



SPRING 2023 UPDATE

Dear Water Warrior,

I am excited to share Monterey Waterkeeper's first progress update with you. Since we began operations last July, we have already made a *splash* in bringing drinkable, swimmable, and fishable waters to everyone on the northern Central Coast. Here is a snapshot of our work and achievements to date:

Racial Equity & Environmental Justice

Due to advocacy from Monterey Waterkeeper, the Central Coast Regional Water Board has significantly strengthened its [Racial Equity Resolution](#). It will create a racial equity and environmental justice action plan that we hope will serve as a model for others to follow, as we work toward a future where everyone has access to high quality water resources as well as safe and affordable drinking water.

Pollution Prevention

We are working to ensure that the 2021 Central Coast Agricultural Order, which regulates pollution runoff from agricultural operations, is implemented in a way that effectively reduces fertilizer nitrate in the Central Coast's waterways and drinking water. See our initial recommendations [here](#). **We need your help to tell the Regional Water Board and growers to protect our waters. Please [sign up here](#) to make your voice heard.**

Central Coast Water Leaders

Monterey Waterkeeper launched a new program that facilitates outdoor education for youth to learn about local waters. Our budding birders and future water warriors have really enjoyed trips around Monterey Bay and Elkhorn Slough. See a news article [here](#) on one of our trips. The ultimate goal for the Central Coast Water Leaders Program is to inspire our next generation of water leaders. We have forged successful partnerships with students, parents, and teachers from underserved communities in the Salinas Valley. Starting May, we will also be taking youth to the Upper Salinas River to learn about the importance of protecting our headwaters.

Groundwater Protection

We are also pushing the Salinas Valley Basin Groundwater Sustainability Agency to restrict agricultural pumping to better conserve precious groundwater supplies, as well as increase monitoring and address groundwater contamination in underserved communities. See recent comments [here](#).

Please join us for fun kayak cleanup excursions on May 6, June 24, & August 19! Please [RSVP here](#).

*In gratitude,
Chelsea*

Please consider [donating](#) to support clean water for all.

We're always looking for passionate volunteers and bright ideas!