

Cleveland's Cuyahoga River used to be one of the most polluted rivers in the U.S. It caught fire at least 13 times between 1868 and 1969.



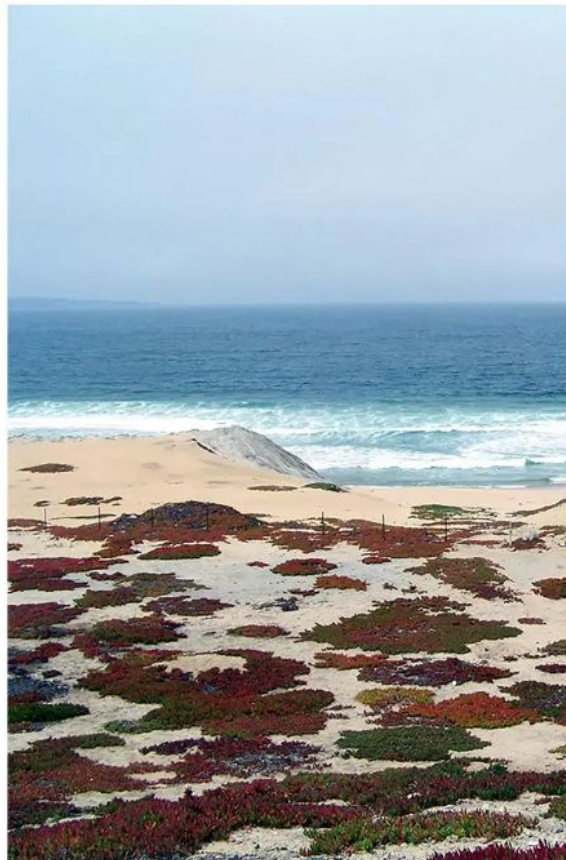
It wasn't just the water. Smog obscured the Cleveland skyline in this 1973 photo.



Los Angeles was another smoggy city made much brighter by regulations that limit air pollution.



The waters of Monterey Bay are much cleaner than they were when this discharge pipe was photographed in 1972.



The Environmental Protection Agency

EPA works to ensure that:

- Americans have clean air, land and water;
- National efforts to reduce environmental risks are based on the best available scientific information;
- Federal laws protecting human health and the environment are administered and enforced fairly, effectively and as Congress intended;
- Environmental stewardship is integral to U.S. policies and these factors are similarly considered in establishing environmental policy;
- All parts of society have access to accurate information sufficient to effectively participate in managing human health and environmental risks;
- Contaminated lands and toxic sites are cleaned up by potentially responsible parties and revitalized;
- Chemicals in the marketplace are reviewed for safety.



Sources

- <https://www.edf.org/article/america-wasnt-so-beautiful-epa-protections>
- https://www.epa.gov/system/files/styles/large/private/images/2022-01/375x250_epaseal-trim.png?itok=SXflCD6M
- <https://www.epa.gov/aboutepa/our-mission-and-what-we-do>