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~~Have A Wonderful Dive Year~~

**The SUSTAINABLE Solution**

*– the only solution that offers long -term environmental and economic benefit!*

**Letter from the Chairman**



As we present our 2011 Annual Report, we look back with pride on a year of progress and growth. New credibility among legislators and ocean enthusiasts, higher membership and donation numbers and a respectful partnership with the governmental agencies we need to move our projects forward are some of our accomplishments for this year.

California Ships to Reefs has an imposing mission. Our plan to create a network of artificial reefs along the California coastline will benefit not only the diving and fishing communities, but also help replenish ocean life and add a much needed, ongoing stream of new income to local economies. It’s an exciting and forward thinking vision. We’re finding new and innovative ways to share it with the public.

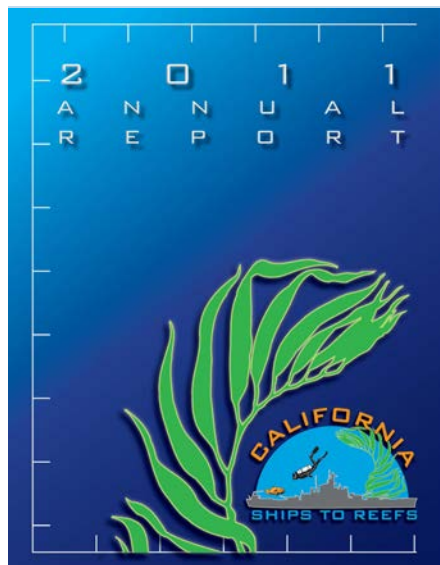
All of this requires laying careful groundwork. We have successfully propelled through new legislation and have more in the works to make it easier and more feasible to develop our artificial reef projects. We are pioneering scientific research to prove the effectiveness of artificial reefing. We are building relationships with legislators and governmental agencies on a federal, state, and local level. We are spreading the word on the importance and viability of our projects through our speakers bureau, exhibitions at trade shows and our website. We’ve found innovative new fundraising tools, such as Cash4Causes and eBay auctions.

We’ve accomplished all of this and more with our all- volunteer organization and an incredibly low overhead. Your tax deductible contributions support our cause directly and cost effectively. Our ever growing team of volunteers makes it possible to widen our reach and our vision. We are very grateful to have this support. We thank all of the volunteers and donors who have made our continued growth possible.

As you read through our annual report, consider how much your commitment and creativity can add to our mission. Please join us.

Sincerely,

Joel Geldin, Chairman and CEO  
California Ships to Reefs, Inc.



**Check out the CSTR 2011 Annual Report**

[http://californiashipstoreefs.org/  
Resources/Documents/  
2011CSTRAnnualReport.pdf](http://californiashipstoreefs.org/Resources/Documents/2011CSTRAnnualReport.pdf)

## Committee Reports

### Education

Education continued its work on the new presentation(s) for K-12. It is anticipated that this will be completed in January. The team is also seeking partners with appropriate education facilities (i.e., schools, aquariums, museums, Sea World).

### Finance

The dive industry is responding well to our donation solicitations for 2012 events. As of this writing we have already received almost \$2400 in donations. We also have heard from a couple of fishing industry donors and expect their documentation shortly.

### Governmental Relations

A letter was sent to Senators Boxer and Feinstein asking that they add a provision to the Coast Guard Reauthorization Bill for 2012 donating the Coast Guard Cutters *USCGC Iris WABL 395* and *USCGC Planetree WABL 307* to CSTR for deployment as artificial reefs. We have also asked that funds be provided for the abatement of PCBs and other toxics they contain. *Iris* and *Planetree* are 180 foot buoy tenders which would be imminently suitable for deployment in shallower and more restrictive sites, such as off the Avalon, Catalina Island, underwater park. We sent out an email blast to all CSTR supporters asking that they join in supporting the request.

A letter was sent to Senator Daniel K. Inouye of Hawaii in Support of his bill, S. 1119 the "Trash Free Seas Act of 2011". This bill would broaden and strengthen the Marine Debris Program to include research, prevention and removal of dumping of man-made materials in the oceans. Since CSTR has taken a leading position in committing to remove plastics from vessels we will seek to deploy as artificial reefs, it is appropriate for us to support the national effort to abate the problem.

A letter was sent to Senator Mark Begich and Representative Don Young, both of Alaska, regarding their identical bills S. 1890 and HR 3472 and both titled the "Pirate Fishing Vessel Disposal Act of 2011". These bills in their current form would allow for the disposal of seized pirate fishing vessels by SinkEX or by transfer to a foreign country for use as fishing regulatory enforcement vessels, if the country to which they are transferred certifies that they will not be used for fishing and if all fishing gear and equipment is removed from the vessel. We are asking that the Senator and Representative consider adding an option to transfer such vessels to states or NGOs for deployment as artificial reefs, and create a data base where the reefing organizations could see what vessels were available and apply for them.

### Legal/Permits

We received three bids on our Scope of Work Request for Proposal (RFP), however all three were incomplete so Legal has requested revised bids be submitted in time for the next Board meeting on January 2nd.

Permits is working on additional information for State Lands and is expecting to submit that in January.

### Public Relations

The team has been working on promotion of our Year-End fundraising activities, along with helping Governmental Relations with an email blast regarding the *Iris* and *Planetree* donations. At this

writing, we expect to be announcing the availability of the 2011 Annual Report.

### Reef Development

Working with Legal, the team has been working with all three companies that bid on our RFP and expect revised bids in time to be submitted to the Board at their January 2nd meeting.

There has been a delay at CDFG in getting the next letter required by MARAD to gain access to the *Kawishiw* for our Scope of Work and bidders' inspections. There was some confusion about who at CDFG was responsible for submitting the letter. That has now been resolved and we expect to hear that the letter has been sent in the next few days.

HardCoreDiveTeam has agreed to survey the new sink site just north of Marina Del Rey. They have a team member who is well versed in dive surveys and expect to have a thorough survey together with photos and/or video before the end of December, assuming dive conditions have improved in the area.

### Science

Science had a quiet month while waiting for final pieces of information to send to State Lands. We are working on getting teams of survey divers down on two potential sites – Marina Del Rey and Newport Beach.

### Shows/Events

The Board added three small venue events to our 2012 Shows/Events schedule as follows:

DUI DOG Rallies within California (2)

Dive-In Earth Day, Monterey April 28th

The team finalized the Fred Hall Show contract for the Long Beach show, March 7-11, 2012.

### Speakers Bureau

Voice-over was completed on the new broken down presentation for the website. The smaller presentations are being added to the main homepage to give visitors a better understanding of "Who Is CSTR?".

The team is seeking presentations for 2012. The first is a presentation to the Ocean Adventures Dive Club.

### Veterans

This was a quiet month for Veterans, although the team is researching SBRF vessel alumni groups to determine their interest in future presentations. We discussed reefing as a disposal option for the *USCGC Iris* with her alumni group.

### Website

The team developed a new website design that we believe is more visually appealing. Based on some feedback from our members, some modest changes have already been made. Voice-over of the "Who Is CSTR?" presentations has been completed and the team is working to get all the small presentations onto the website. This will allow visitors to understand what CSTR is all about.

## California Event Calendar

### January 2012

- 02 Board of Directors Meeting 7pm.
- 03 Science Conference Call 7pm
- 05 Public Relations Conference Call 7pm  
Shows / Events Conference Call 7pm
- 09 Government Relations Conference Call 7pm  
Veterans Committee 8pm
- 10 Ocean Adventures Dive Club Presentation 7pm
- 12 Website Committee Conference Call 7pm
- 16 Reef Development Conference Call 7pm  
Legal / Permits Conference Call 8pm
- 26 Newsletter Deadline
- 30 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm  
Finance Committee Conference Call 8pm
- TBD Education
- TBD Membership
- As Needed *Kawishiwí* Project Team
- As Needed Speakers Bureau

### February 2012

- 02 Public Relations Conference Call 7pm  
Shows / Events Conference Call 7pm
- 06 Board of Directors Meeting 7pm.
- 07 Science Conference Call 7pm
- 09 Website Committee Conference Call 7pm
- 13 Government Relations Conference Call 7pm  
Veterans Committee 8pm
- 20 Reef Development Conference Call 7pm  
Legal / Permits Conference Call 8pm
- 24 Newsletter Deadline
- 27 Executive Committee Meeting 7pm  
Finance Committee Conference Call 8pm
- TBD Education
- TBD Membership
- As Needed *Kawishiwí* Project Team
- As Needed Speakers Bureau

## Ships To Reefs Event Calendar

### 2012

- TBD Annapolis Reefing, British Columbia, Canada

## Contact Your Board

If you have questions, concerns or suggestions, want to volunteer, please feel free to contact any of your Board Members.

Chairman & CEO, **Joel Geldin**

[joelg@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:joelg@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

Secretary / Treasurer & VP Communications / Finance,

**Eleanore Rewerts**

[EleanoreR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:EleanoreR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

Vice Chairman & VP Science, **Andrew Lee**

[AndyL@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:AndyL@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

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Director, **Casey Allen**

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Director, **Julie Lorenzen**

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Chief Advisor, **Dick Long**

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Wheatland, CA 95692

530-633-4858

530-633-0365 (fax)

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## State Committees

For information or to volunteer on the following Committees please contact the people below.

### Finance:

Eleanore Rewerts

[EleanoreR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:EleanoreR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

### Governmental Relations:

Dean Rewerts

[DeanR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:DeanR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

### Legal/Permitting:

Jeffrey Morris

[JeffreyM@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:JeffreyM@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

### Newsletter:

Jeremy Bonnett

[JeremyB@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:JeremyB@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

### Non-Ship Artificial Reef Materials Committee

Bob Evans

[BobE@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:BobE@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

### Public Relations:

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**Reef Development**

Dean Rewerts [DeanR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:DeanR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

**Reef Science:**

Andy Lee [AndyL@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:AndyL@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

**Shows / Events:**

Eleanore Rewerts [EleanoreR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:EleanoreR@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

**Speakers Bureau:**

Jeff McGrath [JeffM@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:JeffM@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

**Veterans:**

Larry Ankuda [LarryA@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:LarryA@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

**Web Site:**

Ken Thompson [KenT@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:KenT@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)

**In the News**

Each month we will provide links to recent articles about or affecting Ships To Reefs. If you see something online that we have not included here, please contact Jeremy Bonnett at [jeremyb@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:jeremyb@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org).

**Military divers to help in tire cleanup**

*December 20th, 2011*

FORT LAUDERDALE, Fla., Dec. 20 (UPI) -- Military divers will help clear thousands of discarded tires dumped of the south Florida coast in a failed attempt to create artificial reefs, officials said. <http://bit.ly/vxqhbX>

**State begins construction of 2nd artificial reef in Lake Pontchartrain**

*December 20th, 2011*

BATON ROUGE, La. — Construction has started on a new artificial reef in the northern portion of Lake Pontchartrain. <http://bit.ly/srVPLD>

**Reef group sunk**

*By Mike Derry  
December 10th, 2011*

A VOLUNTEER group has spent 24 years sinking objects to the ocean floor to create the stunning Cochrane Artificial Reef, off Bundaberg - but in the end it is red tape that has sunk them. <http://bit.ly/tnKWUu>

**Use derelict boats as artificial reefs**

*By Rep. Robert Kingsbury, Laconia  
December 1st, 2011*

In the new issue of Professional BoatBuilder, there is an article about a company that produces a machine that, for a high cost, grinds up derelict fiberglass boats for disposal. Instead of grinding up derelict boats and sending the grindings to a landfill, why not take derelict boats out to deep water, sink them and, at a relatively low cost, use them to build up artificial reefs, thereby creating much improved fishing? <http://bit.ly/sLMgPS>

**A Sunken Ship Becomes a Rising Star for Anglers, Divers**

*By Scott Marshutz  
November 22nd 2011*

In August of 2010, I signed up as a volunteer diver for the annual Dana Point Harbor cleanup. While I was picking up my gear, one of the guys at the dive shop asked me if I was interested in diving a wreck just a few miles outside of the harbor. I was curious. There's a wreck outside the harbor? <http://bit.ly/vJpCR5>

**Divers & Anglers Can Help Ships to Reefs by:**

- Volunteer to help in your area of expertise
- Visit our web site [www.CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](http://www.CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org) and become familiar with Ships to Reefs, then promote at every opportunity to your friends
- Join a local sink project
- Write your elected officials (local, state & federal)
- Refer people who show interest in helping to [info@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org](mailto:info@CaliforniaShipstoReefs.org)