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***By Email***

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Re: Friends of Oceano Dunes

Hello:

There is a hearing coming up and a very important decision to be made regarding the ODSVRA.

First off, I am not going to get into the details of the dispute, lawsuit, studies, misinformation, opposition denial or anything else. The lawsuit has covered all the intended details for which I support. I am merely going to express my thoughts and personal experience as a local dunes user and promoter.

I like many nature lovers, am disappointed that there is an unproven and biased incentive to close many acres of the ODSVRA. It is important to understand and acknowledge that my family and I are only a few, of millions of baby boomers and their children and grandchildren who are your most valuable State Park Constituents. I am a local property owning, tax paying, small business owning, voting, park lover in San Luis Obispo County. Have been anxiously following the situation unfolding which would virtually eliminate the current status and atmosphere of the areas used, as it has been for many years. What you propose would negatively impact ORV usage to such an extent, that there would be little to no access to the dunes for the future. Dunes have provided memorable experiences not only for me, but visiting friends and family to the area. I also own vacation rental property that I advertise the heck out of, promoting state beach activities.

There seems to be a lack of foresight, oversight or blatant disregard as to the impact to the users of this public land.

Prior to my knowledge of this dispute, I frequently enjoyed the dunes and was struck by the realization of the numbers of people involved in camping and enjoying in this popular location. It occurred to me that families, parents, kids, and friends were enjoying the great outdoors without much technology. Isn't it wonderful that people can come and connect with nature and with each other and not have to be overly involved with technology? This is year round, not just spring, summer and holidays.

Camping, vehicles, and vacationing are an expensive hobby. We are part of the core of this community both as citizens and are part of the primary tax base of the areas. We want our off road availability recognized not minimized. Our profile should not be minimized, our dune riding history should be endeared and protected and those who play and pay here. WE live here, and WE play here! Please don't attempt to destroy part of the extreme recreational value of the area by minimizing this strong community for other goals. Don't take away or minimize our ability to enjoy good, clean, family recreational fun by fazing us out. Let those of us who know our needs and have our say-so in the proposition of drastically taking it away. We are fighting for a cause in which we believe will negatively impact the dunes recreational community for ever. Experience proves once it's gone....it doesn't come back.

Dunes enthusiasts have a very long history here. Let's not squeeze this out of existence. I certainly hope you consider the input from the community to come to reason that makes sense to unsure these goals. Please see that to limit or deny access to the dunes would cripple that "something special" that the central coast provides, not only to locals but also the visitors. You may not realize it but the riders who travel back in the dunes are a constant security to the area. We are a community that cares about the environment. In these hard and troubling economic times it is even more important the people have the opportunity for recreation. This is an attractive area for visitors to spend their vacation dollars, there is no denying that.

Many voices won't be heard because they live far away. This leaves us in a disadvantage for expressing the necessity for keeping our dunes open. Hence, the opposition is a local minority. This is why I am writing..... I live on the Mesa and strongly support Friends of Ocean Dunes and their mission.

With all due respect, I am writing to let you know how incredibly important it is to keep ODSVRA open and assessable. We... state park users and recreational riders cherish our natural resources and the Dunes are a favorite place to enjoy the bounties of nature. To understand the good fortune we share to be an American and to experience release of life's stresses and pain with a trip to the dunes with family. It is a rare gift bestowed upon us to be able to camp and ride

near the surf, and we urge decision makers to comprehend the gravity of our requests. Please hear our voices and help promote the retention of the dunes.

People that use the beach are conscientious about taking care of the environment and preserving the area. We all know too well, that spoilers can ruin it for the rest of us. Considering this is a publicly owned State Park Land, and park lands that were set aside by the State, to be used for the mission and purpose of ALL people.... changing the access is incongruous to that mission. To reduce the size in it would render it inadequate for the needs of families wishing access and use to such areas.

Thank you kindly for allowing me to submit my concerns. Please excuse the possible redundancies in my letter, I am writing from my heart and soul. I am an extremely busy local business owner, but feel the necessity to express consideration as a LOCAL NIPOMO MESA homeowner's viewpoint. I am confident that the results will satisfy all involved. Also, allow me to include two videos I personally took while hiking Rice Ranch in Orcutt. Video shows massive dust storm in Guadalupe Dunes on an extremely windy day, graciously produced by Mother Nature, not man made.

Sincerely yours,

CAROLE BROWN