

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

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Dr. Richard A. Pimentel, well-known biologist of Cal Poly's Biological Sciences Department, will be the Guest Naturalist on the Sierra Club's "Sunday in the Sand Dunes" walk next Sunday afternoon, September 26, at 3 o'clock.

Highlighting this excursion in the South County's scenic shore and recreation area, will be Dr. Pimentel's discussion of efforts he made some years ago in this area to ascertain possible tidal pollution from the Union Oil Company's outfall line. Questions have been raised by Sierra Club biologists regarding possible tidal pollution as a result of the coke-loading and transshipping operation proposed for the dunes and shore area by Collier Carbon and Chemical Corporation, a subsidiary of Union Oil Company.

Mr. John E. Fitch, Research Director, Marine Resources Operations, California State Fisheries Laboratory, San Pedro, who is an authority on the Pismo Clam, has indicated in a letter to the Sierra Club, that coke spillage and bilge, characteristically attendant to such a shipping operation, could be detrimental to Pismo clams in the tidal areas, as well as contributing a possible oily taste to fishes of the surf region.

(MORE)

Sierra Club - Nipomo Dunes walk

Dr. Pimentel's concern regarding possible pollution in San Luis Obispo County recreation areas is well known and has been commended by health authorities. The Sierra Club is gratified that he has consented to accompany the Dunes' Walk on Sunday, September 26, as Guest Naturalist, according to outing leader Mrs. Kathleen Jackson of Paso Robles.

The public is cordially invited on this easy and leisurely outing of two or three miles. It is adviseable to bring drinking water, sweater and a snack.

The meeting time is 3:00 p.m. Meeting place is on Highway One at the intersection of Oso Flaco Lake Road. This point is 13 miles south of Pismo Beach on Highway One. Children are welcome.

Purpose of the outings is to acquaint the public with the scenic and varied sand dune recreation area of south San Luis Obispo County.

This hospitable seashore and upland recreation region, rich in natural resources, is currently the subject of a study by the California State Department of Parks and Recreation to determine its feasibility for a state park.

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