

# Update on Vessel Speed Reduction Program & Ocean-Going Vessels

South Central Coast  
Basinwide Control Council Meeting

Our Mission: To protect the people and the environment of Santa Barbara County from the effects of air pollution.

Alex Economou  
Planning Division Manager  
Santa Barbara County APCD

March 23, 2023

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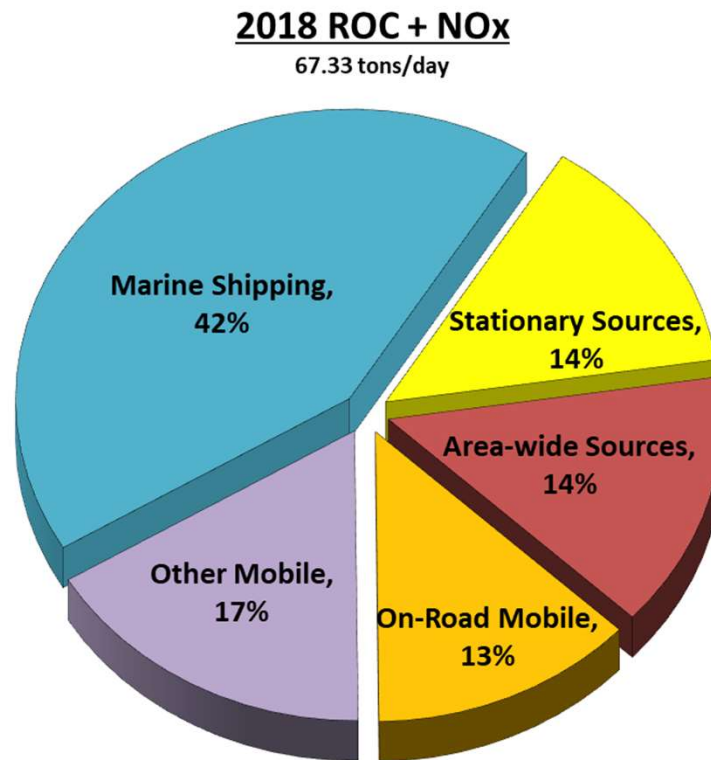
# Background: Ship Emissions

- ▶ Santa Barbara Channel Region is a heavily-trafficked shipping corridor.
  - ▶ Vessels are outside District's regulatory control.
  - ▶ District staff has been advocating for federal & international emission controls since 1994.
- ▶ **2022 Ozone Plan:** Forecasted Growth in emissions from Marine Shipping until 2035.
  - ▶ **New Ships:** Federal & International regulations require emission controls (e.g. Tier 3 engines).
  - ▶ **Existing Ships:** Can continue operating older engines until retired (10-15+ years).

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# Santa Barbara County OGV Emissions



# Blue Whales And Blue Skies Program

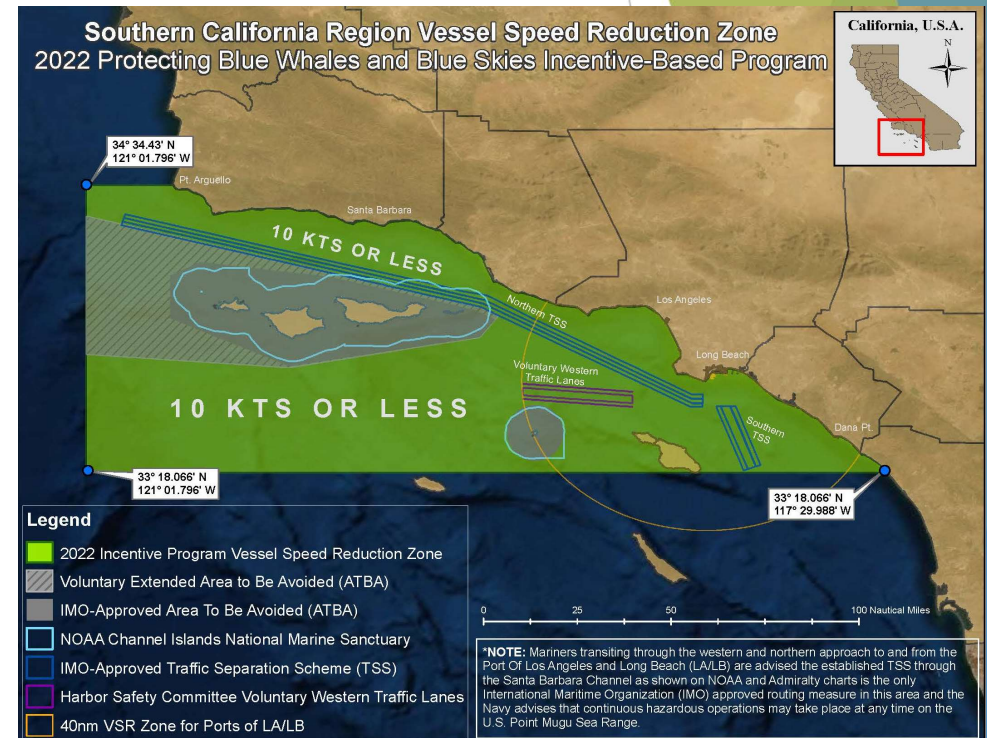
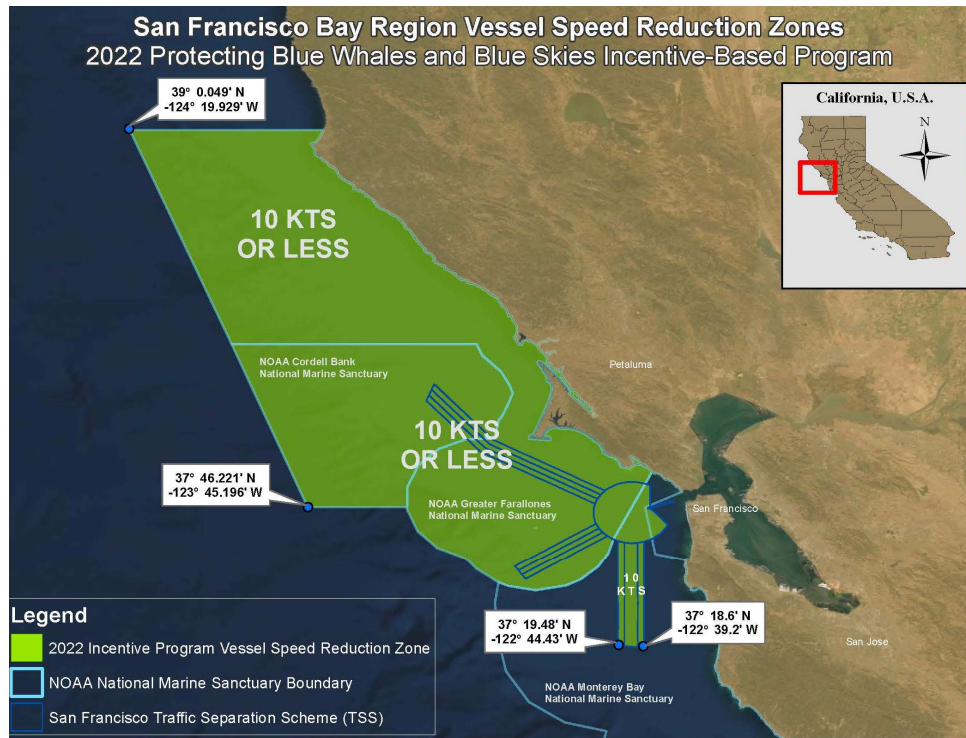
- ▶ Air Districts, National Marine Sanctuaries, Non-Profits, and Foundations
- ▶ Asks shipping companies to voluntarily slow down to 10 knots or less
- ▶ **Benefits:**
  - ▶ Significant emission reductions (NOx, GHGs, Particulate Matter, Air Toxics)
  - ▶ Reduce risk of fatal ship strikes on whales
  - ▶ Reduce ocean noise
- ▶ Began as 2014 pilot in Santa Barbara Channel & expanded each year (2016-2022)

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# 2022 Program - VSR Zones



# 2022 Program - Criteria

- ▶ **Seasonal program:** May 1 - December 15, 2022
  - ▶ Coincides with high ozone levels and presence of whales.
- ▶ Open to containerships, auto carrier, bulk, and general cargo companies.
- ▶ Recognition based on % of total fleet distance traveled at 10 knots or less.

## Recognition Awards

<b>Sapphire</b>	<b>85 - 100%</b>
<b>Gold</b>	<b>60 - 84%</b>
<b>Blue Sky</b>	<b>35 - 59%</b>

# 2022 Results (Available Soon)

- ▶ Over \$200,000 in total incentive funds available.
  - ▶ Many financial awards are being declined by the companies. (\$2,500 to \$20,000 for Gold and Sapphire awards)
  - ▶ Cooperation and Benefit calculations will be available in the upcoming news release.

## Statue for Previous Sapphire Award



## August 2022: Bay Area News Story



## New BWBS Videos

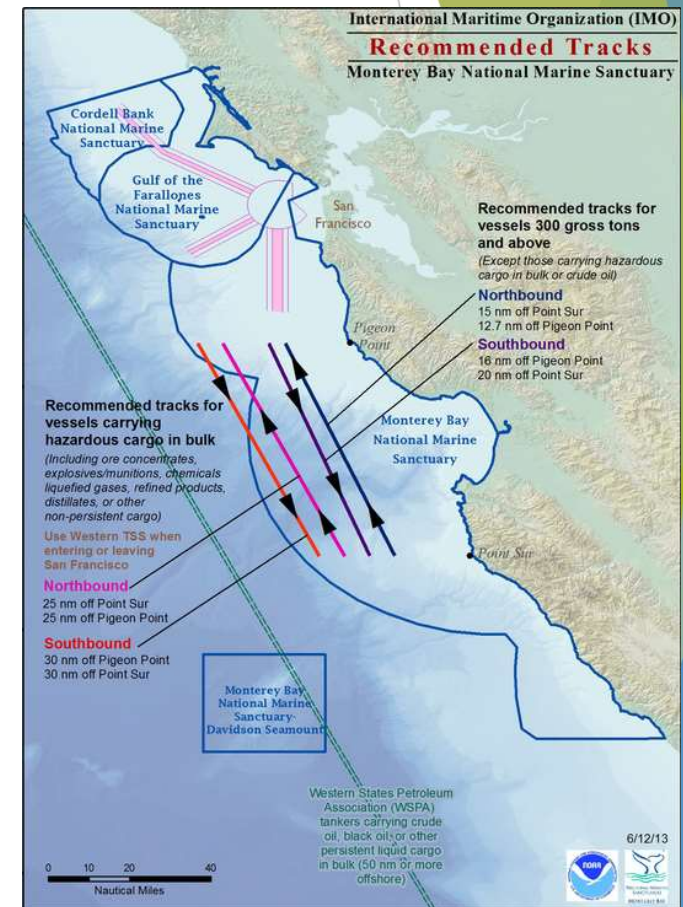
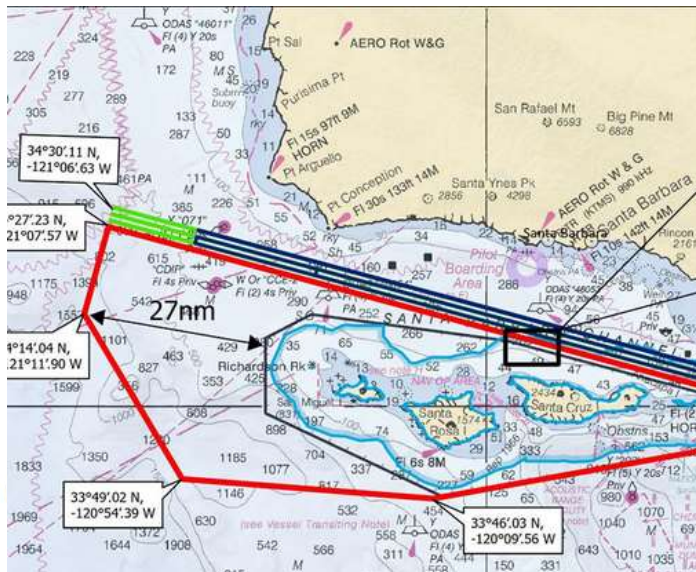




# 2023 Program - Begins

## ► Expanded Regions:

- Add the Monterey Bay National Marine Sanctuary.
- 10 nautical mile western expansion of the Santa Barbara Channel [IMO-approved].
- SLO County APCD and MBARD joined partnership

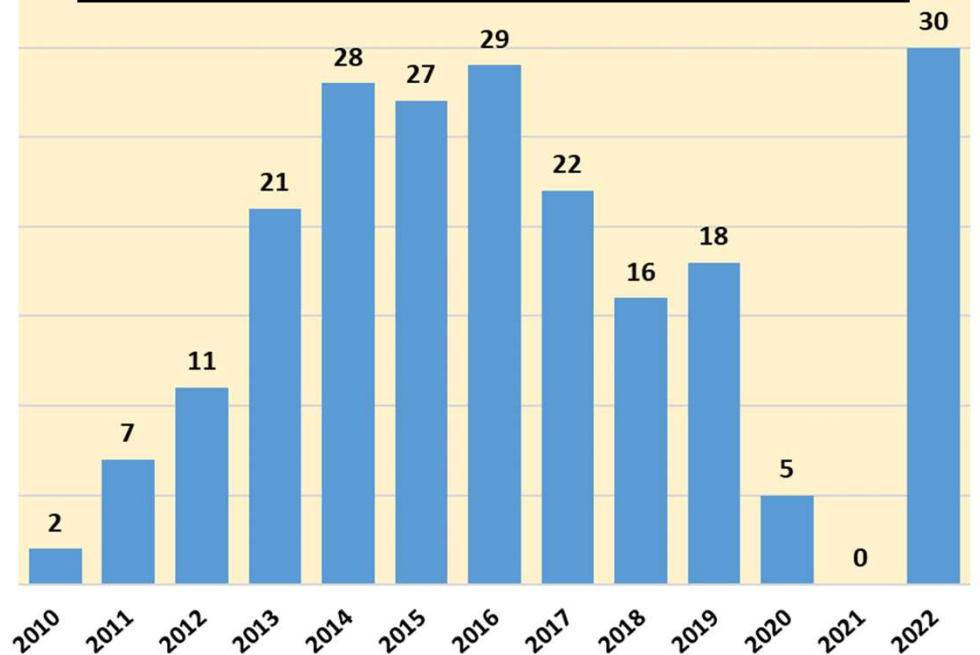


# Cruise Ships At Anchor



<https://santabarbaraca.gov/things-do/waterfront/cruise-ship-visits>

Cruise Ship calls in Santa Barbara (2010 - 2022)



# Cruise Ship Subcommittee Meetings

- ▶ Public concerns over air quality, water discharges, and economic and community impacts.
- ▶ Questions about regulatory oversight and future growth.
- ▶ Harbor Commission formed a subcommittee to discuss the impacts from the cruise ship program in a public forum.



December 2022 Presentation on Cruise Ship Air Emissions



# Future Statewide Control Efforts

## CARB - Interim Evaluation on the 2020 Control Measure for OGVs At Berth

- ▶ Regulation requires shoreside power for OGVs when docked at berth (Years 2023 - 2027).
- ▶ The report also evaluated control techniques for OGVs at anchor.
- ▶ CARB staff recommend additional incentive or regulatory measures to reduce emissions from OGVs transiting, maneuvering, and anchoring.
- ▶ CARB Board to discuss at May 25, 2023 meeting.



NYK Vessel at Port Hueneme



# Assembly Bill 953

- ▶ Introduced in February 2023
- ▶ Sponsored by Assembly Members Connolly and Hart
- ▶ Would expand the VSR program statewide
- ▶ Would provide additional support for continuing the emission reduction efforts.
- ▶ Referred to Assembly Water, Parks, and Wildlife Committee and Assembly Natural Resources Committee



air pollution control district  
SANTA BARBARA COUNTY

## **Santa Barbara County APCD Urges Passage of AB 953**

**Bill would expand *Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies* program statewide**

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
February 16, 2023

**Contact:**  
Lyz Bantilan, APCD Public Information Officer, (805) 979-8283

SANTA BARBARA COUNTY - The Santa Barbara County Air Pollution District (APCD) is sponsoring [AB 953](#) (Assemblymembers Gregg Hart and Damon Connolly) to build upon and expand the voluntary vessel speed reduction program, [Protecting Blue Whales and Blue Skies](#), statewide. Expansion of the speed reduction and sustainable shipping program for the entire California coast would reduce air pollution, greenhouse gases, and the risk of fatal vessel strikes on whales.

**Project Website:**  
[www.bluewhalesblueskies.org](http://www.bluewhalesblueskies.org)



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## Statewide OGV Emissions

<u>Ocean-Going Vessels</u>	Typical Max Speed (knots)	NOx (tons per day)	% Emissions
Container	23	125.2	66%
Auto & Roro	19	10.6	6%
Bulk & General	15	8.9	5%
Tankers	15	37.0	20%
Cruise	21	7.4	4%
Miscellaneous	18	0.5	0.2%
		189.4	100%



# VSR Program Summary

Year	2014	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020	2021
VSR Zone	Santa Barbara Channel Region		Santa Barbara Channel Region & San Francisco Bay Region			SoCal Region & SF Bay Region	
# Companies	7	10	11	12	15	16	18
# Vessels	14	25	44	295	349	483	545
Fleet Cooperation	--	--	--	36%	55%	60%	64%
Slow-speed Distance (nautical miles)	2,700	5,000	12,630	46,026	99,019	181,306	179,530
NOx Reductions (tons)	12.4	25.6	84	266	536	748	650
GHG reductions (metric tons)	535	1,005	2,630	8,668	17,026	24,258	22,201