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## **PRESS RELEASE**

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News Media Contact: Susan Klein-Rothschild, MSW Deputy Director

(805) 681-5435 (805) 896-1057 (cell) sklein@sbcphd.org

#### SAFETY OF OCEAN WATER AND BEACHES

(SANTA BARBARA, Calif.) – Ocean water samples were taken on Wednesday, January 31, for select beaches where ocean water had previously exceeded standard bacteria levels. As a result of this testing, ocean waters at El Capitan and Summerland are now open.

#### **CLOSED BEACHES:**

- Carpinteria State Beach, including Carpinteria City Beach
- Goleta Beach
- Hammonds Beach

Public Health strongly advises people not enter these ocean waters and refrain from eating recreationally caught <u>raw</u> fish and shellfish when levels of bacteria highly exceed standards. People are reminded to cook recreationally caught seafood at these three locations before eating. The Public Health Department will continue to test ocean water for microbial contaminants. Out of an abundance of caution, the Public Health Department urges the public to respect the buffer zone of 400 feet on both sides where sediments from the mud flows are being placed. Avoid the buffer zone, which is marked by the orange fencing.

#### **OPEN BEACHES:**

- Butterfly Beach
- East Beach @ Sycamore Creek
- East Beach @ Mission Creek
- Leadbetter Beach
- Sands @ Coal Oil Point
- Refugio State Beach
- Gaviota State Beach
- El Capitan State Beach
- Summerland Beach
- Guadalupe Dunes
- Jalama Beach

Sampling results indicate bacterial levels exceed one or more state health standards at the following locations. Yellow 'WARNING' signs have been posted at these beaches. The County Health Officer cautions that contact with ocean water may increase risk of illness. Swimmers are advised to stay out of the water and a minimum of 50 yards away from both sides of creek mouths or storm drains.

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### **BEACHES WITH WARNING SIGNS:**

- Arroyo Burro Beach
- Hope Ranch Beach

Ocean Water testing results are listed below. The standard for each category is listed in black. The test results are listed in red.

Sites	Total Coliform (MPN*)	Total Coliform State Health Standard (MRN*)	Fecal Coliform (MPN*)	Fecal Coliform State Health Standard (MPN*)	Enterococcus (MPN*)	Enterococcus State Health Standard
Arroyo Burro Beach	1,313	10,000	52	400	292	104
Hope Ranch Beach	1,054	10,000	52	400	148	104
Goleta Sandspit	24,192	10,000	97	400	2,481	104
Goleta Beach - East Buffer Zone	>24,192	10,000	2,282	400	>24,192	104
Goleta Beach - West Buffer Zone	>24,192	10,000	520	400	>24,192	104
El Capitan	465	10,000	41	400	97	104
Carp at East Buffer	>24,192	10,000	5,794	400	>24,192	104
Carp at West Buffer	>24,192	10,000	738	400	>24,192	104
Carpinteria State Beach	>24,192	10,000	256	400	2,755	104
Summerland	121	10,000	10	400	10	104
Hammonds	>24,192	10,000	24,192	400	24,192	104