



# Safe Trestles

## Design Competition to Create Safe, Low-Impact Access to Trestles Community Meeting Notes

Trestles is arguably the most popular surfing break in North America, attracting over 300,000 people a year. To save time, nearly a third of these visitors take a shortcut along an unmaintained trail, cross the railroad tracks, and follow any number of impromptu footpaths through some of the most pristine marshlands left in Southern California.

The San Onofre Foundation has partnered with the Surfrider Foundation, Nike 6.0, and Architecture for Humanity to ask how can we address the recreational demands of the State Park safely, while also protecting and conserving the experience of Trestles -- a surfing and environmental world treasure. To explore different solutions, "Safe Trestles" was launched, an open-to-all design and ideas competition that asks how can we eliminate the dangers of crossing active railroad tracks, and create low-impact access to Trestles.

### | General Information |

<b>When:</b>	August 16, 2010 7:30pm – 9:30pm
<b>Where:</b>	San Clemente Community Center Auditorium 100 N. Calle Seville San Clemente, CA 92672
<b>Why:</b>	To learn more about the San Onofre Foundation and its goals, to explore why Trestles is in danger, and to open the floor to discussing: What should we do to protect Trestles for future generations?

### | Summary |

There were approximately 20-30 guests who arrived to hear about the Safe Trestles competition and to voice their opinions. The forum was led by Steve Long, former state lifeguard and park superintendent of the California State Parks (Doheny, San Clemente, and San Onofre State Beaches) and current board member of the San Onofre Foundation.

Steve led with an overview of the area: history; environmental highlights; and political complexities. He then introduced the competition as a vehicle to raise awareness of the problems at Trestles and to provide state parks with workable ideas to pursue. The introduction lasted approximately 1 hour and served to educate the attendees and also to refute some common misconceptions that were left on the various comment boards online.

Following the introduction, the floor opened to comments. While most of the public's questions had been answered, there were a few comments.

Video of Steve's introduction is available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VFmaCmTVSW4>

Video of the question + answer period is available at: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TrhohQUkUBo>