







## Marine Flare Pilot Collection Events

Huy Le, San Francisco Department of Environment Bruce Fritz, Alameda County HHW Wesley Won, San Mateo County EHS





## From a Boater's Perspective







One of our readers summed up the problem: "The Coast Guard told us to take them to the Fire Department. The Fire Department told us to take them to the Hazardous Materials Recycling Center" "The Hazardous Materials Recycling Center said they won't take explosives. We tried to donate them to sail/boating instruction groups...who all stated they had more than enough for their training. The (stores) that sell the flares don't have an answer, (they) are happy to replace my combustible flares with electronic flares . . . leaving us still with the problem of old flares."

Excerpt from Latitude 38, a Bay Area yachting magazine





## What Are Boaters Doing With Them?











### **Barriers to Marine Flare Collection**







- Storage Requirements
- Permits and Approvals
- Transportation Hurdles
- Cost











## CalRecycle HHW Grant



### **Alameda and San Mateo County**

\$59K - HD27 Regional Grant

#### **Alameda County**

\$49K – HD29 Individual Grant

### City & County of San Francisco

\$30K – HD29 Individual Grant



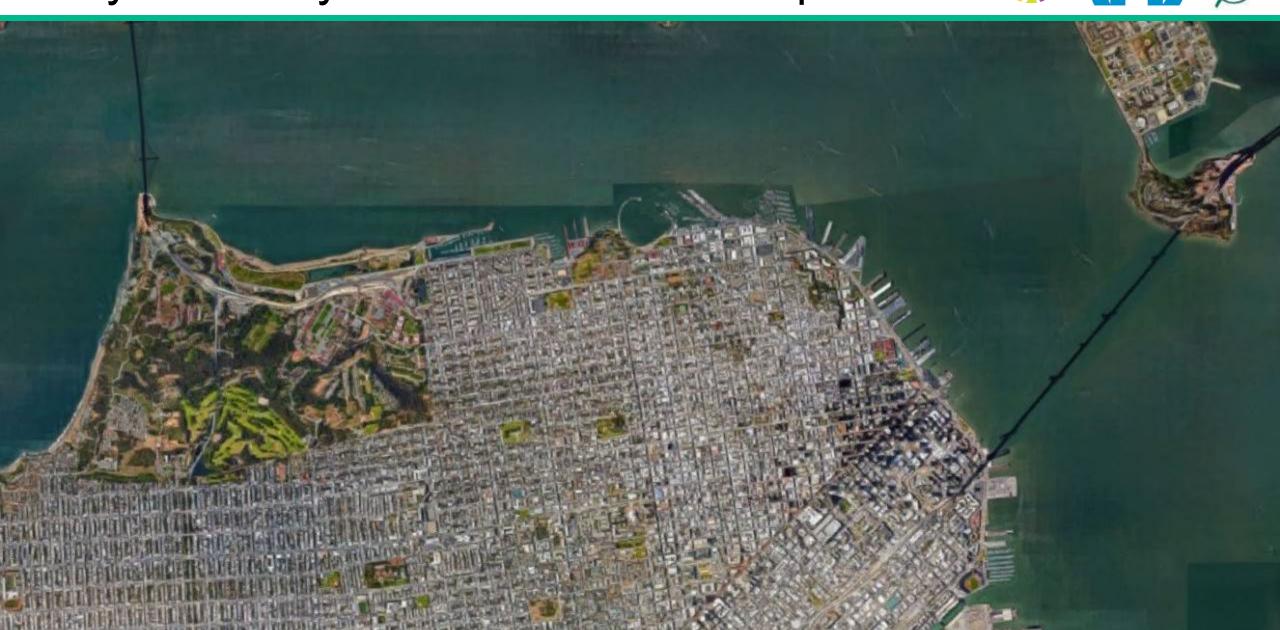


# City & County of San Francisco – April 14th ( )







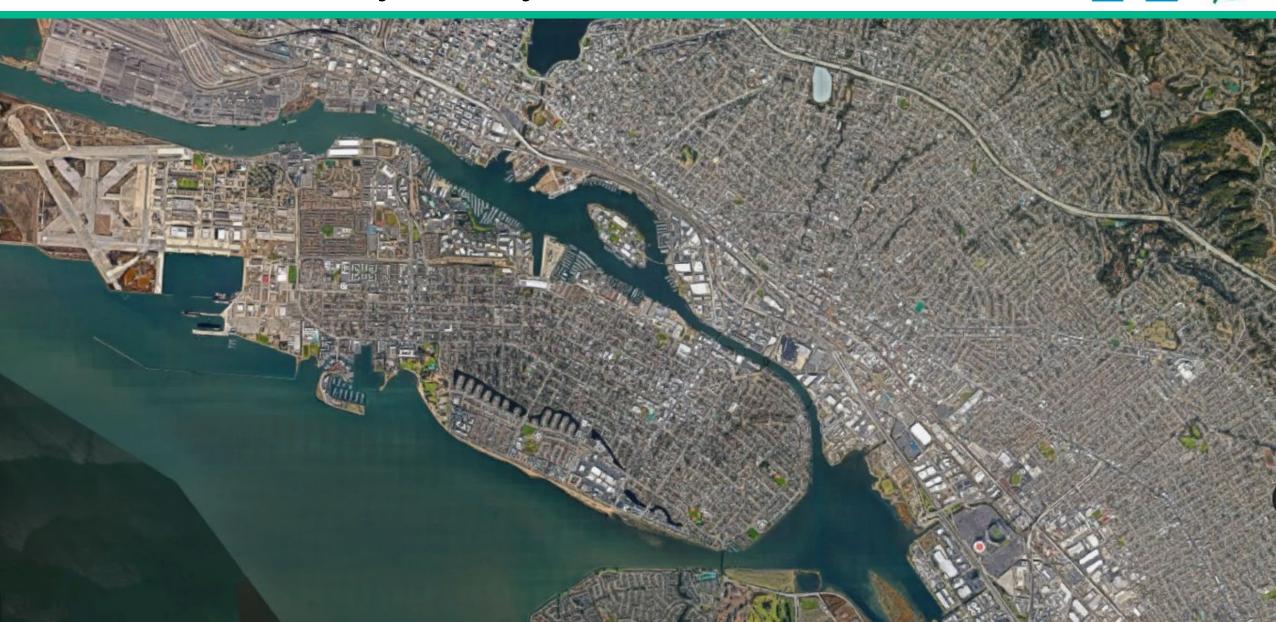


## Alameda County – May 26th & Nov 3rd









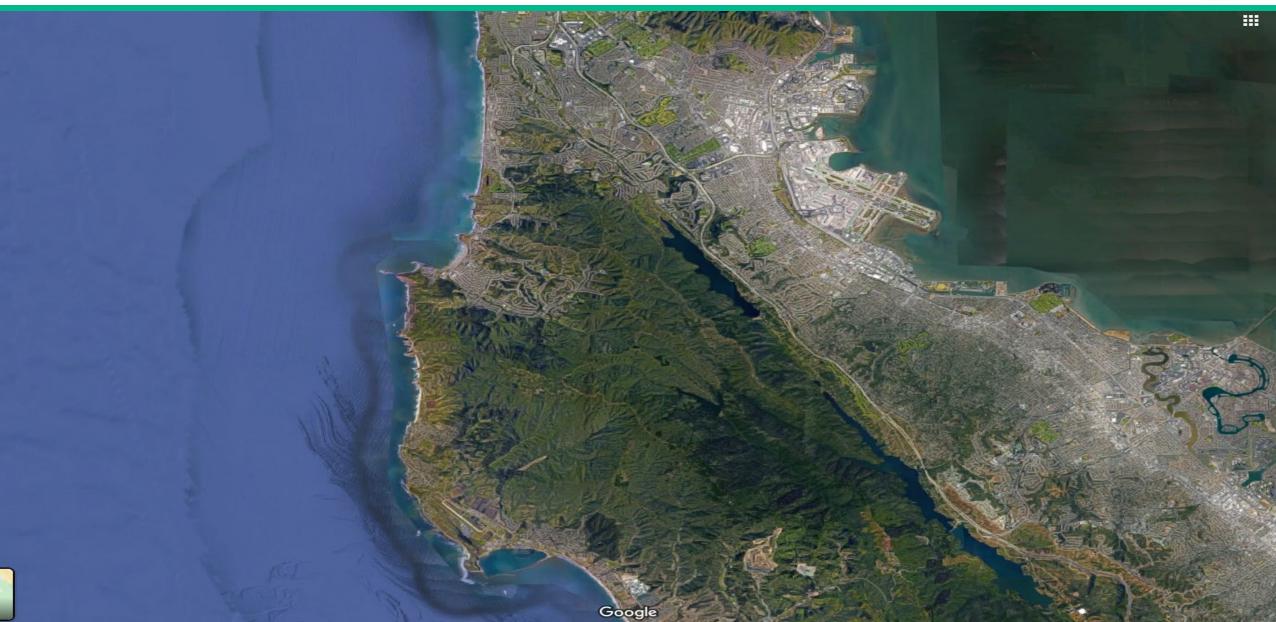


## San Mateo County – November 2<sup>nd</sup>









### Pilot Collection Event Results



### City & County of San Francisco

- 51 Boaters Attended
- 2,175 Estimated Number of Flares Collected

### **Alameda County (2 events)**

- 49 Boaters Attended
- 2,638 Estimated Number of Flares Collected

### San Mateo County (2 events)

- 41 Boaters Attended
- 1,088 Estimated Number of Flares Collected



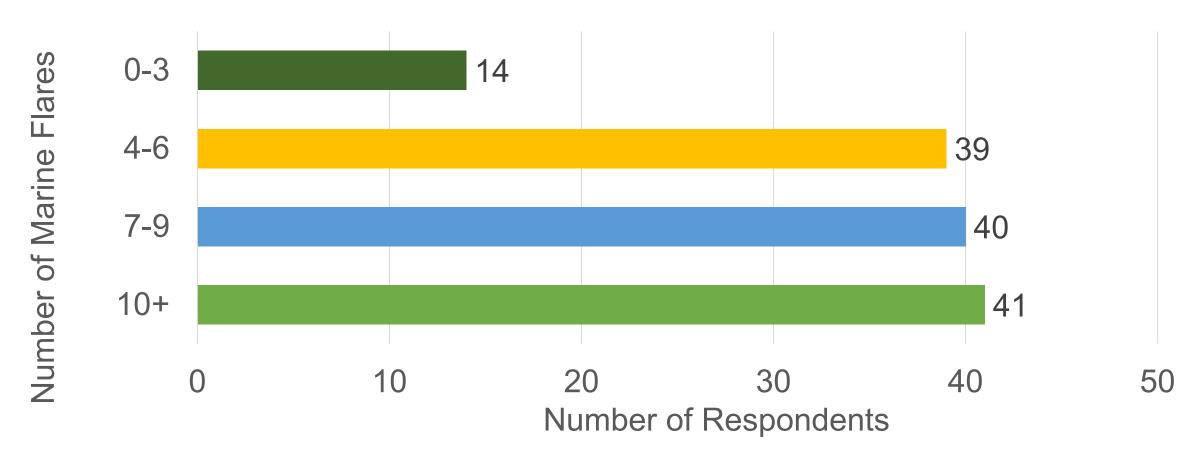
## Survey Results – How Many Flares?







# How many marine flares do you carry on your boat at any given time?





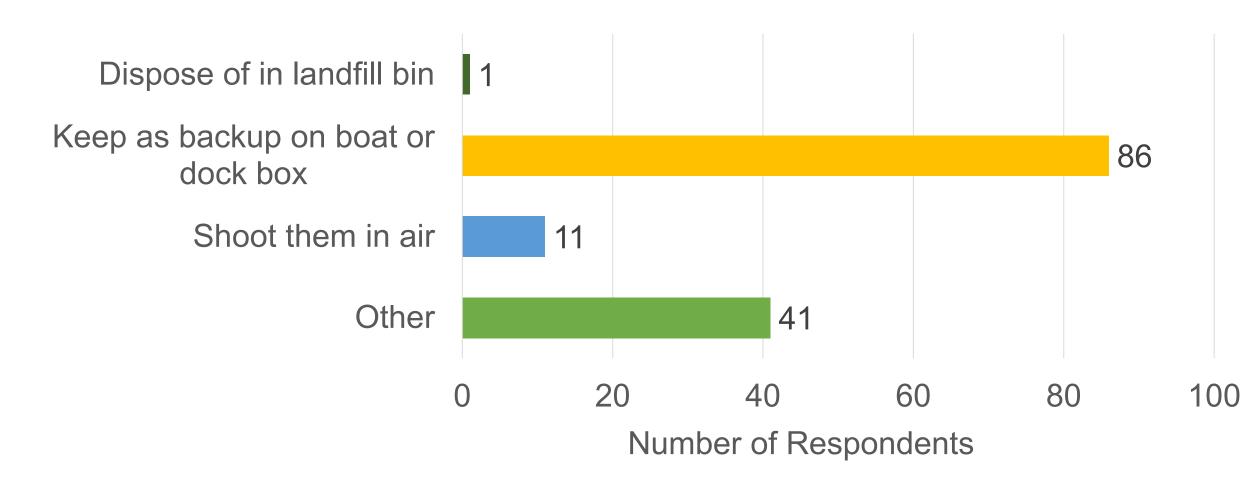
## Survey Results – How Disposed of Flares?







## Prior to this event what have you done with expired or unwanted marine flares?



### **Event Numbers**





**5 Collection Events** 

901 Flares Collected

135 Boaters Served

\$77,062 Total Cost

Cost/Flare: \$13

Cost/Boater: \$570



### **Lessons Learned**





- Appointment system and drop-ins
  - Fewer responses than expected
- Site choice
  - Control access and foot traffic
  - Plan for contingencies
- Regional multi-collection event
  - Manageable
  - Can save significant cost
- Outreach Efforts
  - Budget for media buy

## Next Steps











### Questions?







Huy Le, SF Department of the Environment

(415) 355-3760

Huy.Le@SFGov.org

Bruce Fritz, Alameda County HHW Program

(510) 693-7525

Bruce.Fritz@acgov.org

Wesley Won, San Mateo County Environmental Health Services

(650) 655-6217

wwon@smcgov.org

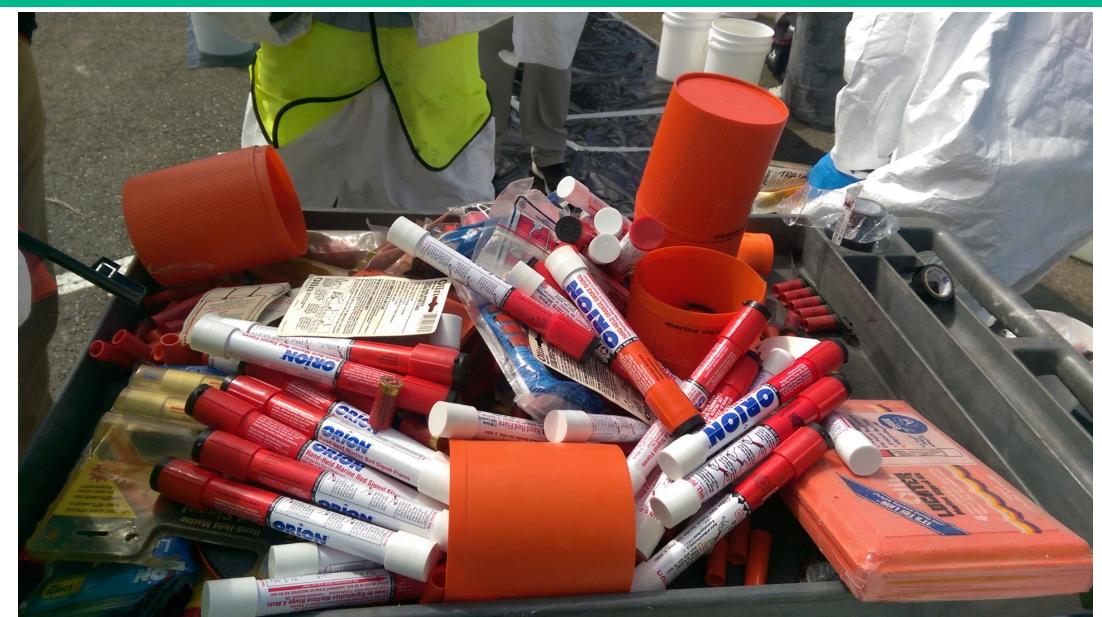
## Collection Buckets for Expired Marine Flares





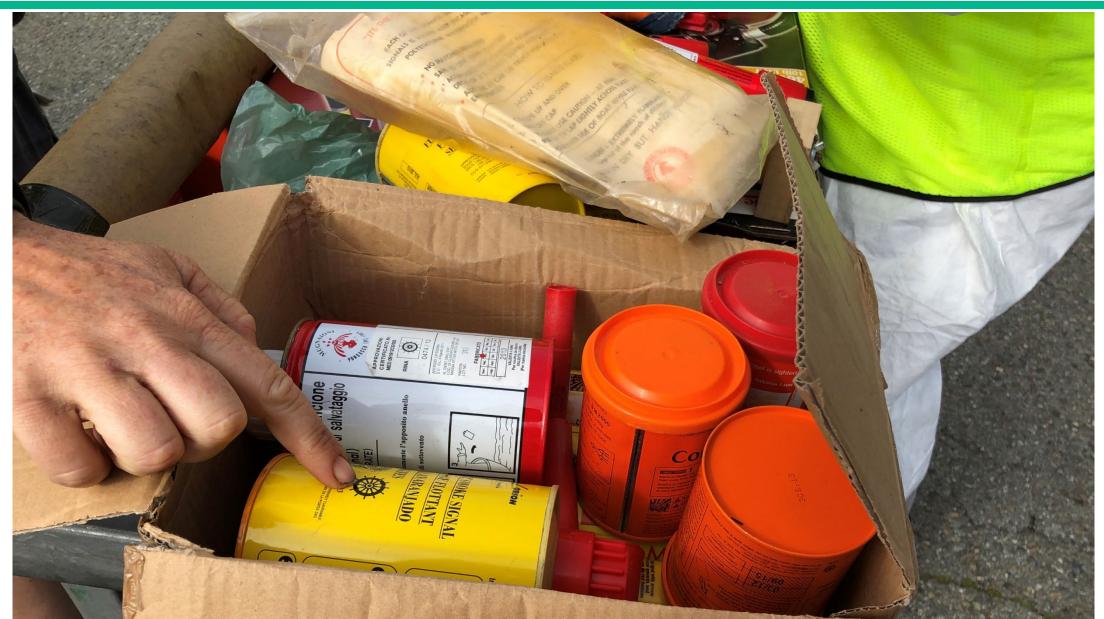
### Expired Marine Flares at the San Francisco Collection Event





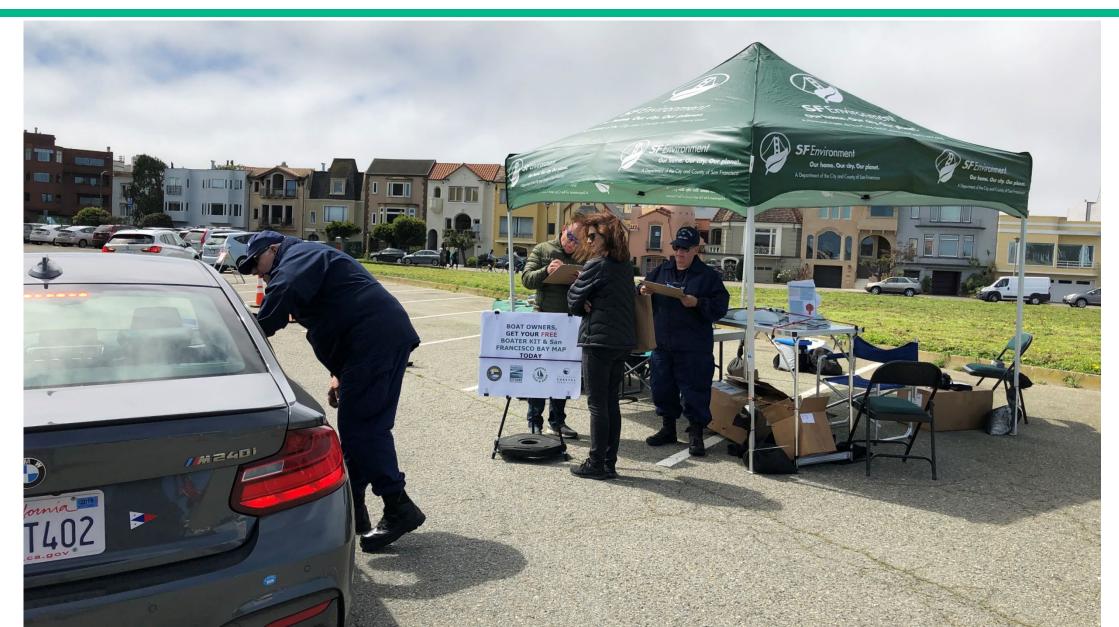
## Close-up of Expired Marine Flares





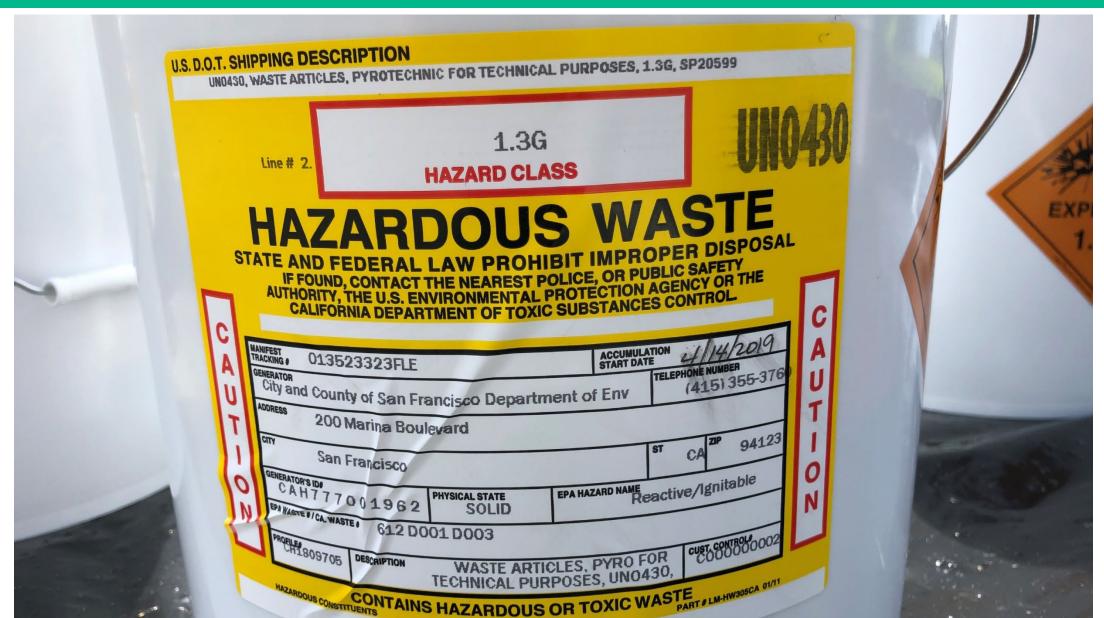
### Educational Booth at the San Francisco Collection Event





### Hazardous Waste Label on Bucket





## Approach to the San Francisco Collection Event





## Sign for the Alameda Collection Event





### Worker at a Collection Event





## Buckets of Expired Flares at a Collection Event





## A Degraded Expired Marine Flare



