

CALIFORNIA TRASH MONITORING WEBINAR SERIES 2021

The goal of this webinar series is to share our current collective knowledge to support current practices and advances in trash monitoring, and the development of data analysis and visualization tools aimed at assessing the effectiveness of policies and practices for limiting the amounts of trash in the environment.

The webinar series is being sponsored by the [Trash Monitoring Workgroup](#) and the [California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network](#). Webinar recordings and materials will be made available on the Network's [website](#). There is no registration. Participation will be in a first come basis. However, we do not anticipate exceeding our hosting ability.

- **Trash Provisions Implementation** - January 21, 2021
- **The California Trash Monitoring Playbook** - February 21, 2021
- **NOAA's Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project** - April 22, 2021
- **Taking Out the Trash: Trash Capture and Compliance** - May 20, 2021
- **A Healthy River and Healthy Communities through Citizen Science and Community Partnerships** - June 17, 2021
- **Big Data for Trash Monitoring Programs Big or Small** - July 15, 2021
- **California Coastal Cleanup Day – History, Data, Action, and Community Engagement** - August 19, 2021

Webinar Topic: Trash Provisions Implementation

When: Thursday January 21, 2021 11:30am – 12:30pm

Presenter: Leo Cosentini, WRCE – State Water Resource Control Board, Division of Water Quality

[Statewide Water Quality Control Plans for Trash](#)

Trash discarded on land frequently makes its way into streams, creeks, rivers, and eventually the ocean, as rain storms wash it into gutters and storm drains. Types of trash generated by human activity that frequently pollute waterways include cigarette butts, paper, fast food containers, plastic grocery bags, cans and bottles, used diapers, construction site debris, industrial preproduction plastic pellets, old tires, appliances, and more. Trash is a significant pollutant of California's waters that adversely affects beneficial uses, including but not limited to uses that support aquatic life, wildlife, and public health.

Reducing trash in waterways is a problem that can be solved with the collected effort of the public, agencies, organizations, and permittees. Just as there are many kinds of trash, there are many methods to prevent it from fouling our waterways such as street

sweeping, education programs on littering, and the installation of trash-catching devices on storm drains.

On April 7, 2015, the State Water Board adopted an Amendment to the Water Quality Control Plan for Ocean Waters of California (Ocean Plan) to Control Trash and Part 1 Trash Provision of the Water Quality Control Plan for Inland Surface Waters, Enclosed Bays, and Estuaries (ISWEBE Plan). Together, they are collectively referred to as 'the Trash Amendments'. The project objective for the Trash Amendments is to provide statewide consistency for the Water Boards' regulatory approach to protect aquatic life and public health beneficial uses, and reduce environmental issues associated with trash in state waters, while focusing limited resources on high trash generating areas.

Storm Water Program - Trash Implementation Program

The Trash Amendments apply to all Phase I and II permittees under the NPDES municipal separate storm sewer systems (MS4) permits. The State Water Resources Control Board Executive Director sent separate 13383 Orders to traditional and non-traditional Small MS4 permittees on June 1, 2017. Regional Water Quality Control Boards, as the Permitting Authority, issued to their Phase I permittees either Water Code 13383 or 13267 Orders that contain region specific requirements, which may differ from the State Water Resources Control Board orders.

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Webinar Topic: The California Trash Monitoring Playbook

When: Thursday February 18, 2021 11:30am – 12:30pm

Presenters: [Tony Hale, PhD](#) - Program Director, Environmental Informatics Program Design and Communications, Geographic Information Systems, Information Technology Systems

[Shelly Moore](#) - Executive Director at the Moore Institute for Plastic Pollution Research

Trash monitoring methods in aquatic environments has presented many challenges in method standardization and how to answer management questions. During this webinar you will be introduced to the new California Trash Monitoring Playbook.

The [California Ocean Protection Council \(OPC\)](#), in close partnership with the [State Water Board](#), has recognized the importance of standard methods for trash monitoring and has funded this project. The [Southern California Coastal Water Research Project \(SCCWRP\)](#) and [San Francisco Bay Estuary Institute \(SFEI\)](#) have partnered up to test multiple trash monitoring methods with a goal of developing a library of methods with known levels of precision, accuracy, and cross-comparability of results, and linking these methods to specific management questions.

[California Trash Monitoring Methods Project](#)

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Webinar Topic: NOAA's Marine Debris Monitoring and Assessment Project

When: April 22, 2021 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Presenters: [Sherry Lippiatt](#) - California Regional Coordinator at NOAA Marine Debris Program

[Hillary Burgess](#) - Monitoring Coordinator at NOAA

The [Trash Monitoring and Assessment Project \(MDMAP\)](#), is a citizen science initiative that engages NOAA partners and volunteers across the nation to survey and record the amount and types of marine debris on shorelines. Each passionate and dedicated partner in the MDMAP network selects a nearby shoreline monitoring site that they return to monthly to conduct surveys and submit meaningful data to NOAA's [MDMAP Database](#).

How big is the marine debris problem, and how is it changing over time? What types of debris are most common in your region? MDMAP data can help to answer these questions and can be used to guide marine debris policy development, education, and outreach, and address important research questions.

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Webinar Topic: Taking Out the Trash: Trash Capture and Compliance

When: May 20, 2021 11:30AM – 12:30 PM

Presenter: [Chris Sommers](#) - Vice President at EOA, Inc.

The "[Trash Amendments](#)" requires Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems (MS4s) in California to significantly reduce the amount of trash discharged from their stormwater conveyance system. Cities, counties, and other entities must choose one of two pathways to achieve compliance – Track 1 (Install and Maintain Full Capture Systems) or Track 2 (Demonstrate Full Capture Equivalency). This presentation will explore how MS4s are achieving compliance and improving our environment.

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Webinar Topic: A Healthy River and Healthy Communities through Citizen Science and Community Partnerships

When: June 17, 2021 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Presenter: [Rob Hutsel](#) – President and CEO, [The San Diego River Park Foundation](#)

The [Healthy River, Healthy Communities Program](#) is the San Diego River Park Foundation's signature stewardship program. Through an integrated approach they have an ongoing effort to survey 20+ miles of the River. The survey informs their river cleanup program which focuses on collaboration, advocacy, and action.

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Webinar Topic: Big Data for Trash Monitoring Programs Big or Small

When: July 15, 2021 11:30 AM – 12:30 PM

Presenter: [Win Cowger](#) - PhD student and NSF graduate research fellow at the [University of California Riverside](#)

Learn how data science can help turn trash data (not trashy data) into knowledge. This knowledge needed to help combat the global problem of trash impacting our aquatic environments. This presentation will discuss leveraging big data tools (open data, [Trash Taxonomy](#), AI, machine learning, web applications ...) to turn data into action.

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Topic: California Coastal Cleanup Day – History, Data, Action, and Community Engagement

When: August 19, 2021 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Presenter: [Eben Schwartz](#) - Marine Debris Program Manager, California Coastal Commission

California's beaches and inland waterways are collection spots for trash. The public is increasingly concerned about ocean trash and plastic pollution and eager to do something about it! The cleanup offers a way for volunteers to respond to the threat of trash in our environment. They do this by removing trash before the winter rains arrive and wash it out to the ocean, where it harms marine life and our shared ecosystem.

Held annually the third Saturday in September, at more than 1,000 sites across California Coastal Cleanup Day is the state's largest volunteer program. It supports the environment, engages tens of thousands of people annually (74,410 volunteers on September 21, 2019) and has removed over 25 million pounds of trash from our beaches, shorelines, and inland waterways for over 35 years.

- Coastal Cleanup www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/ccd/ccd.html

- The Problem With Marine Debris
<https://www.coastal.ca.gov/publiced/marinedebris.html>

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Webinar Series Contact:

Erick Burres

Citizen Monitoring Coordinator

Clean Water Team @ State Water Resources Control Board

erick.burres@waterboards.ca.gov

213 712 6862 mobile

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