

Update on Vessel Speed Reduction Program

Board of Directors
Santa Barbara County
Air Pollution Control District

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

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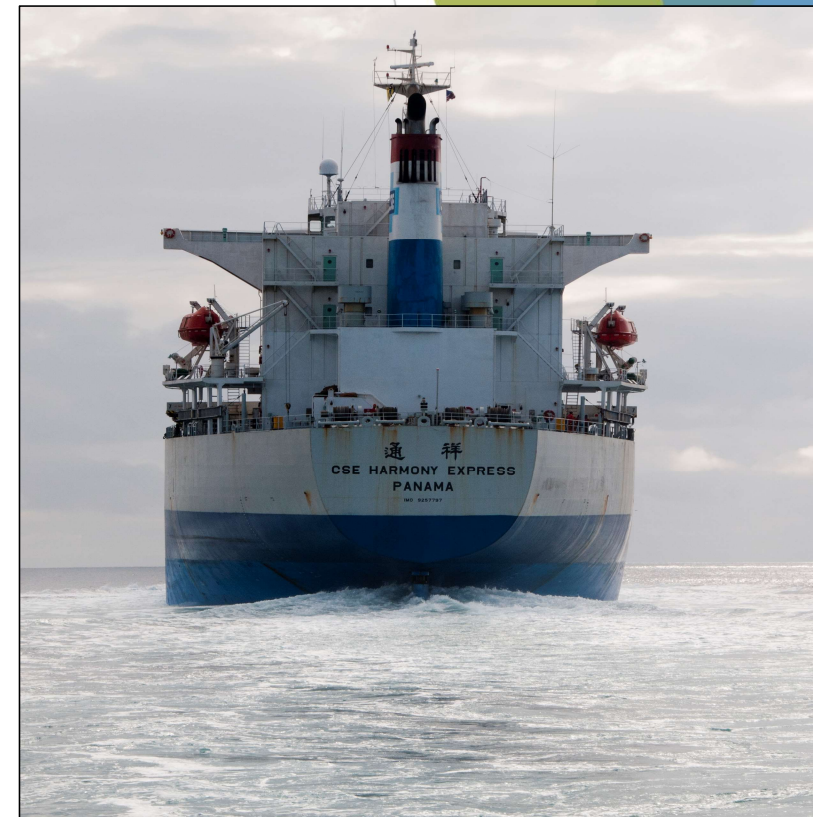
June 20, 2024

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Background: Ship Emissions

- ▶ Santa Barbara Channel Region is a heavily-trafficked shipping corridor
 - Outside District's regulatory control
 - 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+ years)



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 (2016-2024)



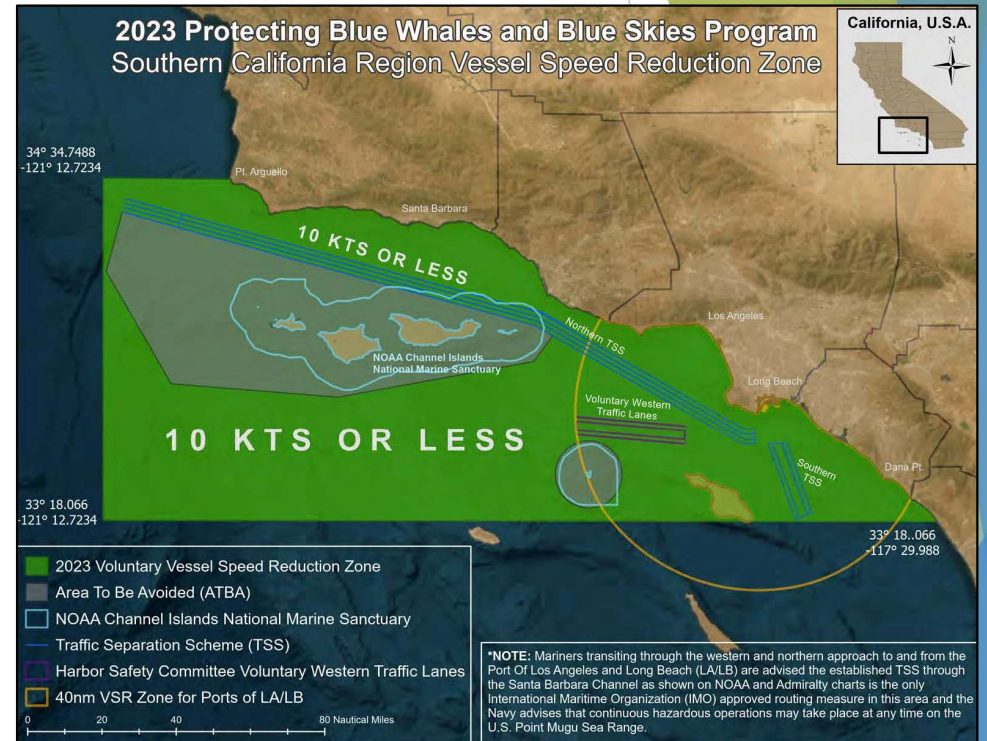
2023 Program - Criteria

- ▶ **Seasonal program:** May 1 - December 15, 2023
 - ▶ Coincides with high ozone levels and presence of whales
- ▶ Open to containerships, auto carrier, bulk, tankers, and general cargo companies
- ▶ Recognition based on % of total fleet distance traveled at 10 knots or less

Recognition Awards

Sapphire	85 - 100%
Gold	60 - 84%
Blue Sky	35 - 59%

2023 Program - VSR Zones



2023 Results

- ▶ 33 global shipping companies participated: 13 Sapphire, 10 Gold, 10 Blue Sky awardees
- ▶ 709 vessels slowed down for 375,437 nautical miles
- ▶ 1,256 tons of NOx and 45,784 metric tons of GHG reduced (27% reduction in pollution compared to baseline)

<u>Time Period</u>	<u>VSR % Cooperation</u>
2018 VSR Season	36%
2019 VSR Season	55%
2020 VSR Season	60%
2021 VSR Season	64%
2022 VSR Season	78%
2023 VSR Season	81%

SAPPHIRE (85%+)

CMA CGM, CSL, 宁波远洋运输股份有限公司 NINGBO OCEAN SHIPPING CO., LTD., d'Amico, MSC, OSG, OOCL, ONE, Wallenius Wilhelmsen, Hapag-Lloyd, NYK LINE, SWIRE SHIPPING, YANG MING

GOLD (60%+)

COSCO SHIPPING, K LINE, MOL, S, HYUNDAI GLOVIS, SCORPIO, WAN HAI LINES LTD., EVERGREEN, MAERSK LINE

BLUE SKY (35%+)

SYNERGY GROUP, Pacific Basin, SIII, UNISEA, HMM, KOBE SHIPPING GROUP, SMT SHIPPING, EURONAV, PAN OCEAN, SWIRE BULK

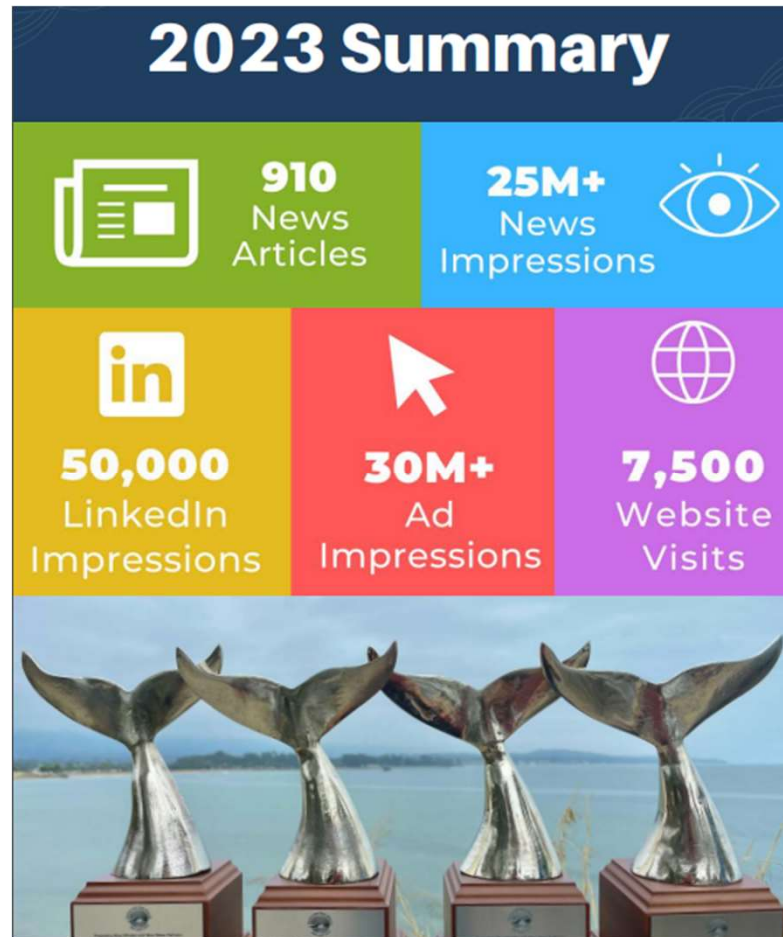
Outreach and Recognition

Port of Hueneme World Ocean Day Blue Whales & Blue Skies Award Ceremony



Photo credit: Garrett Raborg

Outreach and Recognition



State & Federal Legislation

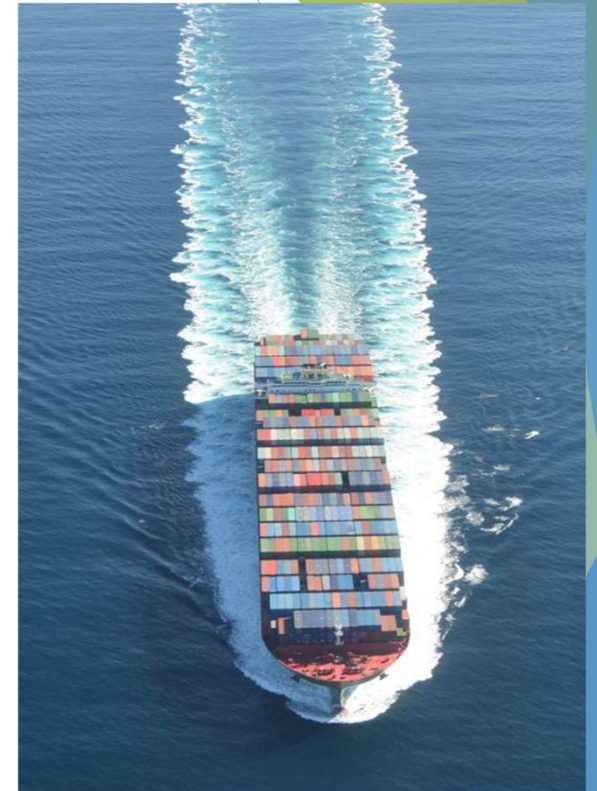
- ▶ California AB 2298 introduced in February 2024 by Assemblymember Gregg Hart
 - Would expand the voluntary VSR program statewide
- ▶ U.S. Congressmen Carbajal and Huffman announced new federal legislation on June 13, 2024
 - Alan S. Lowenthal Blue Whales, Blue Skies Act
 - Would expand the VSR program to the entire U.S. West Coast



Photo credit: Asm. Hart's Office

EPA's Climate Pollution Reduction Grant

- ▶ Provides funding to develop and implement Priority Climate Action Plans
- ▶ County of Ventura included VSR program as a priority measure in their plan
 - Ventura County APCD applied for EPA implementation grant in March 2024
- ▶ **Staff Recommendation:**
 - Delegate authority to APCO to sign the Memorandum of Agreement between Ventura County APCD, California Marine Sanctuary Foundation, and the District



Project Website:
www.bluewhalesblueskies.org



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