

November 14th, 2015

The San Francisco Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation is very disappointed to recently learn of the decision to remove the trash bins at Ocean Beach. We understand that this is a temporary 'experiment' being conducted by the National Park Service and the GGNRA, but in our opinion the experiment is a poor decision and one not in Ocean Beach's best interest.

Ocean Beach (OB) is one of the largest urban beaches in the country. In our opinion, the beach's proximity to such a heavily populated area presents a very distinctive set of problems that are not easily translated from other National Parks.

SF Surfrider values its strong partnership with the Park Service and the GGNRA; this relationship helps the chapter run an average of 4 beach cleanups a month around the surrounding San Francisco area. That said, we were disappointed to have learned about this new experiment from 3rd parties after the bins were removed. We would have appreciated some form of communication for a decision that so closely affects our mission. We still plan to do our part and uphold our mission to protect oceans, waves, and beaches, by continuing our regularly scheduled cleanups at Ocean Beach.

The San Francisco Chapter of the Surfrider Foundation stands on a common ground along with the NPS in both desiring what is best for Ocean Beach and working with them to make this happen. We hope the GGNRA includes the Chapter in these types of decisions moving forward.

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