

ORANGE COUNTY COASTKEEPER®

Diving Into Our Second Decade

Orange County Coastkeeper is now officially more than a decade old. You'd think we would spend some time reflecting on the significance of this anniversary, because we have achieved much in these 10 years. However, we don't have a lot of time for reflection around here, and we're not content with merely leaving a footprint in the sand.

In many ways, reaching out is becoming our focus—moving higher into the watershed, farther out into the ocean, deeper into the hearts and minds of our citizens—to improve the quality of water and lives throughout a vital area of Southern California. During this second decade you will see us dive deeply into both the human and natural communities—actively working to minimize and even reverse the effects of people on the health of aquatic environments.

We'll be leading by example in communities, showing citizens how they can protect and improve water quality, from jumping into high-profile advocacy to getting their knees and elbows dirty on their own property. Coastkeeper will continue to work in the schools, nurturing the next generation of water stewards.

Some of what we do will be completely behind the scenes, or maybe I should say "under the scenes" as we work to remove the scourge of derelict nets and ghost traps, help shepherd protected areas for marine life, and bring the dream of an undersea park to reality for the people of Orange County.

Some things, of course, will stay the same. As always, we will be vigilant in enforcing the Clean Water Act and other environmental laws that help protect our coast. We will also continue to work as partners with developers and industry to do the right thing to protect our coast and waterways. We hope to see all of you out there with us.

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Published by Orange County Coastkeeper

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