

# GREEN PORT YEAR IN REVIEW 2020



## ENVIRONMENTAL CHAMPION HIGHLIGHTS

The Port of San Diego champions the safekeeping and environmental care of our dynamic waterfront. We are proud to be a leader in protecting our water, air and land to ensure the complete ecosystem of San Diego Bay remains a vital natural resource for generations to come.

The delicate balance of a healthy San Diego Bay ecosystem is upheld through a collaborative network of programs and initiatives, each working on innovative ways to sustain our waterfront.

- 1 Created virtual stormwater education outreach trainings to respond to COVID-19 constraints. The English and Spanish training videos received close to **5,000 public views** and over 100 Port employees were trained.
- 2 Port tenants continued to advance zero emission heavy-duty vehicles and equipment through a **\$6 million grant** to deploy electric drayage trucks, yard tractors, and forklifts.
- 3 Collaborated with Scripps Institution of Oceanography on the installation of sensors to measure wave activity in San Diego Bay, providing a platform for future monitoring of sea level rise and to better prepare the waterfront from potential flooding.

- 4 Completed the Barrio Logan Nighttime Noise Study in June 2020 to better understand the causes of nighttime disturbances in the community and identify tools to avoid, minimize and/or mitigate adverse nighttime noise sources and improve the quality of life for Barrio Logan residents.
- 5 In partnership with the Living Coast Discovery Center, **17 juvenile endangered Ridgeway's rails** were released into the wild and **12 new chicks hatched** which are being raised for release into Southern California marshes.
- 6 Protected Kellogg Beach from coastline erosion through the replenishment of approximately **2,200 cubic yards of natural sand**.
- 7 Retrofitted approximately **1,000 lights to LEDs** with a forecasted 280,000 kilowatt-hours of energy savings and \$60,000 of utility cost savings annually.
- 8 Joined the State's Low Carbon Fuel Standard (LCFS) program for the Port's two shore power operations at B St. Cruise Ship Terminal and Tenth Ave. Marine Terminal, earning the Port **\$400,000** in 2019 to be used for additional electrification projects.

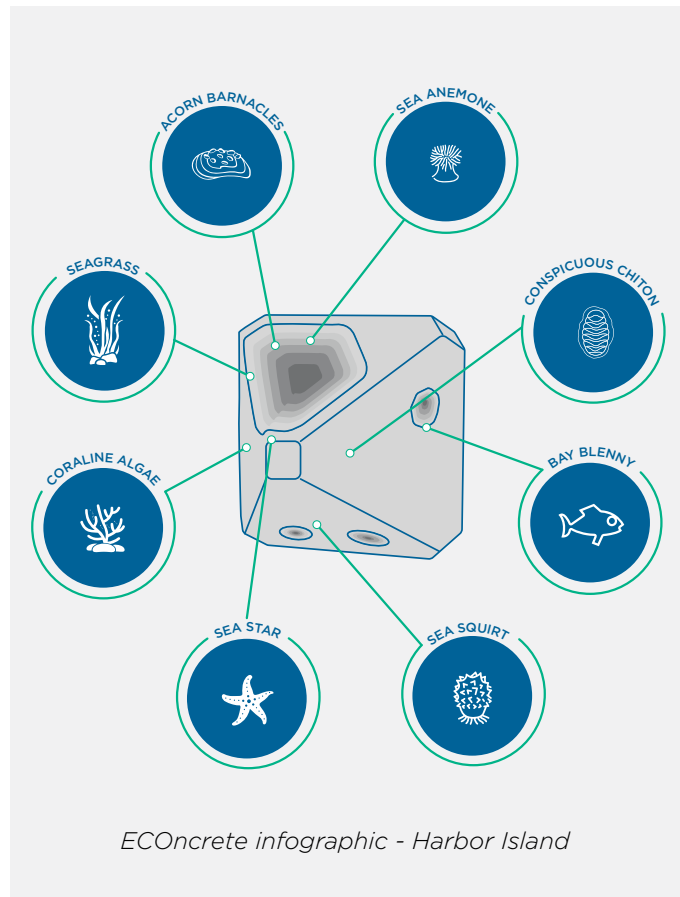
# BLUE ECONOMY INCUBATOR

The Blue Economy incubator acts as a launch pad for sustainable aquaculture and Port-related blue technology ventures by providing early-stage entrepreneurs with key assets and support services focused on pilot project facilitation.

## SINCE THE LAUNCH IN 2016

- Received over **150 inquiries** and **45 proposals** have been officially submitted for review.
- Supported the launch of **8 innovative pilot projects** including: shellfish nursery operations, copper remediation technology, a drive-in Boatwash, a smart marina application, a marine debris removal vessel, seaweed aquaculture, bio-enhancing shoreline armoring technology, and a new approach to soil remediation in marine environments.

These pilot projects complement several environmental initiatives already underway at the Port, from sea-level rise adaptation, to copper remediation, marine debris removal management, and to shellfish and seaweed aquaculture as a tool for bioremediation and restoration.



## IN 2019

- The Zephyr Marine Debris Removal pilot project was successfully completed; removing over **33,000 lbs** of marine debris from the Bay.
- Launched **2 new pilot projects**: a cleanup technology to extract toxins from impacted marine sediment and an innovative bio-enhancing shoreline armoring technology.
- Gave collaborators and potential partners **10 in-person and 15 virtual tours** of the pilot projects.



## BLUE ECONOMY INCUBATOR HIGHLIGHTS

Following the completion of the one-year pilot project, the Zephyr Marine Debris Removal continued working with the Port under a one-year contract to conduct marine debris removal services. As the vessel continues to demonstrate its efficient skimming operation and technology, the goal is to commercialize the solution across California and beyond to help remove debris from other Ports and Harbors.

Since the completion of their one-year pilot project, Swell Advantage continues to develop its products by working with some of the top marina managers and marina experts in the world.

In 2019, Sunken Seaweed was approved to add shellfish to the existing pilot seaweed farming system. This addition will demonstrate the feasibility and water quality benefits of shellfish and seaweed aquaculture in San Diego Bay.

Four controlled boat cleaning and water quality sampling events were completed at the Boatwash in 2019, marking the completion of Phase 1 of the pilot project.

For more information about the Blue Economy Incubator and how to apply please visit: [portofsandiego.org/waterfront-development/blue-economy](https://portofsandiego.org/waterfront-development/blue-economy)

## COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



In the face of COVID-19 the Port has continued to progress its Climate Action Plan goals related to energy by turning off equipment and rescheduling controls at unoccupied Port facilities. This has resulted in an approximate **18% reduction in electricity and 76% reduction in natural gas**, with an average cost savings of \$30,000 per month.



#ThatsMyBay social media campaign continues to engage the public in behavior change activities to prevent pollution in San Diego Bay. **Nine additional videos** were released and the campaign garnered over **10 million impressions** in Fiscal Year 2020, significantly exceeding the Port's goal of 2 million.



Published a Draft Environmental Impact Report for public review in August 2020 for the creation of the Pond 20 mitigation bank.



Hosted the 2nd annual #ThatsMyBay Service Day at 5 locations around San Diego Bay. Over 200 Port employees and members of the public **removed over 4,000 pounds of trash** around the Bay. The Port partnered with EDCO and the Living Coast Discovery Center to host a zero-waste station and recycle materials.



Funded **10 local non-profit environmental education programs** reaching approximately **19,000 youth** within the San Diego Bay watershed.

## CLEANUP METRICS



**45 abandoned vessels** and their hazardous wastes were removed from the Bay.



Sponsored 3 major cleanup events around the Bay removing **24,497 pounds of trash** with approximately **1,500 volunteers**.



**1,175 lbs of batteries and lightbulbs** from Port facilities were diverted from the landfill through waste diversion programs managed by the Port.



## SUSTAINABILITY AT A GLANCE: PORT OPERATIONS



**57%**

decrease in **water use** since 2008



**25%**

decrease in **energy use** since 2008



**30%**

decrease in **greenhouse gas emissions** since 2008



**\$10.7**  
MILLION

**saved** due to energy and water conservation since 2008



**426,000**

kilowatt hours of **renewable energy** generated in 2019

## WHAT'S NEXT?



**Climate Action Plan (CAP) Study:** To align with state greenhouse gas emission targets beyond 2020, a CAP Study is underway to propose new measures to ensure a sustainable waterfront along San Diego and prepare for a low carbon future.

**Community Emissions Reduction Plan (CERP):** Through the AB617 Community Air Protection Plan, the Port is collaborating with stakeholders to accelerate zero and near-zero emission technologies that provide portside communities with reductions in air pollution.

**Maritime Clean Air Strategy (MCAS):** The MCAS will update the Port's 2007 Clean Air Plan and identify options for reducing air pollutants and improve air quality in around the working waterfront/portside communities through an assessment of applicable technologies, fuel sources, and strategies focused on mobile and stationary emission sources.

**California Natural Resources Agency Urban Greening Grant:** The grant funded bicycle and pedestrian path for the Chula Vista Bayfront – Sweetwater Park is anticipated to open in early 2021 and will support native plants and trees that will sequester and store approximately 114 metric tons of carbon dioxide.

**Stormwater Practices:** Install stormwater treatment controls at three development projects with an anticipated 60 acres of stormwater treatment, bringing the total treated area to over 250 acres, which is approximately 10% of the Port's waterfront.

**Blue Economy Incubator:** Seeking innovative aquaculture and blue tech proposals to address Port environmental challenges and inform future opportunities.

For more information visit  
[portofsandiego.org/environment](https://portofsandiego.org/environment)

