



Tackling the Bay's Plastic Pollution Problem

Nobody is too big to be held accountable for polluting the Bay, not even oil giants.

That's why Baykeeper and our allies at Sierra Club, Surfrider, and Heal the Bay (in LA) sued



Single-use plastics are the largest source of pollution in the Bay.

Exxon late last year—and why California's attorney general filed a parallel lawsuit the same day.

Our lawsuits allege that Exxon is the world's largest producer

of single-use plastic polymers—think plastic bags and takeout containers—and that single-use plastics are the largest source of pollution in the Bay, and in waterways around the world.

We also allege that Exxon has been misleading the public that recycling will solve the world's plastic pollution problem, while at the same time producing and selling more virgin polymers.

Our ask is for Exxon to come clean about recycling and take responsibility for the plastics pollution it generates.

It's a big job, but no one should get away with polluting our Bay. With you by our side, we'll keep holding big companies accountable.

It looks like our lawsuit hit a nerve!

In January, Exxon sued Baykeeper and our partners for defamation. Lawsuits like this are intended to scare nonprofits from telling the truth and to wear them down with expensive litigation. But holding big corporations accountable is in our DNA, so we're not backing down.



Pictured: An egret picks through plastic trash along the Bay. With your help, we're tackling plastic pollution at the source.



More Vital Than Ever



This is not normal. The news is changing fast, creating chaos with every cycle and reporting rollbacks of fundamental environmental protections. Unfortunately, some of the Trump administration's very first orders took direct aim at San Francisco Bay.

Under the pretense of sending the Bay's water to fight the tragic fires in Los Angeles—where the water wasn't actually needed and couldn't physically reach the L.A. water system over 300 miles away—there was a hidden agenda. As news outlets revealed, the president wants to send the Bay's water to wealthy donors who run industrial agricultural operations in the Central Valley. The administration is attempting to undermine federal laws, like

Pictured, top: With your support, our patrol drone caught footage of the San Joaquin river running dry in 2022.

the Endangered Species Act, to facilitate those diversions, regardless of the harm to the Bay and California's rivers.

Instead of standing up for San Francisco Bay-Delta residents who depend on clean



When it comes to the Bay's water, it looks like the governor's actions will be just as harmful as the president's.

water and healthy fisheries, Governor Newsom issued his own order to help megafarm donors. He directed state agencies to find ways to take as much water as possible out

of the Bay's watershed and offered to suspend any state environmental laws that might get in their way.

That's especially disappointing because Governor Newsom presents himself as a foil to the Trump administration's anticipated rollbacks and as a champion of California's environment. But when it comes to the Bay's water, it looks like the governor's actions will be just as harmful as the president's.

That makes Baykeeper's work more vital than ever. With your help, we are on the front lines, challenging harmful water diversions and protecting the Bay's wildlife and local residents.

And we'll keep defending the Bay—with our partners throughout the watershed, and with you by our side.

Sejal Choksi-Chugh,
Executive Director



Protecting Fish Means Protecting People, Too



The Bay is experiencing an **extinction crisis**. A century of destructive water management has led to shocking declines of native fish, from Chinook Salmon to Delta Smelt. Plummeting fish populations have already had a devastating effect on fisheries, Tribal groups, and communities throughout the Bay and Delta.

But these fish still have a chance of rebounding.

With the right protections, the Bay's fish will have the conditions they need to thrive—and an environment that's healthier for people living around the Bay Area. That's why, with your support, Baykeeper has made it a priority to fight for the Bay's fish and fresh water.

Longfin Smelt (*pictured, above*) used to be one of the most abundant fishes in the Bay. They contributed to a commercial fishery.

But excessive freshwater diversions have caused the population to crash by more than 99%. Last year, after decades of advocacy by our experts and allies, we compelled the U.S. Fish &



This new federal listing is a testament to the power of persistence.

Wildlife Service to list Longfin Smelt as endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

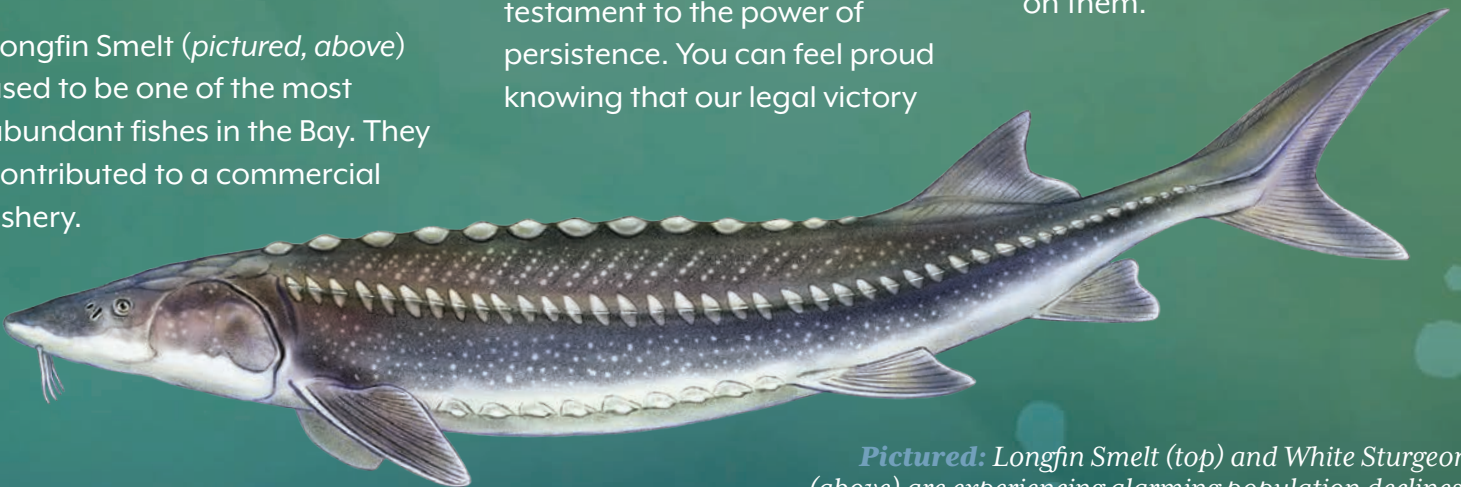
This new federal listing is a testament to the power of persistence. You can feel proud knowing that our legal victory

will require new safeguards throughout the watershed benefiting both fish and local communities.

But we're not done yet.

Another local fish, White Sturgeon (*pictured, below*), is also on the brink of extinction. So, we're advocating that the federal government protect this ancient species, too, before it's gone for good. In February, in one of the first environmental lawsuits against the new Trump administration, we sued federal agencies to assess the species' threatened status.

As we forge ahead with your help, we'll fight even harder on behalf of all the incredible fish who call the Bay Area home, and the people who depend on them.



Pictured: Longfin Smelt (top) and White Sturgeon (above) are experiencing alarming population declines. Your support fuels our fight to ensure protections for these and other Bay natives. Illustrations by Fiorella Ikeue.

You Can Fight for the Bay's Future

With your gift to Baykeeper, you'll protect San Francisco Bay from the Trump administration's destructive environmental policies. You'll also stand up to big corporate polluters who make a profit while hurting the Bay.

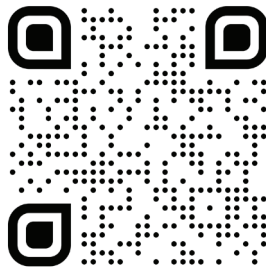
You'll empower effective local action to protect the Bay and Bay Area communities.

Together, we can ensure a future where clean water and a resilient ecosystem are prioritized over corporate greed.

Please join us to stand up for the Bay and for your future.

Make your gift today!

- **Use the enclosed envelope**
- **Scan the QR code**
- **Visit [baykeeper.org/donate](https://www.baykeeper.org/donate)**



Your support keeps Baykeeper's team in court—fighting back to protect San Francisco Bay and Bay Area communities.

