



Gear Talk - Winter Forecasting

There is no "off season" at Secos. The wind blows 12 months a year, but with some subtle changes during the winter months. The pros include: less sailors on the water, hassle free parking and the best 4.X sailing you can find all year without the excessive cost of a lift ticket. The cons: the warblers have migrated south and it's a tad cooler in the water. Okay, I'll agree it's different and I miss the warblers, but it's still fun. When those ripping clearing winds hit the beach and you look out at the Victory at Sea conditions you will feel energized yet humbled. This Gear Talk addresses how best to forecast conditions between October and April when iWindsurf's Daily Weather Briefing is on hiatus. Not to worry. We have lots of resources at our finger tips. The Conditions page on SecosWinds is the go to place for finding all that vital info. Provided below are some of the useful links. Primarily use the NWS forecast for the inner coastal waters along with the NWS Area Forecast Discussion. Add into the mix the model forecasts from iWindsurf and the forecast from WetSand. Keep an eye on the local radar if rain is an issue. Satellite imagery helps too. Don't forget to check the water quality at Heal The Bay and LA Counties monitoring site to make sure the grade is acceptable. Lastly, check the available cams at Surfline and Watch The Water. Now you know all the secrets so there's no excuses for missing out. Join the winter crew and share the stoke.

NWS Forecast - Inner Coast Waters

http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/total_forecast/marine.php?marine=pzz655

NWS Area Forecast Discussion

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/scripts/getprodplus.php?sid=lox&pil=afd&back=yes>

IWS Model Forecasts (four models to select)

<http://www.iwindsurf.com/windandwhere.iws?regionID=129&siteID=206&lsection=Forecast+Graphs>

Wetsand Coastal Forecast (updated Sun/Tue/Thurs)

http://swellwatch.wetsand.com/#place=33.715201644740844_-119.575195_7_1422_height_none_Sat_-1

NWS Radar (Sulphur Mountain)

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/main.php?suite=observations&page=radar>

NWS Satellite

<http://www.wrh.noaa.gov/lox/main.php?suite=observations&page=satellite>

Water Quality

<http://www.healthebay.org/brcv2/default.aspx>
http://lapublichealth.org/phcommon/public/eh/water_quality/beach_grades.cfm

CAMS

http://www.surflife.com/surf-report/county-line-southern-california_4203/
<http://www.watchthewater.org/beach.cfm?bid=19>
<http://www.watchthewater.org/beach.cfm?bid=52>