

Mrs. Kathleen Jackson
Box 278, Route I
Arroyo Grande, California 93420

January 21, 1971

Mr. Phillip S. Berry, President
Sierra Club
220 Bush Street
San Francisco, California 94104

Re: NIPOMO DUNES
(Santa Maria, Oceano
Pismo Dunes)

Dear Phil:

As I said in my note of January 18, the matter of the NIPOMO DUNES was on our SCRCC agenda January 17 in Los Angeles, though we touched on it only briefly. . . by Michael McCloskey and SCRCC Chairman Harriet Allen deciding it was something for your direction.

I would like to bring you up to date to some extent, to assist your thinking about local coordination for the dunes. This letter will be several pages, which you can skim. It will be a resume of the Nipomo Dunes campaign from its first beginnings in 1962 up to the present - and my part in it.

1961 - November - the Santa Lucia Group of the Los Padres Chapter was formed, spearheaded by a very able Cal Poly biology student, Jay Holliday, who now, incidentally, is active in the new Sierra Club chapter in eastern Washington.

1962 - January - our brand new Santa Lucia Group conducted its first outing. Coincidentally, it was a seven mile walk through the Nipomo Dunes, not at that time shadowed by controversy.

As Vice-Chairman and Publicity Chairman of the new Group, and ever enthusiastic about outings, I was along. I had camped in the dunes as a child with my family, coming up from our home in Santa Barbara 80 miles to the south. I was struck anew with the dramatic and exquisite scenic quality of the dunes. From that day to now the dunes have been my first conservation vigilance.

I wish I could have shown you the dunes when you were the Santa Lucia Chapter banquet speaker in 1969. I had to be away on family business then. Ray Sherwin and Janet were down here January 9th and joined our annual Dunes Anniversary walk, which I led this year. It is the 10th year we have annually conducted this dunes trek. . . memorial to our first outing.

1962 - months later - when our Santa Lucia Group suddenly became aware that Pacific Gas & Electric Company was already concluding purchase of 1,100 acres of the very heartland of the dunes, we expressed concern immediately,

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as a Sierra Club Group -- and I, personally, felt intensely about protecting this scenic resource. My attitude was certainly evident in my publicity releases, which newspapers in this part of Central California published. In many of them I managed to weave-in warning comments about trespass of scenic resources and violation of ecologically valuable land by the proposed atomic power plant, even possible hazard to the environment from polluting emissions.

1962 - November With President Ed Wayburn's help, I secured David Pesonen as the speaker at our Santa Lucia Group's first annual banquet - and vigorously around our county promoted the sale of his booklet, "A Visit To The Atomic Park."

The local PG & E District Manager took me to task personally for opposing the dune power plant project. After an interview with him in his office, I wrote him a letter, outlining the stand of a scenic resource preservationist.

A few business men from around San Luis Obispo County telephoned me, severely criticizing my efforts. One was a Sierra Club member, who later became a Chairman of Santa Lucia Chapter.

One distraught woman from the South County area (near the dunes) called and accused me: "Mrs. Jackson, you are taking the schools from our children and the bread from our mouths by opposing the PG & E power plant. It is an economic bonanza." I replied to her that it was immoral to leave the education of little children to the whim of locating industry -- and that in the long run, over the years, a state park and recreation area in the dunes would become a great economic bonanza.

1963 - January On the heels of Pesonen's visit, after a public luncheon one day (put on by a county development and real estate group, who asked me to sit at the head table beside Ed Dolder of the State Parks Department), I was surrounded, literally, by five men. One asked, "Are you the Mrs. Jackson who doesn't want a power plant in the sand dunes?" I nodded, asking, "And who are you?" The speaker said, "We are PG & E, from the office in San Francisco." I smiled and suggested we get acquainted. They were pleasant, but very insistent upon making an appointment to visit me in my home to discuss their plans for the power plant in the dunes. I told them graciously but firmly that I would not meet with them alone, but with our Santa Lucia Group Executive Committee. But, no, they did not want that. We argued politely.

The upshot was that our Group Conservation Chairman and I agreed to meet with two PG & E representatives. I asked whether they had ever been in the dunes, and on the dune land PG & E had purchased. They had not. So, the appointment was set to meet, not in an office or a home, but down in the dunes. They agreed. Together, a few weeks later the four of us drove down to the dunes and hiked out into the dune land so recently then bought by the utility. The morning was beautiful! It was a memorable day. They had never been on a hike before! They had purchased cotton slacks, tee shirts and tennis shoes at Montgomery Wards the day before. They had no hats.

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They got very sunburned on that seven mile hike! And talk never stopped the whole time.

From that day to this there is a long history of events, particularly with relation to PG & E's Executive Representative, Kenneth J. Diercks, who is the one who took the lead in conversation during those early meetings and who deserves the credit of learning and accepting bit-by-bit our conservationist point of view on protection of scenic and natural resources. It is Diercks with whom I worked closely. Over the disapproval of Dave Brower, but with the commendation of Ed Wayburn, I invited Ken Diercks to a Sierra Club Board of Directors meeting and introduced him to every director. He listened closely to the entire meeting and was truly impressed with the stature of the Sierra Club. It is Diercks with whom Conservation Associates worked in good faith and with fine conservation diplomacy, in which field they are past masters. Finally, as we all know, the utility actually did agree to look for another site - and did so.

1963 - spring You may or may not know that in those earliest days of the campaign, PG & E sent Kenneth Diercks to Sacramento to see the state senator from San Luis Obispo County (then Senator Vernon Sturgeon) to ask about "that Mrs. Jackson" personally - and to offer to fly me up to visit their Humboldt atomic power plant, then just being fueled with its first load of nuclear elements. I was told I could invite five people of my own choosing to go along, all as PG & E's guests. The first person I invited was Fred Eissler, but he vigorously refused and urged me to do the same; he said I would be completely "snowed." Our Santa Lucia Group conservation chairman accepted, as did Senator Vernon Sturgeon. My husband, alert and astute, came. Others whom I would like to have had along had jobs or families and could not go. It was a good trip - red carpet treatment all the way - but it did not accomplish what PG & E hoped: they hoped to convince me that atomic power was safe. I came back overwhelmed with the enormity of trying to understand all the fringe issues of atomic power, with a firmer determination than ever to fight for the preservation of the dunes on a basis that I could understand, and that was the basis of protection of scenic resources.

Fred Eissler, from the first, vociferously disapproved of my approach, which was "to educate the utility and to persuade them to select a different site." We never saw eye to eye on the method. He kept urging attack and all-out attack; but persuasion was my way.

1964 - I set about finding \$5,000 to make a movie film of the dunes - by soliciting many contributors. But I had the luck to come upon a donor for the entire amount who wished to remain anonymous. The film was made by Eben McMillan and John Taft during 1965 and 1966. In my opinion, as I have written to Will Siri, Conservation Associates and Mike McCloskey, as well as Dawson Productions, the film still needs additions and corrections before it can be considered complete. It also needs a sound track from a good script. The film is with Dawson Productions.

Through the years I have collected color slides from photographers, as I am not a photographer, and have given slide talks to schools and clubs.

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A modest expense account was authorized during three years of the campaign and I put in bills to Sierra Club central office for mail and telephone expenses of the dunes efforts. They were very detailed, as Cliff Ruden can clarify for you. But when the Club was obviously in financial trouble, I sent in no more bills. Since then I have absorbed the expenses myself, although my finances are now slim - and I work half-time as Executive Secretary to our San Luis Obispo County Medical Society.

1965 - A climax in the campaign was a meeting I arranged that I called "a summit meeting" - held out in the sand dunes and in the middle of the PG & E parcel of 1,100 acres, with San Francisco representatives of PG & E and with President Will Siri of the Sierra Club, with County officials and with Sierra Club members. Not only was the media well represented, but a TV station in Santa Maria and a station in San Luis Obispo telephoned me to ask why I had not "invited" them to come along. I said it had never occurred to me to think of TV facilities as getting way out into the dunes. But in very pungent language I was told they would get big tires for their trucks and be there, no matter what! The event was on the front pages of two newspapers for three days in a row with pictures!!!

1965-1967 We fought a large "brush fire" for over two years: Collier Carbon and Chemical Corporation, a subsidiary of Union Oil Company (who operate an oil refinery and coking plant at the eastern fringe of the dunes, along the tracks of the Southern Pacific Railroad) conduct a manufacturing process which produces petroleum coke from the refinery's residue. The petroleum coke is sold to a variety of other industries around the world. It is shipped in open gondola freight cars from the dunes area, via Southern Pacific R.R., to Stockton and there trans-shipped on ocean freighters to Japan, India, north Africa and USA ports.

Collier Carbon & Chemical Company conceived a shipping project that they believed would effect them an economy: they decided to build a monstrous conveyor, a belt system, from their plant, out across the open dunes to the seashore, where they would build a commercial wharf to accomodate ocean-going freighters.

During this "brush fire" fight I led Sunday afternoon walks every weekend out through the part of the dunes slated for the conveyor construction. The superintendents of both the refinery and of the coking plant got to be my friends. One was a very good amateur botanist. They both joined the California Native Plant Society. I still correspond with one. They often came on these protest walks of mine. We were all gratified when there was a final decision by the Collier Carbon & Chemical Company not to build the coking conveyor. In honesty, I must add that this was because of disagreements Collier got into with Southern Pacific R.R., who finally refused to grant permission for the conveyor to be built up and over the S.P. mainline!

I was able to show to the hundreds of people who came on those walks in the period of over two years, a mock-up of the proposed conveyor, handed each a handout of action (which I had written and printed on a second-hand mimeograph machine which I bought) and pointed out how damaging any such

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operation would be with a trail of black coke dust spilled clear across the white sands, to say nothing of the unsightliness of a commercial shipping facility on the seashore, plus the hazard of off road vehicles running into the trestle on which the conveyor was to be mounted. We had the vehicle recreationists with us on that one.

1965 - The State Division of Beaches and Parks was ready to decide priorities for the acquisition portion of the \$150 million State Parks Bond Issue. A delegation of the leading business men from south San Luis Obispo County, headed by the anti-dunes park county supervisor from that area, made up a busload of protestors, who went to Sacramento and had a meeting with top officials of the State Department of Natural Resources (Hugo Fisher) and Fred Jones, then Director of the Division of Beaches and Parks. This busload of promoters was able to get the acquisition of dunes lands completely shelved.

1965 - September See enclosed copy of the resolution by the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs re: supporting a state park in the dunes. This was the result of efforts by Clark and Marge Jones.

1966 - January Martin Litton was immeasurably helpful at this time when I set up a panel of four speakers, backed up by a delegation of fifty conservationists, who all appeared before the State Park Commission in Santa Barbara, pleading that the acquisition of the Nipomo Dunes not be deleted from long range State Park plans. Martin and I planned this coup quietly, in order not to alert the opposition. Martin was able to take the Commission Chairman and three other key persons by airplane from Santa Barbara the day before the Commission meeting and fly them all over the dunes; then they landed at little Oceano Airport, where I had a State Parks official jeep waiting with the local State Park superintendent. He drove them all out into the dunes. By a miracle the day was one of those enchantedly perfect days of glitter on the sea and sun and shadow in the dunes. The men were under a spell; they insisted on getting out of the jeep and walking. . . . The trip was a great success.

The next day at the Park Commission meeting the speakers I had secured each spoke well and briefly on different subjects: Eben McMillan on the wildlife and natural science aspects of the dunes; Gilbert Wilkes, a business man Sierra Club member, on the economic impact of a great state park; Marge Jones, on the wide appeal of a dunes state park; and I spoke on the value of the scenic and ecological aspects. We had our delegation of fifty rise, as evidence, but they did not speak. I had very large photographs of the dunes, which Martin had made up for the occasion. These I passed among the Commission, as some had not visited the area.

Then the Chairman of the Commission himself spoke fervently and even eloquently of how impressed he had been with his visit to the dunes the day before with Martin Litton. What a success that meeting was. The minutes of the Park Commission meeting of that date will show that the dunes were voted (by all except Zellerbach) to be "continued as a live issue." (See enclosed xerox clipping.)

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Use of the media has always been one of my strongest tools. On the day following the January 1966 meeting of the State Park Commission, I made sure there were articles in all the papers I could reach. I handed xerox copies of the four statements made by our speakers to representatives of the press who were there covering the meeting. I had brought one reporter from San Luis Obispo who was a free-lancer who covered the Fresno Bee, the Santa Maria Times, the South County weeklies and several other weeklies in San Luis Obispo county towns, as well as a stringer for the Los Angeles Times.

A publicity effort that paid off in goodwill was a large patio party I gave around the swimming pool of my home in Paso Robles, where I lived at that time. It was called A Thank You Party. To it were invited representatives of all the newspapers and radio and TV stations with whom we had worked on the effort to get PG & E to seek a different site for the atomic power plant. The food for the party was provided by Sierra Club members of the Santa Lucia Group. In our invitations we promised no pressure, persuasion or crusading, as it was really to be a party. We even invited Harold Gilliam and Russ Leadabrand as thanks for some of their articles. (They graciously sent their regrets.) There is no doubt the party was a success, as we heard for long afterwards.

1967-1968: Doris Leonard and George Collins put me in touch with a foremost geomorphologist, Dr. William Cooper, of Boulder, Colorado, who has written the only exhaustive scientific monograph on these particular dunes.

Dr. Cooper, now quite elderly, has continued to send me bits of help and encouragement. Facts which he provided were used by me in testimony at hearings to halt a sand mining project proposed in 1968 for the Guadalupe section of the dunes, close to the Santa Maria River in northern Santa Barbara County.

In building up opposition to the sand mining project, Fred Eissler and I got together again, harmoniously, and worked well as a team, gathering other people to testify at the several hearings before the Santa Barbara County Planning Commission and getting a small delegation to participate by their presence. This is one of the hearings at which Evelyn Gayman spoke, having driven all the way up from Los Angeles.

In this 1967-68 skirmish we were successful, not in completely stopping the sand mining, but in achieving controls on the project and reducing the size and impact of what the sand mining company proposed. (e.g. a contract for 5 years, instead of the 10 they requested) (e.g. no digging closer to the shore than 4,000 feet, instead of digging to the beach, on the beach and out into the surf, as the company proposed).

A flora of the dunes is an effort I have promoted through the years, and have worked on the lists myself; have promoted flower walks and secured qualified botanists to accompany us, such as Dr. Robert F. Hoover of Cal Poly, Dr. John Haller of UCSB, Mrs. Clare Hardham of Paso Robles. At last, this year a Cal Poly student, Glenn Holstein, is mak-

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ing a project of a start on a flora of the Nipomo Dunes. He is starting by cataloguing the flora of the Dune Lakes area.

1969 - The National Parks Service National Registered Landmarks program for the Nipomo Dunes is another valuable effort in which I have had a part, first with the late Dr. Robert F. Hoover, professor emeritus, botanist of San Luis Obispo County, formerly at Cal Poly; and now with the new appointee of NPS, Dr. Robert Rodin, botanist professor at Cal Poly, to whom I have lent some small assistance. Although only an amateur botanist myself, it was such a thrill to me to discover only two months ago and to report, the northernmost stand of Giant Coreopsis in these dunes.

The off road vehicle recreationists are a large group of dune users, with whom, for all the years I have worked on the dunes I have tried to win understanding of conservation attitudes. I have come to know and like many of them. On numerous occasions they have participated in Sierra Club outings which I have arranged, by contributing dune buggy and jeep rides as a new experience for our hikers.

In a gesture of conservation diplomacy a few years ago, I brought the four top state officers of the California 4-Wheel Drive Association and their wives to a San Francisco annual May meeting of the Sierra Club Board of Directors and to the evening banquet afterwards. They had a good time. They met all the directors and there was time for them to talk at length with Randal Dickey, Jr., then Club Conservation Chairman. Randal can tell you how this led to satisfactory agreements over part of the Desolation Wilderness Area.

In turn, the California 4-Wheel Drive Association invited me to be a guest at their annual meeting in Visalia and to bring any Sierra Club guests I wished. A smart newspaper friend from San Luis Obispo county, Kit Walling, went with me and fortunately Mike McCloskey was able to come down from the Bay Area - and even brought his bride, Maxine, along. It was an interesting meeting. They invited both Mike and me to speak, which we did. And I felt the weekend was profitable in conservation diplomacy.

1970-71 The newly organizaed (and not yet officially State appointed...by Mr. Mott...) Pismo State Beach Advisory Committee got under way last June, 1970. The committee could be considered to be somewhat top-heavy with off road vehicle recreationists and their supporters. However, I was asked to be secretary pro-tem at the first meeting and was subsequently elected to the position for 1970. At an annual election this month I was re-elected for 1971 over the other nominee, who is a dune buggy man.

It is a rather rough and tumble state park advisory committee.... vastly different from the smooth, sophisticated Montana de Oro State Park Advisory Committee, of which I have been secretary since it was founded six years ago. The first meeting of the Pismo State Beach Advisory Committee in June 1970 was very loud, noisy, even vulgar; but every meeting since then has improved in tenor. The vehicle recreationists are using a new vocabulary and expounding some conservation attitudes. Significant is that

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this Advisory Committee has passed a resolution, which is essentially the Sierra Club Board of Directors Amended Resolution of June 9, 1963, supporting the concept of a dunes state park and recreation area from Pismo Beach to Point Sal. This is included in our minutes as a recommendation to the State Department of Parks and Recreation. This recommendation was made in the Fall. Subsequently the State Department of Parks and Recreation, on November 12, 1970, made a similar recommendation to the State Legislature.

This Advisory Committee is active. Whereas the Montana de Oro Advisory Committee meets only quarterly, the Pismo State Beach Advisory Committee meets once a month (first Tuesday night of every month at a public school in Oceano, the village close to the dunes, which is the main entry point for visitors to the dunes). A number of sub-committees and sub-sub-committees have developed and are certainly active, meeting monthly and making good reports, which are usually typewritten and handed to the Advisory Committee chairman. I make it a point to attend every single little meeting, not missing even the smallest sub-sub-committee meeting. I don't want to lose a pulsebeat of all the thinking. This means that every week I am out to three or four night meetings.

I urged two Cal Poly students to interest themselves in this advisory committee and they have not only been accepted as members among the 20 present committee roster, but are making a most outstanding contribution to the thinking and work of the overall committee. Using the Systems Approach, they are preparing a map with overlays of A Proposed State Park For the Nipomo Dunes. Their presentations are exceptional. The chairman of this student sub-committee is a fifth year Architectural student at Cal Poly, named Ed Chamberlin. He came as a stranger on the Labor Day moonlight weekend knapsack outing I led into the dunes in 1969. On the hike home from the trip he remarked: "This has been fun; how does one join the Sierra Club." I promptly signed a membership application for him to send it, which he did. He is also presently the youngest member of the Santa Lucia Chapter Executive Committee and contributes thoughtfully and valuably to the work to be done.

Doris Leonard and George Collins and various presidents, directors and Club leaders immediately preceding your term can fill you in on many details of the progress of the campaign to "save" the Nipomo Dunes. Some of their names which come to mind are the following . . . I have been in the dunes with most of them, but not all . . . Ed Wayburn and Peggy, Will Siri, Ansel Adams, Dick and Doris Leonard, Lewis Clark, Martin Litton, Fred Eissler, Randal Dickey, Jr., Clark and Marge Jones, Herley and Evelyn Gayman, Joe Fontaine and numerous people from the Kern Kaweah Chapter, Starker Leopold, Peter Hearst and a great many people from Santa Barbara and Ventura Counties, also many people from the Angeles Chapter, and about a hundred from Ventana.

Back in the beginning of the campaign in about 1962 or 63 I set up an ad hoc committee, the Nipomo Dunes Committee, of which I held the chairmanship. But the group disintegrated and some of our relationships even deteriorated during the Sierra Club upheaval over Diablo Canyon. I have continued to function, using many wide contacts, some in neighboring chapters; but have not tried to set up a new ad hoc committee.

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A host of good people have assisted the dunes campaign during these nine years. At the top of the list I believe I would put Doris Leonard well, Doris Leonard and George Collins and Dorothy Varian. Their wisdom, shrewdness, and guidance have been invaluable. In steady, continuing loyalty to support of the project I want also to name Evelyn Gayman of Laguna Beach, always ready with help, excellent letters, sound advice. Past presidents of the Sierra Club have been simply wonderful with encouragement and support. The Desomount Club of Los Angeles, the Audubon Society, The Nature Conservancy (through Elna Bakker and Don Greame Kelley), the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, have all been helpfully involved at one time or another.

But some people have not helped. We have a Sierra Club member in Arroyo Grande (a town which has from the beginning been the hot-bed center of opposition to state acquisition of the dunes) who has even been chairman of the Santa Lucia Chapter. This Sierra Club member consistently holds a point of view in opposition to the Resolution of the Sierra Club Board of Directors. (Copy enclosed.) Lee Wilson may be doing a devoted job on the Lopez Canyon Wilderness proposal, but up to this very week he has continually discouraged the project to save all the dunes from Pismo Beach to Point Sal. He always has expressed, and continues to express, his opinion that the PG & E atomic power plant complex could be built out in the sand dunes, and that other industries, also, could well locate likewise in the dunes. . . reserving for State acquisition only a slim seaward beach stretch of 1,000 feet from the Mean High Tide Line. In my opinion this idea does violence to the concept of the total dune resource. In fact, I find the idea unthinkable, untenable and an outrage.

Further, what troubles me is his continuing to say things in such a way that they have the effect of persuading other people that perhaps it is no use to continue the fight for the dunes -- such statements as:

"PG & E will never give up their land in the dunes.
They aren't going to sell it to the State."

"The business people of this south end of San Luis Obispo County will never permit the State to get hold of all that dune land."

"We can have industry and a State Park, both, together in the dunes. Our economy in this south end of the county needs the industry. And if the State gets the beach and maybe a thousand feet inland, that's enough."

I can't tell you how disheartening this kind of talk has been to me through the years. There has built up a very strained relationship between us, of course. Unhappily, his wife has made it a personal affair.

As for Lee Wilson's statement that: "PG & E will never let go of their land in the dunes," ... my latest letter from Kenneth Diercks, of November 1970, and his most recent telephone conversation with me, late in December, indicate no change in PG & E plans to dispose of their dune land completely to the State. He states the plan is "to lease the land to

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the State until the Legislature can act." Doris Leonard is close to the facts on this and can supply you details.

Another disheartening aspect of the present situation is that many San Luis Obispo county citizens are appalled at the landscape damage from installation of the new EHV powerlines out of Diablo Canyon. As you know, a powerline hearing is going on now here. Therefore, some of our own Sierra Club members are joining the chorus of citizens, saying: "If only the power plant had been built in the sand dunes, after all. . . so much less overall damage to the landscape and the terrain."

A recent sad development, too, is the reviving of an opposition campaign to any State acquisition of dune lands. This campaign is mounted by the city councils of Pismo Beach and Arroyo Grande and their Planning Commissions: small groups, but very vocal. They are waving their old flags of: "We in this south part of San Luis Obispo County are poverty stricken. We need industry. Our school district and our people need the income. We must not let the State buy any more land in the dunes. Besides, the State should develop the land they already own hereabouts, before considering any further acquisition." The newly elected supervisor from this south section of San Luis Obispo County goes right along with this point of view, too, alas.

And now, drawing this long report toward conclusion. with regard to the best possible management and conservation coordination for continuing the Sierra Club effort to preserve the entire area of the Nipomo Dunes, with its related upland, my feeling is that we do need a qualified Coordinator, officially appointed by the President of the Sierra Club, and that we very much need assistance from a regional conservation representative. San Luis Obispo County is not large: only 108,000 population; but conscriptable manpower is limited for work on this campaign. I feel strongly that we need an outside strategist. A Sierra Club regional conservation representative could be the answer, to assist a local Coordinator, and perhaps to direct the campaign.

Frankly, you can surely guess that I would like to be re-activated or re-appointed as the Sierra Club Coordinator for the Preservation of the Nipomo Dunes. My heart is in the dunes. I believe in the soundness of State Park status for the total area, which is something between 15,000 and 25,000 acres. A park with a recreation zone is the highest land use of the area. A park is realistic, and is practical here. . . moreover, a park that is an economical one for the State right now, as it would require practically no development. (This last was discussed only this week by a sub-committee of the Pismo State Beach Advisory Committee with a Landscape Planner from Sacramento - Department of Parks and Recreation - Kenneth Collier.)

I am convinced this battle can eventually be won. Nine years I have worked in this direction. Four years ago I moved away from inland Paso Robles, and am now single. My small home, in a rural area between Oceano and Arroyo Grande, is located at the western edge of the Nipomo Mesa ; it has very big windows, overlooking a great sweep of the dunes, and an arc of blue sea, curving up the coast toward Whalers' Point above Avila Beach....a vast and striking view. I know how fortunate I am!

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I lead many, many outings in the dunes. Individuals and organizations, not Sierra Club, as well as other Sierra Club chapters and sections of chapters (for instance, the Cabrillo Section of the Angeles Chapter). . . and our own Santa Lucia Chapter, contact me to lead dune outings. Some requests come from rather far away. The requests are for all sorts of different types of dune trips:

Flower walks, with emphasis on endemics.
Archaeology strolls to the Indian kitchen middens.
Exploratories for classes of school children.
Car camps with evening slide programs in the State Beach campground.

Family picnics in areas prohibited to vehicles.
Weekend knapsack trips.
3-day backpacks.
Long day hikes - 10 miles.
Short hikes.
Moonlight walks.
-and so on.

I have never turned down any person or group - and all my outings take place, rain or shine; the dunes are interesting in any weather.

The bonuses of the hard fight are the joys of sharing the beauties, the drama, the surprises of all the facets of the dunes with others.

If you should wish to appoint someone other than myself to the responsibility of Coordinator, to lead the campaign, I hasten to assure you I would lend every assistance and follow the leadership conscientiously, in line with Club Board policy. I could not do otherwise.

I had to miss your visit when you were banquet speaker for Santa Lucia Chapter, as I said. How I do wish I could have shown you this landscape. And I do feel rhapsodic about it.

It is a different kind of wilderness. . . a white, wind-sculptured wilderness of lovely contours. . . golden slopes and tawny shadows. . . myriad sand formations, ever flowing, changing. . . tossed to peaks a hundred and fifty feet high, dramatically sharp. . . or carved in parabolic bowls. . . graced with small lakes, laced with green glades. . . dazzling in the sun, subdued at dusk. . . sinuous as lions asleep. . . strange, mysterious, vast by moonlight. Maybe someday I can show you the dunes.

However, the matter of local coordination should be resolved speedily. The State Legislature will act during the forthcoming budget session. Z'berg is Chairman of the Assembly Natural Resources Committee now; but who will it be in the Senate? It is imperative to mount persuasion from throughout California to the legislators to support the recommendation of the State Park and Recreation Commission, to acquire proposed additions to Pismo State Beach, as steps toward the concept of an eventual great state park, including all the dunes and beaches and bluffs from Pismo Beach to Point Sal.

Sincerely,

(Mrs.) Kathleen Jackson

cc Michael McCloskey
Conservation Associates
Harold Miossi

Enclosures