Discussion Panels

Panel 1: Understanding the Nature of Science and Citizen Science’s Role

Jennifer Lentz, Education and Citizen Science Programs Coordinator, Aquarium of the Pacific: Moderator
Heidi Ballard, Associate Professor, Environmental Science Education and UC Davis Chancellor's Fellow, UC Davis School of Education
Dan Lawson, Fisheries Biologist, NOAA Fisheries, West Coast Region Protected Resources Division
Katherine Pease, Watershed Scientist, Heal the Bay
Rebecca Johnson, Citizen Science Research Coordinator, California Academy of Sciences

Panel 2: Engaging Local Communities

Sanden Totten, KPCC Science Reporter: Moderator
Beth Pratt, California Director, National Wildlife Federation
Cassandra Davis, Sea Turtle Monitoring Program and Education Volunteer Coordinator, Aquarium of the Pacific
Susan von Thun, Senior Research Technician and Social Media Associate, Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute
Dirk Burcham, WIES-Catalina Conservation Divers

Posters

A Framework of Citizen Science: How the Nature of the Resource Influences Methods and Outcomes: Sarah Chase and Dr. Arielle Levine, San Diego State University, Geography Department

A Teaching Aid to Enable Better Turtle Observation Data Collection: Heidi Ziegler and Dennis Ertzaman, Los Cerritos Wetlands Sea Turtle Monitoring Project

Aliso Creek Turtle Organization and Rescue: Michael Skibsted, St. Mary's School

Creating Pathways for Exploring and Monitoring Freshwater and Aquatic Environments: Erick Burres, State Water Resources Control Board-Clean Water Team

Los Angeles Coastal California Naturalists: Holly Rindge and Linda Chilton, USC Sea Grant

Whale CITE: A Citizen Science Program for Whale Sightings Along the U.S. West Coast: Dan Lawson, Monica DeAngelis, Sarah Chase, Melissa Kent, Michelle Ferraro, Jacob Marzialo, Jen Jelincic, Arielle Levine, and Ellen Hines, NOAA NMFS West Coast Region

CITIZEN SCIENCE for Conservation in Southern California SYMPOSIUM

The Aquarium of the Pacific and its Marine Conservation Research Institute welcome you to our Citizen Science Symposium!

Keynote Speaker

Caren Cooper, PhD, is Assistant Director of the Biodiversity Research Lab at the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences and adjunct assistant professor at North Carolina State University. Cooper’s citizen science research lab focuses on promoting community participation in avian research for stewardship and pollution biomonitoring and mapping. For 14 years Cooper helped design several citizen science projects at the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Cooper also collaborates with social scientists to study citizen scientists to understand land stewardship and conservation behaviors, as well as the societal implications of participatory research. Cooper was involved in the formation of the Citizen Science Association, leading the committee to create a new journal, *Citizen Science: Theory and Practice*. Cooper is also a Senior Fellow in the Environmental Leadership Program with a focus on science communication. Cooper is a blogger with SciStarter, syndicated to Citizen Science Salon at Discover Magazine and Citizen Science in the PLOS Blogging Network and guest blogger at Scientific American. Cooper is founder and moderator of citizen science Twitter-chats (#CitSciChat). You can follow her on Twitter @CoopSciScoop.

A Special Thank You to Our Committee Members

Claire Atkinson, Senior Manager of Communications, Aquarium of the Pacific
Bob Grove, Board Member, Marine Conservation Research Institute
Corinne Heyning Laverty, Vice Chair, Marine Conservation Research Institute
Lee Kats, Vice Provost, Pepperdine University
Caron Laird, Secretary, Marine Conservation Research Institute; Senior Communications Manager, California State University Office of the Chancellor
Karen Martin, PhD, Professor of Biology, Pepperdine University
Mary Parsell, Conservation Chair, El Dorado Audubon
Richard Smart, Coordinator, Citizen Science Program, Natural History Museum of LA County
Nancy Steale, Board Member, Marine Conservation Research Institute
Melissa Studer, Marine Conservationist, Beach Ecology Coalition and All Ashore Grunion Greeters
Gitte Venicz, Program Manager, Earthwatch Institute
**Agenda**

8:00am - 9:00am – Check In & Complementary Breakfast  
*Harbor Terrace*

9:00am - 9:10am – Welcome and Introduction  
*Ocean Theater*

9:15am - 9:45am – Keynote Speaker  
*Ocean Theater*

10:00am - noon – Lightning Rounds  
*Ocean Theater*

Noon - 1:00pm – Lunch

1:00pm - 3:00pm – Panels  
*Ocean Theater*

3:00pm - 4:00pm – Special Sessions  
*Ocean Theater*

4:00pm - 5:30pm – Meet & Greet Poster Reception  
*Harbor Terrace & Ocean Science Center*

5:30pm - End of Symposium

**Lightning Round Presentations : 10am—noon, Ocean Theater**

*Order of presentations subject to change*

**Citizen Science for Natural Resource Management – Does participation foster awareness and stewardship?:** Sarah Chase and Dr. Arielle Levine; San Diego State University, Geography Department

**Using Citizen Science to Identify Sevengill Sharks:** Barbara Lloyd and Michael Bear; Ocean Sanctuaries

**Mission Bay Pollution Survey:** Laura Coleman

**Los Cerritos Wetlands Bird Counts:** Mary Parsell; El Dorado Audubon, local chapter of The National Audubon Society

**Empowering and Supporting Naturalists in Biodiversity Documentation for Research, Conservation, and Community Building:** Alison Young and Rebecca Johnson; California Academy of Sciences

**Happywhale: A Citizen Science Web Platform to Improve the Participatory Experience and Quality of Whale Photographic Identification Studies:** Ted Cheseman, John Calambokidis, Ken Southerland, and Kiirsten Flynn; Happywhale.com

**Lightning Round Presentations Continued**

**Sand Crab Monitoring as a Way to Engage the Community About Ocean Health:** Taylor Spesak and Catherine Hoffman; Heal the Bay

**Long Beach Fish Study:** William Preston Bowling; Friends of the Los Angeles River (FoLAR)

**Urban Tides Community Science Initiative:** Holly Rindge and Linda Chilton; USC Sea Grant

**Catalina Conservancy Divers: Lessons Learned for Volunteer-Based Monitoring:** Dirk Burcham and Thomas W. Turney; WIES-Catalina Conservation Divers

**Reef Check California – How Scuba Divers Become Expert Citizen Scientists:** Jan Freiwald and Colleen Wisniewski; Reef Check California

**Visualizing Sea Turtle Surfacing Data:** Heidi Ziegler; Los Cerritos Wetlands Sea Turtle Monitoring Project

**From Baseline Data Collection to On-Going Resource Management-12 Years of Engaging Community in Citizen Science Along the San Diego River:** Shannon Quigley-Raymond; San Diego River Park Foundation

**Community HABwatch Program:** Holly Rindge and Linda Chilton; USC Sea Grant

**Ongoing Activities: 12pm—1pm, Tidal Zone Classroom**

- **Sea Turtle Monitoring:** Counting sea turtles using pre-recorded footage from the monitoring program on the San Gabriel River

- **Dolphin and Whale Identification:** Using photos to ID whales and dolphins

- **Water Quality Testing:** Viewing water samples under a hi-res microscope to look for harmful algal blooms

**Special Sessions: 3pm—4pm, Ocean Theater**

**Citizen Science as a Tool for Engaging Communities in Science Education**

Lila Higgins, Manager, Citizen Science Program, Natural History Museum

**Ensuring a Legacy for Your Citizen Science Environmental Monitoring Data**

Erick Burres, Citizen Monitoring Coordinator and Senior Environmental Scientist (Specialist), Clean Water Team - State Water Resources Control Board

**Increasing Public Awareness and Engagement Through Citizen Science**

Cassandra Davis, Sea Turtle Monitoring Program and Education Volunteer Coordinator, Aquarium of the Pacific

**Citizen Science And MPA Monitoring in Support of the State**

Marisa Villarreal, Project Scientist, Ocean Science Trust