



November 8, 2024

Delivered via email

To: Karl Schwing
District Director, San Diego Coast
California Coastal Commission

Re: F14b - Application 6-24-0479 (California Dept. of Parks and Recreation, Cardiff Reef North Parking Lot Revetment)

Honorable Commissioners,

The Surfrider Foundation is a nonprofit grassroots organization dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our world's ocean, waves, and beaches, for all people, through a powerful network. Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project.

While Surfrider opposes shoreline armoring due to the negative impacts it has on beach access and the beach itself, Surfrider understands the extenuating circumstances that exist at the North Cardiff State Beach parking lot. We are supportive of the proposed 5 year Coastal Development Permit for the existing emergency revetment because it is the minimal amount of armoring necessary to protect a very valuable coastal access public parking lot.

We also support the thoughtful Special Conditions recommended by Commission staff, especially Condition #1 which requires a long-term hazards management plan that explores alternatives to armoring. It's heartening to know that State Parks is already working on sea level rise adaptation pathways for all of our precious San Diego County State Beaches. Cardiff State Beach finds itself in a particularly difficult place, constrained by both manmade infrastructure and the San Elijo Lagoon to the East. Figuring out how to preserve the parking lot without further contributing to erosion of the beach is going to require resourcefulness and creativity.

We also applaud Special Condition #7, which requires implementation of a Community Beach Monitoring Program which will hopefully spark interest and engagement from the public regarding the health of their beach.

Lastly, we'd like to thank Commission staff for working with State Parks to minimize the revetment footprint during the initial emergency permitting process. Surfrider members use this beach frequently and shared concerns that a larger, taller revetment would have impeded access for beach users. Cardiff Reef is popular among disabled beachgoers, particularly those who make use of the wheelchair ramp to access the ocean for paddling, surfing, and other recreational activities. The modified revetment, in its current form, is small enough to accommodate access for most beach users, thanks to its lower profile and a thoughtfully placed sand ramp across the top.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this project. We look forward to State Parks long-term hazards management plan, and hope it includes a balanced approach that evaluates the importance of preserving both the beach and public access to it.

Sincerely,

Mitch Silverstein
Policy Manager
San Diego County Chapter, Surfrider Foundation

Kristin Brinner & Jim Jaffee
Residents of Solana Beach
Co-Leads of the Beach Preservation Committee
San Diego County Chapter, Surfrider Foundation