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**NOAA AWARDS \$480,000 TO EDUCATE STUDENTS, TEACHERS
ABOUT THE MONTEREY BAY WATERSHED**

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine Sanctuary Program's Monterey Bay Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Program and the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (MBNMS) are hosting an event to mark the awarding of funds to support environmental education programs in the Monterey Bay watershed.

WHAT: Awarding of \$480,000 to 15 grant recipients located within the Monterey Bay area that support organizations utilizing the outdoor environment as a means to educate students and teachers. A ceremony will take place with grant recipients and representatives of students and teachers benefiting from these awards.

WHEN: Sept. 20, 2004, 9:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m.

WHERE: Seaside High School (Title 1, underserved school)
2200 Noche Buena St., Seaside, Calif.

WHO: Congressman Sam Farr
Representatives from NOAA and the MBNMS
B-WET grant recipients, Seaside High School Students

B-WET provides funds to environmentally based education organizations to provide students, teachers and communities throughout the Monterey Bay watershed with meaningful outdoor experiences. The B-WET Program at Monterey Bay was established in 2003 to improve the understanding of environmental stewardship of students and teachers by means of education. Through competitively-based grants, the B-WET Program has the opportunity to bring the environment into every classroom and every child out into the Monterey Bay.

NOAA 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.

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

National Marine Sanctuary Program: <http://sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov>

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

BWET: <http://sanctuaries.nos.noaa.gov/bwet>