Imagine a beautiful sunny August day at Cowell's Beach, in Santa Cruz, California. The beach is crowded with summertime tourists and locals. Suddenly, there is a flurry of activity among the lifeguards as they try to warn beachgoers they have five minutes to leave the beach. Is this Jaws revisited? No. It's the City of Santa Cruz Public Works Department testing their new $2 million emergency water pumps. Shortly after the so-called warning, the Public Works Department began pumping 165,000 gallons of polluted water right across the beach into the nearshore waters at Cowell's.
Around the World

By Michelle C. Kremer

AUSTRALIA

The folks down under have been active Surfrider Foundation members and activists for several years. The Aussie affiliates have approximately 2,500 members with 38 chapters and action groups!

The major environmental problems Surfrider Australia face are similar to the United States': sewage dumping, watershed (catchment) management, coastal development, and the list goes on. Surfrider's Australian affiliates were the first environmental organization in Australia to be successful in stopping an ocean outfall in Coffs Harbour by successfully suing the New South Wales Government (Australia's largest State Government). They also publish Australia's only State of the Beaches annual report.

Last year Surfrider Australia spearheaded Surfrider's first global day of action against nuclear testing in the Pacific, which included members from around the globe.

BRAZIL

The Surfrider-Brazil group formed in 1993 and since have been successfully protecting and preserving Brazil's beaches, waves and oceans.

Surfrider-Brazil headquarters is located in Praia do Forte, the most consistent surfing spot in Brazil.

Contact Dr. Joel Steinman, 011-221-3288.

FRANCE

Surfrider-France (or Surfrider-Europe, as they are sometimes called), have over 2,000 members and several chapters throughout France. They have been actively implementing Surfrider educational programs with surrounding communities and schools.

Most recently, Surfrider-France has been battling against the dredging of Capbreton's Harbour, medical waste washing ashore, detonators found on the beach, nuclear testing in the Pacific, and the successful building of retention basins for run-off in the municipality of Biarritz.

JAPAN

Surfrider-Japan officially announced the establishment of their group in 1993. They now have chapters in Choshi, Chiba and Kyushu.

Even though Japan is surrounded by the ocean, most beaches are used in an environmentally unconscious manner. The objective of Surfrider's Japanese affiliates is to take a stand to protect the ocean as an environment-consious group.

Surfrider-Japan conducts periodic beach clean ups and has worked with ASP Asia for beach clean ups during contests. They have been active in the opposition of tetra-pods (breakwaters) in the city of Kamogawa.