Public Health Division

SUPPLEMENTAL ORDER OF THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ DIRECTING ALL INDIVIDUALS LIVING IN THE COUNTY TO CONTINUE SHELTERING AT THEIR PLACE OF RESIDENCE THROUGH MAY 3, 2020; TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF PUBLIC PARKS, TRAILS AND TRAILHEADS, AND BEACHES AND BEACH ACCESS POINTS

DATE OF ORDER: APRIL 8, 2020

Please read this Order carefully. Violation of or failure to comply with this Order is a misdemeanor punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both. (California Health and Safety Code § 120295, et seq.; Cal. Penal Code §§ 69, 148(a)(1))

UNDER THE AUTHORITY OF CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE SECTIONS 101040, 101085, AND 120175, THE HEALTH OFFICER OF THE COUNTY OF SANTA CRUZ (“HEALTH OFFICER”) ORDERS:

1. This Order supplements the March 31, 2020 Order of the Health Officer directing all individuals to shelter in place. This Order temporarily places additional restrictions on the use of beaches and parks to increase social distancing and reduce person-to-person contact in order to further slow transmission of Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 (“COVID-19”). This Order shall become effective at 11:59 p.m. on April 8, 2020 and will continue to be in effect until 11:59 p.m. on April 15, 2020, unless it is extended, rescinded, superseded, or amended in writing by the Health Officer. All individuals, businesses and government agencies in the County of Santa Cruz (“County”) are required to follow the provisions of this Order. This Order applies to the unincorporated areas of Santa Cruz County as well as the cities of Capitola, Santa Cruz, Scotts Valley and Watsonville. Also included in this order are the Recreation Districts of La Selva, Boulder Creek, Alba and Opal Cliffs, and the Port District of Santa Cruz.

2. This Order is issued in response to an unusually high volume of use of beaches, trails, parks and other recreational areas, which is impeding the practice of safe and necessary social distancing. The heavy use of these areas impedes community efforts to slow the spread of COVID-19 among the Santa Cruz County community.
3. The following facilities and recreation areas are to be temporarily closed to the public as of April 8, 2020 and extending through April 15, 2020:

   a. All public trails, paths, parkways, trailheads, and campgrounds.
   b. All public beaches, piers and beach pedestrian or bike paths that transverse the beach.
   c. All public parks and recreation areas, including but not limited to dog parks, skate parks, pump tracks, playgrounds, golf courses, disc golf courses, pickleball courts, basketball courts, tennis courts and other public sports and recreation areas, as well as any picnic or canopy areas within such places used for congregation.
   d. All parking lots and access points to any of the facilities or areas listed above.

4. Recreational activity in the areas listed in paragraph 3 is prohibited. This includes, but is not limited to, walking, running, jogging, horseback riding, cycling, surfing, paddleboarding or kayaking.

5. All agencies and jurisdictions operating public outdoor recreation areas listed in paragraph 3 are hereby directed to cease recreational activities within the County.

6. This Order incorporates by reference the March 31 Order of the Health Officer of The County Of Santa Cruz Directing All Individuals Living In The County To Continue Sheltering At Their Place Of Residence Through May 3, 2020; And Providing Further Clarification And Limitations.

7. Pursuant to Government Code sections 26602 and 41601 and Health and Safety Code section 101029, the Health Officer requests that the Sheriff and all chiefs of police in the County ensure compliance with and enforce this Order. The violation of any provision of this Order constitutes an imminent threat and menace to public health, constitutes a public nuisance, and is punishable by fine, imprisonment, or both.

8. Copies of this Order shall promptly be: (1) transmitted to any agency or municipality operating a park, beach or other outside recreation are covered by this Order; (2) made available at the County offices at 701 Ocean St, Santa Cruz, CA 95060; (3) posted on the County Public Health Department website (www.santacruzhealthservices.org); and (4) provided to any member of the public requesting a copy of this Order.

9. If any provision of this Order or its application to any person or circumstance is held to be invalid, the remainder of the Order, including the application of such part or provision to other persons or circumstances, shall not be affected and shall continue in full force and effect. To this end, the provisions of this Order are severable.

IT IS SO ORDERED:

[Signature]

Gail Newel, MD
Health Officer of the County of Santa Cruz

Dated: April 7, 2020

Approved as to Form:

[Signature]

Office of the County Counsel

Order of the County Health Officer
Temporary Closure of Beaches and Parks