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April 15, 1979

Mr. Roger Calloway, Associate Landscape Architect
Landscape Architecture: Unit 884 - Room 1449
California State Department of Parks and Recreation
1416 9th Street - 14th Floor
P. O. Box 2390
Sacramento, California 95811

Dear Roger Calloway:

We plan to attend the Wetlands Workshop re: Oso Flaco Lake and general related area, on April 20th in San Luis Obispo.

We are delighted to learn that you will be here. It will be good to see you again.

This is just an informal letter to let you know the direction that some of our thinking has taken in the past five years since the General Development Plan and Resource Management Plan was formulated for Pismo State Beach and Pismo Dunes Vehicular Recreation Area. Our current attitudes and opinions are the result of observing first hand, and often, the natural habitat degradation and the environmental destruction which has come from the increase of irresponsible recreational vehicular use of the dunes and their associated wetlands. So herewith follow some of the points which indicate the direction of our thinking:

1. We shall continue to support in concept the State's General Development Plan and Resource Management Plan for Pismo State Beach and Pismo Dunes Vehicular Recreation Area.

However.

2. We oppose any continued use of the Causeway over Oso Flaco Lake by motorized traffic: foot traffic only. Suggest replacing Causeway with foot bridge.
3. We oppose an ORV type campground close to the Oso Flaco wetlands areas.
4. We oppose any access to the dunes across wetlands from any part of Oso Flaco Road.
5. We support a campground on the east side of the Oso Flaco Lake, to be planned for the use of walk-in visitors to the dunes.
6. We support the concept of an Interpretive Center near the eastern end of the Causeway near the proposed campground east of Oso Flaco Lake.
7. We support Access A, as an all-purpose controlled State Park entrance. By all-purpose we mean for the use of all who wish to enter the dunes at this location.

8. We favor an underpass under the Southern Pacific Railroad, as the most practical solution for crossing the railroad right-of-way at Access A: less disturbing and damaging to the environment than an overpass.
9. From the Access A controlled entrance, we suggest a corridor for recreation vehicles, leading directly into the present Pismo Dunes Vehicular Recreation Area.
10. We suggest that any staging area for vehicular recreationists, and the attendant support facilities, be developed outside of State Park property on private land by private enterprise.
11. We support State acquisition of the remaining 270 (approx.) acres of P.G. & E. land, together with certain land from Union Oil Company and other owners (as proposed by the State) ... including Jack Lake area, Lettuce Lake, wetlands, open dunelands, Coreopsis Hill, Coreopsis Lake, Little Coreopsis Hill, and so on. . . such acquisitions to be for State P-A-R-K purposes.
12. We oppose any acreage being added to enlarge the Pismo Dunes Vehicular Recreation Area. New acreages acquired should be preserved and rehabilitated.
13. We urge that native plants of the area be used in rehabilitation efforts.
14. We oppose camping and any development in sensitive areas.
15. We support immediate protection of all archaeological sites.
16. We support immediate protection of severely damaged or threatened areas, suffering from unusual movement of sand; e.g.:
 - Little Coreopsis Hill - summit is collapsing from vehicle intrusion. (This highest dune hill of the area, 152' elevation, supports the northernmost stand of coreopsis gigantea, and endemics.)
 - Coreopsis Hill - large dune from the west is rapidly moving onto the hill.
 - Jack Lake - large dune from the west threatening to engulf the lake.
 - Jack Lake Meadow - Vehicle trails now criss-crossing this extremely fragile wetland meadow (An unusually floracious area and habitat of the very rare and endangered cirsium loncholepis, lupinus nipomensis and other endemics.)
 - Maidenform Flats Campground - degraded and extremely insanitary - much broken glass, etc. Extreme damage to the unique willow/wax myrtle community which is the protective cover here.
 - Moist willow community along the flat of Dune Rats Camp - being inundated by massive sand slides.Immediate steps toward closure, protection and rehabilitation is urgent for the survival of above areas.
17. We support a substantial evaluation study of effects upon the total dune environment of vehicle recreation there. We urge that during this immediate evaluation study period no vehicle recreation camping be permitted in any dune areas.

18. We support an immediate no camping ban on the beach south of the Pismo Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area.
19. We support limited walk-in camping in designated dune areas; but study needs to be done re: impact.
20. We urge particular haste in protection and rehabilitation of the extraordinarily damaged primary dunes the entire length of Pismo State Beach.
21. We strongly support the State's efforts in overall administration, protection and rehabilitation of the dunelands.

Very sincerely,

Kathleen Goddard Jones
Taylor J. Jones

Map enclosed.