



California State Parks Off-Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation Division
Pismo State Beach and Oceano Dunes SVRA
Public Works Plan
Sent to: info@OceanoDunesPWP.com

Re: Surfrider SLO's opposition to Public Works Plan

01/05/2020

Surfrider Foundation is dedicated to the protection and enjoyment of our oceans, waves, and beaches through a powerful activist network. Surfrider SLO is concerned with continued degradation of the Guadalupe / Oceano Dunes at the hands of California's OHMVRD. Impacts from ODSVRA adversely affect the health of our community and our county's environmentally sensitive habitat. Our chapter has reviewed the latest version of ODSVRA's Public Works Plan. Surfrider SLO finds the PWP is insufficient in many ways, primarily because its focus does not resolve the outstanding issues or review actions which could allow State Parks' management of Oceano Dunes to comply with the Coastal Act.

These outstanding issues include:

- Predator Management Plan
- Updated Interim Use Limits
- Vehicular Enforcement Plan
- No Interim Use Limit Exceptions
- Fencing Augmentation and Enhancement Plan
- Prohibition of Nighttime Vehicular Use
- Public Outreach Plan
- Arroyo Grande Creek Crossing Plan
- Monitoring Program
- Permanent Southern Closure
- Special Events Protocol
- Authorize Dust Control Areas
- Entrance Study

Required action: Please address the above issues, one-by-one, in the PWP.

Additionally, the PWP reduces the quality of public access and environmental protections presently available at Oso Flaco. Our community enjoys Oso Flaco due to its limited development. The PWP will bring new traffic along roads which are not designed for such high

volumes. Increased traffic increases noise, litter, and other impacts to the lands and watersheds surrounding Oso Flaco. Additionally, impacts to surrounding communities include requirements for increased law enforcement and emergency services

Required action: Please be a better steward of Oso Flaco's environment and a better neighbor to surrounding communities.

Further, California beaches and creek mouths are not highways. So, Surfrider Foundation San Luis Obispo believes the Public Works Plan should evaluate the alternative of Oceano Dunes without a State Vehicular Recreation Area, i.e. the PWP should evaluate transitioning to the same menu of services provided at Pismo State Beach.

Required action: Please safeguard traditional beach access at Oceano Dunes.

To comply with the Coastal Act, the PWP must rise to a level of acceptable development within an area which has been designated as Environmentally Sensitive Habitat. In addition to outstanding issues which have been expressed by the California Coastal Commission (above), we believe the PWP should include a plan for:

1. Only governmental motor vehicles allowed to operate in the park
2. Pier and Grand Ave entrances closed to non-governmental vehicles and beach/dunes restored at those locations
3. Preservation of Oso Flaco as a nature reserve
4. Enhancement of light-footprint recreational opportunities (e.g. hiking, tent camping, surfing, sandboarding, birdwatching, etc.)
5. Restoration of foredunes, dune vegetation, and healthy beach and dune environment
6. Enhanced protection of culturally- and environmentally-sensitive areas and wildlife.

Such action would help California State Parks to become a better steward of the environment and the surrounding communities of Oceano Dunes while rising to the standards of traditional beach access, a standard Californians value and enjoy.

Thank you,

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