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Subject: Proposed Draft Stipulated Abatement Order and Petition Number 17-01
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Hello,

I have been visiting the “dunes” (Oceano SVRA) since I was 2 years old, I am now 34. I don’t want them closed, I want more of them opened back up so I can ride down to Devils Slide and tell stories like my older cousins have told me about the heyday of the dunes. We never leave any trash, we always clean up after ourselves and obey the park rules. It’s unfair for our recreational activity to be cast out just because some people, who knew the wind blew sand, moved into the area and demanded change under the guise of off roaders causing the sand to be blown.

Our last trip to Oceano dunes was from a Friday night to Sunday around noon and we spent around \$400 from Nipomo in the South to Cayucos in the North. That’s just a married couple for a weekend getaway. Imagine what kind of financial devastation the entire coastal community would face if the Oceano dunes were closed to off roaders. There was a study that showed that the dunes brought I think \$234 Million in revenue in a year, I believe that this number is a gross understatement. Food, lodging, activities, tourism, souvenirs, rentals, and out of area activities have to be upward of \$500 Million if you factor in the surrounding areas of Cayucos, Nipomo, Santa Maria, Morro Bay, San Luis Obispo, Los Osos, Avila, and possibly even down to Solvang and Buellton in the South and Templeton and Paso Robles heading inland.

We take care of our dunes, we love our beach and if you keep closing off more and more, people will go elsewhere for recreation. The bigger the SVRA area, the less crowded it would be and the safer it would become. If Oceano SVRA closes or keeps getting smaller, I will never spend another dime in that area, I’d rather go to places that welcome recreational activities, rather than despise them.

Thank you for your time

-Dennis Collins