TRASH MONITORING WEBINAR SERIES 2021

The goal of this webinar series is to share our current collective knowledge to support current practices and advances in trash monitoring and the development of data analysis and visualization tools aimed at assessing the effectiveness of policies and practices for limiting the amounts of trash in the environment. Webinars will be held monthly starting January 2021.

The webinar series is being sponsored by the Trash Monitoring Workgroup and the California Water Quality Monitoring Collaboration Network. Webinar recordings and materials will be made available on the Network’s website. There is no registration. Participation will be in a first come basis. However, we do not anticipate exceeding our hosting ability.

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Webinar Topic: Strategies & Lessons-Learned to Manage Trash During California’s Housing Crisis

When: Thursday March 18, 2021                11:30am – 12:30pm

At the beginning of 2020, an estimated 151,000 people experienced homelessness in California, a startling 17% increase from 2018. Unfortunately, California’s housing crisis not only means that thousands of people are left unsheltered, but significant amounts of trash and bacteria enter California’s rivers and streams as these individuals lack access to basic services. This panel will explore the role of the Water Boards, municipalities, and other local agencies and NGOs, to manage water quality during California’s housing affordability crisis and the COVID-19 pandemic.

Moderator and Speakers:

Kaitlyn Kalua (Moderator) - Policy Manager, California Coastkeeper Alliance

Kaitlyn Kalua is the Policy Manager for the California Coastkeeper Alliance, which represents local Waterkeeper organizations from the California-Oregon border to San Diego. Kaitlyn is currently a co-chair of the Homeless Encampment Subcommittee of the Trash Monitoring Working Group, under the California Water Quality Monitoring Council.

Chris Brokate - Director, Clean Team Program, Russian Riverkeeper

Chris Brokate started his own cleaning business in 1990 and have been a green janitor for over 25 years. In 2013, his business was Green Certified by Sonoma County’s Green Business Program and that same year he was awarded Green Business of the Year from the Sebastopol Chamber of Commerce. He started the Clean River Alliance in 2015, and removed over 300,000 lbs of trash, in partnership with houseless volunteers in 2016. He now directs Russian Riverkeeper’s Clean Team Program in Sonoma County.

Sarah Hutmacher - Chief Associate Director, The San Diego River Park Foundation

Sarah Hutmacher is the Chief Associate Director of The San Diego River Park Foundation, where she oversees the organization’s trash removal and reduction efforts along the San Diego River, including
volunteer engagement, trash data collection and policy advocacy. In this role, she has helped to develop a custom trash monitoring for management tool, intersectional partnerships with homeless service providers, and increased data sharing with watershed stakeholders. She serves on the California Trash Monitoring Workgroup. Sarah began her career in city government but has been working in the nonprofit sector since 2008. She studied Environmental Systems with an emphasis in Policy at UCSD.

How to Participate:

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**Facilitator:**

Erick Burres, Citizen Monitoring Coordinator
Clean Water Team @ State Water Resources Control Board
erick.burres@waterboards.ca.gov
213 712 6862 mobile

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