in the United Kingdom to millions of viewers. PBS broadcast two live programs each on August 31- September 2, timed for east coast and west coast U.S.

audiences. Watch online at <http://www.pbs.org>. Sarah Marquis  
sarah.marquis@noaa.gov

## **Innovative Distance Learning Program Helps Students Discover the California MPA Network**

The California Department of Fish and Wildlife and California State Parks have teamed up to teach California students about the state's network of marine protected areas (MPAs). Through the power of live videoconferencing and online interactive lessons, thousands of students are now learning about California's MPAs. The lessons showcase the important role that individual MPAs, and the MPA network as a whole, play in safeguarding California's marine resources. To find out more, visit: <https://cdfmarine.wordpress.com/2015/08/27/mpa-ports-project/>. Marnin Robbins  
Marnin.Robbins@wildlife.ca.gov

## **Bay2Tray Makes News**

Bay2Tray program for Real Good Fish ([www.realgoodfish.com](http://www.realgoodfish.com)) that sources underutilize species like grenadier is a cover story in the San Francisco Chronicle on August 26th.

<http://www.sfchronicle.com/food/article/Ugly-fish-a-prized-catch-for-Bay-Area-6465219.php>? Maria Finn [mariafinn@me.com](mailto:mariafinn@me.com)

## **Ocean Conservation Society honored in Council Presentation at L.A. City Hall**

Councilmember Mike Bonin hosted a special presentation honoring OCS. "Knowing more about dolphins and whales is not just important in order to protect those species - it is important to our own health as well," said Bonin. "Our ecosystem is inextricably linked and I am incredibly grateful for the work that Dr. Bearzi and her team at OCS do to study and protect our oceans and marine life." Story here:  
[http://www.11thdistrict.com/ocean\\_conservation\\_society](http://www.11thdistrict.com/ocean_conservation_society)

## **Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Public Workshop Summary and Audio Now Available**

The Ocean Protection Council, together with the Ocean Science Trust, hosted a public workshop in Sacramento on July 29, 2015 to highlight the West Coast Ocean Acidification and Hypoxia Science Panel's work and emerging messages, and explore opportunities to consider their findings in ocean and coastal management and policy in California and beyond. The workshop summary and audio are now available online. #OAHworkshop Contact: Hayley Carter (hayley.carter@oceansciencetrust.org)

## **Newly Launched! The North Central Coast Monitoring Survey is Now Available**

Survey results are important for informing the design of a partnership-based, long-term monitoring program in the North Central Coast -- so those involved in managing or overseeing monitoring efforts in the North Central Coast are invited to participate in this online survey (available through Wednesday, October 7, 2015). If you are not a monitoring project lead, and would like to share your monitoring interests and priorities, we invite you to complete the North Central Coast Ocean Community Questionnaire! Contact: Dina Liebowitz, dina.liebowitz@oceansciencetrust.org

## **This Month on OceanSpaces: North Central Coast Updates, California and Climate Change, Diving the Channel Islands, Live Video of Castle Rock Seabirds**

Catch up on the new monitoring survey in the [North Central Coast](#) and see how California is taking the lead on [dealing with climate change](#). Dive into the [Northern Channel Islands](#) with Anna Neumann of Reef Check, or virtually visit the [North Coast](#) to check out live video of seabirds on Castle Rock. More at [www.oceanspaces.org](http://www.oceanspaces.org). Contact: Laurel Kellner, laurel.kellner@oceansciencetrust.org

### *Mark Your Calendar*

## **Sep 4 through end of December 2015 (excluding Nov. 21)**

Friday nights: Shark Lagoon Nights, 6:00 p.m.-9:00 p.m. The public is invited to get up close with the ocean's ultimate predators at the Aquarium of the Pacific for free during Shark Lagoon Nights. Guests will have the opportunity to touch bonnethead, bamboo, and epaulette sharks and see large sharks such as the sand tiger shark at the Shark Lagoon exhibit on select Friday evenings from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Shark Lagoon brings guests closer to these predators than they ever imagined was possible. Guests can touch and learn about sharks, shop, purchase drinks and snacks, and enjoy live music during select Shark Lagoon Nights. FREE. Aquarium of the Pacific, 100

Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802. Info: 562-590-3100 or  
www.aquariumofpacific.org Adrian Samora ASamora@LBAOP.ORG

### **Sep 5: Native Garden Walk with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

8-10 am on the first Saturday of each month, join CMA Educators in helping keep our Coastal Park eco-friendly and clean. Choose between helping to maintain our Native Garden and Salt Marsh areas or cleaning marine debris off Cabrillo Beach. Fee: Free and open to all ages. Meet at the steps in front of the John M. Olguin Auditorium. Juliette McAllister juliette.mcallister@lacity.org

### **Sep 5: Free Public Tour with Amigos de Bolsa Chica**

Join the Amigos de Bolsa Chica for a free tour of the wetlands on the first Saturday of every month. Led by docents, participants will learn about the birds, endangered species, history, ecology, and restoration of the wetlands. The tour runs from 9-10:30am and departs every 15 minutes from the footbridge in the South Parking Lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (across the street from the State Beach entrance). Email info@amigosdebolsachica.org for more info. Angelique Crest crest.angelique@gmail.com

### **Sep 9: Conversation with Susan Casey, “Voices in the Ocean” with Earth Island Institute**

New York Times Bestselling non-fiction writer, Susan Casey, is coming to Berkeley on Sept. 9th for a special eve at the David Brower Center with Earth Island Institute's International Marine Mammal Project. We hope you will join us and help promote the event to your colleagues and other circles. The main event, at 7 p.m. in the Goldman Theater is free to the public. A 6 p.m. wine/hors d'oeuvres reception in the Hazel Wolf Gallery is \$50 per person. Eventbrite.com: Susan Casey: Voices in the Ocean Mary Jo Rice mjrice@earthisland.org

### **Sep 13: Salt Marsh Open House with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

Visit Cabrillo Beach's own wetland habitat, Salinas de San Pedro, and discover the plants and animals that call it home! Using binoculars, magnifying glasses and other tools, CMA Educators and volunteers will help you observe and explore this habitat. Fee: Free and open to all ages Juliette McAllister juliette.mcallister@lacity.org

### **Sep 13: Research Program Icebreaker at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

Learn about CMA research opportunities during this one-day event where research techniques are demonstrated, interviews are conducted for research positions and research proposals are reviewed. Mentorship by CMA staff for student projects in 2014-2015 will be assigned. Attendance at full event is required. RSVP to Kiersten Darrow, 310-548-7562 x204 or [kiersten.darrow@lacity.org](mailto:kiersten.darrow@lacity.org) Juliette McAllister [juliette.mcallister@lacity.org](mailto:juliette.mcallister@lacity.org)

### **Sep 13-20: Sustainable Seafood San Francisco with Aquarium of the Bay**

Join Future of Fish and a host of local sponsors and partners for a week-long series of events celebrating sustainable seafood and storied fish. <http://www.sswnational.com/sanfrancisco/> Maggie Ostdahl [maggie@bay.org](mailto:maggie@bay.org)

### **Sep 17: “Sustainable Seafood and Marine Protected Areas” at Aquarium of the Bay**

We often hear about the real problems of overfishing, habitat loss, and other impacts to fisheries which affect seafood supply and the ecosystem. On September 17, join Aquarium of the Bay and a host of partners for an event that will instead focus on good-news stories about marine protected areas, seafood programs, and other innovative ways to protect our ocean resources while feeding seafood eaters along the West Coast. Tickets are \$15 and include light food and one drink. For more information, visit <http://aquariumofthebay.org/film-and-lectures> Mallory Johnson [mallory@bay.org](mailto:mallory@bay.org)

### **Sep 19: Coastweeks: Coastal Cleanup with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

You can make a difference! Adopt Cabrillo Beach and our Coastal Park by joining our Coastal Cleanup from 9am to 12noon. Spend a morning with CMA staff and other volunteers working together to improve our environment. Afterwards take some time and wander through the Aquarium to get a closer look at the

animals and habitats you helped. Waivers are required – please see our website to download the waiver: [www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org](http://www.cabrillomarineaquarium.org). Groups are requested to call ahead: 310-548-7562. Juliette McAllister [juliette.mcallister@lacity.org](mailto:juliette.mcallister@lacity.org)

## **Sep 19: Coastal Cleanup with Heal the Bay**

Coastal Cleanup Day from 9:00 a.m. to noon on Sept. 19: The largest volunteer day on the planet falls on Saturday, Sept. 19th this year. Coastal Cleanup Day involves thousands of volunteers across LA County who come out in force to pick up trash at more than 50 locations, including multiple sites along Santa Monica's beaches. Heal the Bay is the Santa Monica environmental organization that coordinates LA County's Coastal Cleanup Day efforts. Last year more than 30,480 pounds of debris were removed from beaches, streams and other waterways and parks.

Visit [www.healthebay.org](http://www.healthebay.org) to find a cleanup site and sign up to be part of this vital annual event. As a reward after cleaning the beach, visit Heal the Bay's Santa Monica Pier Aquarium for free between 12:30 and 5 p.m. on Coastal Cleanup Day. Randi Parent [rparent@healthebay.org](mailto:rparent@healthebay.org)

## **Sep 19: Coastal Cleanup with Aquarium of the Bay**

Aquarium of the Bay works with the Golden Gate Parks Conservancy to serve county coordinators for Coastal Cleanup Day in San Francisco, where there are many sites along both the ocean and bay sides of the city. Bay sites along the eastern side of the city generally accumulate more trash and can benefit from extra volunteers. Registration for SF and most Bay Area cleanup sites: <http://parksconservancy.org/ccd> Maggie Ostdahl [maggie@bay.org](mailto:maggie@bay.org)

## **Sep 19: California Coastal Clean-Up Day with Aquarium of the Pacific**

9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m., join the Aquarium of the Pacific in cleaning up Alamitos Beach in Long Beach as part of the statewide Coastal Clean-Up Day. The public is invited to help Aquarium staff clean Alamitos Beach, located at Ocean Boulevard and Shoreline Drive. Help protect our ocean and marine life by picking up trash. Gloves, bags, and a spirit of camaraderie will be provided. Please look for the Aquarium booth to check in and receive your cleaning supplies. No RSVP necessary. FREE. Location: Peninsula, where Bayshore meets Ocean Blvd. Info: 562-590-3100, ext. 0; 1-800-COAST-4U (1-800-262-7848); or [www.aquariumofpacific.org](http://www.aquariumofpacific.org) Adrian Samora [ASamora@LBAOP.ORG](mailto:ASamora@LBAOP.ORG)

## **Sep 19-20: Moompetam: Native American Festival at Aquarium of the Pacific**

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. In celebration of the local Native American cultures, the Aquarium of the Pacific will host its eleventh annual Moompetam Festival. This weekend celebration will feature traditional cultural crafts, storytelling, educational programs, live



demonstrations, music, and dance celebrating the indigenous California maritime cultures, including Tongva, Chumash, Acjachemen, Costanoan, Luiseno, and Kumeyaay. Cost: General Admission--\$28.95 adult (12+), \$25.95 senior (62+), \$14.95 child (3-11), and free for children under age three and Aquarium members. Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802. Info/Tickets: 562-590-3100 or [www.aquariumofpacific.org](http://www.aquariumofpacific.org) Adrian Samora [ASamora@LBAOP.ORG](mailto:ASamora@LBAOP.ORG)

### **Sep 20-26: Sea Otter Awareness Week at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

Stop by CMA during Sea Otter Awareness Week and learn more about this amazing marine mammal. Learn about their important role in California's kelp forest ecosystem, the animals they eat and other fascinating sea otter facts! Also, take time to visit CMA's library and peruse sea otter books and videos. Juliette McAllister [juliette.mcallister@lacity.org](mailto:juliette.mcallister@lacity.org)

### **Sep 22: Workshop: Changing Ocean Conditions: Understanding El Niño's Impact on California's Living Marine Resources Through Ocean Observations**

9:30-11:30am Sponsored by the Ocean Protection Council and Scripps Institution of Oceanography this workshop will focus on the past and forecast effects of El Niño on California's high-value fisheries. A panel of experts will address climate effects on management of nearshore and coastal fisheries to understand how additional ocean observation research and analysis could lead to better management during future El Niño conditions. The workshop will be held at the California State Library, Room 500 at 900 N St, Sacramento, CA 95814. Jenn Phillips [Jennifer.phillips@resources.ca.gov](mailto:Jennifer.phillips@resources.ca.gov)

### **Sep 22: Native Plant Gardening**

On the 4th Saturday of each month, come join the Amigos De Bolsa Chica for cleaning, gardening and planting at the Bolsa Chica State Beach Visitor Center. Volunteer hours are from 9am -12noon. Located just north of the entrance to BC State Beach, across from BC Ecological Reserve South parking lot. Wear closed shoes. Tools and instructions are provided. Come help make a difference in your local community and wetlands! Call 714-840-1575 for more information or to RSVP. Angelique Crest [crest.angelique@gmail.com](mailto:crest.angelique@gmail.com)

### **Sep 27: Weekend Tidepool Walks with Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

Join us as CMA Educators conduct tours of the Point Fermin Tidepools. Before the walk attend an informative slide show in the John M. Olguin Auditorium, then join the naturalist-led hike to see animals in their natural habitat. Outdoor clothing and sneakers advised. Young children must be accompanied by an adult. Fee: Free Juliette McAllister [juliette.mcallister@lacity.org](mailto:juliette.mcallister@lacity.org)

## **Sep 26: Free Bird Talk & Nature Walk with Amigos de Bolsa Chica**

Join the Amigos de Bolsa Chica for a free Bird Talk & Nature Walk on the last Saturday of every month! Considered one of the prime birding sites of Southern California, the Bolsa Chica wetlands is home to over 200 species of birds. The walk takes place from 9-11am and departs from the South Parking Lot of the Bolsa Chica Ecological Reserve (across the street from the State Beach entrance). Visitors are encouraged to wear comfortable shoes and bring binoculars. Email

[info@amigosdebolsachica.org](mailto:info@amigosdebolsachica.org) for more info. Angelique Crest  
[crest.angelique@gmail.com](mailto:crest.angelique@gmail.com)

## **Sep 26-27: Baja Splash Cultural Festival at Aquarium of the Pacific**

9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. In celebration of National Hispanic Heritage Month and Mexican Independence Day, the Aquarium of the Pacific will host its fourteenth annual Baja Splash Cultural Festival featuring live entertainment, crafts, educational programs, ethnic cuisine, and much more. This Aquarium weekend festival celebrates the beauty and diversity of Hispanic cultures through song, dance, art, and cultural displays. Cost: General Admission--\$28.95 adult (12+), \$25.95 senior (62+), \$14.95 child (3-11), and free for children under age three and Aquarium members. Aquarium of the Pacific, 100 Aquarium Way, Long Beach, CA 90802. Info/Tickets: 562-590-3100 or [www.aquariumofpacific.org](http://www.aquariumofpacific.org) Adrian Samora [ASamora@LBAOP.ORG](mailto:ASamora@LBAOP.ORG)

## **Sep 29, Oct 27, Nov 24: American Cetacean Society Lectures at Cabrillo Marine Aquarium**

7:30 pm, The American Cetacean Society/Los Angeles Chapter offers free monthly lectures in the John M. Olguin Auditorium on the last Tuesday of each month (except December) through May. For information and scheduled speakers, visit: [www.acs-la.org](http://www.acs-la.org) or CMA. Juliette McAllister [juliette.mcallister@lacity.org](mailto:juliette.mcallister@lacity.org)

The California Ocean Communicators Alliance is a group of more than 300 professionals in ocean-related organizations, agencies and businesses who, in the course of their work, reach millions of Californians with ocean messages. NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries, the California Natural Resources Agency and aquarium partners organized and support the California Ocean Communicators Alliance. OCA members collaborate on common ocean messages and promote the Thank You Ocean public awareness campaign.

OCA News Splash! is a way for OCA members to share news electronically.

The items in OCA News Splash! are submitted by individual OCA members, and do not necessarily reflect the opinion of NOAA Office of National Marine Sanctuaries or California Natural Resources Agency.

OCA members: submit your OCA News Splash! items to Sarah Marquis at [marquispr@earthlink.net](mailto:marquispr@earthlink.net) or [sarah.marquis@noaa.gov](mailto:sarah.marquis@noaa.gov)

You are receiving this email as a member of the Ocean Communicators Alliance. To unsubscribe, please send an email to [marquispr@earthlink.net](mailto:marquispr@earthlink.net). (Note: if you unsubscribe, you will be removed from all OCA email lists.)