

Major Win to Keep Trash & Toxics Out of the Bay

You Made This Breakthrough Victory Happen!

For years, trash and toxics from San Jose have polluted San Francisco Bay. Now, because of your support for Baykeeper, San Jose will become a leader in stopping this pollution. This is a major victory for creating a healthier Bay ecosystem and protecting wildlife and recreation.

We've secured a legally binding agreement that requires San Jose to keep trash, sewage, and other pollution from washing into two important tributaries to the Bay, Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek.

And our agreement does much more. San Jose will invest in new infrastructure projects that reduce runoff pollution and also capture rainwater. The projects will provide a water source during future drought and increase green space throughout San Jose.

"I was so excited, I had to wipe tears of joy from my eyes. I congratulate Baykeeper for moving San Jose in the right direction," said Roger Castillo. Roger is a San Jose resident and self-taught naturalist who has volunteered for years to restore Chinook salmon habitat in Guadalupe River. He's seen the pollution problems in San Jose first-hand.

Huge amounts of trash from San Jose wash into Guadalupe River and Coyote Creek, then into the Bay, endangering seals, birds, and other wildlife. Now San Jose will install new devices that collect trash from runoff before it reaches waterways.

Raw sewage is also leaking from San Jose's sewer pipes. This contamination can sicken people who spend time on the water. And it can harm fish that spawn and hatch in the river and creek—including the salmon Roger works to protect. To keep raw sewage out of the Bay and its tributaries, San Jose will upgrade its sewer

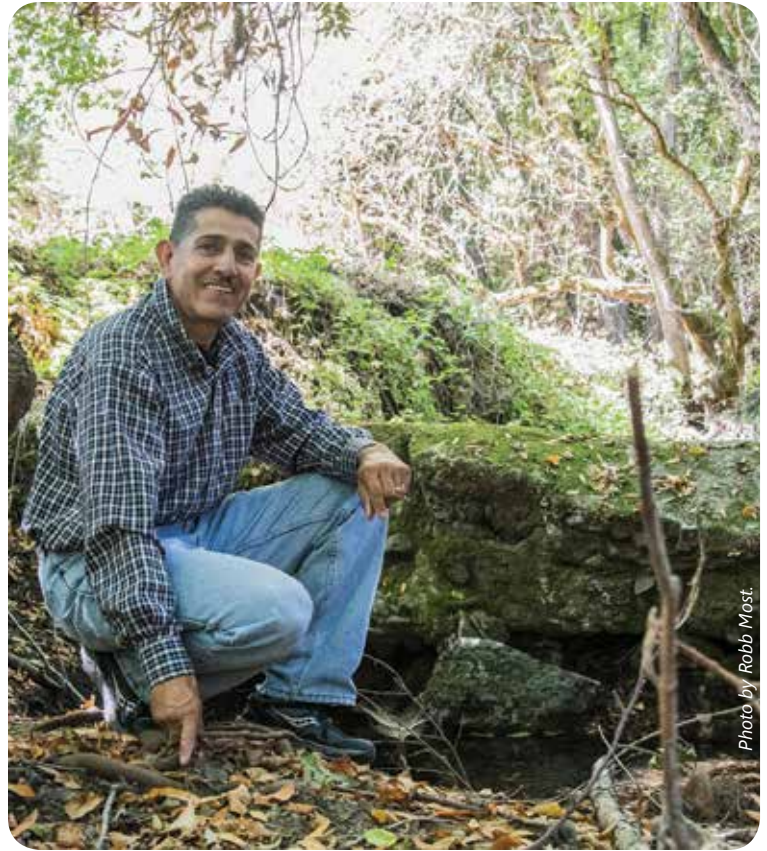



Photo by Robb Most.

"I had to wipe tears of joy from my eyes," said Roger Castillo, about Baykeeper's breakthrough legal victory. Roger is a local resident and volunteer activist for healthy San Jose rivers and creeks.

system and replace 65 miles of old sewer pipe.

And over the next 20 years, San Jose will install new Bay-friendly infrastructure that includes lining streets with special gutters to absorb rainwater and prevent polluted runoff. The city will capture rainwater, filter it, and store it for later re-use. And San Jose will replace paved concrete surfaces with public park space.

This is a decisive victory for reducing one of San Francisco Bay's biggest pollution problems: contaminated storm water that runs off city streets and other paved surfaces. Thank you for making this victory happen! 



SAN FRANCISCO
BAYKEEPER®

*Safeguarding San Francisco Bay
from pollution since 1989.*

Fall/Winter 2016

Letter From the Executive Director



Every summer, tourists flock to the iconic Bay Area to enjoy all it has to offer. This year, some special travelers were sighted in San Francisco Bay in higher numbers than in years past. If you've glimpsed these majestic whales from your boat, kayak, or the shoreline, you'll agree that it's a thrill to watch them venture inside the Golden Gate to feast on the Bay's rich seafood buffet. Our oceanic guests are following a plentiful food source, and I'm thankful to you for helping us create a cleaner Bay that attracts such magnificent visitors.

In this issue of *Baykeeper News*, you can see how your gifts

to Baykeeper are leading to a healthier Bay. Together, we've won new victories for our waters and wildlife. Less trash and sewage from San Jose will be contaminating the Bay. Local leaders agreed to stop coal pollution of the Bay and our communities. Industrial facilities are reducing their discharges of toxic chemicals and heavy metals. And the Bay is safer from fireworks plastic and debris.

Your support keeps Baykeeper fighting in the courts, advocating before government regulators, and out on the water in the Baykeeper patrol boat. Because of you, we are making the Bay healthier for all—including the beautiful whales that recently visited our beloved Bay.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Sejal Choksi-Chugh'.

Sejal Choksi-Chugh, Executive Director



Photo by hharuyus, Flickr/CC.

Whales were sighted in greater numbers in San Francisco Bay this summer, including the one shown here. Your support for Baykeeper helps make the Bay healthier for wildlife, big and small.

Because You Took a Stand, San Francisco Bay is Safer From Coal Pollution

You stood with Baykeeper. And now, San Francisco Bay and local communities are safer from coal pollution.

Baykeeper, along with our partner environmental groups and hundreds of concerned residents, urged Oakland's City Council to ban coal from being handled and stored within Oakland. The developer of a new planned bulk shipping terminal was proposing to export millions of tons of coal transported into Oakland in open train cars.


The ban was approved in June. Then, in a victory in August, Governor Brown signed a new law that Baykeeper had supported by giving testimony at legislative hearings in Sacramento. The law bars state funding for any future California coal export projects. We've made important progress to protect San Francisco Bay and local communities from coal pollution.

But we're not done yet. The developer of the bulk shipping terminal may challenge the city's ban on coal. If the coal export

project is allowed to go forward, coal would arrive in Oakland via long trains of open cars, on tracks close to the Bay's shore.

***You are helping to prevent coal trains
shedding toxic dust along the Bay.***

These trains would pass through West Oakland, which already has a big pollution burden, and many other East Bay cities. The cars would shed highly toxic dust into our neighborhoods and waterways.

And another developer is trying to get approval for a possible coal export terminal on the Vallejo shoreline. In partnership with you and our coalition, Baykeeper will continue standing up for the Bay and local communities. Together, we can continue to prevent increased toxic coal shipments through the Bay Area. 

YES ON 67

PROTECT THE BAN ON PLASTIC BAGS

Plastic bags are one of the top five most-collected kinds of trash during beach cleanups in California. The bags can be deadly to marine animals who eat them or get entangled. If Prop 67 passes, retail stores in California will be banned from providing single-use plastic bags that often end up in the Bay and ocean. Help protect San Francisco Bay, the ocean, and wildlife from plastic bag trash. On November 8, vote yes on Prop 67!


A Recycling Facility Stops Contaminating the Bay, Thanks to You

For years, GreenWaste Recovery, Inc., a recycling facility in San Jose, was polluting Coyote Creek with oil and heavy metals. These contaminants are toxic to ten native fish species, including steelhead trout and Chinook salmon that spawn in the creek. The creek flows to San Francisco Bay, where the pollution can harm birds and other wildlife at the nearby Don Edwards wildlife refuge.

With your support, Baykeeper sued GreenWaste, and worked out a pollution control plan with facility staff. Now, after three years of oversight by Baykeeper, we're pleased to report that GreenWaste has stopped contaminating Coyote Creek and San Francisco Bay.


And GreenWaste isn't the only industrial facility that's keeping contamination out of the Bay, thanks to your support. As a result of Baykeeper actions, the Bay is receiving less industrial runoff pollution from facilities all over San Francisco, Alameda, Berkeley, Oakland and other Bay Area cities.

In fact, GreenWaste is one of 18 Bay Area industrial facilities that have successfully stopped or significantly reduced their toxic contamination of the San Francisco Bay. Seven of these are recycling facilities. You can be doubly proud that you enabled these recycling facilities to reduce landfill waste without contaminating the Bay.

In addition, eighteen more Bay Area industrial facilities have agreed to implement controls to protect San Francisco Bay from pollution. And Baykeeper is monitoring their progress now. We're also investigating more industrial facilities to discover whether they are polluting. Your gifts make it possible for Baykeeper's Bay-Safe Industry Campaign to succeed—and help keep industrial pollution out of San Francisco Bay. 

Measure AA Success! You Voted in a Big Win for the Bay

Thanks to Bay Area voters and Baykeeper supporters like you, San Francisco Bay is getting a big investment from Measure AA, which passed by a region-wide vote of 70% in June. Measure AA funding, matched with state and federal funding, will be administered to projects that will restore Bay wetlands, protect

shoreline communities from future flooding, and increase shoreline trails and parks. While Baykeeper won't directly receive this funding, these efforts—combined with our advocacy, science, and litigation—will help the Bay thrive. Thank you for helping create a sustainable San Francisco Bay for future generations! 

**YOUR GIFTS KEEP BAYKEEPER ON THE WATER,
PATROLLING SAN FRANCISCO BAY FOR POLLUTION.**



Photo by Bart Quigley

Support a healthy Bay using the attached envelope or give online at baykeeper.org



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Fall/Winter 2016 Baykeeper News

How you are helping protect San Francisco Bay



Photo by Daniel Parks. Flickr/CC.



Photo by Clay Schmitz

After two Super Bowl fireworks shows over the Bay earlier this year, **Baykeeper's Pollution Hotline received reports of plastic fireworks debris** washing up on the shoreline of San Francisco's Aquatic Park, a celebrated swimming spot. Our attorneys contacted the company that puts on local fireworks displays, to ensure that they took immediate steps to prevent future contamination. After the July 4th fireworks displays, Baykeeper held two shoreline cleanups and found no fireworks debris. Your support helped stop fireworks pollution in the Bay. 🐟 In May, more than 200 swimmers, kayakers, paddlers, boaters, and other lovers of San Francisco Bay celebrated on the water in **Baykeeper's 3rd annual Bay Parade**. Thank you to everyone who came out and raised funds to support a healthy Bay—and to our Bay Parade sponsors, **Levi Strauss & Co., Anchor Brewing, and the San Francisco Giants**. 🐟 In September, Baykeeper volunteers removed thousands of cigarette butts, food wrappers, and other trash from San Francisco's India Basin Shoreline Park on international **Coastal Cleanup Day**. Our volunteers' efforts and your support are keeping trash out of San Francisco Bay!



Photo by Robb Most



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