

Introduction

Mola Mola, Monterey Bay Aquarium, Photo: Fred Hsu



We are excited to introduce the inaugural issue of *Urban Coast*. This multidisciplinary journal is a product of the Center for Santa Monica Bay Studies, a program of Loyola Marymount University's Seaver College of Science and Engineering and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation. *Urban Coast* fulfills the Center's goal of providing a much-needed forum to highlight research that informs the most pressing issues of our day and policies that affect the condition of urban coastal resources.



Shelley L. Luce, Photo: Lorna Apper

Urban Coast is the ideal forum for researchers, agencies, advocacy groups, and other science and policy leaders to engage in constructive discussion and information exchange on issues that are pertinent to our coastal environments. In this way, we can find common ground and highlight the robust science, analysis, and assessment needed to catalyze good policy, good design, and good management measures.

Urban Coast features four general sections. In Perspectives, essays and editorials review current conditions or policies; the Research & Policy section features articles on scientific or policy studies; Case Studies are detailed project reports with implications for the urban coastal environment; and Environmental Notes & Abstracts are short descriptions of research, policy, and events relevant to our urban coastal environment.

In this inaugural issue of *Urban Coast* you will find work by many individuals contributing to the science and policy so important to restoring and protecting our resource-rich and highly-impacted coasts. The work also points to new opportunities and better solutions that we seek to realize for restoring a healthy urban coastal environment. We welcome your feedback on what you read in this issue and look forward to your contribution to future issues of *Urban Coast*.

I would like to extend a special thank you to all our sponsors who have made this publication possible with their generous support.

Shelley L. Luce, Executive Director
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Foundation