

Barriers to Coastal Access

Permits and Costs for Nonprofit Programs



Scope of Research

Surveyed 65 Beaches managed by either State Parks, BLM, NPS, County, or City

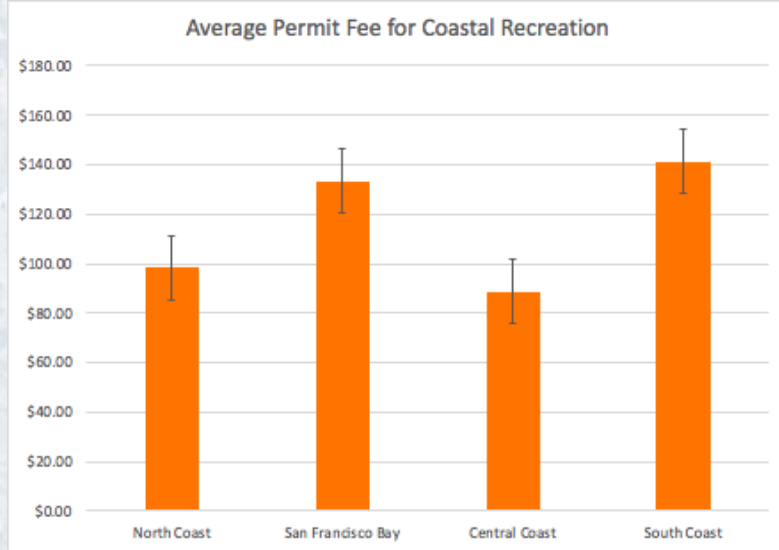
19 North Coast, 3 Bay Area, 23 Central Coast, 20 South Coast

- Website information and called or emailed Land Manager
- Cost estimates for Nonprofit Surfing Program
 - Special Use Permit fee
 - Application for Special Use Permit
 - Parking fee
 - Lifeguard availability & fee
 - Group Camping



Brown Girls Surf

Permit fees vary between and within regions

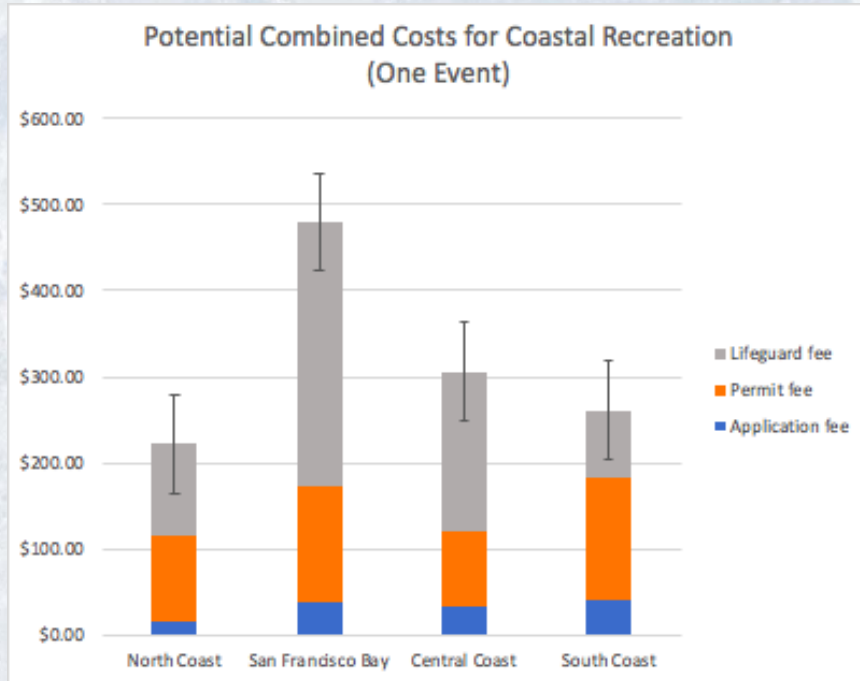


Average permit fees by region. SE shown.



Range of permit fees by region.

Combined costs vary between regions



Potential combined costs by region. SE shown.



City Surf Project

Challenges

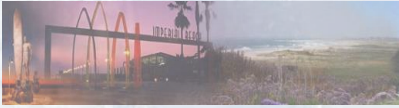
- **Information not readily available**
 - Difficult to contact by phone and/or email
 - No standard cost estimates and fee schedules
 - **18/65** sites could not provide a quote
- **Nonprofit programs not always approved**
 - **8/65** beaches require concession or contracting
 - Attitudes toward new groups vary
- **Permit availability varied by season**
 - Some sites at capacity by July
 - **13/65** sites issued limited or no permits on holidays or weekends



Newport Beach



Doheny State Beach



Positive Examples



Imperial Beach

Can I organize and host a special event or school talk on the beach?

Special events and school talks can be done on the beach, but must be coordinated with the Special Events Coordinator at (619) 423-8285.

Imperial Beach Special Events

The City of Imperial Beach has fascinating and engaging events for residents and visitors to enjoy. Our events fit the *Classic Southern California* beach town vibe of IB, with the cultural richness, small-town and family friendly atmosphere, and we welcome new events that fit this mission to explore IB as their next destination!

A Special Event Permit is required for an organized activity that incorporates the use of:

- City public streets, sidewalks, rights-of-way; and/or
- City public parks or other City public property; and/or
- Outdoor private property including parking lots, only when the property is part of a Special Event Venue that includes City public property and permission has been received by the property owner/manager (for example, a parking lot used as part of a street festival venue).

Examples of activities that require a Special Event Permit include festivals, parades, fitness competitions, runs/walks, and art markets.

You may download the Special Event Permit Application using Adobe Acrobat. There is a permit application processing fee 60 days or more prior to the event day, with a double fee for applications received less than 60 days prior to the event date. **Applications are not accepted within 30 days of event.** It is strongly recommended that you submit your permit application at least 120 days prior to the proposed event date. Your completed application and any required attachments must be submitted all together. Please see the helpful documents section below as a resource for additional attachments, incomplete applications will not be accepted.

[Special Event Application Packet](#)

Santa Monica Beach

Here is a current list of authorized surf camps and surf instructors.

For more information, email beach.permits@smgov.net or call 310-458-4904.

Beach/Water Activity Permits

If you are visiting the beach with a group that includes more than 20 children (17 years and under) who will be entering the ocean, you need a Beach/Water Activity Permit. These free permits are site-specific, and issued for Monday - Friday only. They are not valid on weekends or holidays.

These permits help maximize the safety of beach users and assist LA County Lifeguards in determining the level of staffing needed for each lifeguard tower. If necessary, lifeguards are authorized to relocate groups.

How to get a permit: Email a [completed application](#) to beach.permits@smgov.net or fax it to 310-393-7827. Please allow 2 weeks for processing. Sites are assigned on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Please note that groups of 150+ must obtain a [Community Event Permit](#). Check the [Community Event Permit page](#) for more details or call 310-458-8300.

Summary

- **Scope of research**
 - 65 beaches along CA coast
 - Estimate fees (application, permit, lifeguards, etc.) for NGO surfing program
- **Conclusions**
 - Specific information difficult to obtain
 - Costs varied widely across sites surveyed
 - High costs and other constraints may limit programs' abilities to serve participants



The Wahine Project



Outdoor Outreach

Thank you!



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