



HEAL THE OCEAN

WINTER 2003

The Rincon is Rolling!

EIR Study Starts for Removing Septic Systems off 7 Miles of Beaches

Heal the Ocean is celebrating a victory – the beginning of an Environmental Impact Report (EIR) to bring sewer service to the Rincon.

It is a very big deal to us, because not only is this the first step to removing septic systems from the beach at this world-famed surf spot, it is the first step to removing them from neighboring groups of homes – seven miles of coastline.

It has taken us four and a half years to get to this place.

At the beginning of Heal the Ocean's campaign to get septic systems off the beach at the Rincon, the Environmental Health Services (EHS) of both Santa Barbara and Ventura counties were saying, "There's no problem with septic systems." By the end of the process, however, Santa Barbara County's EHS was helping us, and continues to help us, with septic system removal in other problem areas throughout Santa Barbara County.

Our action here has gained the attention of the rest of the state of California, also. Inappropriately sited septic systems are now recognized everywhere as a number one polluting problem, and Heal the Ocean has been instrumental in getting this point across. We first got the point across by using DNA testing in the Rincon Lagoon, and we've gone from there.

It has been a big rollercoaster ride – lots of meetings with local and state agencies and with homeowner associations, as well as with members of the county Board of Supervisors and Environmental Health Services and attorneys. There was a huge delay caused by a lawsuit, followed by tons of bureaucratic red tape. (See "Rincon's Wild Ride" on page 3.)

But we made it!

The EIR started on January 21, 2003, and is expected to take about a year to be completed. Follow-

ing that, sewer construction can begin almost immediately after the homeowners vote to levy their homes for sewer hookup. The Regional Water Quality Control Board has stated that "alternative" or "advanced" septic systems will not be approved as a viable option for this area of coastline, because the leachfields are essentially mixing with groundwater.

Steve Halsted, president of the Rincon homeowners association through most of this process, has become a member of Heal the Ocean's board of directors, and is now working to facilitate a septic-to-sewer engineering project for upper Mission Canyon. Representing Heal the Ocean at a state conference on the subject of septic-to-sewer conversion, Steve was able to share valuable information from what we've learned here.

Getting this EIR started is of major significance to Heal the Ocean for yet one more reason: the success of our citizen-based action for cleaning up the Rincon has spurred Santa Barbara County EHS to dedicate significant funds to remedy the pollution problems posed by "septic clusters" throughout the entire county. Of the \$2 million brought into the county by Assemblywoman Hannah-Beth Jackson for septic-to-sewer work, \$500,000 is being considered for a general countywide EIR so that more easily executed "Negative Declarations" can be used for individual projects.

All of us, including EHS, have learned much from the Rincon, the "Queen of the Coast."

Once again, Heal the Ocean extends its thanks to CSD manager John Miko for taking huge initiative rare for a sanitary district, in applying for the Costa/Machado Proposition 13 grant that is paying for the EIR. ☀

...see "Rincon's Wild Ride" on page 3

STORM OVER STORM WATER

Storm water is one of the biggest sources of ocean pollution. Every surfer and ocean lover in Santa Barbara now knows to stay out of the sea for some days after a rain because of storm water.

Santa Barbara County is under deadline to file its Storm Water Management Program (SWMP) with the state. The SWMP is the basis for the required general permit for "municipal separate storm sewers" – meaning storm drains. Basically, the SWMP is a document defining how the county will tackle storm water pollution.

Heal the Ocean has learned that the county's Project Clean Water (PCW), which is tending to the details of the SWMP, is putting together the weakest permit possible so that the county doesn't get fined for high-polluting runoff violations.

We don't like this! We are advocating for a plan with backbone that includes monitoring and an enforcement ordinance for illegal dumping into storm drains.

Also, to get a handle on what can be done realistically about the storm water problem, Heal the Ocean is reviewing the budget and expenditures of Project Clean Water, which has spent \$3.7 million since July 1999. (For that matter, we are also reviewing the expenditures and budget for the city's Measure B funds.)

If the county cannot come up with a real "in-the-ground" program that lessens the amount of pollutants flowing into the ocean through storm drains, Heal the Ocean plans on putting together a citizen-based program of its own, similar to one that already exists successfully for the Santa Monica Bay. We have already started a preliminary cost assessment for a pilot project.

We are continuing to apply pressure on the county to work on this serious problem, but suspect that the storm water issue may be yet another example of how ocean-cleanup work has to be done by the citizens themselves. ☀



Hi From Hillary

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Hillary Hauser

BOARD OF DIRECTORS
Jean-Michel Cousteau
Ned Doubleday
Graham Farrar
Steve Halsted
Stan Harfenist
Hillary Hauser
Richard Lamb
Francoise Surcouf Park
John Robinson
Charles Vinick
Jonathan Wygant

HONORARY BOARD MEMBERS
Sally Bromfield
J' Amy Brown
Jack Canfield
Jack Johnson

ADVISORY BOARD
Douglas Cummings, MD
Richard Danson, MD
Mike deGruy
Patricia Duffy
Jeff Maassen
Richard Monk
Sam Scranton
Ruston Slager
Joel Smith
Shaun Tomson
Chris Wilkinson
Jerry Woolf, DDS

PUBLIC LIAISON
Jane Maassen

OFFICE
Ava Everett

NEWSLETTER EDITORS
Hillary Hauser
Jane Maassen

NEWSLETTER DESIGN
Wilson Printing

Printed on recycled paper

© Heal the Ocean 2003

Heal the Ocean
1129 State Street #26
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93101

Mail: P.O. Box 90106
Santa Barbara, Calif. 93190
Phone: 805/965-7570
Fax: 805/962-0651
E-Mail: info@HealTheOcean.org
Website: HealTheOcean.org

With the rest of the country, Heal the Ocean has watched with troubled hearts the ever-growing possibility of war, of increased planetary unrest, and an economy that does not want to go anywhere but down.

We ask ourselves, how does Heal the Ocean's work fit into this distressing picture? We also ask ourselves a big question many environmental workers ask (or should ask) themselves... With so much of the earth in trouble – polluted oceans and rivers and creeks, deforestation, Third World countries with no sanitation at all, ozone holes widening and spreading and so forth, *is there really anything we can do to stop it? Is it ridiculous to even try?*

We know what the answer is. There is no possible way to stand idly by and watch such disasters happen. We must do something about them, and we must learn from them. We must be heard on issues that matter to us, whether they are about war or the war-like things we are inflicting on the environment.

The ocean is Santa Barbara's pride and joy, and at Heal the Ocean we like to think of it as our victory garden. We need to tend it now more than ever, because it is imperative to preserve and heal what we have. With the help of our loyal supporters we will continue to hire the expert and legal help we need to obtain success. We look forward to the day when we can reap the rewards of our labors. And at the end of this warlike time, we will be proud of the garden we have nurtured.

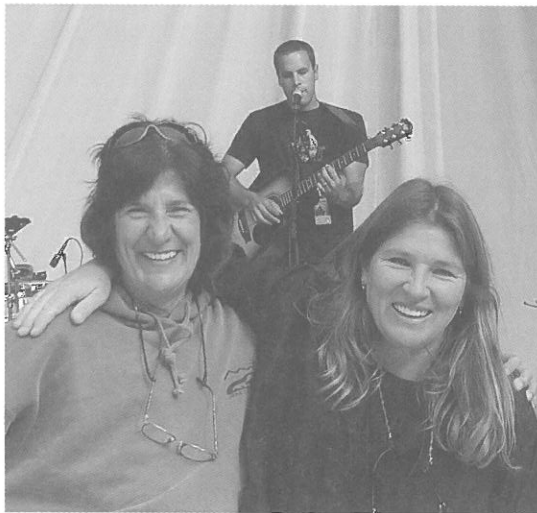
In the meantime, healing is necessary in all our lives. We are enclosing in this newsletter a Heal the Ocean bumper sticker, and we invite you to customize it any way you want – to spread the word "Heal" at a time it is needed more than ever.

Thanks for helping.

Executive Director, Heal the Ocean

THANK YOU, JACK JOHNSON!

For the seats you gave Heal the Ocean at your Santa Barbara County Bowl Concert on October 10, 2002



Executive director Hillary Hauser (left) and HTO's public liaison director Jane Maassen with Jack Johnson at the Santa Barbara County Bowl Photo: Karen Maassen

Once again, Jack Johnson, the talented singing artist of the best-selling "Brushfire Fairytales" CD has helped Heal the Ocean raise significant funds. We thank Jack and his wife, Kim, not only for generous donation to us of Bowl seats, but also for coming to our pre-party to sign autographs and mingle with our supporters.

The concert with G. Love & Special Sauce was wonderful!

Look for the May 6, 2003 release of Jack Johnson's new CD, "On and On"!

RINCON'S WILD RIDE

Pre-August 1998: CURE (Clean Up Rincon Effluent) circulates petition among surfers complaining about getting sick after surfing at the Rincon, to present to County.

August 1998: Heal the Ocean forms.

October 1998: HTO initiates DNA testing of Rincon Lagoon, gets Santa Barbara County Environmental Health Services to collaborate (HTO funds \$23,500 lab work; EHS pays \$12,500 and performs in-field collection). Results show human fecal bacteria in the lagoon.

November 1998-February 1999: HTO coordinates Rincon homeowner association meetings to explain hookup to Carpinteria Sanitary District (CSD), researches state low-interest loans, introduces septic-to-sewer concept to Sandyland, Sand Point Road, Padaro Lane and Beach Club Road, a total of 175 homes.

March 1999: HTO writes \$9,000 check for sewer engineering study for Rincon; paid for by Surfers of the Rincon Clean Water Classic, CURE, Surfriider, Santa Barbara County's Project Clean Water, the Rincon homeowner association, and HTO. Funding help comes from Patagonia.

July 1999: Price of sewer comes in at \$2.9 million, Rincon homeowners vote to levy their homes (roughly \$2000 per year on property taxes). Total price includes \$425,000 for the Environmental Impact Report (EIR) required for the project.

August 2000: Five Rincon homeowners sue to stop the project because EIR has to be performed before vote is taken. "Catch 22" situation emerges: such projects can't be done without EIR, yet there are no funds for an EIR until homes are levied.

September 2000: CSD withdraws project. Although district manager John Miko has located a state grant source for EIR funds, CSD Board of Directors says it cannot take another step until guaranteed reimbursement for \$67,000 out-of-pocket expenses incurred thus far.

February 2001: HTO guarantees the CSD Board of Directors \$67,000, CSD applies for state grant to fund \$425,000 EIR.

March 2001: HTO begins lobbying for grant application to the State Water Resources Control Board.

April 2001: HTO (with help of attorney Phil Seymour) successfully lobbies county Board of Supervisors to pick up the \$67,000 guarantee to CSD, a debt should sewer project fail to materialize for any reason.

September 2001: "South Coast Beach Communities Septic-to-Sewer" grant is awarded as "number one priority." CSD begins work on formal project proposal, which includes timeline for hiring of engineers and more exact cost estimates for each phase of the study.

February 2002: Formal project proposal is submitted to State Water Resources Control Board.

May 2002: HTO learns Rincon project is at the bottom of the list for processing into an actual contract; out of 60 grant applications, only 3 have been completed in 9 months. HTO contacts Assemblywoman Hannah-Beth Jackson for help; Jackson immediately writes SWRCB asking Rincon contract processing to be placed at top of list; SWRCB immediately begins paperwork.

July 2002: "Final Scope of Work and Budget" is completed in Sacramento, paperwork goes back to RWQCB. HTO lobbies RWQCB to get documents moving to the state Contracts Office.

October 2002: Contract received by CSD, signed, returned to State; more delay in the midst of Calif. state budget deficit crisis. HTO contacts Hannah-Beth Jackson, who again intervenes.

January 21, 2003: State signs contract, which arrives back at CSD; Rincon EIR begins.

WASTE MATTERS

Heal the Ocean has always maintained that septic-to-sewer conversion is like sweeping one's house: you sweep the dirt (problematic leachfields) into a pile, and then use the dustpan (sewer) to pick it up.

Sewers, however, are getting our scrutiny, too. We are moving forward on the following fronts:

Leaking sewer infrastructure. With continued support from the Ann Jackson Family Foundation, HTO is making progress on our program to insist that the city of Santa Barbara step up its sewer pipe maintenance, by fixing and updating outdated and cracked sewer pipes that are very likely leaking into groundwater. We have finished a GIS mapping of the known problem areas of the city's sewer infrastructure, and along with Channelkeeper we have hired a leak detector expert who has reviewed videotapes of some of the worst problem pipes. HTO and Channelkeeper are now moving forward on designing a ground and groundwater testing program.

Tertiary treatment. Metcalf & Eddy engineers, San Diego, has confirmed that its cost/feasibility study for tertiary sewage upgrade (done for HTO in August 2001) is for a UV level of tertiary treatment that eradicates viruses. HTO has also hired Howard Kator, associate professor in the Department of Environmental Health, Virginia Institute of Marine Science, to research the potential hazards of swimming in ocean water in which secondary sewage effluent is being deposited in shallow water (20 feet in Montecito and Carpinteria). After we get Kator's report, we will calculate the cost of a model public campaign program for a ratepayer vote to upgrade. ☼

Heal the Ocean platform

Heal the Ocean is a non-profit citizen's action group with a simple philosophy: the ocean can no longer be used as a dump. Our focus is on the following:

- Zero pathogens in sewage discharges to the ocean
- Septic systems
- Groundwater pollution
- Non-point source pollution
- Dredging and dumping
- Tajiguas Landfill

Answering a complaint...



HTO's Jeff Maassen takes samples at Hope Ranch to test for bacteria.

With Deep Appreciation

Heal the Ocean sends its sincere thanks to these contributors who have helped assure the success of our campaign for a clean and healthy ocean. This roster records donations made from January 2002 through January 2003. If your name has been omitted, we sincerely apologize, and ask that you please call (805) 965-7570 so that we can correct our records.

Admirals

(\$10,000 and over)

Anonymous

Larry & Wendy Barels

Jack & Kim Johnson

The LOJO Foundation/
Jodie Ireland &
Frank Louda

Captains

(\$5,000 to \$7,499)

Anonymous (3)

The John G. Braun

Charitable Annuity Trust

Richard & Peggy Lamb

WWW Foundation/Brian &
Laurence Hodges

Commanders

(\$2,500 to \$4,999)

Anthropologic

Haskell Fund/
Keri Starbuck

James Drasdo

Lieutenants

(\$1,000 to \$2,499)

Stephen & Denise Adams

David H. Anderson

Anonymous (3)

Craig Barilotti

BLT Enterprises

J' Amy Brown

Capital Group Companies

Castagnola Family Foundation

Zora & Les Charles

Yvon Chouinard

Roger & Sarah Chrisman/
Warren & Katharine
Schlinger Foundation

Roy E. Crummer Foundation

Jean & Stanley Harfenist

The Denison Family
Foundation

Jack Finnegan

Darcy & Robert Gelber

The Stephen Hahn Foundation

Julia & Brad Hall

Jaime Jenks Foundation

Ronald Melville

Lionel & Doris Neff

Francoise & James Park

Pesenti Foundation

Sea Coast Yachts/
Brian Coryat

Peter Sperling

Ralph Stephens

in memory of Anait Stephens

Turpin Family Charitable
Foundation

Chrissy & Steve Waterman

Douglas & Dina Wilson

Westways Gift Fund of the

Fidelity Investments

Charitable Gift Fund

WWW Foundation/Adam &
Kara Rhodes

Ensigns

(\$500 to \$999)

Kent & Brier Allebrand

Dr. Diane Boss & Anton Vonk

Ella & Scott Brittingham

in honor of Mignon Weber

Donald Burg

Capital Group Companies

Charitable Foundation

in honor of Ron Morrow

The Christopher Foundation

Thomas & Cynthia Dabney

Ned & Hilary Doubleday

Graham Farrar

Roberta & Stan Fishman

Kenneth & Nancy Goldsholl

Steve & Carole Halsted

Robin & Vikki Hunt

McCloskey Ranch Co., Inc

Mark T. & Catherine Wall

Montgomery

Ronald & Marty Morrow

Randolph & Patricia Scott

Foundation

The Myers Family Foundation

Victoria Pauley

Tracey St. Johns

Helmsmen

(\$250-\$499)

Anonymous

Lisa M. Bougie/
Gap Inc. Giving Campaign

Frank & Bonnie Burgess

Dennis & Susan Chiavelli

James & Deanna Dehlson

Wendy Foster

Marvin & Melinda Goodman

Scott & Seal Graber

Joan Hardie

Mr. & Mrs. Christian Heyer

Lynne Jahnke

John & Janet McCann

Lynette Oswald/
Pure Joy Catering

Larry Powell

Harry Rabin

Howard & Nan Schow

Gary Simpson

Cath Webb

in honor of Scott Graeber &
Jane Maassen

Navigators

(\$100 to \$249)

Peter & Rebecca Adams

Anonymous

Fred & Roxana Anson/
Pasadena Foundation

Danata & Dennis Arutian

Ward Bayly

Mike Bekins

Tiaan & Karen Bezllidenhout

Norman & Rita Blau

Charles Blitz

in honor of Dr. John Seeley

Dorothy W. Boothe

Jeanne & Fred Bradley

Stuart Braverman & Angela

Moloney/Braverman Family

Charitable Foundation

Karen & Peter Brill

Sally Bromfield

Patricia Brooks

The Clayton & Carolyn Brown

Foundation

Monte & Merryl Brown

Steve Brown

Robert Bryant

in honor of Danny Bryant

Susan & Brett Caine

Congresswoman Lois Capps

Judith ("Sam") Case

George & Jill Cassill

Joan Churchill

Richard & Catherine Closson

Martha Clyde

Rich & Krista Coffin

Sue & J.W. Colin

in honor of our future

generations

Mary N. Conrad

Ben Conway

Gregory & Della Cook

Constance Cramblit

Thomas & Nancy Crawford

Michael Crookston

in memory of Sanora Crookston

Stephen & Jean Crossland

Heather Hudson Crummer

Robin Cudahy

Christopher & Natalie Cutler

in memory of Natalie Begelow

Mrs. Gwen Dawson

Ronald & Laura Dinning

Mr. & Mrs. William W. Drewry

Andrew Dunn

Kathleen Duval

Robert & Judy Egenolf

Gretel Ehrlich

in memory of Sam Ehrlich

Allen Enelow

Mr. & Mrs. E.F. Eubanks

Peck & Nancy Euwer

Nancy Beth Even

Lendon & Marlou Everson

Janet Eyre

Joshua & Karen Feuer

Doug & Tisha Ford

Ronald & Carol Fox

Daniel & Ashley Fox

in honor of Ellen Fox

Bob & Elizabeth Frazee

Jennifer Freed

Barbara Freistuhler

William Truax Frost

Gaeden, Enderby & Co.

Allyn McLerie & George Gaynes

in memory of Matt Gaynes

John & Elizabeth Gerig

Cliff & Nicola Ghersen

Russell Ghitlerman &
Julie Harris

Laurie & George Glerum

William & Charlene

Glikbarg Foundation

Susan Lynn Goldsmith

Kate Kinley Gregg

Rob & Christine Hale

Grace Harris

Hillary Hauser

in memory of Skippy

Roy Hauser

Jeffrey Hayden &
Eva Marie Saint

Jed & Kathy Hirsch

Charlotte Hoegerman

in memory of Henry J.
Hoegerman, MD

Mr. & Mrs. W. Burns Hoffman

Robert & Mary Holcombe

Dr. Stephen Hosea

Cindy & Bill Howard

Arthur Hubbard

Greg Huglin

Richard & Annette Irvine

Sue Jamgochian

Jayne Johann

Glenn Jordan

Howard & June Kambach

Sharon A. Keith

Joseph Kennedy

in memory of Rosemarie
Kennedy

Jeffrey & Kathryn King

Richard & Suzanne Knaub

Kaye Komenda

Christopher Lambert Family

Christopher & Alicia Lancashire

Michele Landegger

Katharine Larsen

Christian Larson

The Laurain Family

Betty Little

Brett Locker

Martin & Deborah Lynch

Jeff & Jane Maassen

Lisa Macker

Joy Margolis

Michael & Nancy Martz

Cheryl Maxwell

Kelly Merritt

Philip & Sydney Michael

in memory of Dr. Hugh D. Greer

Dr. Neil Mietus

Chuck & Amanda Minsky

William & Cynthia Mobraaten

Mitchell Morehart

Richard & Sandra Moss

Chris & Brenda Nancarrow

Richard & Kathleen Noling

The Osborne Trust

Dr. Kevin Osburn

Dr. William Otto

William & Carol Palladini

Dr. David & Bonnie Paul

The Pedotti Family Trust

David & Sue Peterson

Larry Powell

David & Valerie Powdrell

Nancy & Robert Power

William Prindle

Sarah Pritchard

Ron & Stacy Pulice

Joel Quaid

Ted & Joan Rhodes

George & Marlene Riemer

Melissa Riparetti

John Robinson

Lois Robinson

Lynn Roche

Justine Roddick

Cathy Rose

John & Ruth Rowe

in memory of Gordon Heinmiller

Santa Barbara Seals

James & Christan Scheib

Christiane Schlumberger

Sam & Sherilyn Scranton

Peter Seaman

James & Ingrid Shattuck

Martha Shiffman

in memory of David T. Shiffman

Robert & Linda Short

Steven Silverman

Ted & Kelly Simmons

Elizabeth Simonds

Bill & Judy Slager

Virginia Sloan

Mr. & Mrs. Scott Smigel

Wayne & Barbara Smith

Gregory Stevens

Joan Tadlock

Robin & Stefani Taliaferro

Prem Taylor

The Beach House Jar

Cynthia Travis

Tom & Debbie Trauntvein

John & Stacy Trimble

Polly & George Turpin

Dr. Thomas A. Van Meter

Sander & Virginia Vanocur

Peter & Cheryl Wagonhurst
Lawrence & Bettine Wallin
Julian & Theresa Weissglass
in memory of B.E. Liebscher
David & Julie Wexler
Chris & Lisa Wilkinson
David & Lisa Wolf
Simone Woodcock
in honor of Frank & Anthony
Gordon Wright
Mr. & Mrs. Clifford Wright
Jonathan Wygant
Ko and Mary Yamaguchi
Karin Young
C.S. Young
Bill & Mary Zeldis
Zog's Sexwax
Harriette & Albert Zukas

Healers

(To \$99)
Ella Aaberg
in memory of Steve Aaberg
Whitney Abbott
Bob Aker
Lesley Alexander
Daven & Kasper Allison
Robert Andre Construction
in memory of Leif Andre
Hallie Anderson
Chandler Armstrong
Soj Aronson
Sally Jo Arteseros
Paul & Susie Baerwald
John C. Bailey
William Bailey
Brad & MJ Bakove
Laura Baldwin
Gary Bane
Camey Barber
Kathleen Barnato
Marvin Bauer
Mr. & Mrs. Ralph Baxter
Leo & Patricia Bechstein
Catherine Belkonen
Nancy Berenson
Gunnar & Judith Bergman
Jeffrey & Rebecca Berkus
Samuel & Tammy Berouty
Norine Besser
Bruce & Sharon Bevan
John & Marguerite Bianchi
Brent & Susan Bickett
Jude Bijou
Robert & Luisa Bird-Robinson
Diana Jo & Donald Blackwill
Doris Blethrow
Marianne & Greg Bloom
Joseph & Marty Blum
Travis Bower
Christie & Jeffrey Boyd
Gerald Bradley
Ann Brode
Alex & Kristin Brodie
Tom & Laura Brooks
Alberta Brown
Kathryn Brown
in honor of the Ocean
The Brown Pelican
Sharon Brownnett
Nancy Broyles
Patricia Brumm
Dorothy Brunkan
David & Jane Buchanan
Samuel & Patricia Burke
Alison Bush
in honor of Jamie Mathews
Eleanor Caldwell
in honor of Mr. & Mrs. Edward Funsten
Marcia Campbell
Jessica Cashman

Louis & Maureen Cassano
Robin Cederlof
Barbara K. Chaney
Daniel & Judith Chase
Janice & K. Chase
Robert Cibull
Dr. John & Joy Clark
Maxine & Steven Clark
in honor of the Clark Family
Lorene Cleary
Peter Cohen
Steve & Melissa Cook
Angus Cooke
in memory of Steve Issaris
Daniel & Mary Cooperman
Wade & Jill Crang
in honor of the Crang sisters
Ann Crawford
Christine Culver
in honor of Cindy & David Garber
Shannon Cummins
Sara Cunningham
Christopher & Natalie Cutler
in memory of Natalie Begelow
Annie Dahlgren
Brian & Natalie Daily
Dr. Richard & Randi Danson
John David & Joy Kunz
Kimi Davies
Nicholas & Noelle Davis
Dean Dawson
John DeGroot
David & Earlene deMouplie
Marjorie Carlson Detch
Victoria Dillon
Jennifer Drake
Sylvain Edgerton
Jettie Edwards
Kenny & Rebecca Edwards
Roy & Elizabeth Edwards
Marsha & John Elleston
Neil & Barbara Elliot
Donna Eymann
Janet Eyre
Pamela Fairmont
Tom Farr
Douglas Fischer
Courtney Fischer
in memory of Shannon Rose
Amy Fitzgerald
Robert & Phyllis Flett
John Forster
Charles Foss
Margaret Foster
Jaydean & Russell Franco
Kirk & Laurie Freeman
in memory of Caile
Peter & Sheila Frick
in memory of Ingrid Crowther
Bernard & Joan Fried
Jeffrey & Monica Fried
Bruce & Soni Friedman
Gary Frolenko
Georgia Funsten
in honor of Ali Bush
Rodrigo & Cecilia Gaete
Inge Gatz
Konnig & Andrew Gault, Jr.
Harry & Gail Gelles
Lyn Gianni
Samara Gill
Donald & Deana Gilman
John & Carrie Givens
Joe & Barbara Godley
Mark Golden
Marilyn Goldman
Harland & Betty Goldwater
Richard Goodfriend
Andrew & Penelope Gottlieb
Charlie Graham
Mrs. Richard A. Grant
Dr. Richard Gray

Kirk Grier
James & Loma Griffith
Vern & Martha Guggenmos
Margo Hall
William & Jane Hall
in honor of Jane Hall
Ted & Frances Halpern
Renee Hamaty
Eric & Ilene Hancey
Dr. Mark Hansen
Michael Harrington
in honor of commercial fishermen
Robert & Tracey Harrington
in honor of the children of Santa Barbara
William & Nancy Harrison
Roy & Barbara Harthorn
Elinor Hawkins
in memory of Mum, Dad & Nardi
Lauren Hawksworth
Bob Hay
Rand Hayes
Mary Heebner
Lee Heller
Brenna Henry
Debra Herring
Darryl & Lynda Hickman
Thomas Hill & Nancy Hagens
Allan & Irene Hodgert
Dr. V. Michael Hogan
Michael & Beverly Holliday
David & Mary Holzhauser
Susan Hopmans
Millicent Horton
in memory of Gay Parker
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Hubbs
Julia Huffman
in memory of James Robinson
Sue Irwin
Roberta Issaris
in memory of Steve Issaris
Mrs. Patricia Jackson
Fran Jacobson
Ken Jamgochian
Chris & Cecilia Jensen
A.R. Jessen
Rachel & Anton Johansen
David Johnson
James Johnson
Evan Jones
Donna Jordan
Mary Kana
Sue Lael Katnic
Muffett Kaufman
Hilde Keldermans
Jane Kelleher/
Montecito Gardens
T.C. & M.M. Kenney
Leonard Kilfoyle, Jr.
Heidi Kirkpatrick
Robert Klein
John & Patricia Klink
Bruce & Soni Knox
Roy Kuklinsky
Georgia Kux
Keith Laby
David & Sharon Landecker
Rob Lane
Marie & H. Robert Larkin, Jr.
in memory of H. Robert Larkin
Wendy Lee
in memory of Lanny Wright
Roy & Joan Leipnik
Glenn Leopold
Christine Limm
Alan Lionello
Barbara Loebman
in honor of Polly & Phil Gammons
Robert Lovejoy
Brad Lund
James & Lynn Lyon
Morgan & Rebecca Macdonald
Don & Deb MacMannis

Greg Mahaffey
Frank & Mary Ann Malinowski
Sydney & Mary Anne Marsch
Ann Pennock Marshall
Bruce and Sheila Marshall
Virginia Marshall
Richard Martin
Tom & Renee Mata
Mark Mattingly
Monica McCoy, D.C.
Dianne McCutchan
Tom McFaul
Paul & Claudia McGarry
Kathryn Mead
The Mehl Family
Horia & Jane Metiu
Joanne Miles
Nancy Minick
Kent Mixon
Tom & Kim Modugno
Montecito Sports
Rachel & John Moore
George & Kim Morales
in honor of Paul & Sheila
Pam Morgensen
in honor of Helen MacKay
Dan & Aileen Morse
Bonnie Muench
Cecilia Murphy
Mary Elizabeth Myers
Dennis & Carolyn Naiman
in honor of Miriam Polne-Fuller
Barbara Nelson
Warren Newschwanger
& Clare Montana
Richard Nordlund
Ronald & Roberta Nye
Michael & Lisa O'Connell
William & Joan Oakley
Bruce Ohannessian
Camilla Olds
Ann Olson
Steven & Jocelyn Ondre
Dr. Cecilia Ordenez
in memory of Bob Lietzow
Bill & Tina Palmisano
Jay Parker
Stephanie Patterson, M.A.
Rex & Elsa Pay
Diane Pearson
Robert Perko
Sheldon & Kathy Pfeifer
Tom & Sue Piozet
Bill & Pam Poehler
Arthur & Paulette Posch
Ernest & Sheila Pratt
Ruth Profant
in memory of Robert Profant
Laurie Proia
William Prothero, Jr.
Keith & Fran Puccinelli
Georgia Pulos
Scott & Malinda Putnam
in memory of Glen Zachary
Real Bodywork
Janet Reid
in honor of Matt Reid
William Reppy
Trish Reynoso
John Rodriguez II
in memory of
Sharon McCloskey Lelande
Ashton & Al Roell
Steven P. Rogers
David & Nancy Roman
Herbert & Rhonda Rosenthal
Jacqueline Roy
Judith Rubenstein
Sanford & Phyllis Sacks
Skip & Sally Saenger
Fernando & Ingrid Sarrat
Dr. Bob Saunders

Sandra Lee Schaefer
Donna Schley
Cecilia Schneider
in memory of Lisa Williamson
David & Connie Schott
Robert Allen Schott
Sylvia M. Schwasnick
Robert Allen Scott
Stephen Segal
Jennifer Severance
Richard & Nancy Seward
Wayne & Sara Seward
Robert & Susan Shand
Dr. Dennis Shanelec
Gerald & Sharon Shepherd
Linette & Robert Silsbee
Michaela Simpson
Dr. Dennis & Sandra Slattery
Carol H. Smith
Gina & Robert Smith
Roy Smith
Lori Smyth
Steve & Carolyn Snyder
Aaron Sottile
Margaret Staton
Michael & Patricia Stevens
Terri Stewart
Walter & Jean Stine
Sally Stout
Cameron & Matthew Strome
Hugh & Kim Sutherland
Bruce Sweet
Douglas & Nancy Sweet
Robin & Stefani Taliaferro
Kirk & Marguerite Taylor
Linda Taylor
Allison Thomas
JoAnne Thompson
L. Dennis Thompson
Cassandra Thomsen
Anna & Klaus Tritschler
Hubert & Karen Twibell
Eloise Uranga
David Van Wickle
Jeff & Michelle Vasek
Nancy Vaughan
Christy & John Venable
Anne Warburton
Virginia Wardwell
John Warner
Harold & Louise Wayne
Andre & Beverly Weckstrom
Bernice & Louis Weider
Charles & Pamela Weil
Sylvia Weller
William Wellman
Jim & Jinx Whiting
Reg & Nancy Wilkinson
Helen Wilson
Jan Winford
Catherine Wolfe
in memory of Helen Hunter &
John C. Wolfe Jr.
Donald Wrinkle, Jr.
Mr. & Mrs. Benyaurd Wygant
Theresa Yandell
Virginia Yeomans
Karen Yoon & Bruce Raph
Amber York
Donald Young &
Caroline Cunningham
Dr. Steven & Katherine Zelko
Gary Zukor



Heal the Ocean News

Origins of Heal the Ocean

Heal the Ocean started in August 1998 following the publication of a Santa Barbara News-Press editorial by Hillary Hauser. Read this "Genesis" article on our website: HealTheOcean.org

E-mail alerts

HTO's E-mail alert system has become an effective lobbying tool for ocean pollution issues that require input from the public.

A recent E-mail alert resulted in a flood of letters reaching the state granting agency considering the funding of \$2.4 million (Clean Beaches Initiative money) to the Carpinteria Sanitary District to pay for the moving of sewer pipes from the edge of Carpinteria Bluffs. CSD wants to move the pipes inland because the bluffs are threatened by erosion (in some places sewer pipes are a mere three feet from the edge of the cliffs).

That flood of letters will definitely weigh on the decision!

In the e-mail alert system, HTO sends you a sample letter that can be cut and pasted into your own letter. If you're not already on our E-mail alert list, please send us your address to info@healtheocean.org, and you'll be put on the list. This is a very effective and easy way to make your voice known on ocean pollution issues you care about. ☀

Thanks to our Innovative Fundraisers!

Doing the political work of HTO, attending meetings and hearings, running the organization and getting funds together means time is stretched to the "max." So when people call with a function already planned to benefit us, we love them to pieces!

Anthropologie, a very cool retail store on the corner of State St., and Canon Perdido, gave us a storewide sale in October 2002, with 15% of all proceeds benefiting us. The turnout for this event was wonderful, as was the food and wine. The enthusiastic sales crew, all wearing HTO tee shirts, turned the sale into a party. A special thank you goes to Anthropologie manager Eula!

Similarly, generous HTO supporters Brian and Sophie (Laurence) Hodges held a special private-party house sale and auction in their beautiful Montecito home in November 2002 – another wonderful time for everyone who attended, and great proceeds for our ocean work!

And then there's Jack Johnson (elsewhere in this newsletter), and the surfers of the Rincon Clean Water Classic (thank you, Glenn Hening!) Thanks to Seal and Scooter Graber for helping at all our events whether it's preparing food, carrying equipment, pouring wine or greeting people. Thank you Ruston Slager for always manning our booth and sending out e-mail alerts. Thank you newsletter helpers: Matt Harris, Karen Bezlidenhout, Annette Irvine, Hez, Alyson Salaman and Seal! And once again, thanks to the ever-present Maassen family – Jeff, Jane, Morgan and Graham. ☀

HTO's Halsted advising on septic conversion

Steve Halsted, who as president of the Rincon Point Property Owners Association, has paved the way for septic-to-sewer conversion at the Rincon by coordinating on-site visits for engineers, conducting homeowner meetings and registering support at endless public hearings.

The whole experience has made Steve an expert on the process, and now, as a member of HTO's board of directors, Steve is giving firsthand assistance to other septic-to-sewer issues in the county. He has helped facilitate the process that has led to an engineering study for upper Mission Canyon/Tunnel Road, after HTO was contacted by a homeowner in the area reporting septic problems. The study began in January 2003.

Steve also gave a presentation last year at a state conference on septic-to-sewer conversions, where attendees learned from his (and HTO's) experience at the Rincon. At the conference, other attendees working on septic problems in Malibu and elsewhere complimented Steve for the Rincon project "moving along so fast!" ☀

Bits & Pieces...

HTO has over 2,500 members now! People have been signing up from all over the country. Many people inquire about doing similar work in their own communities, while others just want to join and become informed. We thank everyone who includes us as a link on their web sites, as it really is effective in passing the word... We mourn the death of Steve Issaris, an "Ironman" who died recently while surfing off Goleta. He and his wife, Roberta, had sent HTO a contribution two days before this tragic accident. We send our heartfelt prayers to his family... Whoever "borrowed" HTO executive director's brand new "Reef" sandals at Hammonds, please come by the office and we'll give you another pair. Meanwhile, let's keep the good karma up at our surf spots, where everyone leaves their clothes and personal belongings around while they're out enjoying the sea. Thanks. ☀



–The happy crew at Anthropologie

Heading for hearings...

GOLETA WAIVER

WHEN: Spring, 2003: SWRCB, Sacramento

In April 2002, Heal the Ocean won the first round of our battle to get the Goleta Sanitary District (GSD) to upgrade the five million gallons of sewage it empties into the ocean every day to full secondary treatment levels.

During its hearing in Santa Barbara, the Regional Water Quality Control Board agreed with us, and went against its staff recommendation to grant GSD's application for a five-year extension of its permit that allows it to deposit a "secondary blend" sewage one mile off Goleta Beach. The Regional Board finally approved the denial of the waiver in July 2002.

This "blend" is a mix of primary and secondary sewage. Heal the Ocean's marine expert, Craig Barilotti, pointed out to the RWQCB that with the predicted population growth for Goleta, the percentage of primary sewage would increase from

1,920 pounds per day (current) to 3,064 pounds per day (2005).

We successfully argued that solids encase viruses and bacteria, and that in certain ocean current and wind conditions the GSD sewage waste field travels to Goleta Beach and the popular surfing spot off Campus Point. We submitted financial information showing that upgrade to full secondary treatment would not be punitive to GSD ratepayers. A cost feasibility study by Metcalf & Eddy engineering firm, indicates the rate increase would be between \$6 to \$7 per month more, for a total fee of about \$20 per month. This is about what Santa Barbara city (El Estero) ratepayers are charged.

GSD appealed the Regional Board's ruling to the State Water Resources Control Board, which will consider the issue during a Sacramento hearing some time in this spring, 2003. Our attorney, Vicki

Clark, has already filed our legal arguments, together with Craig Barilotti's updated report, both of which uphold the Regional Board's ruling to deny the waiver.

Heal the Ocean believes it is long overdue for all 301h sewage waivers to be eliminated. In 1977, they were allotted to ocean dischargers in the erroneous belief that the ocean could be used to dilute sewage. As we all know, the ocean has been sending strong signals that it *cannot* dilute all this waste, as evidenced by beach closures and high bacteria counts. In its report to the SWRCB, Heal the Ocean has submitted the results of virus testing that has revealed Hepatitis A and enteric viruses at Goleta Beach.

We have presented a strong case and are confident we will prevail! ☀

TAJIGUAS

WHEN: March 21, 2003: RWQCB, San Luis Obispo
April 7 & 22 or 23, 2003: CIWMB, Sacramento

Water quality issues related to the expansion of the Tajiguas Landfill will be examined and weighed in three important hearings this spring. One hearing will be held by the Regional Water Quality Control Board, and two before the California Integrated Waste Management Board in Sacramento.

Heal the Ocean will be at all of these hearings with our lawyer, Vicki Clark, and we will present evidence, as well as with reports from our hydrogeologic consultants and seismic experts that show why the Landfill should not be expanded because of serious water-quality issues.

First, the Landfill is in violation of the 5-foot rule without an adequate "engineered alternative." Heal the Ocean hydrogeologists presented evidence (now accepted as fact by the county and by the Regional Water Quality Control Board) that groundwater is infiltrating the trash at Tajiguas up to 100 vertical feet. State law says that trash must be separated from groundwater by a minimum of five feet.

Although such a violation can be mitigated by an "engineered alternative," Heal the Ocean

maintains that the trench and leachate control systems at Tajiguas are inadequate. Groundwater flow patterns have not been studied, and the eight monitoring wells at the Landfill (the number usually prescribed for a gas station) include no monitoring wells to the east, west, or southwest of the Landfill. Therefore, the county has no way to know how pollution is affecting groundwater or whether or not it is migrating offsite. Recent bacteria tests in the trench built by the County to mitigate volatile organic compounds (VOCs), and inside the culvert that diverts Pila Creek around the Landfill – where seabirds cannot go – were extraordinarily high in dangerous fecal bacteria, as well as enterococcus and E. coli bacteria. Extremely high bacteria counts were also detected in Pila Creek downstream.

In addition, seismic experts Cotton Shires & Associates, Los Gatos, have produced a report for Heal the Ocean stating that the county's Seismic Stability Analyses for expansion is incorrect. This potential miscalculation could mean that the saturated trash in the front canyon of Tajiguas is not stable enough to allow a vertical expansion of 120 feet as is planned.

As a result of the Cotton Shires report, the Regional Water Quality Control Board has required the county to hire another seismic consultant, to conduct a peer review of the county's seismic work. The county itself admits that slope failure could damage environmental control systems and cause a release to surface water or groundwater.

Why does the expansion of the Tajiguas Landfill matter so much? Some people say, "Ah, it's way up there, who is it disturbing?" or, "It's already a disaster, why not let it go?"

The basic answer is that it is against the law to contaminate the waters of the State. To allow and legally permit known environmental threats to continue for convenience or economic gain undercuts the very environmental laws that were passed to protect our treasured natural resources, such as the Gaviota Coast. Also, to expand the polluting mess that Tajiguas currently is, ensures that Santa Barbara County will be cursed with this problem forever. ☀

Heal the Ocean
P.O. Box 90106
Santa Barbara, CA 93190

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. Postage
PAID
Santa Barbara, CA
Permit No. 233

Printed on recycled paper.

**THANK YOU, RINCON SURFING COMMUNITY
&
THE GROUNDSWELL SOCIETY**



Photo © HaroldWard/check out www.funfotoz.com for more locals surf photos

You believed in us from the beginning, you made it happen, you paid for it and we're on our way!
COME TO THE CLEAN WATER CLASSIC MARCH 22-23, 2003!

Once again, part of the proceeds of this event will benefit Heal the Ocean!
Come visit us at our booth and cheer on the surfers who have helped raise money for the Rincon septic-to-sewer conversion and other Heal the Ocean projects!