

Arroyo Sequit Steelhead Barrier Removal Project Frequently Asked Questions

This creek is dry all the time-I have never seen fish. Are they really there?

Arroyo Sequit Creek is dry the majority of the time in the sections closest to the Pacific Ocean. Steelhead trout migrate along the entirety of the creek during the periodic events when rainfall creates a running creek that connects with the ocean. Fish were caught legally in the creek as recently as 1992, before the steelhead were listed as endangered due to their plummeting numbers. Surveys by the Resource Conservation District-Santa Monica Mountains over the last decade have documented the frequent presence of two adult steelhead within the creek. An additional adult was recently poached during illegal fishing activity.

Why is the project scheduled during the busy summer season?

Environmental permits dictate the schedule of when work can occur. Work has to avoid time periods when water is present via rainfall or creek flows, usually November-March. We also want to avoid harming nesting birds and their young, which are typically present in the project area February 15 -September 15. For this reason, July 15 - October 31st was approved as the construction window, as it avoids the rainy season, and minimizes overlap with nesting bird season and peak periods of visitor use.

How can we get to the beach during the project?

Pedestrian beach access will NOT be affected by the project. Visitors can either park as allowed by existing signage along the Pacific Coast Highway (PCH), or access the beach via a pedestrian pathway under the PCH bridge. Due to safety considerations, we recommend visitors parking on the north (inland) side of the PCH, walk into the South Beach Parking lot and use the pedestrian access under the PCH bridge, rather than cross the highway.

Unfortunately vehicle access to the beach is not available during construction July 13 - October 31 as the project is removing both roadways that cross the creek, and replacing them with bridges. The parking lot at South Beach (by the visitor center) will be used for construction equipment storage, and overflow camper parking. Parking and "drop-offs" at the South Beach parking lot will not be available.

Can we drop off at South Beach Parking Lot?

"Drop-offs" will not be permitted during the July 13-October 31st construction period.

How do I get to the campground store?

Campers will continue to have access to the campground store. Visitors can utilize the 15 minute parking spaces at the park entrance and walk in.

What other beaches can we go to where more parking is available?

- **Zuma Beach** (30050 Pacific Coast Highway): Swimming, surfing. Operated by Los County Beaches and Harbors. <http://beaches.lacounty.gov>
- **Point Mugu State Park** (9000 Pacific Coast Hwy, Malibu, CA 90265):
 - **Mugu Beach** (lifeguard Towers 14-15, located about half way between Sycamore Cove and Las Posas Road): Beach activities, dogs on leash permitted. Fires/grills prohibited. 8 a.m.-Sunset daily.
 - **La Jolla Canyon:** Hiking only; group camping through Reserve America. 8 a.m.-Sunset daily.
 - **Thornhill Broome Beach:** Parking along Pacific Coast Highway no day-use parking into the campground. Beach activities, dogs permitted on leash. Fires are prohibited, 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. daily. Tower 8
 - **Sycamore Cove:** Beach activities, BBQ grills, dogs permitted on leash. 8 a.m.-Sunset daily.
 - **Sycamore Canyon:** Day use hiking, mountain bike and equestrian. Camping reservations through Reserve America. Dogs on leash allowed in campground, but not on trails. 8 a.m.-Sunset daily.
- **County Line Beach** (~42500 Pacific Coast Highway): Surfing, dogs on leash permitted. Fires/grills/alcohol prohibited. 5 a.m.-10 p.m. daily.
- **Staircase Beach** (40000 Pacific Coast Highway, part of Leo Carrillo State Park): Surfing, dogs on leash permitted. Fires/grills prohibited. 8 a.m.-Sunset daily.
- **Robert H. Meyer Memorial State Beach** (El Matador, La Piedra and El Pescador Beaches, at 32350, 32628, 32900 Pacific Coast Highway, respectively): Normal beach activities permitted. Alcohol, dogs, and fires prohibited. 8 a.m.-Sunset daily.