

## **CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION**

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# Th16a

**6-22-0113-A1 (City of San Diego Point La Jolla Closure)**

**September 7, 2023**

### **CORRESPONDENCE**

Letters of Support

Letters of Opposition



September 1, 2023

To: California Coastal Commission

From: Sierra Club California, Coastal Commission Sub-committee

Re: September 2023 Coastal Commission Meeting, Agenda Item Th16a, Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Commissioners,

We are grateful for the efforts of the Commission and Commission staff as well as that of the local community on behalf of the sea lions of La Jolla. Recognizing that year round regulatory action is necessary to prevent the harassment of the sea lions by the general public is another great step forward.

We support the proposed Amendment to extend the seasonal closure to apply year-round and to install a permanent gate at the top of the access stairs. We recommend two changes that would increase the strength of the resolution and the likelihood that the public will comply with its restrictions.

1. Staff report 1. Revised Final Plans

*1(b) Fireworks shall be prohibited within Ellen Browning Scripps Park during sea lion pupping season from May 1 through October 31 of each year.*

Change to:

*Fireworks shall be prohibited within Ellen Browning Scripps Park.*

The rationale for extending the area closure beyond pupping season is the need to protect seals from harassment year round. The existing CDP acknowledges that fireworks constitute harassment during pupping season. Therefore the ban on fireworks should also be extended year round. In addition to the fireworks shows frightening the seals, there is the issue of water quality and fireworks debris impacting the seals and other marine life in this area.

2. Staff report 5. Revised Sign Program

Add educational signage that informs the public about this seal habitat area and the reason that it is off limits to the public. This will promote compliance by members of the public who deserve to know why they are being denied coastal access.

3. Respectfully,

Nancy Okada, Chair, Coastal Commission Sub-committee, Sierra Club California



Date: August 30, 2023

To: California Coastal Commissioners

**Re: Letter of support for amendment of CDP 6-22-0113 to year-round closure (references attached)**

We, the undersigned, support the amendment of the Coastal Development Permit to include year-round closure of Point La Jolla and Boomer Beach and an associated amendment to the San Diego Municipal Code §63.0102 changing the seasonal closure period (May 1st to October 31st) to a year-round closure.

The La Jolla coastline attracts marine and coastal wildlife like few other areas in Southern California. This is due to the deep La Jolla underwater canyon, unique on this coastline, within the Matlahuayl Marine Protected Area and one of the most studied marine environments in the world (1). This unique marine environment is the main reason why harbor seals, California sea lions, leopard sharks, turtles, pelicans, cormorants, amongst others are attracted to this area (2). Sea lions and harbor seals have chosen this specific area to breed for these environmental factors that are not available elsewhere on the Southern California coastline.

Tourists have increasingly been drawn to view the abundant wildlife along this short coastline which is regularly voted one of the most beautiful coastlines in the US (3). The increase in tourism has made the area difficult to manage as visitors flood the parks and enter fragile coastal bluffs to approach wildlife and take selfies with hauled out marine mammals. This leads to their constant disturbance and harassment as well as trampling of the flora and fauna and resulting erosion. Selfies with seals and seal lions are spread all over social media, attracting yet more people and setting the expectation of close encounters with wildlife (4).

The solution cannot be to drive wildlife away - this is also *their* natural habitat! Besides, marine mammals and coastal birds are protected species.

However, the impact of tourism should be carefully managed by creating safe wildlife viewing areas as well as managing the impact of tourism on the parks, parking and residents. Since previous efforts to reduce disturbance and harassment of sea lions through increased signage and posting of Rangers have had limited effect (5) and people are regularly dangerously close to these 400-800 pound animals, the California Coastal Commission has requested that the City of San Diego amend the seasonal closure permit to include year round closure.

To those who fear an increase in numbers of sea lions: counts show that restricting public access has not led to an increase in the local population. The number of harbor seals has not increased with the closure of Children's Pool for pupping season since 2014 (6), and the resident number of Sea Lions of between 100-300 has not increased since the official report commissioned by the City in 2017 (7).

For all these reasons, the following organizations support the year round closure of Point La Jolla and Boomer beach to create a safe wildlife viewing area to protect the public as well as the flora, fauna and wildlife that inhabits these fragile coastal areas. The previously established ocean access corridor will remain open for experienced spearfisherman, bodysurfers and swimmers at the southern end (8). The area of closure represents a mere 110 yards out of 7 miles of La Jolla coastline (9) and does not concern

Children's Pool or La Jolla Cove. This closure will keep the viewing public on the sidewalk, above the low wall, at safe distances from sea lions to prevent the endless disturbance, harassment and dangerous situations arising from the public walking freely amongst these animals. We wish to thank the California Coastal Commission for their concern and action requiring the amendment of the coastal development permit by the City of San Diego to include year-round closure of this area.

The undersigned:



Richard Miller  
*Sierra Club San Diego Chapter Director*



Robyn Davidoff  
*Chair Sierra Club Seal Society*

Other Supporters Shown By Logos on Following Page

Pam Heatherington  
*Board of Directors - Environmental Center of San Diego*

John Warner,  
*CEO - Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles*

Lauren Palmer  
*Hospital Director for Marine Mammal Care Center Los Angeles*

Kirsten Donald  
*Vice President of Education & Ocean Advocacy- Marine Mammal Biologist  
Pacific Marine Mammal Center*

Amber Becerra  
*CEO- Respect the Wildlife*

Phillip Musegaas  
*Executive Director- San Diego Coastkeeper*

Aruna Prabhala  
*Urban Wildlands Program Director - Senior Attorney - Center for Biological Diversity*

Dan Silver,  
*Executive Director- Endangered Habitats League*

Lesley Handa  
*Lead Ornithologist- San Diego Audubon Society*

Cassie Paumard  
*Lead Marine Biologist and Founder of Project Kolika*

Lisa Gilfillan  
*Ocean Conservation Manager, MPA Watch Coordinator, WILDCOAST*

Kristen Northrop  
*Policy Advocate, Coastal Environmental Rights Foundation*

Marisa Ford (previously Butler)  
*Miss Earth USA and founder of We Clean Trails*

Sarah Greenslade  
*Founder & Trustee of The Seal Project*

Sue Sayer MBE  
*Founder and Director, Seal Research Trust*

Diane Westwood RVN APVN wildlife  
*Norfolk Seal Project*

Sally Bennett  
*Chair of St. Mary's Island Wildlife Conservation Society*

Mary Tester  
*Founding Director Thames Seal Watch*

Gareth Richards  
*Founder and Director of Gower Seal Group (UK)*

Jacki Sime  
*Pembrokeshire Seal Research Trust*

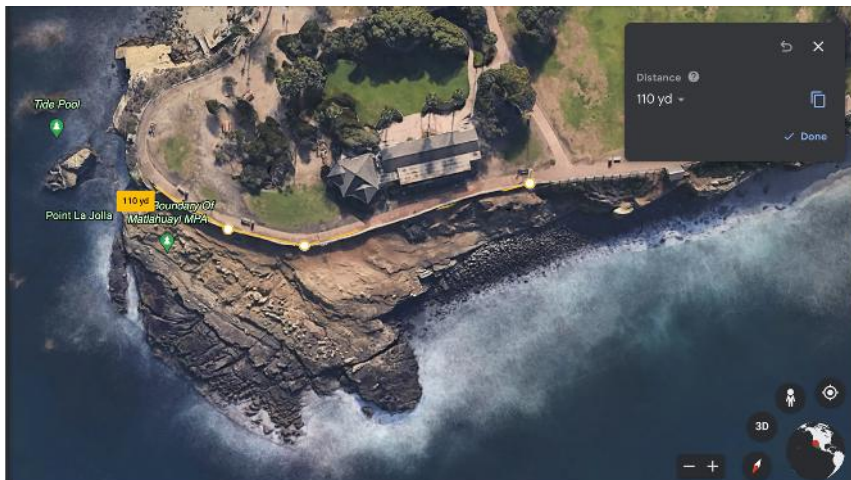
Dan Jarvis  
*Director of Welfare and Conservation - Area Coordinator - Cornwall and Scilly*





## References:

- (1) Peter Brueggeman "La Jolla Canyon and Scripps Canyon Bibliography" Scripps Institution of Oceanography Library
- (2) California Department of Fish and Wildlife website: "South La Jolla State Marine Reserve/State Marine Conservation Area: Overview"
- (3) Trip Advisor "Best of the Best Beaches in USA" La Jolla Cove 10th by reviewers:  
<https://www.tripadvisor.com/TravelersChoice-Beaches-cTop-g191#filters-area>
- (4) Thrillist website: "The Most Instagram-Friendly U.S. Beaches Ranked in New Study" 2023
- (5) Council member Joe LaCava quoted in San Diego Union Tribune 4/12/2023 "... we don't have the resources at the city to keep the public out of harm's way and off of Point La Jolla. We talked about adding park rangers, we talked about adding cameras and none of those appear to be feasible." <https://www.sandiegouniontribune.com/local/story/2023-04-12/san-diego-pursues-year-round-closure-of-point-la-jolla>
- (6) Seal conservancy counts since 2012: <https://sealconservancy.org/charts/>
- (7) Hanan and associates. 2017 Marine Coastal Management Plan – La Jolla "Within the last 5-10 years, sea lions have started hauling out in larger numbers (100-300) on the beach and other nearby shoreline locations in La Jolla". Current counts provided by City of San Diego show similar average counts with some seasonal peaks due to migratory patterns.
- (8) Coastal Development Permit 6-22-0113 dated 4/8/2022
- (9) Google Earth measurements of area of closure:



**From:** Project Kolika <projectkolika@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 10:51 AM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

To whom this may concern,

Our team conducted research on the harassment events from people towards sea lions from 2020-early 2022. Our data has yet to be published, however we can confidently state that a permanent closure of Point La Jolla is needed. During the years of our research, we witnessed a significant number of close calls when humans got too close and harassed sleeping sea lions. Additionally, When a ranger was present or came the first year of the seasonal closure, we noticed a significant decrease in harassment events.

We also recommend added signs be added along the boardwalk of Point La Jolla. Additionally, these signs need better verbiage, emphasizing the seriousness of not approaching seals/sea lions. For the safety of humans and wildlife, we think it will be very beneficial for both parties if Point La Jolla/Boomers Beach was closed year-round.

As an active water-woman myself, I can sympathize with spearfishers needing access to fish. The great news is I have done this short swim to the kelp beds from the La Jolla Cove entry and comfortably swam over several times. Swimming through Boomers Beach proves to have a dangerously strong surge, in which I almost got tangled in the surf grass once at Boomers. Giving up a bit of convenience is a small sacrifice for the safety of humans and wildlife. As far as rod and reel fishing, I have witnessed several accounts of discarded fishing gear that ended up in the cove. Having personally removed over 10 yards of line that was floating around 6 month old sea lion pups along with fishing lures with hooks still attached, it's a danger to swimmers that frequent La Jolla. Lastly, when these rod and reel anglers walk across the sea lions that are resting, they flush them out to sea or get charged at by bulls, which is extremely unsafe for both the anglers and the wildlife. There are countless of spots along our San Diegan coast to fish at. Point La Jolla is not a safe location to.

We hope you will make the right decision that our research has supported and shown us: to close down Point La Jolla and Boomers Beach permanently for the needed safety of the public and wildlife.

Best fishes,

Cassie Paumard

Lead Marine Biologist and Founder of Project Kolika

[projectkolika.org](http://projectkolika.org)





## [Ocean Conservation | Project Kolika | United States](#)

Project Kolika is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization focused on ocean conservation via wildlife research and education, based in San Diego, California.

[projectkolika.org](http://projectkolika.org)

PROJECT KOLIKA



From: Dan Silver <dsilverla@me.com>

Sent: Tuesday, August 22, 2023 10:36 AM

To: SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Commissioners:

Endangered Habitats League supports the closure. Year-round closure of Pt. La Jolla with an ocean access corridor is a win-win solution and provides safe viewing of sea lions.

Dan Silver  
Executive Director  
Los Angeles

**From:** JoAnn Smith <ilvcllys@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 4:06 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

I ask that you approve the year around closure of Point La Jolla. Spend a great deal of time in La Jolla watching and photographing from a distance all the beautiful wildlife especially the sea lions. I have witnessed many harassment events this year and over the years to these animals. People feel entitled to get close take selphies no matter if they disturb the animals even pups trying to nurse. The people need to be protected from themselves and the sea lions deserve to be able to live rest give birth nurse their pups without disturbance. I have seen so many harassment acts on the sea lions that are in the un protected area of the cove beach. People refuse to respect the animals and keep a distance. We all have cellphones with zoom and cameras with zoom so no one needs to be on them. Please protect these incredible animals and let them have their space. These rocky areas are slippery and dangerous and no valid reason for people to be on any of these areas.

This can be a great attraction as long as there are signs and closures. When I am there I try and educate the public on why it's important they are not disturbed and allowed to rest.

We have seen closing it for pupping season has made a difference so let's keep that by closing it year around

Respectfully

JoAnn Smith

Sent from my iPhone

"For most of history man has had to fight nature to survive; in this century he is beginning to realize that, in order to survive, he must protect it .

Jacques-Yves Cousteau

**Rescuing one animal may not change the world, but for that one animal, its world is changed forever!"**

**– Unknown**

From: Jeff Stacy <jeffr.stacy@gmail.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 9:02 AM

To: SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

For too long, public access to Pt. La Jolla and its marine mammals have had countless encounters contributing to violent interactions and death among the sea lion population. It is only a question of time when a human injury or worse will dominate the news and focus liability on the part of the stake holders.

I commend the Coastal Commission, the City of San Diego, and the countless eyes and voices of the community that has brought the level-headed year-round closure of Pt. La Jolla to a fruition vote.

This will not be the 1st time the public has been restricted to marine beach activities along the California coastline; ie., San Simeon State Beach where Elephant seals haul out to rest and give birth.

I witnessed 1st hand many years ago when the public walked among those giant mammals until injuries occurred and a viewing platform with education material was erected.

Now, for over 2 decades, both the public and the protected mammals occupy an area where both flourish through restricted access and education.

A year round closure of Pt. La Jolla will benefit all and create an alliance between the natural world, the public, and those either elected, employed or motivated to find balance.

I encourage the Coastal Commission to see this through.

Sincerely,

Jeff Stacy; Oceanside, CA

Sent from my iPhone

**From:** D Beal <dbeal1286@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Tuesday, August 22, 2023 7:31 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Coastal Commission members,

Our family fully supports year-round closure of Point La Jolla with an ocean access corridor. It is a win-win solution!

This will provide people the opportunity to enjoy the sea lions in their natural habitat safely from the sidewalk.

The general public seems unable to control themselves and use common sense around the wildlife (i.e. national news coverage of La Jolla Cove these last few months). Closing Point La Jolla year round and providing the needed surveillance and ranger coverage will go a long way to protecting both people and animals.

Thank you for your time and consideration to these comments.

The Beal Family

From: Kim Thai <kimthaism@yahoo.com>

Sent: Wednesday, August 23, 2023 1:05 PM

To: SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

Subject: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

I support the year round closure of Point La Jolla and Boomer Beach for the safety of both human and wildlife.

Point La Jolla and the surrounding area provides a unique environment where humans and wildlife can safely coexist in close proximity, affording visitors a peek into the ecosystem special enough for the sea lions to choose as a nursery. But visitors have proven time and time again to be unable to personally judge a safe distance from the large marine mammals, often touching pups, throwing rocks and sand, or daring each other to touch the 800lbs sleeping adults. All of the above are instances of harassment that I have witnessed in person this summer alone.

Point La Jolla and Boomer Beach are an incredible 110 yards off California coast that offer a rare experience for visitors of all ages. Closure of the two would also help keep visitors safe from unstable cliffs and cross-contamination in unsanitary nesting areas. The precarious balance of the area can and should be protected and preserved.



**From:** Elena Tillman <tillman.elena@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 23, 2023 2:07 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Commissioners,

I am in FULL SUPPORT OF YEAR ROUND CLOSURE of the Point La Jolla sea lion rookery for these following reasons and more:

Firstly, the seasonal closure of the Pt. La Jolla sea lion rookery has worked! It has been largely successful in reducing the number of harassments of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.

The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping called Pt. La Jolla provides great viewing of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat and keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.

A year-round closure of Pt. La Jolla with an ocean access corridor is a win-win solution and provides safe viewing of sea lions.

Managing an area with sea lions and tourists is challenging and requires constant monitoring. A year-round closure with ocean access solves this problem while keeping people safe.

Wildlife and tourism don't mix. It had been proven time and again as evidenced by major events in the media, most of which happen every day, all day in the area without proper enforcement. People cannot police themselves. This has been demonstrated all over the globe. Keep people safe by creating a viewing area from the sidewalk and keeping Pt. La Jolla, a rocky outcropping closed except for ocean access at the south end.

Lastly, viewing from the sidewalk is the best solution. You can achieve a phenomenal view unlike any other in an urban setting from the sidewalk (still very close!) People don't know how to behave around wild animals and need the city to protect them. Closing the area while keeping an ocean access area open is the best solution.

Thank you for your diligence on these matters.

Elena Tillman

--

Best,

Elena Tillman

**From:** Hello, <vallee8360@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Sunday, August 27, 2023 11:49 AM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Hello,

I am a UCSD alum, and I completed my Environmental Systems senior project on sea lion harassment at Pt. La Jolla and the surrounding areas. I support the year-round closure of Pt. La Jolla as I believe that it will protect both the sea lions and the people. Through my project, I have seen numerous instances of people harassing sea lions when Pt. La Jolla was open, so a closure would significantly reduce these harassment incidents and better protect the people and the sea lions year-round. A year-round closure would prevent any confusion as to whether the area is open or not, and in addition, people would still be able to view and observe sea lions from a safer distance at the sidewalk.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Valerie Lee

**From:** angela gilda <ampznmp6@outlook.com>

**Sent:** Friday, August 25, 2023 11:45 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Please agree to vote to permanently close the La Jolla Point for the sake of public safety. That will prevent sea lions from changing their behavior and become aggressive due to the harassment and abusive behavior of visitors.

It is always wise to take preventive measures before disasters occur. I have often witnessed abusive behavior by visitors and children toward sea lions that resulted changes in Sea lion's behavior. A number of visitors do not take the warnings seriously. They do not respect and do not even pay attention to the warning given to them by the Sea lion by snapping or barking at them or personnel on duty. They harass the sea lions again and again to see their reaction thinking that they are having fun! When they are told not to harass the Sea lion or keep distance mostly say if government does not want us to do that they should close the area . There are visitors from other countries or places that have no idea and believe that area is made for them to take selfies. They risk their children life by let them get very close to Sea lion and also touching them to get pictures and that is very dangerous .

Please you have the power to keep the area safe for both public and Sea lions.

Respectfully,

Angela

Have a great day

**From:** Ellen Shively <ellenshively@hotmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 9:20 AM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Commissioners; This letter is in full support of the year round closure of Point Is Jolla.

From many previous comments, you will appreciate how much this proposal is "doing the right thing" in this arena.

The sea lions need the space unhindered by our intrusions for their survival-to give birth and raise the young, to find a solid surface to rest, socialize, launch their journey to forge the waters for their source of nutrition needs. To this end, half of the year is not sufficient.

If the question is access to the coast, please be aware that visitors and locals have full access in other select beaches nearby. In fact, Point La Jolla is a poor choice for sunbathing, and even walking on the irregular surface with its hard substrate and precipitous drop off points is DANGEROUS.

The city has adhered to your previous stipulations with the Rangers, volunteer docents, and other informed members of the public during the annual closure for the pupping season and has been a success. However, even then, violations occur during times of absence for oversight.

Thank you for understanding this contentious issue and perseverance in making sensible recommendations to the city. This is an opportunity to show other vulnerable location managers world wide that marine animals have inherent rights in suitable locations, especially in a rookery, over the less intense desires of human selfishness.

Ellen Shively  
San Diego

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows

**From:** Lisa Biasillo <biasillolisa@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Monday, August 28, 2023 2:10 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Esteemed Members of the San Diego City Council,

I am writing to express my strong support for the year-round closure of the Point, a vital area of coastline where California sea lions breed, pup, and haul out. As a concerned citizen and advocate for environmental conservation, I believe that this proposal offers significant benefits to both the marine mammals and the human community.

### **Benefits to Marine Mammals**

The Point is designated as a Marine Protected Area, and the sea lions that inhabit it are safeguarded by the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Despite these protective measures, human activities continue to pose a threat to these animals. A year-round closure would provide the sea lions with a sanctuary free from human disturbance, thereby promoting healthier breeding cycles, reducing stress, and ultimately contributing to the survival and well-being of this species.

### **Economic Benefits to the Community**

The presence of sea lions in La Jolla is not merely an environmental asset but also an economic one. Tourists are attracted to our city to witness these magnificent creatures in their natural habitat, thereby boosting local businesses and contributing to the city's revenue. A year-round closure would ensure that the sea lions continue to thrive, attracting more visitors and providing a sustainable source of income for the community.

### **Safety for Both Humans and Sea Lions**

Human-sea lion interactions can be dangerous for both parties involved. Sea lions, especially when threatened, can become aggressive, posing a risk to humans. Conversely, human activities can disturb these creatures, leading to unnecessary stress and potential harm. A year-round closure would serve as a preventive measure, ensuring the safety of both humans and sea lions by minimizing the chances of such interactions.

In conclusion, the year-round closure of the Point in La Jolla would be a win-win situation for both the marine mammals and the human community. It would provide a sanctuary for the sea lions, contribute to the local economy, and ensure the safety of all parties involved. I strongly urge the San Diego City Council to consider this proposal for the betterment of our community and the preservation of our natural heritage.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,  
Lisa Biasillo

**From:** Tony Ciani <aciani@cianiarchitecture.com>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 1:52 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Cc:** Lasiter, Melody@Coastal <Melody.Lasiter@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** CDP # 6-22-0113-A1 (City of San Diego Point La Jolla Closure) September 7, 2023

Dear Chair Brownsey and Members of the Coastal Commission,

The proposed year-round closure of a small portion of Point La Jolla to protect the sea lion habitat is a logical step to carry out the goals, policies and implementation of the La Jolla LCP and Community Plan, as well as the Coastal Act.

As a body surfer at Boomer Beach and the La Jolla Cove from 1957 to the 1990's, and a "rock guard" for the City of San Diego stationed at the Cove and Children's Pool in the 1960's, I believe this special place will benefit by the proposed modifications that will enhance La Jolla as a worldwide visitor destination and recreational purposes.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this important matter.

Sincerely,

*Tony Ciani*

Tony Ciani  
220 Walnut Street  
Pacific Grove, CA 93950



**From:** angela gilda <[ampznmp6@outlook.com](mailto:ampznmp6@outlook.com)>

**Sent:** Wednesday, August 30, 2023 4:01:39 PM

**To:** CentralCoast@Coastal <[CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov)>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Wednesday 16 - Deputy Director's Report

Please agree to vote to permanently close the La Jolla Point for the sake of public safety. That will prevent sea lions from changing their behavior and become aggressive due to the harassment and abusive behavior of visitors.

It is always wise to take preventive measures before disasters occur. I have often witnessed abusive behavior by visitors and children toward sea lions that resulted changes in Sea lion's behavior. A number of visitors do not take the warnings seriously. They do not respect and do not even pay attention to the warning given to them by the Sea lion by snapping or barking at them or personnel on duty. They harass the sea lions again and again to see their reaction thinking that they are having fun! When they are told not to harass the Sea lion or keep distance mostly say if government does not want us to do that they should close the area .

There are visitors from other countries or places that have no idea and believe that area is made for them to take selfies. They risk their children life by let them get very close to Sea lion and also touching them to get pictures and that is very dangerous .

Please you have the power to keep the area safe for both public and Sea lions.

Respectfully,

Angela

Have a great day

**From:** Elizabeth Hitchcock <elizabeth.hitchcock13@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 12:23 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

To Whom it May Concern,

I am reaching out regarding my support for extending the Point La Jolla Closure, Agenda Item Thursday 16a- Permit No.6-22-0113-A1. As a frequenter of the La Jolla Cove, it frustrates and saddens me to see so many people (usually tourists) blatantly ignore the signs and instructions to leave the sea lions and their young pups. While I support people being able to enjoy these beautiful animals from a safe distance, I have yet to visit the cove without seeing someone harassing the animals. A year round closure would significantly limit people who are trying to get selfies with sea lions, and protect these animals from human interference. Please consider extending the closure to year round to protect not only the cove, but all its wildlife, as well as keep people safe. Thank you for your time and consideration!

Best,

Elizabeth Hitchcock

**From:** Lucius <garry.jennings@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 12:16 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

I am a constant supporter of the safety and health of the California Sea Lion Rookery at La Jolla.

The California sea lion population is under increasing stress from toxic, harmful algal blooms, unstable food sources, and warming ocean waters. The least we can do is provide them a refuge for resting and caring for their young, free of direct human interference.

The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.

The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping Point La Jolla provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat. It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.

Managing an area with sea lions and tourists is challenging and requires constant monitoring by docents. A year-round closure preserves precious resources and keeps communities safe.

Wildlife and unrestricted tourism don't mix. Keep people safe by creating a viewing area from the sidewalk and keeping Point La Jolla closed except for ocean access at the south end.

I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution. Most people are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others.

**Please support the reasonable request for a year-round closure of that the rocky outcropping at Point La Jolla provides.**

Garry Jennings  
12324 Santiago Road East  
San Diego, CA 92129-2833

**From:** Amie Beth Aguiar <amie.aguiar@gmail.com>

**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 12:08 PM

**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>

**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

I have personally witnessed harassment of California Sea Lions by the public at Point La Jolla. People get so close that they clearly upset these animals, which is illegal under the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA), unless done by a federally permitted individual.

Marine mammals and other marine species are under increased pressure due to climate change and other anthropogenic causes. There are limited things we can do that are easy and will have a direct impact on these species. A year-round closure of Point La Jolla, and coming up with other ways that tourists can safely view the sea lions is a simple solution that has been proven to work in the past. The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.

I urge you to take this action to protect both the public, and our local wildlife.

*Amie*

**Amie Beth Aguiar, MS (she/her)**  
**Environmental Scientist & Conservation Biologist**

Nothing in life is to be feared,  
it is only to be understood.  
Now is the time to understand more,  
so that we may fear less.

✧ Marie Curie ✧

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**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 12:50:36 PM

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**From:** Jim Royer <jroyer1@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 12:39 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

#### **In Support of Extending the Point La Jolla Closure**

1. The California sea lion population is under increasing stress from toxic, harmful algal blooms, unstable food sources, and warming ocean waters. The least we can do is provide them a refuge for resting and caring for their young, free of direct human interference.
2. The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.
3. The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping Point La Jolla provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat. It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.
4. Managing an area with sea lions and tourists is challenging and requires constant monitoring by docents. A year-round closure preserves precious resources and keeps communities safe.
5. Wildlife and unrestricted tourism don't mix. Keep people safe by creating a viewing area from the sidewalk and keeping Point La Jolla closed except for ocean access at the south end.
6. I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution. Most people are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others. Please support the year-round closure of Point La Jolla.

Thank you  
Jim Royer  
2710 Ariane Drive #6  
San Diego, CA 92117

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:01:39 PM

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**From:** Maria Bernal-Silva <mbs@mariabernalsilva.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:01 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

- The California sea lion population is under increasing stress from toxic, harmful algal blooms, unstable food sources, and warming ocean waters. The least we can do is provide them a refuge for resting and caring for their young, free of direct human interference.
- The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.
- The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping Point La Jolla provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat. It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.
- Managing an area with sea lions and tourists is challenging and requires constant monitoring by docents. A year-round closure preserves precious resources and keeps communities safe.
- Wildlife and unrestricted tourism don't mix. Keep people safe by creating a viewing area from the sidewalk and keeping Point La Jolla closed except for ocean access at the south end.
- I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution. Most people are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others. Please support the year-round closure of Point La Jolla.

Thank you for your consideration in supporting ocean resources and safeguarding our wildlife year-round, which will help continue to make San Diego a safe and wonderful place to live and respectfully co-exist with its natural wonders.

Regards,  
Maria Silva



**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:01:51 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Deb <[deborahmossa@gmail.com](mailto:deborahmossa@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 1:01 PM  
To: [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal) <[SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov)>  
Subject: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Please keep the rookery safe from people. People have the entire shoreline and beach, let sea lions have a safe place to have and raise their pups.

-Deb Mossa

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:02:21 PM

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**From:** Gregory, Margaret <Margaret.Gregory@ga.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:04 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution. Most people are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others. Please support the year-round closure of Point La Jolla.

Thank you  
Margaret Gregory

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:02:39 PM

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**From:** Catherine Stiefel <stiefel\_catherine@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:05 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen of the Commission:

San Diego, and the state of California, boast a beautiful coastline with protections for the environment and its biodiversity. However, for many years, Point La Jolla, a valuable though small section of this coastline, has been the topic of great debate. Some would sacrifice the sea lion population and allow them to be disturbed, poked and prodded by callous visitors. Others wish to preserve their freedom to make this popular lookout a rest and pupping area. Surely the latter is a wiser choice compatible with California's environmental and climate goals.

Children and adults who are allowed to approach the sea lions may be injured if the sea lions become protective of their young.

La Jolla gains economically by the sea lions visiting and lounging on the beach. But more important, I strongly favor the permit to permanently protect the area for sea lions and implement measures to shield the sea lions year-round from human harassment.

Sincerely yours,  
Catherine Stiefel

San Diego, CA

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:03:05 PM

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**From:** Nora Jaffe <ntayjaff@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:11 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Friends:

I live in District 1 and Joe LaCava is my esteemed Councilperson.

I write in support of extending the Point La Jolla closure. A closure will benefit our valued sea lion population and also protect human viewers, who are often uneducated as to the inadvisability of sea lion-human interaction. I also agree with the points made by San Diego Coastkeeper, attached below.

Sincerely,

Nora Taylor Jaffe  
2424 Ellentown Road  
La Jolla, CA 92037-1109

- The California sea lion population is under increasing stress from toxic, harmful algal blooms, unstable food sources, and warming ocean waters. The least we can do is provide them a refuge for resting and caring for their young, free of direct human interference.
- The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.
- The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping Point La Jolla provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat. It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.
- Managing an area with sea lions and tourists is challenging and requires constant monitoring by docents. A year-round closure preserves precious resources and keeps communities safe.
- Wildlife and unrestricted tourism don't mix. Keep people safe by creating a viewing area from the sidewalk and keeping Point La Jolla closed except for ocean access at the south end.
- I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution. Most people

are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others. Please support the year-round closure of Point La Jolla.

-

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:13:26 PM

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**From:** Tammy Taunt <[oneseagoer@aol.com](mailto:oneseagoer@aol.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:17 PM  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal) <[SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Hello,

It is very important to protect our marine mammals at all costs. Animals deserve the same respect as humans. The California Sea Lion is a marine mammal protected species. It is our job as humans to protect them not disturb them. Closing one beach is not going to be a burden on anyone. In fact, swimming in that water next to the sea lions could be a health hazard. There are plenty of other places for people to swim, snorkel, surf, kayak, whatever. Protecting a species is way more important than losing a small beach.

Thank you

***Tammy Taunt***

[oneseagoer@aol.com](mailto:oneseagoer@aol.com)

*"The magic spell cast by the sea enlightens all that embrace her. . ." Wyland*

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:14:34 PM

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**From:** Elissa Berver <elissa.berver@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:21 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Please support the year round closure of Point La Jolla. It gives everyone a nice viewing point to watch the sea lions behaving naturally, and it is much safer for both the people and the animals.

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:01:17 PM

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-----Original Message-----

From: Kay Cornelius <[kecorn86@gmail.com](mailto:kecorn86@gmail.com)>  
Sent: Friday, September 1, 2023 3:29 PM  
To: [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal) <[SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov)>  
Subject: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

My family has driven Hwy 1 for so many years, including our daughter Jenny. We've always stopped to view the elephant seals, sea lions and other wildlife in this area (and up the entire Hwy 1 & 101). So much so, that our daughter became a marine biologist. She interned at various marine life facilities including Marine Mammal Care Center in San Pedro and Sea World in San Diego and Orlando. We contribute to these centers so that care and further research efforts save the waters and the marine life along our coast. Please continue to support these efforts. We cannot imagine never seeing these beautiful creatures and the magnificent ocean waters that by our Lord blessed us.

Jimmie & Kathleen Cornelius and our daughter Jenny [Kecorn86@gmail.com](mailto:Kecorn86@gmail.com)  
7400 Parkway Dr  
La Mesa, CA



**From:** [Anna Christensen](#)  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](#); [Schwing, Karl@Coastal](#); [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](#)  
**Subject:** September 2023 Coastal Commission Meeting, Agenda Item Th16a, Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:06:59 PM  
**Attachments:** [image.png](#)  
[Correspondence, September 2023 Coastal Commission Meeting, Agenda Item Th16a.pdf](#)

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Whose Beach? Our Beach! Thanks to you.



**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:10:01 PM

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**From:** Lenore Monk <l25monk@yahoo.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:06 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

To the Coastal Commission,

It would be another important step for you to take to protect the sea lions at Point La Jolla. **The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping there provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat. It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.**

For the sea lions who make their home there, I thank you!

Lenore Monk  
92110

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:44:38 PM

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**From:** Jeshua Taucher <taucherjeshua@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:30 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Good evening,

I would like to make a public comment in support of protecting the Point La Jolla California Sea Lion haul out site, year round.

I have spent the last six years working with pinnipeds and marine mammals around the world. San Diego's ecosystem and tourism sector is blessed to have such bounty on its doorstep. This decision provides an invaluable opportunity to make decisive action to enable these federally protected species to co-exist and thrive alongside our human population. The human population here, is rapidly expanding and protected sites for wildlife are more critical now than they ever have been. I am in full support of year round closure of Point La Jolla, and the designation of a specific tourist viewer area.

- The California sea lion population is under increasing stress from toxic, harmful algal blooms, unstable food sources, and warming ocean waters. The least we can do is provide them a refuge for resting and caring for their young, free of direct human interference.
- The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.
- The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping Point La Jolla provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat. It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.
- Managing an area with sea lions and tourists is challenging and requires constant monitoring by docents. A year-round closure preserves precious resources and keeps communities safe.
- Wildlife and unrestricted tourism don't mix. Keep people safe by creating a viewing area from the sidewalk and keeping Point La Jolla closed except for ocean access at the south end.
- I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution. Most people are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others. Please support the year-round closure of

Point La Jolla.

Thank you very much,  
Jeshua Taucher

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 5:01:48 PM

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**From:** Christina Arias <c.arias.liles@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 4:50 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

Please support the year round closure for the seal rookery.

Shared use with beachgoers has not been working. The San Diego region has hundreds of miles of coastline for beachgoers to enjoy. We can afford to give unshared access to the wildlife for this small stretch of beach.

-Christina Arias

**From:** [Katherine Ozanich](#)  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 8:18:38 PM

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To the CCC:

The year-round closure of the rocky outcropping Point La Jolla provides an excellent and safe view of sea lions and their pups in their natural habitat.

It also keeps an ocean access corridor open all year.

I think viewing sea lions from the sidewalk is a win-win solution.

Most people are unfamiliar with behaving appropriately around wild animals and can often endanger themselves and others.

Please support the year-round closure of Point La Jolla.

Thank you,

Katherine Ozanich, MD  
6121 Waverly Avenue  
La Jolla, CA 92037

**From:** [Jane Reldan](#)  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 7:57:11 PM

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To the CCC:

- The Point La Jolla Sea Lion Rookery's seasonal closure has successfully reduced the harassment of sea lions and their pups while providing safe viewing from the boardwalk above.

Please vote unanimously for year round closure.

Jane Reldan, MD  
467 Coast Blvd  
La Jolla, CA 92037  
858.349.0613 cell  
858.454.1143 fax  
[jreldan@san.rr.com](mailto:jreldan@san.rr.com)

**From:** [Robert Craddick](#)  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 5:07:36 PM

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Please work to provide protection of our beach sea lions at La Jolla. The native species there is under exceptionally dangerous conditions with hordes of tourists and other visitors touching , kicking , posing dangerously close for photos with children. There are beautiful creatures trying to raise their young at this location and barriers need to be provided to protect them as well as tourists. La Jolla is not SeaWorld where animals are put into areas for tourists and curious people but they also don't allow free access to creatures of the sea and especially not their babies. It is important to provide some stewardship for the natural resources and living creatures in jeopardy of being trampled upon.

My son and I frequent La Jolla throughout the year and it is always embarrassing to bring our visitors to La Jolla to see the carnage unlimited access to our sea lions causes.

Thank you  
Robert Craddick  
4660 73rd ST  
La Mesa, CA 91942

Sent from my iPhone



**From:** [CentralCoast@Coastal](mailto:CentralCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**Subject:** Fw: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Wednesday 16 - Deputy Director's Report  
**Date:** Tuesday, September 5, 2023 12:29:06 PM

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**From:** Sandra Jeskie <sjeskie@icloud.com>  
**Sent:** Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:57 AM  
**To:** CentralCoast@Coastal <CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Wednesday 16 - Deputy Director's Report

I am fully in support of the year round closure of Pt. La Jolla. Over many years, I have witnessed more and more people ignore the signs and put themselves in danger by getting dangerously close to wild seal lions in an effort to get a selfie. Parents, who are unaware of the dangers, often put small children within a few feet of large sea lions trying to get their own pictures because others are getting so close. The risks continue to mount and it is only a matter of time before someone is gravely injured.

The sea lions are in their natural habitat and they should be free to rest, play, mate, give birth and nurse without the interference of people who are clearly disturbing them. I have also witnessed a number of people go well beyond disturbing the sea lions and cross into actions that can only be considered intentional harassment, if not animal cruelty. Fortunately, Pt. La Jolla has an excellent viewing area behind the wall for people to view the sea lions in their natural habitat. That is the safest and best option for viewing the sea lions because it allows people to get their pictures without disturbing the sea lions' natural behaviors.

Thank you  
Sandy Jeskie



Agenda Item: 16a, Thur. 09/07/2023  
Application No.: 6-22-0113-A1  
Bob Evans | Opposed

September 1, 2023

Re: Pt La Jolla Closure

Dear Commissioners,

La Jolla Parks & Beaches, Inc. strongly requests the Commission **not approve** the coastal development permit application 6-22-0113-A1. The City of San Diego's Pt La Jolla long-term management plan intention is to prevent the harassment of the pinnipeds. We believe there are other workable options available that do NOT include closure and prevention of access to beaches, while ensuring the safety and balance for all wildlife, and for the best management of Scripps Park as a whole.

*A bona fide human and wildlife management plan needs to be properly considered, whose outcome is derived from dialogue and input from all community stakeholders, and it can be a very achievable plan. Safeguarding for the protection for all marine wildlife has always been paramount within the greater community; it's just as important to support and enhance beach access and recreation in the area for everyone to enjoy this regional and worldwide destination urban park.*

The CCC's Staff Report on the surface is comprehensive and well researched; however, it lacks systemic insight with regard for the greater La Jolla community, and the report negates the possibility of other workable win/win type of solutions.

A proper and successful long term management plan for Pt La Jolla and Scripps Park area needs to also address the following;

- The-proposed City plan conflicts with the Local Community Plan for several reasons: closing beach access, reducing recreation and leisure resources, harming the park infrastructure, compromising the natural and scenic beauty of the area, and more. Whereby, leadership from the La Jolla Community Planning Association have voiced their strong objections of the proposed plan to the City Council.
- Recreational use and enhancing beach access for all to enjoy has always been at the forefront of local land use planning for Scripps Park since the community's inception. Example: Boomer Beach used to be a pleasant and enjoyable sandy beach in the summer where anyone could safely and easily partake in beach activities. Now, only a very small percentage of people can safely climb down the narrow and steep 'ocean access corridor' directly to the water. Unfortunately, the bluffs and trail at Pt La Jolla are extremely polluted and susceptible to human pathogens, thus no one should be traversing down the path.



- Polluted water and beach at La Jolla Cove have now caused County Health Advisories to be posted; all resulting from the sea lions' waste and their growing presence over the past year at the Cove.
- The biological resources of the Pt La Jolla/ Scripps Park area have been hugely and negatively impacted, and there are significant changes to the local biodiversity from the large pinniped colony. For example, the area tidepools have been decimated, and the bordering State Marine Reserve continues to have its sensitive biodiversity threatened.
- There's no consideration for the cultural and historical significance of Pt La Jolla. Scripps Park area around Pt La Jolla, all of which are contributing factors to the La Jolla Coastal Historical District that is designated on the National Register of Historic Places.
- Visual quality and aesthetics at one of the most scenic and natural beauty sites in all the City are severely overwhelmed with the large orange k-rails and hazard cones. Currently, there are more than three-dozen signs in the short stretch of Pt La Jolla area, and with the proposed addition of more signs, the visual pollution worsens.
- The sea lions are finicky where they chose to haul-out, and have moved over to other sites outside of the proposed closure area. They're now more numerous at the nearby La Jolla Cove beach and the other surrounding bluffs, which are creating a serious increase in human/pinniped interactions on a constant and daily basis. A growing number of beach access options are being cordoned-off and closed to mitigate the publicized human/pinniped beach engagements as seen recently on the news and social media.
- Specifically, Scripps Park/ La Jolla Cove need an action plan! In stark contrast, the Rangers Monitoring Report states ZERO harassment since 2022 to pinnipeds at the proposed Pt La Jolla closure area, so further closures are not warranted there. The Rangers' presence and monitoring appears to be working well, and no new ordinance and closure is needed at that site to prevent pinniped harassments.

The current City's long-term management plan is off-target as to what is sorely needed for an effective wildlife management plan at Pt La Jolla and Scripps Park. The City's CEQA review of the Project is wholly inaccurate and contains many falsehoods. This must be reviewed again, or more appropriately, an EIR first performed before any Pt La Jolla/ Scripps Park long term plan can be carried out.

The current City plan lacks involvement from the greater community, and has low regard for the management of Scripps Park as a whole. All stakeholders need to come together to best collaborate on a plan that can provide safety for *all* marine life, and continue to ensure open beaches and safe access for everyone. The current City application for their long-term management plan must not be approved.

Sincerely,

*Bob Evans*

Bob Evans | President  
La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc.

La Jolla Parks and Beaches, Inc. is a registered California charitable (public benefit) corporation and exempt from Federal income tax under section 501(c)(3) of the IRS Code. Contributions may be tax deductible. FEIN 45-3281923  
[lajollaparksandbeaches@gmail.com](mailto:lajollaparksandbeaches@gmail.com) | [www.lajollaparksbeaches.org](http://www.lajollaparksbeaches.org) | Mail: PO Box 185, La Jolla CA 92038  
Regular Meetings: 4th Monday of the Month - Location TBA

## ***Opposition to the proposed year-round closure of Point La Jolla in Scripps Park.***

*Public Comment on September CCC 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)*

September 1, 2023

The misuse of governmental authority expresses itself all over our public lands as more and more public lands are put off limits to the public.

This is no more evident than in La Jolla when San Diego City Officials continue to create coastal resource management problems where the best advice from experts in the field of marine biology is repeatedly ignored. The latest mis-management is in the City's proposed year-round closure of Point La Jolla in Scripps Park.

City Officials will violate the San Diego City Charter section 55 when it converts Scripps Park land to a seal reserve without a public vote. The boundary of Scripps Park extends to the mean high tide line on Point La Jolla and is well within the proposed closure area. No public vote to turn Scripps Park, a developed shoreline park, into a seal reserve has been done.

**The proposed conversion of city park land to seal reserve cannot proceed.**

San Diego City Charter Section 55 states:

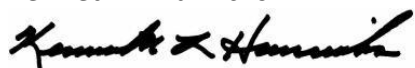
*"All real property heretofore or hereafter designated or set aside for park, recreation or cemetery purposes shall not be used for any but park, recreation or cemetery purposes without such changed use or purpose having been first authorized or permitted in such manner as is prescribed by the laws of the State of California in such cases and until such changed use or purpose is first authorized or ratified by a vote of two-thirds of the qualified electors of the City voting at an election for that purpose."*

In requiring consent and agreement with the Dept of Commerce, the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) sought to maintain consistent marine mammal regulations and enforcement. The City and Coastal Commission have deliberately and knowingly ignored that provision of the MMPA to streamline their beach closure plans.

NOAA/NMFS officials, who are responsible for the management of pinnipeds, repeatedly advised City Officials and the Coastal Commission to not allow colonization by pinnipeds and not close human recreational areas like Children's Pool. The same advice applies to the latest proposed beach closure at Point La Jolla. Dr Hanon stated, in his multiple studies commissioned the City of San Diego, that closure was not the best management strategy. His sound advice also has been disregarded.

Do not amend the permit for the proposed year round closure of Point La Jolla.

Kenneth L. Hunrichs



August 31, 2023

California Coastal Commission  
San Diego Coast District Office  
7575 Metropolitan Drive Suite 103  
San Diego, CA 92108-4402

**PERMIT NUMBER: 6-22-0113-A1**

Please **do not** honor the request by City of San Diego to amend the permit for the closure of Point La Jolla during sea lion pupping season to extend the closure year-round and install permanent gate at top of access stairs at Point La Jolla.

The California Coastal Commission (CCC) should be concerned about the direction San Diego City officials and the local San Diego Coast District CCC office are taking in regards to Pt. L Jolla and sea lions in La Jolla if the CCC values public access. There are no verified sea lion casualties from contact with people at Pt. La Jolla.

In 2015 and 2016, City Park and Recreation commissioned Dr. Doyle Hanan of Hanan and Associates to study and gather information on the sea lion population on La Jolla beaches including Boomer Beach.

In 2017 the City again hired Hanan & Associates to provide a Marine Coastal Management Plan for La Jolla beaches at a total cost of about \$100,000 for the study and the Plan. The Plan was intended to provide guidance for the City to manage marine mammals. Included in the management alternatives was Options for Moving and/or Excluding California Sea Lions from Certain Areas. Each of the techniques would be allowed under section 109(h) of the MMPA using NOAA/NMFS approved deterrent techniques. NOAA is the federal agency which has ultimate enforcement authority regarding sea lions.

However, instead of discouraging sea lions from continuing to settle in the La Jolla Cove, Boomer Beach and Pt. La Jolla areas, the City decided to select the least effective option to install educational signs setting the stage for yet another popular recreational beach to be closed. The local district CCC office agreed with the City and closed Boomer Beach and Pt. La Jolla to the public with the exception of a narrow trail strictly for ocean access at Boomer Beach. This sea lion pupping closure extends from May 25 to September 15. This closure is for pinnipeds that have already reached OSP, optimal sustaining population. In the last decade, Chris Yates from the National Marine Fisheries has advised the City of San Diego not to close beaches for any pinnipeds but the City and local CCC office have ignored the advice.

In the **Resolution** from the staff report dated 8/17/23, the local commission staff approves the Coastal Development Permit and adopts the findings on grounds that the development as amended and conditioned will be in conformity with the policies of **Chapter 3 of the Coastal Act**.

Upon my review of that chapter, there are several articles: Article 1 General, Article 2 Public Access, Article 3 Recreation, Article 4 Marine Environment, Article 5 Land Resources, and Article 6 Development. (Article 7 does not apply). It does not seem logical that sea lion protection overrides most of the other considerations provided when reading the articles covering various sections including beach access.

The staff further states: ***the permit complies with the California Environmental Quality Act because either 1) feasible mitigation measures and/or alternatives have been incorporated to substantially***

***lessen any significant adverse effects of the development on the environment, or 2) there are no further feasible mitigation measures or alternatives that would substantially lessen any significant adverse impacts of the development on the environment.***

That statement makes no sense because the mitigation for the sea lion population is to not encourage them to keep hanging out at Pt. La Jolla all year. If the beach is closed the entire year, the sea lions will increase and occupy other beaches in greater numbers such as the La Jolla Cove.

Please **do not** extend the seasonal closure to apply year-round. Pt. La Jolla has a dedicated ocean user group of watermen and women. Their interests should also be protected.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Marie Humrich". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

**From:** [Brenda](#)  
**To:** [Brownsey, Donne@Coastal](#)  
**Cc:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](#); [ExecutiveStaff@Coastal](#); [Patrick Ahern](#); [TomBrady](#); [BobEvansRealtor@gmail.com](#); [Phyllis Minick](#)  
**Subject:** Request for EIR - Pt. Jolla San Diego CA 92037 - Agenda Item: 16a, Thur. 09/07/2023 Application No.: 6-22-0113-A1  
**Date:** Sunday, September 3, 2023 9:46:41 PM

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**California Coastal Commission**  
**Agenda Item: 16a, Thur. 09/07/2023**  
**Application No.: 6-22-0113-A1**

**Patrick Ahern, Tom Brady, Bob Evans, Brenda Fake, Phyllis Minick | Opposed.**

Dear Commissioner Brownsey

We are writing to you today regarding the permanent closure of the Pt La Jolla. Observationally speaking it has been difficult to witness the lack of collaborative and systemic approaches in problem-solving access of this shared urban resource. The information the CCC has used to make this decision is seal leaning and biased in outlining the full extent of the impacts of the sea lion population.

The City of San Diego has taken the path of least resistance to avoid lengthy and costly legal battles with the seal rights activist organizations based on their experience with Scripps Children's Pool. With the city having "no will" to fight this issue on behalf of the San Diego residents, much less La Jolla the community groups are alone in getting their voice heard. The public is not being fully represented by exploring viable collaborative options that would better benefit the whole. Couple this with the fact seal rights organizations have heavily influenced CCC and CCC staff as a single-issue special interest group with deep legal pockets biased in their information to push a single focused special interest agenda. The initial findings provided to CCC are a good example of the lack of objectivity in reviewing the problem.

Imagine the impact of these two large organizations have against volunteer community board members and the many residents who have consistently requested better enforcement and advocated for an Environmental Impact Review (EIR) of the area. The purpose of the EIR is to get broader insight into the systemic impact of an encroaching sea lion population into an area with equally important public access needs. An EIR study would provide an unbiased and agreed upon set of data to help make a more prudent researched based decision regarding the needs of this area.

This is a complex problem requiring a higher level of thinking not only for the environment, the sea lions, other marine species but for the many recreational users who live or visit this popular destination in San Diego. Observationally, many people enjoy the seals and understand the economic benefit, however the overuse by any unchecked population is a problem that can be avoided with better insight, collaboration, and collective planning.

When managing the effects of a large sea lion rookery, it is crucial to monitor the population size and the behavior of sea lions, assess their impact on the reserve's resources, and implement

appropriate management strategies. These strategies may involve setting fishing quotas, establishing buffer zones to protect sensitive species, or collaboratively implementing visitor guidelines and enforcement to minimize disturbance to wildlife while maximizing educational opportunities and working to better coexisting between marine wildlife and recreational users.

Large sea lion rookeries can have both positive and negative effects on the Matlahuayl State Marine Reserve, depending on various factors such as the size of the rookery, its location, and the specific ecological characteristics of the reserve. Here are some potential effects:

**1. ECOLOGICAL IMPACT:** Sea lions are apex predators and play an important role in the marine food chain. The presence of a large rookery can enhance the overall biodiversity and ecological functioning of the reserve. Sea lions feed on various fish species and help control their populations, which can contribute to a more balanced ecosystem, providing their consumption is not excessive and populations are in balance.

**2. NUTRIENT ENRICHMENT:** Sea lion colonies generate significant amounts of waste, including feces and regurgitated food. These waste materials can act as a source of nutrients for the marine environment. The enrichment of nutrients can enhance primary productivity and support the growth of phytoplankton and other organisms, which can benefit the overall ecosystem, and when too many nutrients are available, phytoplankton may grow out of control and form harmful algal blooms (HABs). These blooms can produce extremely toxic compounds that have harmful effects on fish, shellfish, mammals, birds, and even people.

Source: <https://oceanservice.noaa.gov/facts/phyto.html>

The [National Centers for Coastal Ocean Science](#) conduct extensive research on harmful algal blooms. Scientists use a range of technologies to predict where and when HABs are likely to form and how they will affect the areas where they occur. Scientists use this information to inform coastal authorities on how to best respond to minimize negative impacts.

**3. DISTURBANCE TO OTHER SPECIES:** Large sea lion rookeries can create disturbances for other species in the reserve. The noise and activity associated with a large number of sea lions may disrupt sensitive species, such as nesting birds or other marine mammals. This disturbance can lead to changes in behavior, breeding success, and distribution of these species.

**4. COMPETITION FOR RESOURCES:** Sea lions are known to consume significant amounts of fish, which can potentially lead to competition with commercial or recreational fishing activities in the reserve. If the sea lion population becomes too large, it may deplete fish stocks and impact the livelihoods of local fishermen or disrupt the balance of the marine ecosystem.

**5. ALTERED HABITAT:** The presence of a large sea lion rookery can result in physical changes to the reserve's habitat. Sea lions can cause erosion and trampling of vegetation in the areas they inhabit, leading to changes in the structure and composition of coastal ecosystems. This alteration can impact the nesting habitats of shorebirds or other species that rely on specific vegetation types.

**6. TOURISM AND EDUCATION:** Sea lion rookeries can also attract tourists and provide educational opportunities for visitors. The presence of a large, accessible rookery can generate economic benefits through ecotourism, raising awareness about marine conservation, and fostering public



support for the protection of the reserve.

CCC is well positioned to make a rational decision and vote to support a collaborative researched based approach and explore alternative options over a permanent closure. We formally request you and the entire CCC Board seek to learn more by requesting the City of San Diego conduct an EIR of Point La Jolla and share the results before making this a permanent closure. The researched information will help in the short term given the current seal population challenges as well as understanding the long-term effect of climate change, on-going sea mammal migrations, and increasing park and coastal usage to a tourist destination.

Failure to not look deeper into this systemic issue leaves the public to wonder when do the closures stop because the next target for seal activists will be La Jolla Cove. It has already started with partial La Jolla Cove closures because of expanding seal breeding in the area. To close the Cove would be a line too far for the public if precedent is set with the closure of Pt. La Jolla.

Regards

**Patrick Ahern**

**Tom Brady**

**Bob Evans**

**Brenda Fake**

**Phyllis Minick**

**From:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@Coastal)  
**To:** [Lasiter, Melody@Coastal](mailto:Lasiter,Melody@Coastal)  
**Subject:** FW: Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 2:19:40 PM

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**From:** Rob Morrison <[robiwon@yahoo.com](mailto:robiwon@yahoo.com)>  
**Sent:** Friday, September 1, 2023 1:52 PM  
**To:** SanDiegoCoast@Coastal <[SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov](mailto:SanDiegoCoast@coastal.ca.gov)>  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)

I am writing to express my deep concern and strong opposition to the proposed closure of Point La Jolla. While I understand the importance of preserving our natural environment and protecting the wildlife that inhabits it, I believe that a more balanced approach can be adopted to achieve these goals without sacrificing public access and recreational opportunities.

Point La Jolla has long been a cherished destination for both locals and tourists, offering a unique blend of natural beauty and outdoor activities. Its accessibility has made it a popular spot for people of all ages to enjoy the breathtaking coastal scenery, engage in water sports, and connect with nature.

I live within walking distance of the Point and frequently access it. In my 25 years of residency of the cove area of La Jolla, I have witnessed the growth of the sea lion population from near zero to what seems to be 100+. This growth has occurred mostly with no restrictions or closures on coastal access in the area. I am not sure how it can be argued that a closure is needed when the sea lions have been flourishing without one. Based on what I have witnessed, adding this closure is an over-reaction. If this closure were to take effect then the La Jolla Cove beach should also be closed as the seal lions now inhabit that beach too. Closing beach access, some of the oldest beach access in California, is unnecessary to protect sea lions and harms the access to the people of California to our beaches.

Rather than closing Point La Jolla entirely, I suggest exploring alternative solutions that can benefit both the sea lions and the public, such as:

- **Enhanced Enforcement:** Strengthen enforcement of existing regulations to ensure that visitors do not harass or harm sea lions.
- **Educational Programs:** Implement educational programs and signage to raise awareness about the importance of respecting wildlife and maintaining a safe distance from sea lions.
- **Designated Viewing Areas:** Create designated viewing areas with appropriate

barriers to protect both the sea lions and visitors while allowing for a closer encounter with these magnificent animals.

By adopting a more balanced approach, we can ensure that Point La Jolla remains a valuable resource for our community and future generations to come. I believe that it is possible to protect sea lions and their habitat while still allowing responsible public access to this natural treasure.

I kindly request that you reconsider the proposed closure and engage in a constructive dialogue with the local community, environmental organizations, and other stakeholders to develop a solution that preserves Point La Jolla's unique charm while safeguarding its wildlife.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this matter. I look forward to hearing from you and participating in the discussions surrounding this important issue.

Sincerely,

Rob Morrison  
1355 Torrey Pines Rd  
La Jolla, CA 92037

**From:** [la ehrenfreund](#)  
**To:** [SanDiegoCoast@Coastal](#)  
**Subject:** Public Comment on September 2023 Agenda Item Thursday 16a - Permit No. 6-22-0113-A1 (San Diego Point La Jolla Seasonal Closure, San Diego)  
**Date:** Friday, September 1, 2023 9:49:24 PM

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True wildlife protection does not include encouraging any species to live within city boundaries.

The seals and sea lions in La Jolla are (and have been for the past 30 years) used as entertainment and an economic benefit to the region. This isn't a matter of protecting ocean mammals, but rather of protecting how thrilling and wonderful it is for humans to be in their presence and to feel we are out there advocating for them.

Anyone who truly cares about our wildlife wants to keep it wild, not pampered by man-made seawalls and beaches and encouraged to live among their greatest threat—us.

Laurel Ehrenfreund