



Protect Our Coast and Oceans Fund

Fiscal Year 2024/2025
Total Awarded: \$312,817

\$141,700 to FOR KIDS OCEAN DAY SCHOOL PROGRAM & BEACH FIELD TRIP

This program engages low-income schools from coastal and inland communities and involves upwards of 8,000 children a year. The program was started in Los Angeles County in 1993 by the Malibu Foundation for Environmental Education with the support of the Coastal Commission, and has expanded into five additional locations, coordinated by separate partner grantees: San Diego (I Love a Clean San Diego), Orange County (Orange County Coastkeeper), Kern County (Community Action Partnership of Kern), San Francisco Bay Area (Marine Science Institute), and Humboldt Bay (Friends of the Dunes). The program includes a school assembly or classroom presentation and discussion of watersheds and the storm drain system, waste and litter reduction strategies, and the impact on the ocean and marine species. Teachers are provided with additional related activities to conduct with their classes. At the end of the school year, students enjoy a field trip coinciding with World Oceans Day to play at the beach, participate in a beach cleanup, and create an aerial art display by standing in formation to spell out an ocean conservation message which is photographed from above. Art coordination is funded through a grant to the National Fisheries Conservation Center. The theme for the 2025 aerial art is “Restore.”

\$19,800 to BORP Adaptive Sports & Recreation

Six adaptive kayak day trips, including on-the-water environmental education about natural and cultural history, will engage people with disabilities from Alameda and Contra Costa Counties. This project will include scouting new destinations suitable for adaptive kayaking.

\$6,049 to Central Coast Aquarium

A new program will provide Nipomo 6th grade students with four in-class lessons on ocean literacy and environmental stewardship and a field trip to Hazard Canyon Reef in Montaña de Oro State Park for exploration and biodiversity data collection.

\$50,000 to City of Redding

The City of Redding’s Martin Luther King Jr. Center will host a six-week summer camp to engage elementary-age youth in the interconnectedness of the Sacramento River and the Pacific Ocean through an art curriculum and weekly field trips, culminating in a day trip to the Humboldt coast for a beach cleanup.

\$20,000 to Living Coast Discovery Center

San Diego County middle school students will learn about climate science and stewardship with a focus on the San Diego region, will restore habitat at San Diego Bay National Wildlife Refuge, and communicate what they've learned to the rest of their school community.

\$19,890 to Los Courage Camps

Free summer surf camps will provide recreation, ocean education, and environmental stewardship for Los Angeles youth.

\$20,000 to Mujeres de la Tierra

Los Angeles families will receive education on water health and stewardship and enjoy a beach field trip as part of the *Vamos a la Playa* program.

\$10,278 to Salinas Community Science Workshop / Community Initiatives

Salinas middle school youth will take part in an overnight camping trip to Sunset State Beach and learn together about the physics, biology, chemistry and geology of the shore. This leadership group will then serve as guides and teachers for a day trip to the beach for families and other youth.

\$5,100 to Telesis Academy of Science and Math

West Covina TK-8th grade students and their families will experience the ocean through a Traveling Tide Pool and a family engagement night featuring hands-on activities, interactive demonstrations, and experiments related to marine biology, water conservation, and human impact on the California coast.

\$20,000 to University Corporation at Monterey Bay

An immersive virtual reality dive curriculum and community science program studying the local offshore environment will engage youth in juvenile detention centers and court schools in Monterey and San Benito Counties.

