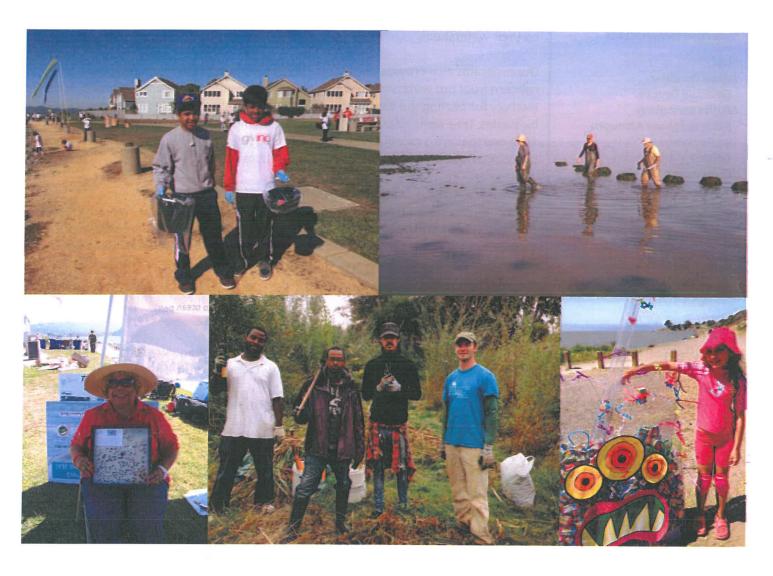
2014-2015 ANNUAL REPORT

INSPIRING BAY AREA COMMUNITIES SINCE 1997





LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Board of Directors

Jane Gire, Chair
Scott Kocino, Treasurer
Sigrid Mueller, Secretary
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Briggs Nisbet
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Paul Amato*
Brett Foreman*
*Ended term during FY2014-15

Staff

Juliana Gonzalez Executive Director Martha Berthelsen Public Programs Manager Liza Dadiomov **Education & Outreach** Coordinator Helen Dickson Living Shorelines Program Manager Amelia Dotzenrod Americorps Intern Luis Martinez Green Collar Corps **Emanuel Peterson** Green Collar Corps Tyjohn Sykes Green Collar Corps

Linda Hunter*
Derek Hitchcock*
Lisa Owens-Viani*
Andrew Whitmore *
*Staff for first half of FY2014-15

Contractors

Joseph Clerici, Communications Matt Freiberg, Program Manager Kat Sawyer, Program Manager Michelle Ochoa, Bookkeeper Paula White, Project Coordinator Hassan Ngadi, Construction

Interns

Jennifer Braun Maire Marshall Tanisha Randhawa Nidina Sapkota Elliot Thompson Linnaea Weld

The Watershed Thanks You!

The Watershed Project has an integrative approach to addressing the issues that affect the health of San Francisco Bay Watersheds, and is committed to empowering communities to appreciate and protect our local water resources.

Our programs work to prevent pollutants from entering bodies of water by creating awareness about the sources of pollutants that impair the Bay, such as trash and pesticides. We work with stake holders to eliminate sources of pollution before they reach our creeks and shorelines, and educate the public about their personal impact on their watersheds.

Our programs also provide grassroots-driven solutions to eliminate pollutants of concern from our watersheds. We believe that greener streets are the best low cost strategy for healing the Bay. Limiting surface runoff through rain gardens, bioswales, tree wells, drought tolerant gardens and rain water harvesting, are solutions that are available to all Bay Area residents and can be implemented block by block to create more natural systems within our cities.

The Watershed Project also supports the restoration of natural systems in our shorelines and creeks by partnering with creek groups and stake holders to clean and restore the natural conditions of these natural gems. Our volunteers explore and restore creeks, shorelines, marshes and the sub-tidal ecosystems of our Bay. In recent years, we have been especially committed to bringing back the native oysters to our Bay, since they are keystone species that can help rebuild the natural resiliency of our shorelines. Today, our man-made oyster reef is thriving along the Richmond Shoreline.

Our integrative approach is what makes us unique. We want all residents of the Bay to feel that they are part of a wonderful ecosystem that starts in the Sierras and the hills of their communities and ends in the Ocean. We want all residents of the Bay to feel that they can make a difference. Our programs are designed to be inclusive, fun and scaled to the community level.

In the last year alone, we engaged over 2,450 volunteers, and trained 10 youth ingreen careers through our internship program. We provided curriculum and training to 55 teachers, who reach 2,700 students annually. We also taught over 1,000 students directly in classrooms and through field trips. Together we have helped transform our Watersheds.

We could not have done all of this without you - our watershed community, and for that we are very grateful.

Thank you!

Juliana Gonzalez Executive Director The Watershed Project



FINANCIAL REPORT

Rainmakers

Linda Abe Paul Amato Michal Crawford-Zimring Linda Hunter

Eric Hyman Janet Johnson Scott Kocino **Briggs Nisbet** Lori O'Brien Timothy O'Shea Louise Pellerin Kathleen Rolinson

Greg Wentworth

Aaron Willems

Donors

John Babinecz Leslie Bandy Mary Barnsdale **Donald Bastin** Ezra Bergson-Michelson Holger Berthelsen Susan Bolender Karen Boostrom Elizabeth Brusati William Buck Richard Bush Rodney Butler

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Natalie Friedman Kathy Geritz Joshua Gies Jane Gire

Brett Foreman

Juliana Gonzalez Heather Haxo Phillips Diane Ichiyasu

Joanna Klassen Pace

Edward and Carol Lyke Cathy Marinelli Bertha McKinley Sigrid Mueller Elizabeth O'Shea Antonio Piccagli Sarah A. Pope Holly Reed Will Rostov Janice Sanz Daniel Schickele

Susan Schwartz **Gary Scott** Birute Skurdenis Elizabeth Sojourner Laura Stec

Martin Strain Marc Sugiyama **Catherine Sutton** Catherine Tait Calvin Tam

Ann Vansteenberg Raiph Warner Bruce Wolfe Franklin Zimring

Corporate & Business Support

EBMUD

El Cerrito Garden Club Jack's Oyster Bar Land and Sea Restaurants

Mechanics Bank

Restoration Design Group Seventh Street LLC United Way Veolia Waters Wareham Development

Waterbar

Foundations & Government Support

Benevity Community Impact Fund Alameda County Clean Water Program California Department of Conservation City of Albany City of Richmond City of San Pablo Clif Bar Family Foundation Contra Costa County Dean and Margaret Lesher Family

Foundation

East Bay Community Foundation

Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund Gamble Foundation

Manzanillo-San Pablo Sister City

Committee Mead Foundation

National Fish Wild and Wildlife

NOAA

Raymond Family Foundation

RecycleMore

San Francisco Estuary Partnership

San Francisco Foundation

San Francisco PUC

San Pablo Community Foundation

Schwemm Foundation Strategic Growth Council Sydney Stern Memorial Trust

The Nature Conservancy The Uplands Family Foundation

WM CA-Philanthropic West

Gifts in-kind

Aquarium of the Bay Barrel Head Brewhouse Cannonball Wine Company Chelsea Events and Floral Design Chandon

Elke Vineyards **Epic Roasthouse**

Farallon

Hog Island Oyster Company

Innovation Hangar

Pier 39

Radio-Coteau

Rock Wall Wine Company

Saltwater **Snap Fiesta**

Sous Beurre Kitchen

Speakeasy

Tap [415]

Tomales Bay Oyster Company Three Twins Ice Cream

Twenty Five Lusk

Waterbar

Wooden Table Baking Company

Schools and Universities

Albany High School Casa Hogar Los Angelitos Contra Costa College **Downer Elementary** Escuela Primaria Emiliano Zapata

Fairmont Elementary George Washington High Kensington Elementary Lake Elementary Leadership Public School Mission High School Oakland High School Ocean View Elementary

Escuela Primaria Vicente E. Ibarra

Richmond High School SF State University

UC Berkeley

Universidad de Colima

Partners

California Coastal Commission California Urban Streams Partnership

City of Richmond

Contra Costa County Family

Services Center

EarthTeam

East Bay Regional Park District El Sobrante Boys and Girls Club Groundwork Richmond

Hog Island Oyster Company

Lily Spruce

OASES

Office of Supervisor John Gioia

Pogo Park

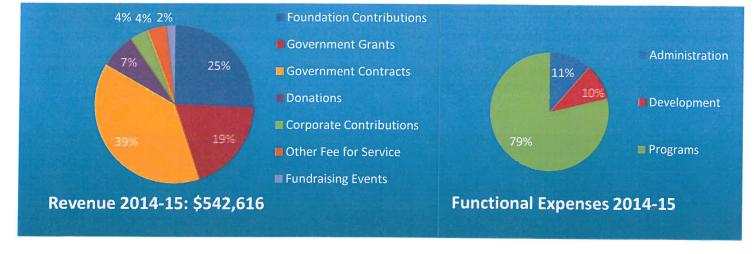
San Pablo-Wildcat Watershed

Oakland Unified School District San Francisco Unified School

District **SPAWNERS**

Tomales Bay Oyster Company

West Contra Costa Unified School District



WE ALL LIVE IN A WATERSHED: HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE YEAR

This year, we provided thousands of community members with opportunities to get their hands into the soil, connect with their backyard wilderness in a meaningful way, and reap the benefits through cleaner watersheds.

Volunteers helped us clean our local watersheds

This year, we engaged over 2200 volunteers in cleanups and citizen science. We removed over 4500 pounds of trash from our local watersheds. Our education team taught over 1000 students in grades K-12 through multi-visit programs in classrooms, marshes, creeks, and shorelines. We implemented four education programs: Waste Matters, Riparian Lab, Kids in Marshes, and Bye Bye Basura.

Volunteers helped us green our urban watersheds

We engaged over 250 volunteers in building three rain gardens in the City of Richmond, added 20 trees to the urban forest for a total of 200, and planted over 250 shrubs and perennials to enhance community green space. Our Green Collar Corps members led people of all ages through our Second Saturday and other volunteer workdays. We collaborated with UC Berkeley students to design better systems for maintaining our urban trees and optimize rain garden designs for the Richmond Greenway.

Volunteers helped us bring back native oysters

This year we celebrated the second birthday of our artificial oyster reef at Point Pinole. With 15 dedicated volunteers, we finished the first full period of monitoring, and found that the reef balls have almost 400 oysters growing on them per square meter. We grew our Wild Oysters education program, engaging inner-city high school students in scientific studies. We organized the 6th annual Bubbles and Bivalves fundraiser, bringing together the best of the best when it comes to restaurants, wineries, breweries, and people in the oyster community.

Volunteers helped us build our capacity

We provided opportunities for high school students, college students, and adults exploring new careers, to gain experience in projects that further our mission. Ten interns worked with our staff this past year to teach students, raise funds, develop communications, plan and put on special events, help design and build rain gardens, and monitor oysters.



Riparian Lab students search for life in Lake Merritt. This was one of 40 sessions of this after-school program.



During MLK Jr. Day of Service, volunteers built an entire rain garden along the Richmond Greenway in only 5 hours.



Over 150 High school students used our oyster reef as an outdoor classroom through 5 classroom visits and 2 field trips.

"I tend to get discouraged by all the bad news we hear and the seemingly insurmountable obstacles facing us and our environment. Seeing that many people out, and willing to participate gave me hope that people care and want to contribute to a solution."

— Nancy, Coastal Cleanup Day volunteer