



# World Surfing Reserves

A Program of Save The Waves Coalition

## 2018 Application Packet

### Contact Information:

World Surfing Reserves  
c/o Save The Waves Coalition  
PO Box 183 / 3500 Highway One  
Davenport, CA, USA 95017  
Nick.Mucha@Savethewaves.org  
<http://www.worldsurfingreserves.org>

### Application Instructions:

Please fill out the following application completely and thoroughly. The 2018 application enrollment period is open from July 1 – September 30. The WSR Vision Council will announce the results of the selection process in November 2018.

Applications should be submitted via email to [Nick.Mucha@Savethewaves.org](mailto:Nick.Mucha@Savethewaves.org) as a single PDF document including all attachments to be considered. Submissions need to be made by September 30, at 5 pm (PST).

### Background Information:

World Surfing Reserves is an initiative designed to enshrine and protect the world's greatest surf spots: the most sacred, cherished, environmentally rich and culturally significant areas. The program proactively designates and preserves outstanding waves, surf zones and their surrounding environments, around the world. It serves as a global model for protecting wave breaks and their surrounding areas by recognizing the positive environmental, social, cultural and economic benefits of waves.

WSR eligible waves and surf zones are evaluated based on the following criteria:

- 1) Quality and consistency of the wave or surf zone;
- 2) Environmental characteristics of the area;
- 3) Surf & ocean culture and history of the area;
- 4) Local community support

Minimum criteria to become a World Surfing Reserve include the following:

- 1) World class wave or surf zone in terms of quality and consistency;
- 2) Unique and diverse environmental characteristics of the area;
- 3) Rich, documented surf & ocean culture, as well as history of the area;
- 4) Strong community support and capacity evidenced by government, NGO, and other local endorsements

Note: If the above minimum criteria are not met or any of the elements in the enclosed application are not properly completed, World Surfing Reserves will notify you to either request additional information, or to inform you that the site does not meet the minimum criteria. Incomplete applications may delay the review process.



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Name of Submitter:

Contact Info (email/phone/ mailing address):

Date of Submission:

Name of Organization(s) to which submitter is affiliated to:

Name of Country/ National Governing Body of Surf Zone:

Name of Submitted Wave or Surf Zone:

Eligible WSR sites and surf zones are evaluated and chosen based on the following criteria:

## I. Quality and Consistency:

(Max 500 words)

Please include description of the wave characteristics, with particular attention to the following criteria:

- Quality of waves(s)
- Surf-able days a year
- Site of pro contest
- Wave variety

## II. Unique Environmental Characteristics:

(Max 750 Words)

Please consider what makes the coastal environment around the proposed WSR boundaries significant, unique, and/or sensitive. What are the existing or potential opportunities to conserve these natural resources? Pay particular attention to the following criteria:

- Threatened species present
- Connected to water resources
- Past/present/future wave threats
- Recognized biodiversity hotspots ([CEPF](#), [WWF Ecoregions](#), etc)
- Protected designations
- Undeveloped area
- Key issues identified
- Clear avenue for protection identified
- Provides key ecosystem services

## III. Surf Culture, Ocean Culture, Indigenous Culture and Additional History of the Area:

(Max 750 Words)

Please outline the significance of the local surf culture, ocean culture, indigenous culture or other related history pertaining to this application., with particular attention to the following criteria:

- Site of national cultural significance
- Importance in surf history
- Site of regional significance



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## IV. Governance Capacity and Local Support

(Max 750 words)

The World Surfing Reserves program depends on the on-going support from the surfing community, government, and conservation leaders at the local, national, and international level. Please outline how the local community will engage to support the activities of the WSR, with particular attention to the following criteria:

- Sustainable financing opportunities
- Legal or policy frameworks available for protection and/or long-term support
- Clearly identified Reserve Ambassador
- Capable community leaders and established institutions dedicated to the ongoing WSR management and coordination

### Supporting Materials

- Please provide a letter of support from the following: local government officials, regional government officials, governing surfing association, local conservation/environmental NGOs, local business/tourism interests, and an academic institution.
- Please provide a provisional list of Local Stewardship Council members, including their affiliations and contact information.
- Please provide a one-page (max) description of how you envision WSR approval supporting the conservation interests of your community? How can this program help your community better protect your surfing resources?