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Subject: Keep Oceano Dunes open!  
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To whom it may concern,

I've been enjoying the dunes since I was just a kid. My family would take trips out there to ride dirtbikes, BBQ, walk on the beach, and enjoy each other's company around the campfire. When I say family, I don't mean mom, dad, & my sister. I mean those three, plus my aunt, uncle, cousins, grandma & grandpa, family friends, and their kids. Those were the regulars, plus whoever else decided to join us on a particular trip.

I find it very disconcerting that a small group of residents in the area are attempting to strong-arm the CA State Parks Department, among other agencies, to shut down such a valuable resource, simply because they just don't like it. Their argument is based on false information that has been manipulated to support their agenda. The mesa is literally a pile of sand. How do they think it got there?! I'll tell you how; It was blown inland from the beach by the coastal winds that have been blowing since way before off highway vehicles ever made tracks on the dunes. Furthermore, the parts of the dunes that have been closed to OHV use since 1982, contribute to the sand plume that blows inland just as much as the area open to OHV. This can clearly be seen on any given windy day. The sand/dust/plume is not limited to only the state park area open to OHV use.

Recent studies have also indicated that there is no measurable amount of silica in windblown dust in the area. That's what the main focus is from the folks who are complaining about the issue. The most recent, up-to-date data suggests that the particulates that ARE present are produced at sea and blown inland by prevailing winds. There is literally NO evidence whatsoever that any particulates are produced by OHV use in the dunes. In fact, the silica that is the main argument by the opposition, doesn't even exist in any measurable amounts.

No matter what we do, no matter what dust mitigation project are put into place, it will not affect the wind blown particulates. It's not because the dust mitigation measures are inadequate, it's because the dunes are not the source of these particulates. I believe the opposition knows this and that is their plan. If the dust mitigation project don't produce a measurable improvement, then we must do more, right? And when the increased dust mitigation efforts fail to produce results, then we must do MORE, right? This will lead to the eventual closure of the state park, 1,000 campsites (not to mention day use), an estimated \$243 million boost to the local economy, and thousands of disappointed California tax payers who are no longer permitted access to our public land.

I encourage any of you who have never visited the Oceano Dunes to please come out and enjoy the dunes. There is a huge community of dune enthusiasts who would jump at the opportunity to show any and all of you around, so that you may experience the park for yourself.

Please do the right thing here and refuse to give in to these bullies. You have a lot of support on your side to keep our dunes open for all to enjoy for decades to come. Go down in the history books as the ones who fought and kept the dunes open. Not the ones who gave in to the demands of a few and ruined it for everyone.

Thank you for your time.

-Joshua King

Below, I have included some links to some important information/data that I feel you should consider when making your final decision. Again, thank you for your time.

[http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/25010/files/Oceano\\_Dunes\\_SVRA\\_Scripps\\_Investigation\\_Planktonic\\_Aerosolized\\_Partacula.pdf](http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/25010/files/Oceano_Dunes_SVRA_Scripps_Investigation_Planktonic_Aerosolized_Partacula.pdf)

[http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/25010/files/Determination\\_of\\_Airborne\\_Crystalline%20Silica\\_Quartz\\_Exposure\\_ODSVRA\\_12-14-2017.pdf](http://ohv.parks.ca.gov/pages/25010/files/Determination_of_Airborne_Crystalline%20Silica_Quartz_Exposure_ODSVRA_12-14-2017.pdf)

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