



A Leading Non-profit Protecting Clean Water for All in the Central Coast

As this year draws to a close, we at Monterey Waterkeeper are excited to share our recent work and plans to ensure clean water for everyone in 2024 and beyond.

Fostering Future Water Leaders

On November 3, more than 40 fifth-grade students from Soledad visited the Salinas River near King City, Monterey County. It was the first time that many of the youth saw the river up close.

The Salinas River is the lifeblood of the Salinas Valley, carrying drinking water while supporting rich aquatic ecosystems and lush riparian vegetation. As students learned about native willows, poison oak, and other plants that grew near the river, they were also excited to point out birds hiding in the bushes.



Your support will allow hundreds more students from underserved areas in Monterey and Santa Cruz Counties to enjoy the Salinas River, Elkhorn Slough, and other incredible waters in the Central Coast.

Pollution Prevention

On September 20, more than a dozen Central Coast residents traveled to Sacramento to urge the State Water Board to limit fertilizer nitrate pollution into the Central Coast's drinking water, rivers, and ocean. Unfortunately, the Board was not willing to do so. Thousands of residents are exposed to unsafe levels of nitrate in their water. Nitrate consumption can cause serious illness or death in babies (blue baby syndrome) and cancers in adults.

Horacio Amezcuita, former general manager of the San Jerardo Cooperative and Monterey Waterkeeper's board member, testified at the hearing: "San Jerardo's nitrate levels were so high that we were forced to rely on bottled water for more than 10 years." Horacio said. "Nitrate levels in our new well are now approaching undrinkable levels. We must reduce agricultural runoff because lives are at stake." Your contribution will ensure that communities can continue advocating for safe drinking water and clean waterways.

Please consider [donating](#) to support our programs. Your contribution empowers us to keep fighting for clean water for all and foster the next generation of water leaders. **Thank you for helping us reach our goal of raising \$15,000 by December 31, 2023.**

In gratitude,

The first ten donations of \$250 or more will receive *Our Ocean's Edge* (\$50 value), a photo book featuring California's beautiful coastline!

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chelsea H. Tu".

Chelsea H. Tu, Executive Director



Tax ID: 86-1423318 Post Office Box No. 855 Seaside, California 93955