

About a million people every year are estimated to come under the oversight of the lifeguards at Children's.

- The Children's Pool lifeguard station oversees 5 beaches and 4 city blocks of coastline and streets.
- The number of people lifeguards can see and so protect is estimated by a look around and logged at any station.
- This log helps the lifeguards to demonstrate the value of the station, and estimate staffing needs.
- It includes joggers, swimmers, divers, tidepool visitors, boaters, residents, and seal watchers.
- The next pages are a letter explaining this to a federal officer, and the data from 2006 showing visitor variation dependent on weekends and weather, **not** seasonal seal viewing opportunities.
- More data would be collected to compare the changes in values before and after "the miracle of the seals", but the CP logbooks are now in the City Attorney's office and are not being made available.

San Diego Council of Divers, Serving the dive community for over 50 years

Dedicated to education, safety, conservation, sportsmanship, wise legislation, ocean access, and knowledge of marine phenomena.

From: John Leek
Secretary, San Diego Council of Divers
PO Box 84778
San Diego, CA 92138-4778



To: Mr. Donald Masters
National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration
National Marine Fisheries Service
Office for Law Enforcement

Re: Letter to you 11/10 Re: your letter of March 21, to Mayor Jerry Sanders.

Dear Mr. Masters,

In the previous letter, we called into question the 80,000 visitors to Children's Pool ever month one often finds quoted. We heard since that the number is a product of the lifeguards. The values did not match our observations and we found out why. I asked Sgt Rains of the Children's Pool station and he confirmed they supply those numbers. How? "It is a guess-estimate we enter in the log book each day". We went around into the station and he got the log book, and showed me estimates for 1500, 1400, ect, and 3000 for a Sunday, for instance. "How do you do that?" I asked.

"Each day, one of us makes an estimated total of visitors, divers, seal people, gawkers, joggers, etc. I said, "OKaaaaay, how many people are at the beach now?" He paused and said "mmmm 80."

I pointed out we could see 2 dozen people in the tidepools, not on the beach, and another dozen on the seawall, looking at some seals. Where did you get 80? He said, "There are other people on the other side", so I directed our steps around the station and he showed me people jogging, walking, sunning, for a block or two up the street in either direction.

"And the guys on Shell Beach?", I asked. Yes, they are beachgoers. His estimate had been pretty accurate, without even looking. I pointed out there were only 20 people looking at seals including the ones looking at Seal Rock. He said "Yes", like did I have a point.

It is valid to estimate at every lifeguard station how many people pass in their vicinity, and so their protection. It indicates how important and valuable the station is. The estimates for the Children's Pool station "area" include Children's Pool, South Casa Beach, Shell Beach, Rocky Point, Wipeout, and the La Jolla Strand, and as Sgt. Rains quickly agreed, have no distinction as to who is actually there to look at seals. That is why the number seemed so inflated when we thought they meant specific seal watching visitors to Children's Pool Beach.

Attached is a spreadsheet for 2006 from numbers I copied out of their logbook and compiled for you. It needs interpretation I can't do, but there you are. It a lot of work, but we are always concerned that what we say is verified, researched and documented.

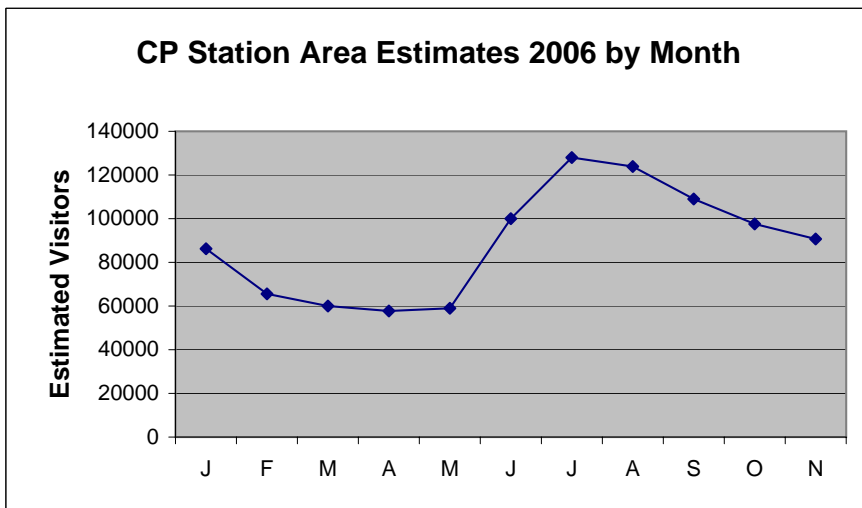
Sincerely yours,

John Leek, Secretary, San Diego Council of Divers

LIFEGUARD ESTIMATES OF VISITORS IN VIEW OF CHILDREN'S POOL STATION BY DATE

date	January	February	March	April	May	June	July	August	September	October	November
1	2000	1500	1500	2000	2000	2000	5000	6500	1500	2000	1000
2	1000	1500	1000	3000	1200	2000	10000	5800	4000	1500	1500
3	2000	1500	3000	3000	1500	10000	6000	6000	500	2000	1500
4	2500	3500	5000	800	1200	8000	10000	3000	6500	1500	4000
5	2000	3500	5000	200	1500	3000	3000	5000	2000	1500	4500
6	3500	1500	3000	1000	1500	1500	3000	4000	2000	1500	1500
7	4000	1200	3000	1200	2000	1500	3000	3000	1500	5500	2000
8	8000	1500	1500	4000	1200	1500	5000	3800	2000	6500	5000
9	3500	1500	1500	4000	1000	500	5000	4000	6000	2000	1000
10	2000	2000	1500	4000	1200	3000	2500	3000	6000	2000	7500
11	4000	2000	1000	2000	1200	3000	3000	3500	2500	2500	5500
12	1200	4000	1000	2500	1000	2500	3000	5000	3500	2500	5000
13	1500	8000	1000	3000	2500	2000	5000	8000	3500	10000	2000
14	1500	1500	3500	1000	1500	5000	3000	5000	3500	5000	800
15	2000	700	2500	1000	1000	2500	5000	5500	2500	2000	1200
16	3000	1500	2000	1000	1000	3000	5000	3000	4500	1500	1000
17	1500	2500	2000	1500	1000	4000	2500	300	5000	2100	2000
18	1500	4500	1500	1500	1200	5000	2500	2500	1500	1500	5000
19	1000	1500	2000	2500	1000	3000	3000	5000	3000	1500	8000
20	1500	1200	2000	3000	2000	5000	3500	4000	3000	2500	1000
21	4500	1500	1200	2000	1300	4500	3000	4500	2500	5000	1500
22	5000	1500	1500	2000	1000	3000	3500	3000	2500	5000	2000
23	5000	2500	2000	3000	1500	3500	3500	3000	5500	8000	3500
24	2000	2500	2000	1000	1000	3000	3000	3500	6000	3000	6000
25	3300	4000	2000	1000	1000	2500	3000	3500	4000	1500	6500
26	2000	2000	2000	1500	2000	1500	3000	4000	5000	2000	5000
27	2000	2000	500	1000	4500	3500	4000	5000	4000	4000	1200
28	4500	2000	800	1500	8000	3500	2000	3500	4000	4000	1000
29	6000	1000	1000	1500	6000	4000	7000	3500	4000	5000	1500
30	1200		1000	1000	2500	3000	8000	2500	7000	2000	1500
31	1500		1500		2500			2000		1000	
Sum	86200	65600	60000	57700	59000	100000	128000	123900	109000	97600	90700
Month	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N

Note: No estimates entered for March 20, 26, 27, or April 10. Zero replaced by value of day before



2006
Monthly Average =
88882

DAILY ESTIMATES OF LA JOLLA VISITORS VISIBLE TO CP STATION BY DAY, FROM LOGBOOK 2006

