

EL NINO UPDATE 2016

The City of Encinitas and all other cities along the California coast are likely to experience coastline impacts associated with El Nino conditions during the 2015-2016 winter months. Higher than average sea temperatures, increased storm intensity, greater rainfall totals, extreme tides, and large swells may result in enhanced coastal erosion, increased potential for bluff failures, localized coastal flooding, compromised coastal access points, beach hazards and roadway closures. ***Specifically, be advised of increased coastal flooding at Cottonwood Creek, along Manchester Avenue near San Elijo Lagoon, and at Cardiff State Beach and Coast Highway 101. Public staircases may be temporarily closed with increased beach hazards, unstable cliffs, and marine debris washing ashore.***

Local, State, and Federal agencies have prepared important information to help identify, prepare, and mitigate for anticipated impacts. For important information on El Nino related events, please visit the links below:

City of Encinitas Sand Bag Give-A-Way Events

<http://www.cityofencinitas.org/index.aspx?page=30&recordid=1145&returnURL=%2findex.aspx>

California Coastal Commission

<http://www.coastal.ca.gov/climate/extreme-weather/el-nino/>

National Ocean Service (NOAA)

<http://oceanservice.noaa.gov/news/dec15/california-flooding.html>

California Ocean Protection Council

<http://www.opc.ca.gov/programs-summary/climate-change/2015-2016-el-nino-and-californias-coast-and-ocean/>

If you would like to submit photos of extreme high tide events and potential flooding along the coastline, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, Southern California Coastal Ocean Observing System has a program to accept photos to document the impacts due to El Nino. <http://sccoos.org/projects/stormphoto/>

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