

Topics and skills covered in each Ocean session include:

- Review of “Day of” Dive Conditions Forecast Models and actual conditions
- Understanding the local Shore Bathymetry
- Seasonality of prevailing swell conditions
- Surf Zone dynamics and how it applies to local conditions
- Shore-based entry & exit skills based on different surf and shore types
- How to plan your dive by observing swell and surf turbulence patterns
- Interesting marine life & history at each location
- Review of self and buddy rescue skills
- How to identify hazardous rip currents and avoid severe surf conditions



EDUCATION



SAFETY

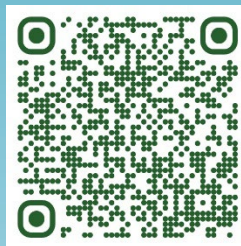
FITNESS

SINCE 1954

Date	Location
June 1, 2024, 12pm Los Angeles SCUBA Show	How to Utilize NOAA & CDIP Forecasting Tools in Dive Planning
June 2, 2024, 12pm Los Angeles SCUBA Show	How to Utilize NOAA & CDIP Forecasting Tools in Dive Planning
September 21 – 22	Staff Training Workshop
September 28, 2024	Cabrillo Beach
October 26, 2024	White Point



September 28, 2024

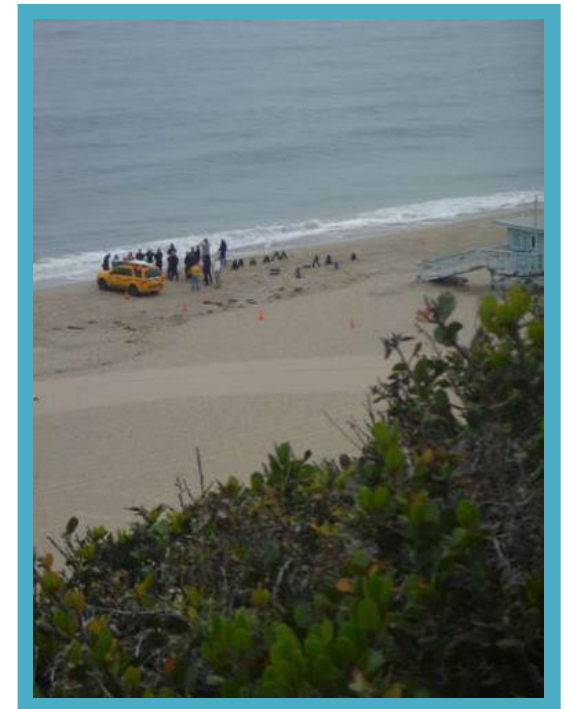


October 26, 2024



Phone (626) 662-5107

lacounderwaterunit@parks.lacounty.gov



2024 3R's



Rocks, Rips and Reefs – “3R’s”

The 3R's (Rocks, Rips and Reefs) is a FREE public service designed to educate and update freediving & scuba divers on the seasonal environmental awareness considerations for diving in Los Angeles County to site specific shore-based diving considerations, current year swell & surf turbulence patterns and safe practices for popular local dive sites in Los Angeles County. This program generally offers 4-5 sessions, from June through September at different shore-based dive sites & land-based sessions.

A key program goal is to assist participants in identifying and recognizing the precipitating events that cause accidents in shore-based diving environments so they can be avoided or mitigated.

Each Ocean Session begins with a short land based educational seminar covering the local dive site bathymetry, shore-based entries and exits, certain aspects of the local marine environment, and other valuable, site-specific information. Conditions permitting, the seminar is followed by an in-water demonstration and practice session for qualified participants that includes a skin diving tour of the actual dive site and practice in navigating existing swell & surf turbulence patterns.

Local on duty Lifeguards also provide a briefing on EMS and local hazards observed and at selected sites, there is an opportunity for Baywatch boat boarding, briefing and tour at selected locations.



How to Utilize Forecasting Tools in Dive Planning

The presentation centers on current year weather, swell & surf turbulence patterns and safe practices, with examples of popular dive sites in Los Angeles County utilizing NOAA and CDIP forecasting tools and real time data feeds from NOAA & CDIP buoy arrays.

Supervision & Staffing

Supervised experience for participants is led conducted by certified Los Angeles County Scuba Instructors. There are also other volunteers who help with each ocean session. These volunteers often consist of instructors from various agencies, rescue certified divers, divemaster's, and assistant instructors.

A weekend of comprehensive staff training for all volunteers is mandatory for all new and returning volunteers and there is no charge for this training. Divers with at least rescue training level and above certifications are invited to apply to the Underwater Unit for the limited number of volunteer positions available each year.

**REGISTRATION – See QR CODES or:
lacunderwaterunit@parks.lacounty.gov**

**Sessions will be limited to 16
participants per session**

**Mandatory Sign-in & Gear Check:
7:30am-8:00am**

**Session Starts at 8:00am SHARP
No in-water participation for late arrivals
after 8:00am.**

MANDATORY REQUIREMENTS FOR OCEAN PARTICIPATION:

1. Completed and Signed Medical Statement form. Any “yes” answers to questions on the form will require a physician’s release signature prior to any in water participation. Only one form is required to be completed for participation in all 2022 sessions. Repeat session participants will be asked to confirm that all information previously submitted is current and correct. This form is available on the website at lacscuba.com.
2. Full OCEAN Skin Gear (FOSG) REQUIRED. Full Skin Gear is full wetsuit (recommended 5mm-7mm), hood, gloves, booties, mask, fins, and a snorkel. Sturdy booties with open heel fins are required to provide foot protection as certain locations involve entries & exits as well as skin diving on or near rocks. If you desire to wear a weight belt for practicing skin diving, you are allowed no more than 10 pounds of weight.

Don't forget to bring sunscreen and other exposure protection (depending on the day) as well as drinking water to maintain hydration and snacks. It's also a good idea to bring a folding style beach chair for the lecture portion of each beach session as well as a pen and pad of paper.