



A Message From the Harbor Director

Dear Dana Point Boaters and Community,

The past few days have brought quite a storm to Southern California, and we are now experiencing it's effects here in the Harbor.

I am communicating to you today to let you know that Dana Point Harbor is fairing pretty well despite the weather. There have been some minor mud slides and related temporary road closers, a few trees down, some minor flooding at the Hotel as well as in some of the back areas of a few of our merchants businesses, and an unbelievable amount of debris in the water from the local rivers. For the most part, Dana Point Harbor buildings are dry and the docks are safe.

All the docks and access to your vessels remain open and I would encourage you to take the time to come to your vessel to clear your scuppers, and check your lines and automatic pumps. There has been almost 8" of rain in the Harbor from this storm series, which is more than enough to sink an unattended vessel with a clogged scupper.

Marina staff have been diligent in monitoring vessels to the best of their ability, and providing assistance when needed - but with over 2000 vessels in the water they cannot be on all of the docks at all times, and unfortunately two vessels have gone down during the night. After you have secured your home and family, please try to come to the Harbor and check your vessel.

We have also been advised that due to sewage spills north of Dana Point (none in the Harbor), the ocean water is potentially unsafe and everyone is encouraged to adhere to the posted warnings on the dock gates. These postings will be updated as new information becomes available.

Finally, Harbor staff will be attending to the debris in the water as soon as they can. With the storm events not yet over, in addition to all other requirements on staff in dealing with the storms impact, it may be a day or two until we can actively start pulling the large pieces out of the water. Please use caution if you plan to leave the dock with your vessel. If you do plan a trip or Harbor cruise, I would encourage you to be on the lookout for debris, and transit slowly to minimize potential damage from underwater obstructions. If you encounter a large piece of debris in your way, you may secure it with a small line to a cleat and advise your Marina Office of its location so they can clear it safely.

Even if you do not have a boat in the water, please do come to the Harbor and see the glory of Mother Nature and a California winter storm. Avoid the hustle and bustle of the crowds elsewhere; maybe get some last minute shopping done, a bite to eat or a hot cappuccino on a blustery day.

On behalf of OC Dana Point Harbor, I wish you a happy holiday and healthy New Year.

Respectfully,

Brad Gross, Director