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California Coastal Commission unveils new interactive story map to celebrate the 35th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day

SAN FRANCISCO - More than 65,000 volunteers are expected to gather at over 1,000 locations across California next month, where they will help remove tons of trash from beaches and inland shorelines.

The California Coastal Commission is proud to announce that the 35th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day will take place on Saturday, September 21st from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. at most locations. Californians will take to streets, parks, creeks, streams, rivers, and the coast to help prevent single-use plastic items and other litter from polluting our environment and flowing into the ocean.

Californians continue to show they care deeply about the environment by supporting the cleanup year after year. In what has become the largest and one of the longest running annual volunteer events in the state, more than 1.5 million volunteers have removed over 25 million pounds of trash over the past three decades. Last year alone, close to 72,000 volunteers cleared more than 800,000 pounds of trash – all in a matter of hours.

To mark the 35th anniversary of the event, the Coastal Commission has launched a [California Coastal Cleanup Day Story Map](#), which takes readers through the history of the cleanup on its website. This interactive story map shows the cleanup's impact on the health of our coast and ocean and highlights some of the long-standing coastal heroes who have volunteered for the event since it began in 1985. Viewers can scroll through the map to find a photo archive, maps to explore cleanup data down to the county level, and even a collection of the most unusual items found over the years.

“Thirty five years is a long time for any event to maintain success, especially one driven primarily by volunteers,” said the Commission’s Executive Director Jack Ainsworth. “The Coastal Commission is incredibly proud that multiple generations of Californians have shown such dedication to the protection of our coast. The Coastal Cleanup Day story map is a great resource that helps illustrate how much we’ve been able to accomplish together.”

To find out how to join the effort, the commission has an interactive map of cleanup locations in every corner of the state, which is available at www.coastalcleanupday.org. Please check the website for updates and share your cleanup experience on social media using the hashtag #coastalcleanupday. California Coastal Cleanup Day is part of the International Coastal Cleanup, the world’s largest volunteer event.

Follow statewide efforts on Facebook at facebook.com/CaliforniaCoast, Twitter twitter.com/TheCACoast and on Instagram at instagram.com/thecaliforniacoast/.

California Coastal Cleanup Day event is presented by the California Coastal Commission with lead sponsorship from Crystal Geysers Natural Alpine Spring Water by CG Roxane. Additional support comes from Oracle, Union Bank, the Whale Tail® Specialty License Plate, and the Protect our Coast and Oceans Fund. The artwork was generously donated by Tom Killion.

California Coastal Cleanup Day 2019 is supported by the California Coastal Commission, California State Parks Foundation, and Ocean Conservancy. This event is made possible by the hard work of hundreds of local non-profits and government agencies throughout the state and tens of thousands of volunteers annually.

The Commission is committed to protecting and enhancing California's coast and ocean for present and future generations. It does so through careful planning and regulation of environmentally-sustainable development, strong public participation, education, and effective intergovernmental coordination. The Coastal Cleanup Day Program is part of its effort to raise public awareness of marine and coastal resources and promote coastal stewardship.

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