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## MEDIA RELEASE

### CALIFORNIA COASTKEEPER ALLIANCE'S LINDA SHEEHAN NAMED "CALIFORNIA COASTAL HERO"

**For Immediate Release.** August 29, 2009. Fremont, CA. California Coastkeeper Alliance Executive Director Linda Sheehan has been named a 2009 California Coastal Hero by [Sunset](#) magazine and the California Coastal Commission. Sheehan will be honored at the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary celebration of [Coastal Cleanup Day](#) on September 17<sup>th</sup>, along with Monterey Bay Aquarium Director Julie Packard, State Sen. Alan Lowenthal (D-Long Beach), John Hancke of Google Earth, Serge Dedina of WILD COAST, actress Julia Louis-Dreyfus, marine scientist Dr. Gary Griggs, and Pierce and Keely Brosnan.

Sunset's editor-in-chief Katie Tamony recognized Sheehan's outstanding leadership and tireless efforts in "fight[ing] pollution of the Pacific and the streams and rivers that flow into it" in order to "make the Pacific clean." Sheehan ensures that the public also has the tools and information needed to participate fully in this effort. She has achieved notable success in protecting the health of coastal waters by working to pass landmark legislation and policies that reduce polluted runoff and sewage spills, increase coastal water quality monitoring, heighten water law enforcement, and make state water data readily available to all.

Under Sheehan's leadership, the California Coastkeeper Alliance and its member Waterkeepers have developed and posted the only statewide [maps of California's most polluted water bodies](#), restored [giant kelp habitat](#) in the Southern California Bight, and worked to designate a coast-wide network of [marine parks](#).

Ms. Sheehan holds a B.S. in chemical engineering from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, an M.P.P. from the University of California, Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy, and a J.D. from the University of California's Boalt Hall School of Law.

Sheehan notes that "This award is a credit to the coordinated efforts of all of [California's Waterkeepers](#) to protect and enhance the health of California's world-renowned coast and ocean." The California Coastkeeper Alliance and 12 member Waterkeepers, who patrol the California coast from the Oregon border to San Diego, are part of the almost 200-member, worldwide [Waterkeeper Alliance](#).

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