

South La Jolla SMR Survey Sites



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Overview

South La Jolla State Marine Reserve is located alongshore a highly populated residential area in south La Jolla, Marked by jagged cliffs and vital California spiny lobster habitat. While several popular surf spots exist within the MPA, much of the state marine reserve is accessible only by boat or by traversing unstable cliffs. The partial isolation and lobster population makes South La Jolla a hot spot for poachers. Pay special attention to boats for potential poaching activity.

Boundary Description

South La Jolla State Marine Reserve extends from Palomar Ave. on the north to Diamond Street on the south. The SMR extends west to 32° 49.573' N. lat. 117° 19.000' W. long. at which point it becomes a state marine conservation area.

Surveys Locations



South La Jolla 1 (SLJ 1)

Palomar Ave. to North Bird.
Drive/Park/Walk/Scan survey with four stops.
Shoreline distance 0.66 miles.
Driving/biking distance 0.6 miles.



South La Jolla 3 (SLJ 3)

PB/False Point to Tourmaline. (0.33 mi)
Walking survey.



South La Jolla 2 (SLJ 2)

North Bird to Calumet Park.
Drive/Park/Walk/Scan survey with five stops.
Shoreline distance 0.8 miles.
Driving/biking distance 0.9 miles.



South La Jolla 4 (SLJ 4)

Tourmaline to Diamond Street. (0.5 mi)
Walking survey.



SURVEY NOTES

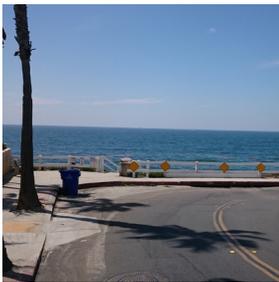
Advisory

This short transect is best done by driving or biking between public access points. Most of the coast is lined with private residences so please be mindful. Also, beware of unstable cliffs and watch your footing on slippery rocks.

Parking

This survey takes place in a residential area. Street parking is available for free, just be mindful to not block driveways.

Location Markers



Starting Point/Palomar Ave. Stop #1 - 0.0 mi

The start point begins at the west end of Palomar Ave. (aka "Big Rock" Park and walk to the end of the street. Descend the staircase and count all activity on the beach or in the water to your LEFT.



Stop #2 - 0.4 mi

Drive approximately 0.4 miles from the starting point to an unnamed public access point on your right between Via del Norte and Avenida Cortez. Park your car and walk down the fenced path toward the beach. If the tide is low enough to expose the small beach, walk across the beach to the right and climb on the far rock to count any activity around the northern corner. Walk back up toward your car counting anyone on the rocks, beach, or in the water. Do not count people on the fenced path leading to the road.



Stop #3 - 0.5 mi

Drive approximately 0.1 miles from Stop #2 to another unnamed public access point on your right. It is marked by a sign that says "Unstable Cliffs," a city regulatory sign, and some very large and very sharp agave plants on the left of the path. Walk out to the small overlook and count activity below. Mind your step and make sure to stay on the overlook.



End Point/North Bird Stop #4 - 0.6 mi

The end point is at North Bird, at the pullout along a dramatic curve in Camino de la Costa. Park, walk to the end of the pullout, descend the stairs onto the beach and count all activity to your RIGHT.





Advisory

This short transect is best done by driving or biking between public access points. Most of the coast is lined with private residences so please be mindful. Also, beware of unstable cliffs and watch your footing on slippery rocks.

Parking

This survey takes place in a residential area. Street parking is available for free, just be mindful to not block driveways.

SURVEY NOTES

Location Markers



Starting Point/North Bird Stop #1 - 0.0 mi

The start point begins at North Bird, at the pullout along a dramatic curve in Camino de la Costa. Park, walk to the end of the pullout, descend the stairs onto the beach and count all activity to your LEFT.



Moss Lane Stop #2 - 0.4 mi

From Stop #1 continue south on Camino de la Costa. Turn right to stay on Camino de la Costa, make a right on Chelsea Ave, then a right on Dolphin Pl. Continue until you get to Moss Lane. Note Moss Lane is marked with a street sign, but is a concrete walkway, rather than a street. Walk down the path to the right, around the fence, and count any activity to your right and left.



South Bird Rock Stop #3 - 0.4 mi

From Stop #2 continue south on Dolphin Pl for less than 0.1 miles until you get to Bird Rock Ave. Park and walk to the public access point at the end of Bird Rock Ave.



Forward St. Stop #4 - 0.7 mi

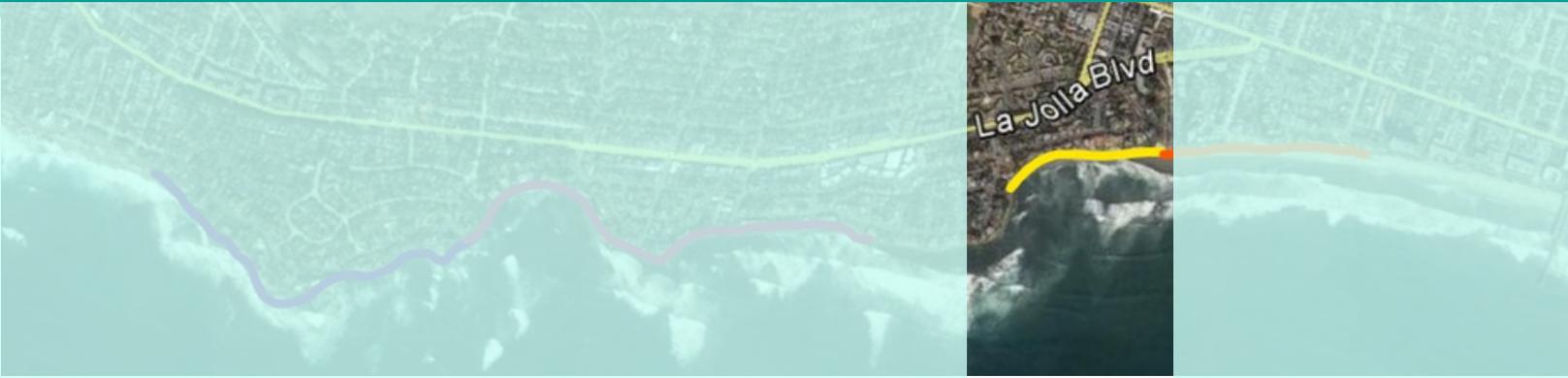
From Stop #3 continue south on Dolphin Place, make a right on Chelsea Ave., then a right on Forward St. Park and walk to the end of Forward St. Walk out to the fenced overlook and scan for activity below.



End Point/Calumet Park Stop #5 - 0.9 mi

From Forward St. continue south on Calumet Ave. until you reach a large grassy park on your right hand side. This is Calumet Park. Walk to the bluff and scan below. Look at the surfers!





SURVEY NOTES

Advisory

The northern end of the beach is inaccessible during high tide. Always look up tides before you go and be mindful of waves and the incoming tide. PB/False Point is a popular tidepooling spot during low tide and Tourmaline is a popular beach for surfers.

Parking

Free parking is available along residential streets throughout the transect, as well as at Tourmaline Street. Especially during high tide it is recommended that you park at Tourmaline and walk north as far as you can go. During high tide PB/False Point will be inaccessible so the transect may start as far north of Tourmaline Street as the tide allows.

Location Markers



Starting Point

The start point begins at the bottom of the staircase that leads down to PB/False Point. The staircase is found at the intersection of Linda Way and Sea Ridge Drive.



End Point

The end point is at the entrance to the parking lot at Tourmaline Street.



SURVEY NOTES

Advisory

Tourmaline is a popular beach for surfers. MPA ends at Diamond Street.

Parking

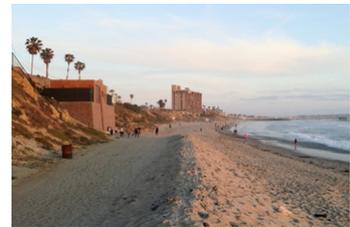
Free parking is available in lots at Tourmaline (larger lot) and Diamond Street (smaller lot) as well as surrounding neighborhoods. Both lots may be busy on weekends and summer days.

Location Markers



Starting Point

The start point begins at the entrance to the beach from the parking lot at Tourmaline Street.



End Point

The end point is at the staircase that leads up to Diamond Street.