REPORT OF
ACCOMPLISHMENTS
2011-2012

Pictured above: Mati Waiya, Chumash Ceremonial Elder, prepares a sacred fire by burning sage in an abalone shell and fanning it with a Condor feather at Wishtoyo’s Chumash Discovery Village. Wishtoyo’s work to protect Chumash culture and the natural resources all people depend upon are made possible by Mary Frampton and the nonprofit organization she founded: Save Our Coast-Malibu Dolphin Watch Foundation, Environment Now, Resources Legacy Fund Foundation, Strider Wasilewski & Lily Harfouche, Patagonia, the Quiksilver Foundation, George Benz, the Brenda Berman Trust, our members, community supporters, interns, project partners, and the Chumash community.
“For a basket to begin, a weaver must find strong, healthy plants born from clean soil, flowing water, and gathering areas shaped by seasonal caretaking.

For a basket to be born, a weaver must have skill, patience, community support, and be able to listen to the ancestors inside of her.”

Timara Lotah Link
Shmuwich Chumash Weaver

In the traditional Chumash language of Santa Barbara, this storage basket blesses us all:
“Grandfather in the sky, thank you for the sun, thank you for the moon, please watch over the people”
Dear Friends,

Wishtoyo would like to express our appreciation for your support in our beliefs, mission, and projects, which has enabled us to accomplish goals that fifteen years ago were only a vision of creating an organization based on the beliefs and values of the Chumash people, and the need to protect the health of our environment.

For those of you who are new to Wishtoyo, we are a 501(c)(3) not for profit public interest organization that preserves and protects the culture and history of Chumash and indigenous peoples, and the natural resources all cultures depend upon. We achieve our mission through preservation and restoration projects, advocacy, cultural resource management, education and outreach, scientific research, community mobilizing, and legal action. One of Wishtoyo’s unique gifts is that we instill in the public and its youth environmental awareness and responsibility for sustaining the health of our land, air, and water by utilizing and sharing traditional Chumash beliefs, cultural practices, songs, dances, stories, and values.

Today, Wishtoyo shows the benefits of your support through: our Chumash Discovery Village; our cultural/environmental stewardship programs delivered to thousands of our youth; the protection and preservation of Native American cultural resources, practices and sacred sites; the work of our Ventura Coastkeeper program to protect and restore the waterbodies, wildlife, and natural cultural resources of Ventura County watersheds; and through many of our other projects and programs.

We are the recipient of the U.S. EPA Award for Environmental Achievement, the American Planning Association’s Special Merit Project Award, the honored presenter of the Governor’s Inaugural blessing, and have been successful in environmental and cultural litigation aiming to improve the quality of life for all.

The enclosed report highlights our achievements in 2011 and 2012, years of economic challenge that also saw growth and much important work accomplished by our organization and our volunteers who have meaningfully contributed in so many ways. In 2013 and beyond, we look forward to continuing to give everything we have to our cultural preservation, environmental education, and natural resource protection and restoration efforts.

Thank you for your support!

Mati Waiya
Executive Director, Chumash Ceremonial Elder
2011-2012 Accomplishments

Who We Are

Wishtoyo’s Staff and Board consist of a Chumash Native American ceremonial elder that serves as Executive Director; a Chumash hereditary chief that serves as Chairman of the Board; a Board member who was the first Chumash and Native American Superior Court Judge in California; a Cultural Resources and Education Director of Chumash descent, an Obama appointee to the Indian Law and Order Commission who serves as a Vice Chancellor, Professor of Indian Law, and Indian Clinic Director at UCLA Law School, a Staff Attorney and Ventura Coastkeeper Associate Director with a Masters in Environmental Management focused on Water Science, Management, and Policy who worked in Central America to assist indigenous communities, a Board member who served as the former Director of Environment Now and the California EPA, a Board member who co-authored the Federal Endangered Species Act, and a team full of Board members and Staff with varying expertise pertaining to protecting Native American Peoples’ culture and the environment. Importantly, Wishtoyo is also our 700 + active members, volunteers, interns, legal clerks, and supporters who share our beliefs, support our work, and contribute to fulfilling our mission.
2011-2012 Accomplishments

Chumash Discovery Village

A Place for Chumash Cultural Preservation, and Natural Resource Advocacy, Restoration, Education, and Outreach

Wishtoyo’s Chumash Discovery Village - "Humaliwu": The beginning of Wishtoyo’s cultural preservation of Humaliwu, the Chumash Discovery Village on Malibu’s coast at Nicholas Canyon, started in 1997 with the establishment of the Wishtoyo Foundation by co-founders Mati Waiya & Terry Tamminen. Mati Waiya’s vision to “breathe life into a village” came true in 2000 when the Wishtoyo Foundation signed a lease with the Los Angeles County Department of Beaches & Harbors. Since then, Wishtoyo, with the spirit, memory, and honor of the ancestors, has worked with great passion to bring an 8,000 year old Chumash Village back to life at this four plus acre site overlooking the ocean with the Channel Islands on the horizon. Planning; permitting; preparing extensive environmental impact reports with consultants, experts, and agencies; clearing debris; taking out an extreme overgrowth of invasive species; planting native plants, and jack hammering and removing excessive amounts of previously dumped cement into the otherwise free flowing Nicholas Canyon Creek, are amongst the many restoration efforts Wishtoyo has undertaken at the Village site.

Finally, from 2009 - 1012, with generous funding from the Mary Frampton and the Dolphin Watch Foundation she established, the Santa Ynez Chumash Reservation, the Quiksilver Foundation and many other generous donors and members, we were able to begin materializing a second phase: the physical building and habitat restoration. The Village currently showcases a riparian habitat restoration of native plants and trees; a central Ceremonial Gathering place for 200 + people - “sil’i’yik” that was covered in 2012, six traditional Chumash houses - “aps”, a sacred Burial Mound, and a Chumash canoe - “Tomol.” This is the “Place of the People” - a gathering place not only for Chumash People to practice and preserve their culture, but a place for the public and children to learn about becoming stewards of nature. A place where the mountains reach down to the ocean’s shore; where whales, dolphins, cormorants, egrets, rabbits, deer, hawks, hummingbirds, and waters from the Santa Monica mountains naturally flow into the creek which washes into our great ocean; a place where the voices of the ancestors remind us of generosity and humanity as we greet thousands of visitors each year. It is with this responsibility and passion that we embrace all those who want to participate in protecting our greatest resources, the ocean, land, air, and one another.
Wishtoyo’s award winning Chumash Discovery Village, cherished by the Chumash and its thousands of visitors, featured in numerous documentaries and print media, and recipient the American Planning Association’s Award in 2006 for Special Project Merit, is a living village dedicated to fostering an education for Chumash culture and environmental stewardship. The Village is the foundation of Wishtoyo’s cultural and natural resource education programs. At the Village, Wishtoyo hosts solstice celebrations, ceremonies, sweats, blessings, and tomol voyages. Over 6,000 thousand visitors per year participate in Wishtoyo’s cultural and environmental education programs, including the general public, youth from a wide array of educational institutions and community service organizations, schools, community groups, at risk youth, rival gangs, and indigenous spiritual leaders from all over the world. The Village also serves as a center for the preservation of Chumash cultural practices and language classes, material culture, and indigenous art.

From 2011 - 2012, the Village was enhanced by the covering of the central Ceremonial Circle, the creation of a Women’s Circle with a ceremonial area and sweat lodge, extensive plantings of native plants and removal of invasive plants, the creation of new trails, and the addition benches, a welcome office, a tomol house, cooking area, and a projector for educational programs.

In 2013 and beyond, with your help, we are seeking to commence the following Village improvements and additions: completing the ceremonial circle with a ramada, the Women’s Circle, the Interpretive Native Plants Garden, and the Village trails; constructing a Rainbow Bridge, water mains to Village (permit already in place), 6 more aps (Chumash Dwelling Units) including 4 portable aps, a museum, a Village water feature, and 3 additional Village tomols (Chumash ocean vessels); and burial of power lines obstructing ocean view.
2011-2012 Accomplishments

Chumash Discovery Village Vision

The Wishtoyo Chumash Discovery Village’s and its Cultural Center’s goal is the, “Preservation of life through culture … for the world.” It’s a place where all people can learn preservation of the environment and a respect for all cultures. We are working hard to fully complete the Village on this 8,000 year old village site for our People, the public, you, and our future stewards who visit the Village for our cultural environmental education programs.
2011-2012 Accomplishments
Cultural & Environmental Education and Outreach

Wishtoyo’s educational programs instilled the cultural and social importance of a healthy marine environment to over 6,000 K-12 school children in 2011 & 2012 through sharing Chumash cultural values, art, traditions, maritime culture, songs, dance, history, and a stewardship ethic that exemplify not only the Chumash People’s current and past dependency on a healthy ecosystem, but the dependency of society at large on our marine and coastal resources.

Delivered at Wishtoyo’s Chumash Discovery Village overlooking the Pacific Ocean, Wishtoyo’s K-12 education programs blend Chumash maritime culture, environmental sustainability, and science content that engrains an understanding of Chumash life ways, stewardship of our ocean and land, and conservation ethics in program participants. Sharing Chumash songs, oral history, and storytelling, with sustainability practices and scientific presentations, has created an outstanding and memorable education experience enjoyed by thousands of all age groups, teachers, and parent participants alike per year. The Village, with six aps (Chumash dwelling units made from Tule harvested from local watersheds), a prayer mound, redwood Chumash canoe (tomol), a native plants garden, trails, and a covered ceremonial area suitable for groups of 200 or more, provides a unique and inspirational environmental and cultural education venue.

In 2012, Wishtoyo launched its Chumash Marine Protected Area (“MPA”) Cultural Ocean Conservation Education Program (see above photos) that taught the social importance of a healthy ocean environment to 1,959 K-12 aged school children from Ventura, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara counties during 29 Programs at the Village and schools. At least 78% of the programs were delivered to K-12 student audiences from Latino, Chumash, and politically / economically marginalized communities. The scientific, policy, and regulatory content of the Chumash MPA programs were developed with Wishtoyo’s MPA education program partners: the California Department of Fish & Wildlife, Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, and California State Parks Channel Coast District. The Programs also incorporated Chumash maritime art, traditions, culture, songs, dance, history, and stewardship.
2011-2012 Accomplishments
Cultural Preservation

Tomol Voyages & Greeting the Pacific Islanders

In August 2011, Chumash elders and youth greeted Pacific Islanders from various nations at Paradise Cove in Malibu who were sailing around the world on vakas to honor their seafaring ancestors and bring awareness to the plight of our oceans' and their importance. Wishtoyo organized the ceremonial welcoming of the native Pacific Islanders, which included padding out to greet the Islanders in Chumash tomols, granting the Islanders permission to land, and hosting the Islanders and the general public at Wishtoyo’s Chumash Discovery Village for a meal and exchange of traditional ceremonies.

Chumash Basketry Preservation Program

In 2011-12, Wishtoyo continued its Chumash Basketry Preservation Program. Almost a lost cultural practice and art form, Chumash basketry is world renowned for its artistic beauty and complexity of material usage and design. Tima Link Lotah, daughter of Chumash Elder Dr. Kote Lotah, has been commissioned by the Elders to teach basketry on a multigenerational level. She weaves basket hats, cooking baskets, storage baskets, cradle boards and much more… and is our Village teacher.

Šmuwič Language School

The continuance of speaking our language - the sounds of our culture - is of great importance to Chumash cultural survival. Learning and passing on the songs, stories and dances of our ancestors is a responsibility that includes making new songs, stories and dances that reflect today. The Šmuwič Language School at Wishtoyo’s Chumash Village began in 2010, and is run by Elders Johnny Moreno and Deborah Sanchez who have dedicated their lives to “reawakening our memory” by keeping the sounds of the Šmuwič language present. From 2011-2012, Wishtoyo provided language, basketry, and material cultural classes to approximately 45 students per month, and close to 1080 students in total.

Summit of Indigenous Spiritual Leaders

In October 2011, Wishtoyo and the Amazon Conservation Team hosted indigenous spiritual leaders, healers, and shamans from Amazonia, Polynesia, South and North America to discuss the challenges and opportunities presented by the rapidly changing world we all share. This week long discussion amongst some of the most connected people to our planet, culminating in a “Declaration of the Gathering of Indigenous Spiritual Leaders & Practitioners of Nature,” was shared with the public at Wishtoyo’s Chumash Village.
2011-2012 Accomplishments
Protection of Chumash Villages, Burials Grounds, Sacred Sites, and Natural Cultural Resources

Newhall Ranch
In January 2011, Wishtoyo and its Ventura Coastkeeper Program filed a California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) lawsuit to overturn the California Department of Fish and Game’s regulatory approvals and environmental review of the 11,999 acre Newhall Ranch development along the Santa Clara River and its tributaries in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The purpose of the suit was to prevent the development from jeopardizing the watershed’s natural cultural resources such as wildlife, water supply, endangered species such as the Southern California Steelhead, and to prevent the development from displacing and destroying Native American sacred grounds, burial sites villages, and cultural resources. In 2012, Wishtoyo, Center for Biological Diversity, Friends of the Santa Clara River, SCOPE, and the Native Plant Society prevailed in Superior Court, and Newhall has appealed to the California Court of Appeal. Wishtoyo’s staff attorney briefed and argued the cultural resources and steelhead issues petitioners prevailed on, which set new CEQA precedent for protecting cultural resources and Southern California Steelhead in California. Importantly, in addition to finding the analysis of impacts to Native American cultural resources insufficient, and the mitigation measures to preserve cultural resources in place impermissibly non committal, the Court held the testimony from Chumash ceremonial elders regarding the oral history passed down only orally from generation to generation of Chumash constitutes substantial evidence.

Marine Protected Area Implementation: After playing an important role to establish adequately protective Marine Protected Areas (“MPAs”), in 2012, Wishtoyo launched a K-12 Chumash MPA Education and Ocean Stewardship Program in partnership with the Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary, the CA Dept. of Fish and Game, and CA State Parks to promote marine stewardship and develop a Southern California MPA constituency. In 2012, Wishtoyo’s Chumash MPA Cultural Ocean Conservation Education Program taught the social importance of a healthy ocean environment and the Malibu and Channel Islands MPAs to 1,959 K-12 aged school children from Ventura, Los Angeles, and Santa Barbara counties during 29 Programs at the Village.

Protecting the Isha’kowoch and the Santa Clara River:
Wishtoyo advocated vigorously to protect the Isha’kowoch (Southern California Steelhead), along with Native American burials, cultural landscapes, sacred places, from the Newhall Ranch Development. Wishtoyo also pursued and prevailed in legal actions under the Clean Water Act to provide sufficient water quality for steelhead migration and rearing, and to prevent 9 million gallons per day of inadequately treated sewage from being discharged into the Santa Clara River Estuary, a crucial habitat for Isha’kowoch rearing.
Wishtoyo’s Ventura Coastkeeper Program (“VCK”) is honored to be tasked with the great responsibility of protecting and restoring the ecological integrity and water quality of Ventura County’s inland and coastal waterbodies that serve as the natural foundation for Venturan’s economic, spiritual, and physical wellbeing.

The exploitation of Ventura’s waters in the preceding decades has imparted never before experienced ecological, social, and economic harms and threats to the County, its neighbors, and the future generations we’ve loaned our natural resources from. Impassible dams; unsustainable ground water pumping; wasteful and inefficient water uses and diversions; severely polluted agricultural, urban, sewage, and industrial storm water and wastewater discharges; channelization of our rivers; and ecologically irresponsible developments have left their mark. They have decimated Southern California Steelhead, red legged frog, least bell’s vireo populations; degraded the health of our aquatic and riparian communities; made locally caught fish served on our dinner plates unsafe to consume; dewatered our streams; depleted our groundwater banks; consumed critical habitat for native and endangered species, and have made our waters dangerous to drink, swim in, recreate in, and culturally utilize.

To sustain the wellbeing of Venturans and Ventura’s diverse communities ranging from Chumash Native Americans and surfers, to fishermen and migrant farm workers, Ventura’s waters - the public’s commons - must be taken back from the private interests that exploit them for personal and corporate gain, placed in trust for the public benefit, protected from pollution, and utilized in a manner that is both sustainable and ecologically responsible. The county wide “hard path” water management approach consisting of building large centralized infrastructure to meet our growing demand for water, must be replaced with a “soft path” that utilizes a combination of decentralized technologies, conservation, efficiency, recycling, re-use, equity, water service provision, and integrated management that accommodates both current essential needs and new development without impairing the integrity of natural ecosystems.

Into 2013, Ventura Coastkeeper is providing much needed local leadership and assistance to sustain Ventura’s diverse communities and their future generations. Utilizing science, legal action, advocacy, community mobilizing, educational programs, and stakeholder outreach, we are working to protect the ecological integrity and water quality of Ventura’s waters, and invite all of you to join us and support our efforts.

Please enjoy reading about our 2011-2012 accomplishments that have resulted in protections for our waterbodies and that are laying the foundation for us to expand upon our work.

Yours truly,

Jason Weiner
Associate Director & Staff Attorney
Wishtoyo’s Ventura Coastkeeper Program

2011-2012 Accomplishments
Scientific Research, Community Involvement, & Education

VCK’s Watershed Monitoring Program
with over 40 river, estuary, wetlands, storm
channel, and coastal monitoring sites, mobilized
hundreds of stream team volunteers to assist with
sampling and monitoring in the Calleguas Creek,
Santa Clara River, Ormond Beach, and Ventura’s
Coastal Watersheds. The high-quality bacteria
(total coliform, E. coli), nitrate, phosphate,
dissolved oxygen, water temperature, flow,
turbidity, trash, conductivity, and pH actionable
data we collected in the field and analyzed at our
California State University Channel Islands
laboratory in accordance with a Regional Water
Quality Control Board Quality Assurance
Project Plan (“QAPP”), was used by state and
regional water quality agencies to determine water quality impairments and to formulate remediation plans for swimming, fishing, wildlife, and other uses. We also used this actionable data to bring polluters into
compliance with applicable state and federal regulations, to support our legal and advocacy efforts to improve
water quality, and to work with land owners to stop water pollution at its source.

Environmental Stewardship,
Research, and Education Partnership
with California State University
Channel Islands (CSUCI): In 2011 and
2012, VCK’s and CSUCI’s scientific research
and education partnership provided CSUCI
students with enhanced hands on professional
and educational experiences, research
opportunities, and internships, while providing
VCK’s Watershed Monitoring Program with
an on campus laboratory, an increased
capacity to monitor and protect Ventura
County’s waterbodies, and access to the
student body for community mobilizing. We
had 6 CSUCI watershed monitoring interns,
one of whom became our first watershed
associate that led stream teams. In addition,
VCK worked with CSUCI professors and
students to identify and commence Santa
Clara River Estuary and mainstem research
projects needed to inform management and
restoration plans.

Coastal Clean Up Day 2012 & Trash Clean Ups:
On September 15, 2012, VCK, with the support of TEVA, site
captained the Mugu Rock Beach Clean Up for the 28th Annual
California Coastal Clean Up Day.
Our 162 volunteers
cleaned up thousands of pieces
of marine debris over ½ mile of
shoreline. In addition, a VCK
Clean Water Act Settlement
funded 12 trash clean up events
along the Santa Clara River and
Ormond Beach Wetlands.
Wishtoyo’s Ventura Coastkeeper Program

2011-2012 Advocacy Work & Achievements

Clean Water Act 303 (d) Impaired Waterbody Listings: Data collected through VCK’s watershed monitoring program and submitted to the State Water Resources Control Board (SWRCB) supports 29 additional 2012 Clean Water Act 303(d) impaired waterbody listings in the Santa Clara River, Ormond Beach, Bubbling Springs, Nicholas Canyon, and various Ventura County coastal watersheds for trash, flows, fish barriers, nitrate, phosphate, dissolved oxygen, E. coli, & pH impairments. If adopted by the SWRCB, the listings will mandate that California adopt Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) designed to abate the sources of pollution from municipal, industrial, and agricultural sources causing these impairments.

VCK’s Hearing Testimony, Submission of Extensive Comment Letters, and Community Mobilizing Played Critical Roles in: 1.) The adoption of an ecologically protective network of Marine Protected Areas from Point Conception to San Diego via the Marine Life Protection Act; 2.) The adoption of a strengthened Agricultural Discharge Waiver that holds promise of being protective of water quality; 3.) Protecting water quality, aquatic life, and riparian habitat in the Santa Clara River and Ormond Beach watersheds from developments and unsustainable urban planning; 4.) Securing an adequately protective statewide General Industrial Storm Water Permit; 5.) Ensuring Individual Clean Water Act Discharge Permits and County Waterway TMDLs are adequately stringent to protect waterbodies; 6.) Publically owned treatment works in cities throughout Ventura County reducing raw sewage spills into inland and coastal waterways; 7.) County wide measures to evaluate and promote treated waste water reclamation and re-use; and 8.) Progress in Oxnard, Ventura, and the County to adopt plastic bag ban ordinances.

Santa Clara River Flow and Fish Passage: United Water Conservation District’s Vern Freeman Dam, at river mile 10.5 of the Santa Clara River downstream of Santa Paula, impairs the River’s ecological and beneficial public uses by de-watering the River beneath the dam and due to its dysfunctional fish passageway. VCK’s advocacy and legal assistance in 2009 helped Cal Trout achieve an important legal settlement that held the promise of forcing United to implement protective measures that would be realized in a Habitat Conservation Plan (HCP). Through active and extensive involvement in United’s HCP, VCK is helping to ensure meaningful and timely progress is made in selecting and implementing fish passage infrastructure over the dam that allows for volitional steelhead and lamprey migration. VCK has led the charge on researching physical solutions at United’s Dam that would provide sufficient year round flows for the River and the County’s water users. However, much work lies ahead in 2013 and beyond to restore the River and its flow regime for the its wildlife, native Chumash inhabitants that depend on its natural cultural resources to sustain their lifeways, and the surrounding communities of Piru, Fillmore, Santa Paula, Saticoy, Ventura, and Oxnard that desire to enjoy the River’s cultural, recreational, scientific, economic, and aesthetic beneficial uses.
Wishtoyo’s Ventura Coastkeeper Program

2011-2012 Legal Action & Enforcement

Santa Clara River Estuary Clean Water Act Sewage Effluent Case: In August 2011, Wishtoyo, its Ventura Coastkeeper Program, and Heal the Bay entered into an historic and precedent setting settlement with the City of Ventura. The settlement, resulting from our Clean Water Act citizen suit and Heal the Bay’s administrative challenge to the City’s NPDES permit, mandates that Ventura makes a net investment of $55 million to reclaim between 50% to 100% of its tertiary treated effluent by 2025 that would otherwise be discharged to the Estuary. Under the agreement, Ventura can only continue discharging to the estuary if extensive ecological and hydrological studies demonstrate that a particular amount of the treated effluent is needed for the Estuary’s native species. If the discharge does continue in any amount, the settlement provides additional protection for the Estuary by mandating that the effluent first go through a treatment wetland that reduces its nitrate concentrations from 8 mg/L to less than 4 mg/L. This monumental achievement will enable steelhead recovery in the Santa Clara River watershed by providing suitable water quality for juvenile steelhead survival and rearing in the Estuary; will provide up to 12 million gallons per day of water for agricultural, municipal, and industrial use; and will indirectly help restore the natural flow regime of the Santa Clara River needed for steelhead migration and its native flora and fauna.

Newhall Ranch Litigation Superior Court Victory (Ongoing): In January 2011, Wishtoyo’s Ventura Coastkeeper Program (“VCK”) filed a California Environmental Quality Act (“CEQA”) lawsuit to overturn the California Department of Fish & Game’s regulatory approvals and environmental review of the 11,999 acre proposed Newhall Ranch development along the Santa Clara River and its tributaries in Los Angeles and Ventura Counties. The purpose of VCK’s involvement in the suit was to prevent the development from jeopardizing the watershed’s natural cultural resources, including those of the Tataviam and Chumash, such as wildlife, water quality, water supply, and endangered species. In late 2012, Wishtoyo, VCK, Center for Biological Diversity, and the other plaintiffs prevailed in Superior Court. Newhall has since appealed. VCK’s staff attorney briefed and argued the Southern California Steelhead issues petitioners prevailed on. The holding establishes new CEQA precedent for protecting Southern California steelhead by mandating that the sub-lethal impacts on steelhead from a proposed state action must be analyzed and mitigated to a less than significant impact. In the Santa Clara River, the holding would ensure that the development’s discharges do not adversely impact a steelhead’s sense of smell, ability to locate spawning grounds, growth needed for survival in the ocean, or swimming speed needed to avoid predators.

Once Through Cooling (“OTC”) Litigation (Ongoing): VCK and other public interest organizations joined the State Water Board in defending legal challenges to the State’s OTC Policy that will protect marine life from intake of ocean water used to cool the Mandalay and Ormond Beach coastal power plants in Ventura County.
Wishtoyo’s Ventura Coastkeeper Program
2011-2012 Enforcement & Legal Actions

Ormond Beach Generating Station Clean Water Act (CWA) Suit (Ongoing): In October 2012, VCK initiated a CWA citizen suit against GenOn Energy, Inc. to abate the Ormond Beach Generating Station’s discharge of polluted storm water into the Ormond Beach Wetlands, Mugu Lagoon, and the Pacific Ocean.

Magic Mountain Litigation (Ongoing): In May 2012, VCK, LA Waterkeeper, and Friends of the Santa Clara River filed a Clean Water Act suit against Magic Mountain for its discharges of trash and high levels of metals into the Santa Clara River from its 240 + acre Valencia amusement park facility during storm events and dry weather conditions. The coalition is hard at work to protect the River from the Facility’s operations.

City of Ventura Sanitary Sewage Overflow (“SSO”) Settlement: VCK’s SSO consent decree with the City of Ventura is resulting in reduced spills and enhanced maintenance of the City’s sewage infrastructure. While the City is still striving to meet the decree’s 2018 obligations, as of 2011, its annual frequency of raw sewage spills decreased by 33% from 2009 levels to eight SSOs. All of this spilled sewage was fully recovered before contact with surface waters, and none of the spills were greater than 100 gallons.

Auto Dismantling Yard Storm Water Clean Water Act Litigation: In 2012, VCK secured water quality protections for the Santa Clara River and underlying groundwater aquifers from multiple Automobile Dismantling and Scrap Metal Companies operating their facilities on 37 acres off Mission Rock Rd. in Santa Paula. The decrees mandate compliance with applicable surface and groundwater water quality standards, and require groundwater monitoring of infiltrating storm water.

Standard Industries Storm Water Consent Decree Enforcement: In 2012, Standard Industries Saticoy scrap metal facility complied with our consent decree by reducing mass emissions of metals from its Facility’s storm water discharges into the Santa Clara River by 95%. Into 2013, VCK is working to ensure the Facility meets end of pipe water quality standards and that the facility can replicate its mass emissions reductions during a year with above average rainfall.

E.J. Harrison & Sons Storm Water Pollution Case: In 2011, VCK settled its Clean Water Act storm water case with E.J. Harrison & Sons’ Saticoy trash hauling facility. The settlement requires the construction of additional treatment infrastructure to ensure the Facility’s discharges comply with water quality standards and protect the ecological, recreational, and cultural uses of the Santa Clara River and Ventura’s Coast.
The Chumash Quiksilver Initiative

There is a deep and meaningful connection between The Quiksilver Foundation and the Malibu Wishtoyo Chumash Cultural Village.

The Chumash people, unlike many tribes who lived inland, thrived close to the banks of the Pacific Ocean for thousands of years, dependent on the sea, wildlife and marine resources for food, medicines, clothing, shelter, tools and utensils.

Quiksilver too, relies on the ocean and the natural world to thrive economically and has worked diligently through The Quiksilver Foundation, a non-profit organization, committed to benefiting and enhancing the quality of life for communities of boardriders across the world to support environmental, educational, health and youth-related projects.

Now, The Quiksilver Foundation is showing their commitment to sustainability and to the Malibu Wishtoyo Chumash Village with a generous donation and the creation of uniquely designed Chumash T-shirts made from organic cotton, and board shorts made of recycled polyester with graphics inspired by Chumash art, hieroglyphics and culture.

The shorts and T's will be available in spring 2013.

Quiksilver will donate a percentage of their net profits to the Wishtoyo Chumash Village, with a donation goal of $10,000.00 for the year.

For more information: quiksilverfoundation.org

Credits: By: Greg Root
Photos: Allen Carrasco and Courtesy of Quiksilver