



2023

ANNUAL REPORT

KEEPING AN EYE ON THE BAY


SAN FRANCISCO
BAYKEEPER®



This year, we're pleased to be celebrating you ...

and the many ways you helped to keep an eye on San Francisco Bay. Residents like you reported petroleum coke polluting the water in Benicia, heavy metals littering a shoreline near Oakland, raw sewage spilling into the water in Berkeley, and brown algae discoloring the Bay in Alameda.

Your tips throughout the year set Baykeeper's field investigators in motion: deploying drones, patrolling by boat, and sampling polluted water. Then our scientists and lawyers took action to stop problems at the source.

That's our unique model for defending the Bay and its watershed. And it works thanks to you.

Your dedication to the Bay has allowed us to steadily grow our impact. It's because of you that these pages are filled with key wins for the Bay Area's communities and wildlife. Thank you for your vigilance and generous support!

Warmly,

Sejal Choksi-Chugh
Executive Director





Investigating Pollution

Paddling along the Oakland Estuary, two kayakers noticed something glinting in the sunlight. The shoreline was covered in sharp metal shards—so they called Baykeeper’s pollution hotline.

Our investigators found a thick layer of metal debris abandoned by a defunct airline manufacturer. The samples showed the soil was loaded with toxic heavy metals.

We notified the landowners, and now our scientists are overseeing the cleanup and working with them to reduce harmful pollution to the Bay.

You enabled Baykeeper’s investigators to keep an eye on the Bay to find and fix pollution.



Stopping Polluters

Along the Oakland waterfront, Schnitzer Steel shreds old cars and appliances, polluting the Bay with heavy metals. The facility's debris piles sometimes burst into flames, choking nearby neighborhoods with toxic smoke.

The company also owns several auto dismantling facilities around the Bay Area. Baykeeper's investigators recently inspected these sites by drone and discovered they're contaminating creeks and marshes connected to the Bay.

So, our attorneys notified Schnitzer that we're taking legal action to make them stop polluting.

You kept Baykeeper's attorneys in the courtroom stopping polluters throughout the Bay Area.



Fighting for Healthy Communities

The coal industry transports more than a million tons of coal through the Bay Area every year in open train cars, spewing toxic dust into the Bay and neighborhoods near train tracks. Each train car loses an estimated 500 pounds of coal dust per trip.

That's why Baykeeper recently partnered with a dozen frontline community groups nationwide to petition the EPA to stop coal pollution from trains.

The Bay Area—and communities everywhere—should be free from this toxic pollution.

Thanks to you, Baykeeper's advocates fought to keep pollution out of the Bay and out of local communities.



Defending Fish and Wildlife

Last year, an unprecedented algae outbreak turned the Bay brown and killed thousands of fish. Baykeeper's scientists sounded the alarm. This year our investigators confirmed another algae bloom—thankfully smaller.

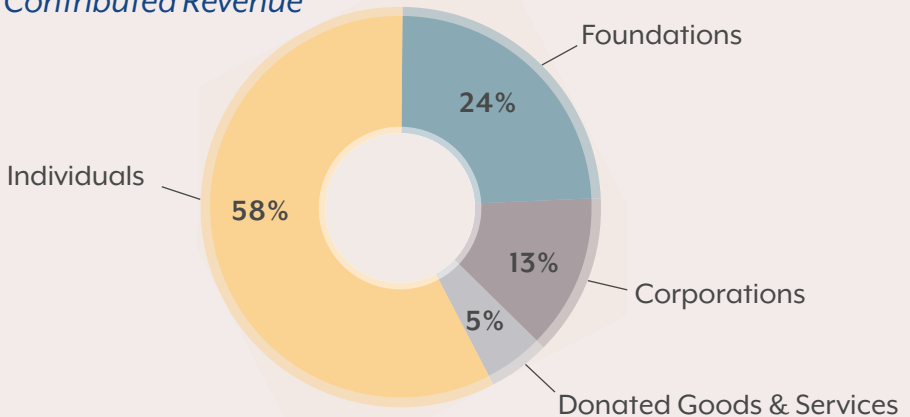
But it's a bad sign that the Bay's algae grew out of control two years in a row. We need to act now, before the climate crisis makes conditions worse.

That's why we're advocating for new regulations that require sewage plants to reduce the pollution dumped into the Bay.

With your support, Baykeeper put pressure on government agencies to protect fish and wildlife.

2023 Financial Highlights

Contributed Revenue



Your generosity empowered Baykeeper to defend the Bay and create a more resilient Bay Area for people and wildlife. Thank you!

Our operating expenses and legal costs totaled \$3.8 million this year. We spent 85% on programs to stop polluters and protect the Bay, while 9% went to fundraising to build our capacity and 6% to administrative costs.

We're also excited to report that Baykeeper earned a top four-star rating from Charity Navigator for the past fiscal year. The award recognizes good governance, sound financial management, and effective impact for defending San Francisco Bay.

You can find full financial reporting at baykeeper.org.



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