



SURFRIDER
FOUNDATION

Protect and Enjoy



The Surfrider Foundation is the single largest network of coastal defenders supported at the national level with policy, legal and science experts. Our network turns passion for the coasts into lasting protection of their favorite beaches for all to enjoy. With a track record of victory after victory for more than 30 years, the Surfrider Foundation aspires to protect every mile of coastline in the U.S. Our goal over the next five years is to protect 100% of our coasts.



Who We Are

Surfrider is a passionate network of volunteers supported at the national level by legal, policy and science experts. We transform local passion into lasting protection for the ocean, waves and beaches.

The Problem

Our ocean is under siege: public health, disappearing beaches, polluted coasts, loss of access and disruption of ocean habitats.

Our Focus

Surfrider ensures clean water, accessible beaches, healthy coasts and oceans for all of us to enjoy by finding lasting solutions to the threats our coasts face.

Our Approach

We're best known for defense, but we're so much more. We are creating lasting change by proactively advancing policy. Our chapter network in each community are the best possible stewards of our mission and through this process, we create leaders and influencers at a local and national level.

What Makes Us Unique <<<<

- We are 100% focused on our coastlines. We ensure clean water, accessible beaches, healthy coasts and oceans.
- We are the only environmental organization to have a passionate volunteer network of coastal activists
- We are locals—and have local knowledge. We're the eyes and ears on the ground.
- We have a blueprint for success—and produce victory after victory for our coasts.
- We leverage local momentum fueled by national experts grounded in research and science-based solutions
- We believe that the beaches belong to all of us. It's our right to enjoy them. And our duty to protect them.



We Are the Surfrider Foundation

Just over 30 years ago, a handful of surfers made a powerful statement by forming the Surfrider Foundation. The waves they surfed were threatened by development and pollution. They wanted to protect what they loved, so they organized to protest threats to their local surf break in Malibu, California. They took action. Not even they could have envisioned the history they were making when they succeeded in protecting their beloved surf spot.

Today, the Surfrider Foundation protects much more than surfing waves (and you certainly don't have to be a surfer to join!) but one thing remains the same: our founders were everyday people, like you and me, who took a stand because they loved their beach.



Surfrider has built a network of coastal defenders who transform their passion for our coasts into lasting protection. Our formula for success combines local knowledge with national experts in legal, policy and science. We have seen over 300 victories for our ocean, waves and beaches over the last three decades (and we just started counting in 2006!)

We don't just play. We win!

Surfrider's focus is 100% on the protection of our ocean, waves and beaches. We care immensely about how the land meets the sea. We have one foot in the sand and the another in the water.

Join us today as we work to keep our beaches open for everyone, promote smart coastal development that avoids coastal impacts, protect special ocean and coastal places before they are threatened, ensure the water is clean to surf and swim in and the to keep beaches free of plastic debris and litter. Help us to empower everyday citizens to become leaders in their coastal communities and to be defenders of the coast.

Our Vision:
Protect **100%**
of the coast



Iconic Wins



The Surfrider Foundation is made up of people who celebrate, enjoy and protect what is ours. When we see a place we love that is in jeopardy, we act and we win. Since we started counting in 2006, we have tallied over 330 victories for our ocean, waves and beaches. Fighting, and winning, is a huge part of our DNA.

We have a vision to protect 100% of the coastlines we all love. That is why we are relentless in our pursuit to protect your favorite beach. From stopping an irresponsible development project to opening a gate for beach access to banning single-use plastics, every victory means our ocean, waves and beaches are one step closer to 100% protection.



Trestles

A long battle finally resulted in both the California Coastal Commission and the U.S. Department of Commerce denying the TCA permits to build a six-lane, 16 mile toll road through San Onofre State Park. This egregious toll road is now officially illegal under state and Federal law.

Huntington Beach 301(h) Waiver

Nearly ten years of effort culminated in the Orange County Sanitation District Board's vote to discontinue operating under the controversial 301(h) waiver. The waiver allowed them to discharge approximately 240,000,000 gallons per day of partially treated wastewater 4 miles offshore Huntington Beach for nearly 20 years!

Texas Dune Restoration Program

The Surfrider Foundation South Texas Chapter has been partnering with the City of South Padre Island, Texas since 2009 in an effort to restore the dunes on their beaches which not only help the beach to recover after a storm event but provide habitat for local flora and fauna. Images before and since this effort has been underway can be seen on Google Earth maps showing the beaches with vegetation. It's a great example of how a community can come together and preserve their beaches naturally through a concerted communal effort with a minimal expense.

Clean Oceans Act in Florida

The Clean Oceans Act stops gambling boats from dumping 44 million gallons of pureed, chlorinated waste into the ocean every year.



Preservation of Pupukeya-Paumalu, North Shore, Oahu, Hawaii

The scenic bluffs overlooking the famous North Shore waves of Sunset Beach, Rocky Point and Pipeline were under threat of development from the Japanese Obayashi Corporation. Local fundraising initiatives began, and an all-volunteer coalition of citizens and business leaders raised money to buy the property and placed it in reserved public lands.



Reduce Toxic Pollution in Oregon

Oregon's Governor signed into law Senate Bill 737, which provides Oregon with a roadmap for reducing toxic discharges into rivers, lakes, and the Pacific Ocean. Activists from Newport and Portland Chapters actively participated in this campaign to get the bill passed.

LNG Terminal in Long Island

Surfrider Foundation's Connecticut Chapter won a major victory in their campaign to stop the installation of a huge and dangerous Liquid Natural Gas project in Long Island Sound.

Humboldt County Pulp Mill

In 1991, Surfrider won the second largest Clean Water Act suit in United States history against two pulp mills in Humboldt County, California. As a result, the Louisiana Pacific's Samoa pulp mill was converted to a closed-cycle, totally chlorine-free process. In 2009, new owners of the mill confirmed that they will keep the mill operating chlorine free.

WITH A SUCCESSFUL TRACK RECORD OF MORE THAN 330 VICTORIES SINCE 2006, THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION ASPIRES TO PROTECT EVERY MILE OF COASTLINE IN THE U.S.. OUR GOAL IS 100% PROTECTION OF OUR COASTS AND WE WONT STOP UNTIL WE ACHIEVE THAT GOAL.

Our Coastal Defenders



Our national network of chapters are first responders to the threats and issues that affect their local communities. They are the people on the ground who collaborate on both the local and national level with regional staff and scientific experts.

This network is made up of amazing people. These people work tirelessly and go to great lengths, volunteering their valuable time, to carry out our mission through campaign, programmatic and educational initiatives in their local communities. Below, you will find a handful of these truly inspiring activists:



Joe Woerner

Joe Woerner and his Jersey Shore Chapter have been involved in the “Save Asbury Park” campaign for the last 5 years. In 2008, developers provided plans to the Asbury Park City Council to build 15 private homes on the north end of town. The proposed development encroaches on public space, threatens wildlife habitat, destroys the primary dunes and limits public access to the beach. Joe boldly persuaded the county lawmakers to hold their monthly meeting in Asbury Park, so they could see first hand what the community stands to lose. For that meeting, he organized, mobilized and led 150 people to voice their support for a free and public Asbury Park.



Peter Snell

When approximately 7 tons of crab gear and boat remains washed ashore at Yaquina Head Outstanding Natural Area (a Marine Protected Area in Newport, Oregon), Surfrider Foundation volunteer Peter Snell saw a beach choking with debris and he decided to do something about it. Peter organized numerous cleanups with a group of dedicated volunteers in this sensitive habitat with federally protected species that would be nesting soon. Through careful organization, creativity, dedication and hard work, more than 2,000 volunteer hours were logged in and 7 tons of debris was removed from the protected area through the hugely successful cleanups.



Peter Cole

On the North Shore of Oahu, Peter Cole has vigilantly fought to keep Oahu's country...country. Peter is one of the key players behind the fight to keep the North Shore of Oahu wild. A Waimea surf pioneer and volunteer founder of the Surfrider Foundation Oahu Chapter, he organized his community against a massive development project just above the famed wave at Pipeline, that would have ruined the rustic feel of Oahu's North Shore and negatively impacted the area's coastal ecology and stunning coastline.



Rob "Birdlegs" Caughlan

Surfrider's former Board President, Rob "Birdlegs" Caughlan is leading the Martin's Beach campaign, a beach access battle taking place in his backyard in San Mateo, California. When venture capitalist Vinod Khosla bought coveted property just south of Half Moon Bay in 2008 and quickly closed the only access road to the beach, Rob acted and has led the strong army of grassroots activism for the last three years to advocate for beach access at Martin's Beach.

WE GROW STRONGER WITH EVERY CHAPTER AND EVERY VOLUNTEER THAT WE ADD TO OUR NETWORK. OUR NETWORK AND OUR ACTIVISTS ARE THE BACKBONE OF THE SURFRIDER FOUNDATION AND ARE AN IRREPLACEABLE PART OF OUR ORGANIZATION.

Threats Facing Our Ocean

Our ocean faces growing challenges from pollution, development and climate change. At the same time, expanding industries, such as offshore oil drilling, threaten to crowd our ocean and degrade its health (and those who call it home!).

Every day poses new threats to our oceans and beaches. Our ocean and special places must be proactively protected before they are threatened and stem the tide before further damage is done to the ocean's health.

Here are some threats and issues that Surfrider's network of passion-driven people are working to protect for all to enjoy.

Beach Access

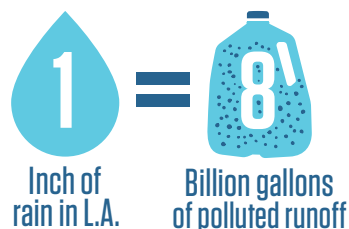


Public beach access
is constantly threatened
along with activities we love.

Clean Water



Over 20k beach
closures and
advisories in
the U.S. annually.



Inch of
rain in L.A.

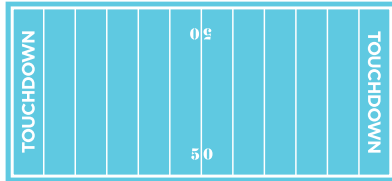
Billion gallons
of polluted runoff

Up to 1.5 million people get sick annually
from swimming at polluted beaches
in Southern California alone.

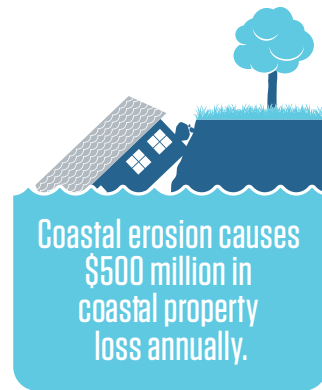


That's enough to fill the
average NFL stadium 21 times.

Coastal Preservation



Over 80k acres of coastal wetlands are lost annually. That's seven football fields every hour.



Ocean Protection



880k gallons of oil spilled from U.S. oil operations annually. That's roughly 21,000 barrels.

Only 3% of U.S. waters are fully protected marine areas

Plastic Pollution

Over 20 million tons of plastic litter enter the ocean annually



The average American family takes home 1,500 plastic bags per year.

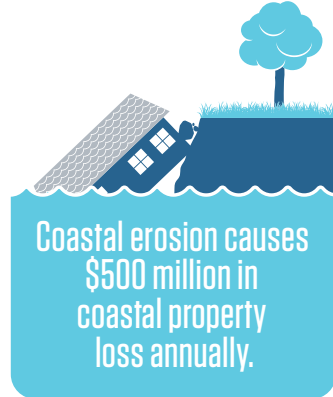


263 TONS of microbeads discharged into the U.S. wastewater stream annually

The Threats



880k gallons of oil spilled from U.S. oil operations annually. That's roughly 21,000 barrels.



Coastal erosion causes \$500 million in coastal property loss annually.



Public beach access is constantly threatened along with activities we love.

The Good News!

The Surfrider Foundation has a proven model for success—a playbook and a team—that transforms passion into protection. We continue to leverage that model within our network of chapters and clubs. We ensure beaches are accessible, keep our water clean, protect our ocean, preserve our coasts and keep plastic from polluting our waterways.



OUR COASTS ARE WORTH PROTECTING

We stand where the land meets the sea, with one foot in the sand and the other in the water. Learn more and join our growing network today.

[SURFRIDER.ORG](https://www.surfrider.org)





Mission

The Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of the world's ocean, waves and beaches through a powerful activist network.

Our Vision

What began as a fight to protect a surf spot in Malibu more than 30 years ago has evolved into the largest network of passionate people protecting our ocean, waves and beaches. It is our right to enjoy the coasts and it is our duty to protect them. Our vision is complete regional coverage, supported by our team of experts, and we won't stop until we reach 100%.

100% Protection of the Coast

Our Initiatives



Beach Access

Our beaches mean so much to us. It's where we live, work and visit. It's the entryway to our ocean. We need access to beaches in order to enjoy them. The Surfrider Foundation works hard to ensure that our beaches are accessible for all to enjoy.



Coastal Preservation

Our network of volunteers address threats like poorly planned coastal development, shoreline armoring, sand dredge and fill projects, and work proactively with community planners to address sea level rise.



Ocean Protection

Our oceans face growing challenges from pollution, habitat loss, development, and climate change. To protect the ocean we take a proactive approach to marine conservation through four core areas: Marine Protected Areas (MPAs), offshore oil drilling, renewable ocean energy, and marine spatial planning.



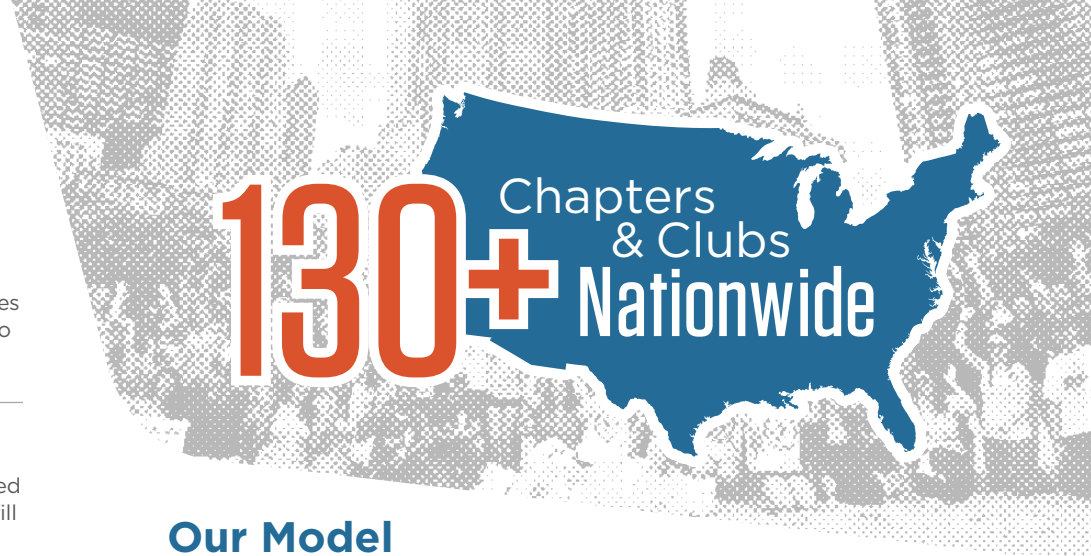
Clean Water

We protect our water resources and prevent pollution along our coasts and waterways through community engagement, water testing, planting ocean friendly landscapes, and by advocating for holistic clean water solutions.



Plastic Pollution

Plastic pollution is becoming increasingly abundant in our ocean. We work to educate the public, clean up beach and ocean litter, eliminate single-use plastics, and prevent plastic pollution before it reaches our ocean, waves and beaches.



Our Model

Our model is to engage our national network of local chapters and clubs to protect the coast. We leverage experts, along with our local knowledge, to win campaigns across the country. Our model is robust and it grows stronger with each campaign. It has proven to be very successful—*with more than 330 victories in the last 10 years.*

Our Network

Our national network of chapters and clubs protect the coast in their local communities. They collaborate on both the local and national level with regional staff and issue experts to carry out our mission.

