



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Surfrider Chapters Across the U.S. Bring Attention to the State of Our Coasts & Oceans

SANTA CRUZ, CA, 08/31/06 — In an effort to bring attention to the ongoing degradation of our coasts and oceans, Surfrider Foundation presents a national paddle-out throughout the country, which will take place on September 9, 2006, allowing people the opportunity to rally at their favorite beach and paddle out to form a circle of solidarity to address their concerns and voice their opinions regarding the state of our coasts and oceans.

The Santa Cruz Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation is hosting a “paddle-out” at Cowells Beach on September 9, 2006, between 9:00-11:00 am. This event is open to the public and does not require getting in the water, although paddlers are welcomed and encouraged. For more local info, please see: www.surfridersantacruz.org.

“The goal is simple,” says Jim Moriarity, Executive Director for Surfrider Foundation. “A national paddle-out gives Surfrider Foundation chapters in local communities nationwide the perfect opportunity to raise awareness about the current state of our coasts and oceans, and advocate for changes that will help preserve these natural treasures. Now is the time to do something about it.”

Two recent reports by “Blue Ribbon” Commissions document disturbing trends, including: overdevelopment of our coastal zones, dramatic loss of coastal wetlands, unabated pollution of our coastal waters, altered sediment flow, declining marine life populations, and a host of other serious threats that are impacting our enjoyment of the coast and ocean. These recent reports only bring heightened attention to what Surfrider Foundation has been documenting for years in our State of the Beach Report. Local Surfrider Foundation chapters are dedicating this year’s annual paddle-out to bring national and local attention to the findings of these reports through local events that will take place in every region throughout the country. This is a wake-up call to highlight the importance of these reports from a national perspective and to illustrate how the findings are applicable to our on-going local campaigns. For nationwide locations, see: www.surfrider.org/paddle

About The Surfrider Foundation

The Surfrider Foundation is a non-profit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and preservation of our world’s oceans, waves and beaches. Founded in 1984 by a handful of visionary surfers, the Surfrider Foundation now maintains over 50,000 members and 60 chapters across the United States and Puerto Rico, with international affiliates in Australia, Europe, Japan and Brazil.

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