



PRESS RELEASE
CITY OF SAN CLEMENTE
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

LIFEGUARDS WARN OF LARGE SURF AND RIP CURRENTS

July 20, 2018....San Clemente, California...Surf forecasters are predicting a large and powerful swell to hit Southern California early next week. The surf will begin to increase on Sunday and will peak mid-week with wave faces projected to be up to 10'. Waves will be larger than normal for the entire week, beginning Monday. Surf is anticipated to average 5' to 8' through Friday.

Marine Safety Chief Bill Humphreys warns swimmers and surfers to use caution if going into the water. "Along with the large surf, we will have equally large rip currents. These currents can pull you away from the beach. Please don't panic if you are caught in one, swim parallel to the beach, and once out of it, swim in. If you can't swim to the side, tread water or float and a lifeguard will be out to assist you." Humphreys added that in addition to the large surf size and rip currents, there will be a strong lateral or side current going from the south towards the north. If you are swimming on the south side of the pier this current can push you into the pier. If you find yourself drifting towards the pier, please return to the beach immediately.

Marine Safety staff want to remind you to enjoy the warm water and the surf but please be careful. Always swim near a lifeguard, never swim alone, and know your abilities before going into the water. When you arrive at the beach, please take a minute to talk with the nearest lifeguard to find the safest place to swim and to get the latest updates on conditions. They are there to help make your day as safe and as enjoyable as possible and will be happy to assist you and your family.

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