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Journalism, Period 5

News

Barrels Be Gone

No More Shredding

Manhattan Beach Bans Surfing

On March 19, 2013, Manhattan Beach City Council passed a law banning the use of surfboards, paddleboards, beaters, and body boards in any part of the ocean from 45th Street to Neptune lifeguard tower.

City Council originally dismissed the bill because of the South Bay’s surfing history and the great waves by the pier and El Porto. However, many issues arose that caused enough of the council to vote for the bill. Some issues addressed included: beginner surfers, so called “kooks”, being harassed by surfers in popular spots, injuries from two surfers taking the same waves and colliding, surfers taking up prime parking, and fishermen who complain that the surfers are scaring away the fish.

“It’s a bummer, dude,” claimed Mr. McKeegan. “Now I have to drive all the way to Hermosa.”

Lifeguards are now patrolling 24 hours, 7 days a week from the set borders up to a mile out on boats. Anyone caught on a banned device will be thrown in a Manhattan Beach Police Department jail cell for a week. The new law will start April 2, 2013.