



Orange County Marine Protected Areas Researcher Use Form

In order to better serve the research and academic community, the Managers of the Orange County Marine Protected Areas are working to streamline the permitting process for data collection and use of the rocky intertidal zone. Please complete the following form and email it to the area manager at least 30 days in advance of requested use dates.

Before planning your research event, please read the rules and regulations regarding usage of the rocky intertidal zones within Orange County Marine Protected Areas. Regulations include NO collecting of any type, NO turning over rocks, NO handling, and NO walking in tidepools and other delicate areas. All visiting researchers must complete this form.

Researcher(s) name: _____

Institution/Agency: _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ Contact Phone: _____

Requested Use Date(s): _____ Time: _____ # People in group: _____

Marine Protected Area(s):

- Newport Beach Crystal Cove Laguna Beach Dana Point
 Upper Newport Bay Bolsa Chica/Bolsa Bay

Specific Area(s)/Site(s): _____

Specifics of Use Request: (please check)

Category 1 - Research Involving Manipulation

Includes collection or handling of macrophytes, animals, shells, rocks or water, OR manipulation of natural biota or substrate for collection.

Category 2 – Observation Only

Includes use of research methods such as transects, quadrats, timed counts, size measurements, and species identification. NOTE: Under no case can organisms be collected for exhibition or classroom use.

You are required to have both current CDFW collecting permit with MPA validation AND permission from each area manager if checking Category 1.



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CDFW Scientific Collecting Permit under what name? _____ valid through: _____

What is allowed under your CDFW permit? *Reminder: It is the responsibility of the researcher to notify the local CDFW field office 24 hours prior to collection.

Purpose of Research: Please describe goals and methodology of research and the specific impacts on marine life. How many plants/animals will be sampled? How will the data be used?

I attest that all of the above information is correct:

Signature: _____ Date: _____

MPA Manager Approval:

Approved: Yes ___ No ___ MPA Manager Signature: _____ Date: _____

Notes: _____



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Additional Information and Suggestions for Orange County MPA Use

Suggestions from the Orange County Marine Protected Area Managers:

1. Be sure your permit is with you and that you notify the CDFW field office 24 hours prior to collection.
2. Please be sure to review the “Good Tidepooler Rules” with all assistants/students and remember that you are a role model for the community.
3. Please wear official university or agency clothing so the general public can see that the research is officially sanctioned.
4. Recommended: To minimize public interference and to increase the potential for meaningful outreach, create a sign describing the intent of the research and post it on an easel near where you are doing your work.

The Good Tidepooler Rules are:





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Safety Tips:

1. Wear closed toed shoes.
 2. Be aware of the ocean. Never turn your back on large waves and know the times and heights of incoming tides.
 3. No running across rocks or mussel beds.
 4. Notify a lifeguard or call 911 if you see someone in danger of washing off the rocks or witness a medical aid.
 5. Never jump in to rescue a student or an assistant. Call a lifeguard!
 6. Use sunscreen and wear sun protective clothing (hat, long sleeve shirt) whenever possible.
 7. Be careful not to become dehydrated – drink plenty of water.
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