



NEWS RELEASE



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Salt Creek Beach Swimmer Search/Recovery Effort Terminated

DANA POINT, Calif. – (August 24, 2014) – On Saturday, August 23, 2014 at approximately 11:33 a.m. Orange County Lifeguards received a report of a missing swimmer off Salt Creek Beach. The missing swimmer is a 60 year old male who was last seen body surfing in the water, near Tower #2. An intense multi-agency search of the water and shoreline immediately ensued and has continued over the last approximately 30 hours.

Dive Teams from Orange County Lifeguards and the Orange County Sheriff's Department have methodically searched the water but have been unable to locate any sign of the missing swimmer. Due to the current ocean conditions, visibility is poor and has hampered underwater search efforts. Sheriff's Harbor Patrol and United States Coast Guard vessels have also searched throughout the day.

As of 6 p.m. this evening, active search efforts have been terminated. Orange County Lifeguards, Orange County Sheriff's Department and the United States Coast Guard personnel will continue to focus on surface observations from the ground and air over the course of the next several days. The coastline has been searched in both directions from the location the swimmer was last seen.

The missing swimmer is still not being identified; however, he is a 60 year old male visiting from out of state. He was last seen by family/friends in the water just prior to being reported missing.

"Red Flag" conditions continue as a result of a strong south swell, breaking 5-7 feet with strong currents and powerful shore breaks. Swimmer are encouraged to use caution when coming to the beach in the next several days and only experienced swimmers/surfers should enter the water. It is always recommended to check with lifeguards before entering the water.

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