

# Beach Recreation Survey

## ORANGE COUNTY

**Your opinions are  
important to us!**



### Paperwork Reduction Act Statement

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) is authorized by 33 U.S.C. 1951 et seq. to conduct this survey. The information collected will be used by NOAA to estimate economic impacts associated with marine debris on beaches.

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 10 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other suggestions for reducing this burden to Amy V. Uhrin, NOAA NOS, 1305 East-West Hwy, SSMC4, Room 10240, Silver Spring, MD 20910.

The questionnaire has an identification number for mailing purposes only. Your name and address will be deleted after we receive your completed questionnaire. Notwithstanding any other provisions of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subjected to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless that collection of information displays a currently valid OMB Control Number.  
OMB Control Number XXXX | Current Expiration Date: XX/XX/2018

## Privacy Act Statement

**Authority:** The collection of this information is authorized under 33 U.S.C. 1853 et seq., the Marine Debris Research, Prevention and Reduction Act, which, along with the Marine Debris Amendments of 2012, established the NOAA Marine Debris Program to “identify, determine sources of, assess, prevent, reduce, and remove marine debris and address the adverse impacts of marine debris on the economy of the United States, the marine environment, and navigation safety.”

**Purpose:** The information will be used to estimate economic impacts associated with marine debris on beaches.

**NOAA Routine Uses:** The survey data will be combined with a national model of coastal recreation, which relies on data collected for the *Deepwater Horizon* oil spill assessment, to estimate the economic impacts of marine debris on tourism-dependent communities. Disclosure of this information is permitted under the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. Section 552a) to be shared among NOAA staff for work-related purposes. Disclosure of this information is also subject to all of the published routine uses as identified in the Privacy Act System of Records Notice [Commerce/NOAA-11](#), Contact Information for Members of the Public Requesting or Providing Information Related to NOAA’s Mission.

**Disclosure:** Furnishing this information is voluntary; the only consequence of failure to provide accurate information is that your responses will not contribute to the success of this research.

Coastal beaches are vital to the area’s economy and quality of life. Your answers to this survey will help inform decisions about improving and protecting coastal resources. We want to hear from everyone about things people want to experience when they visit the beach. Your response is important – please complete this **voluntary** survey.

Our questions are about ocean beaches in Orange County, shown in the map below.

**1. In the list below, please circle the names of any beaches you went to between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017. If you don’t know the name of a beach you went to or it is not on the list, please circle the name of a nearby beach.**



- |                                   |                              |
|-----------------------------------|------------------------------|
| 1. Seal Beach                     | 12. Emerald Bay Beach        |
| 2. Surfside Beach                 | 13. Laguna Beach             |
| 3. Sunset Beach                   | 14. Aliso Beach              |
| 4. Bolsa Chica                    | 15. Salt Creek               |
| 5. Huntington City Beach          | 16. Monarch Beach            |
| 6. Huntington State Beach         | 17. Dana Point               |
| 7. Santa Ana River County Beach   | 18. Doheny State Beach       |
| 8. Newport Beach                  | 19. Capistrano Beach Park    |
| 9. Balboa Beach                   | 20. Poche County Beach       |
| 10. Corona del Mar State Beach    | 21. San Clemente City Beach  |
| 11. Crystal Cove State Park Beach | 22. San Clemente State Beach |

Now we would like to ask you about the number of day trips and overnight trips you took to beaches in Orange County. A **day** trip is any time you went to the beach and returned home the same day. An **overnight** trip is when you spent at least one night away from home.

**2. Between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017, did you take any day trips to beaches in Orange County? Please check  one box.**

No                       Yes →                      How many day trips?                       day trips

**3. Between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017, did you take any overnight trips where the main purpose was visiting beaches in Orange County? Please check  one box.**

No                       Yes →                      How many overnight trips?                       overnight trips

In total, how many nights did you pay for lodging during your overnight trips?                       nights

The next question is about beach characteristics.

**4. Please tell us how important the following characteristics are to you when you decide which beaches to visit. Please check  one box per row.**

	Not Important		Somewhat Important		Very Important
	1	2	3	4	5
Scenic beauty or view	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Good water quality	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Close to home	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Parking is convenient	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Parking is free or inexpensive	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Good surfing available	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Sandy (rather than rocky)	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Not crowded	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Long enough to go for a walk/run	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Bike path available	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Fishing opportunities available	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
No garbage or manmade debris on the sand	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
No natural debris like kelp or seaweed on the sand	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

## Garbage or Manmade Debris You May See on Beaches

Different beaches can have different amounts of garbage or manmade debris. Garbage or manmade debris refers to items like bottles, wrappers, straws, plastic fragments, or cigarettes. It does not include twigs or seaweed.

The pictures below illustrate the amount of debris commonly found on United States beaches. Imagine you are picking up debris over an area of 500 square feet or approximately the area of three parking spaces, outlined in red below.



If you walked back and forth in this area and picked up all the debris, you might find different amounts ranging from “almost none” to a “high amount.” As the pictures below show, different levels of debris on the beach can be given a score from 1 to 5. Higher scores mean more debris.

Almost None		High Amount		
1	2	3	4	5

On the next page, we will ask you to use the above scale to estimate the amount of garbage or manmade debris you saw on beaches you have been to in Orange County.

5. In the table below, please write the names of beaches in Orange County that you went to between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017. You may want to refer back to the map on page 3 of the survey.

To the right of each beach you went to, use the debris scale from the previous page and write a number between 1 and 5 indicating the amount of garbage or manmade debris you saw on the beach. Writing a "1" indicates you saw almost none, while writing a "5" indicates you saw a high amount of garbage or manmade debris. For any beach where you don't recall the amount of debris, please write "don't recall" in place of a number.

Beach Name	How Much Garbage or Manmade Debris Did You See on the Beach? (1 = Almost None) (5 = High Amount) (Don't Recall)
<i>Surfside Beach</i>	4
<i>Monarch Beach</i>	2

**Example**

We have a few questions about the pictures used above to show garbage or manmade debris on beaches.

**6. Are the pictures a good representation of the types of debris you have seen on beaches you visited in Orange County?**

Please check  one box.

- Yes, good representation
- Yes, somewhat good representation
- No, somewhat bad representation      How so?
- No, bad representation                      How so?
- Can't say, I have not seen much debris

**7. We described debris as being spread over 500 square feet (about the area of three parking spaces). Was that description of the area clear?**

Please check  one box.

- Yes, clear
- Yes, somewhat clear
- No, somewhat unclear                      How so?
- No, unclear                                      How so?

**8. The pictures showed a range of different amounts of debris. Did you find an amount that was accurate for the beaches you went to?**

Please check  one box.

- Yes, accurate
- Yes, somewhat accurate
- No, somewhat inaccurate                      How so?
- No, not accurate                                      How so?

Federal, state, and local agencies are considering programs that would reduce the amount of garbage or manmade debris at beaches in Orange County. These programs could involve removing garbage or manmade debris from beaches, or could involve reducing the amount of garbage or manmade debris that ends up on beaches.

9. If there had been almost no garbage or manmade debris at beaches in Orange County, would you have changed the beaches you visited between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017?  
Please check  one box.

No

Yes

10. If there had been almost no garbage or manmade debris at beaches in Orange County, would the total number of trips you took to Orange County between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017 have increased, decreased, or stayed the same?  
Please check  one box.

Increased →

How many more trips if there had been almost no garbage or manmade debris?

Day Trips	Overnight Trips

Decreased →

How many fewer trips if there had been almost no garbage or manmade debris?

Day Trips	Overnight Trips

Stayed the same



Some programs currently underway could be discontinued, leading to more garbage or manmade debris at beaches in Orange County.

**11. If there had been twice as much garbage or manmade debris at beaches in Orange County, would you have changed the beaches you visited between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017?**

Please check  one box.

No

Yes

**12. If there had been twice as much garbage or manmade debris at beaches in Orange County, would the total number of trips you took to Orange County between September 1, 2016 and August 31, 2017 increased, decreased, or stayed the same?**

Please check  one box.

		<b>Day Trips</b>	<b>Overnight Trips</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Increased →	How many more trips if there had been twice as much garbage or manmade debris?		
<input type="checkbox"/> Decreased →	How many fewer trips if there had been twice as much garbage or manmade debris?	<b>Day Trips</b>	<b>Overnight Trips</b>
<input type="checkbox"/> Stayed the same			

We have a few questions about your answers on the previous two pages.

**13. How confident are you in your answers about whether you would change the places you went to if ...**  
 (please check  one box per row):

	Confident 1	Somewhat Confident 2	Not Confident 3
... there were almost no debris?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
... there were twice as much debris?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

**14. How confident are you in your answers about any change in the number of trips you would take if ...**  
 (please check  one box per row):

	Confident 1	Somewhat Confident 2	Not Confident 3
... there were almost no debris?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3
... there were twice as much debris?	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3

**15. When you answered the questions about your trips, were you thinking primarily about garbage or manmade debris, or were you also thinking about other types of pollution, such as runoff from factories or farms? Please check  one box.**

I was thinking primarily about debris       I was also thinking about other types of pollution

The next few questions ask about your experiences with debris on beaches.

**16. How concerned would you be to see the following types of garbage or manmade debris on the sand while visiting a beach? Please check  one box per row.**

	Not At All Concerned		Somewhat Concerned		Very Concerned
	1	2	3	4	5
Plastic items or bottles	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Styrofoam	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Paper products	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Wooden items	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Metal items or cans	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Glass	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Rubber items	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Cloth or clothing	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Cigarette butts	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Fishing gear	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Medical wastes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5
Animal wastes	<input type="checkbox"/> 1	<input type="checkbox"/> 2	<input type="checkbox"/> 3	<input type="checkbox"/> 4	<input type="checkbox"/> 5

**17. Please look at the list below and check  the box next to all the types of garbage or manmade debris that you have actually seen on the sand at beaches in Orange County.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Plastic items or bottles | <input type="checkbox"/> Cloth or clothing      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Styrofoam                | <input type="checkbox"/> Cigarette butts        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Paper products           | <input type="checkbox"/> Fishing gear           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Wooden items             | <input type="checkbox"/> Medical wastes         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Metal items or cans      | <input type="checkbox"/> Animal wastes          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Glass                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (please specify) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Rubber items             | <input type="text"/>                            |

**18. Do you think garbage or manmade debris is a problem on Orange County beaches? Please check  one box.**

- Yes
  No
  Not sure

19. To the best of your knowledge, what do you think is the largest source of garbage or manmade debris found on the sand at beaches in Orange County?

Please check  one box.

Left by beach visitors

Blown to the beach from nearby areas on land

Washed ashore from the ocean

Washed ashore from nearby rivers or storm drains

Other (please specify)

Finally, we have just a few questions about you and your household. These questions are a way to make sure that we understand the values and opinions of all types of people visting beaches in Orange County.

20. Have you participated in any beach cleanups within the last three years? Please check  one box.

No

Yes

21. How many adults and children live in your household?

Adults (18 and older)

Children (under 18)

22. What is your gender? Please check  one box.

Male

Female

23. What is your age?

Years

24. Are you of Hispanic, Latino, or Spanish origin? Please check  one box.

No

Yes

**25. What is your race? Select all that apply.**

- American Indian or Alaskan Native
- Asian
- Black or African American
- Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander
- White
- Other (please specify)

**26. What is the highest degree or level of school you have completed? Please check  one box.**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than high school graduate      | <input type="checkbox"/> Some college or Associate's degree                          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> High school graduate (includes GED) | <input type="checkbox"/> Bachelor's degree   |
|  | <input type="checkbox"/> Graduate or professional degree, beyond a bachelor's degree |

**27. Which of the following income categories best describes your household income last year, before taxes? Please check  one box.**

- |   |   |
|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than \$15,000   | <input type="checkbox"/> \$50,000 to \$74,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$15,000 to \$24,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$75,000 to \$99,999   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$25,000 to \$34,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> \$100,000 to \$149,999 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> \$35,000 to \$49,999 | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than \$150,000 |

**Thank you for participating!**

Please return your survey in the enclosed, self-addressed, stamped envelope.