



This event is made possible by the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network and the Coastal Watershed Council. The event is funded by the cities of Pacific Grove, Monterey, Seaside and Santa Cruz, the Central Coast Regional Water Quality Control Board, Monterey Bay Aquarium and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The event is held in collaboration with the Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, the cities of Capitola, Live Oak, and Scotts Valley and the Monterey Bay Sanctuary Foundation.

The Monterey Bay Sanctuary Citizen Watershed Monitoring Network, established in 1997, is a consortium of approximately 20 citizen monitoring groups that monitor the health of the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary. The Coastal Watershed Council is a Santa Cruz-based nonprofit organization committed to the preservation, protection and management of coastal watersheds.

The Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary stretches along 276 miles of central California coast and encompasses more than 5,300 square miles of ocean area. Renowned for its scenic beauty and remarkable productivity, the sanctuary supports one of the world's most diverse marine ecosystems, including 33 species of marine mammals, 94 species of seabirds, 345 species of fishes and thousands of marine invertebrates and plants.

The NOAA National Marine Sanctuary Program seeks to increase public awareness of America's ocean and Great Lakes treasures by conducting scientific research, monitoring, exploration and educational programs. Today, the program manages 13 national marine sanctuaries and one coral reef ecosystem reserve that together encompass more than 150,000 square miles of America's ocean and Great Lakes natural and cultural resources.

The NOAA National Ocean Service manages the Sanctuary Program and is dedicated to exploring, understanding, conserving and restoring the nation's coasts and oceans and works to balance environmental protection with economic prosperity in its mission promoting safe navigation, supporting coastal communities, sustaining coastal habitats and mitigating coastal hazards.

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, an agency of the U.S. Commerce Department, is dedicated to enhancing economic security and national safety through the prediction and research of weather and climate-related events and providing environmental stewardship of our nation's coastal and marine resources. Through the emerging Global Earth Observation System of Systems (GEOSS), NOAA is working with our federal partners and nearly 60 countries to develop a global monitoring network that is as integrated as the planet it observes.

On the Web:

NOAA: <http://www.noaa.gov>

NOAA's National Ocean Service: <http://oceanservice.noaa.gov>

NOAA's National Marine Sanctuaries: <http://sanctuaries.noaa.gov>

Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary: <http://montereybay.noaa.gov>