

From: Kathleen Jackson - Sierra Club
1039 Chestnut St. - Paso Robles
Phone: 238-4353

10/4/65

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Rodin

Dr. Robert J. Rodin, Associate Professor in the Biological Sciences Department at Cal Poly, will be the guest naturalist on the Sierra Club's "Sunday in the Sand Dunes" walk in the Nipomo Dunes, next Sunday afternoon, October 10, at 2:00 o'clock.

The public is cordially invited to participate in this easy and leisurely Sunday afternoon walk, which is one in a series that the Sierra Club has been presenting this year to invite acquaintance with the recreational and scientific potential of south San Luis Obispo County's scenic sand dune area.

"The dunes are a good ecology area," states Dr. Rodin, "and I am looking forward to bringing along my family and participating in next Sunday's trip as guest naturalist."

Dr. Rodin has worked for the State Department of Forestry, has conducted research for the National Park Service, and was Assistant Herbarium Botanist at the University of California Harbarium prior to joining the staff of Cal Poly's Biological Sciences Department. Although he has worked generally on the plants of California, Dr. Rodin is particularly interested in ferns.

"Few people are aware of the prevalence of ferns in many areas of the sand dunes," states Mrs. Kathleen Jackson, Sierra Club leader of next Sunday's excursion, "and we are particularly looking forward to Dr. Rodin's comments on the fern population of the Nipomo Dunes."

The National Park Service has recommended the dunes for a state park. (1959) The California Public Outdoor Recreation Plan (1960) indicated their value for California's growing recreation needs.

(MORE - MORE)

And a State Park feasibility study is presently being conducted by the California State Department of Parks and Recreation.

Although the San Luis Obispo County Board of Supervisors' Master Plan of Shoreline Development included recreation plans for the sand dunes from 1946 until recently, supervisory action last week recommends withdrawing proposal of the dunes for state park acquisition.

"In view of the increasing thousands who presently enjoy a variety of recreation pursuits in the sand dune and beach areas of our south county," commented Mrs. Jackson, "it seems incongruous for our county supervisors at this time to withdraw the area of our richest recreation economic resource.

"We would like ever more people to come out on our scheduled Nipomo Dunes excursions, to experience for themselves the unusual pleasures of this unique and beautiful section of our county."

Meeting time for the walk is 2:00 p.m. Meeting place is at the intersection of Highway One and Oso Flaco Lake Road. This point is 13 miles south of Pismo Beach on Highway One. It is advised to bring drinking water, sweater and a snack on the outing.

#