



Joint Media Advisory for  
May 26, 2022

## Multi-agency Press Conference and Mock Rescue to kick off Summer with Surf Warnings and Beach Safety Lessons

Summer is approaching and with the warmer weather comes increased risk to visitors along the California coast, where dangerous rip currents can lead to dire circumstances if you aren't informed. The National Park Service (NPS), the U.S. Coast Guard, the National Weather Service (NOAA), San Francisco Police Department Marine Unit, and the San Francisco Fire Department are teaming up to help educate beachgoers about the common hazards in Northern California beaches. These agencies are charged with protecting the people and resources of this coastline and are coming together to give the public information to help them stay safe while on the coast.

### WHAT:

**PRESENTATION:** High-ranking representatives from five agencies will address several beach conditions and public safety issues. This includes hazards along the Northern California coast, what to do if you or your dog gets swept out to sea, and how to swim out of a rip current.

**MOCK WATER RESCUE:** (Weather permitting) San Francisco Fire Department water rescue team, USCG, and NPS will conduct a simulated rescue of a swimmer in distress in the surf zone of Ocean Beach at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco, California.

**SIMULATED HELICOPTER RESCUE:** (Weather permitting) San Francisco Fire Department water rescue team and Sonoma County Sheriff Helicopter 10HENERY1 will conduct a simulated rescue of a swimmer in distress past the surf zone of Ocean Beach at Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco, California.

### WHO:

**Golden Gate National Recreation Area, National Park Service:**

Public affairs Specialist Laura Elze

**San Francisco Fire Department:**

Lieutenant Jonathan Baxter

**U.S. Coast Guard, Coast Guard Sector San Francisco:**

CWO Michael Zapawa will be speaking as the COTP

**NOAA/National Weather Service:**

Warning Coordination Meteorologist, Brian Garcia

**San Francisco Police Department Marine Unit:**

Marine Unit Representative

**Sonoma County Sheriff's Office Paramedic Rescue Helicopter**

Narration by Lt. Jonathan Baxter and the Crew of the 10H1 Helicopter

**Department of Emergency Management**

Dispatch Supervisor Justin Wong

**WHERE:**

Ocean Beach in Golden Gate National Recreation Area, San Francisco, California

Meet at Stairwell 17 on the promenade by the parking lot (Lincoln Ave. and Great Highway). May move to surf zone for mock rescue; surf condition may change this.

**WHEN:**

MAY 26, 10:00 a.m., hard start.

**Media MUST RSVP:** Email at San Francisco Fire Department Media Relations Lt. Jonathan Baxter (415) 660-0545 or by email at [FIREPIO@sfgov.org](mailto:FIREPIO@sfgov.org) Speaker system will be available on site.

**LAST YEARS VIDEO:** <https://youtu.be/0N4wQQBM6qo>

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