



Dear South County Business Owners,

The South County Chambers of Commerce works closely with the business community in order to address their concerns and serve as a partner and advocate for issues that affect the local economy. The Oceano Dunes State Park and Pismo State Beach bring a significant number of customers to many of the local businesses in South County and many others benefit by some means from the tourism revenue.

The 2016/17 Oceano Dunes District, Economic Impact Analysis Report by SMG Consulting reported direct travel spending by park visitors is estimated to be \$158M annually from visitors outside San Luis Obispo County. The overall annual economic impact is estimated to be \$243M which is based on direct spending, indirect spending and induced spending from visitors coming from outside of San Luis Obispo (SLO) County. To put that in perspective, the number one agricultural crop in San Luis Obispo County, wine grapes, reported a value of \$268M in 2017 according to the SLO County Department of Agriculture Weights and Measures.

Furthermore, survey respondents were asked *"If Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (OHV) did not exist, would they still visit San Luis Obispo County?"* Overall, 62% indicated they would not visit the county, suggesting that Oceano Dunes State Park and Pismo State Beach provides a unique set of recreation experiences in a unique location. As such, the State Park and State Beach are "revenue drivers" for the local economy.

As a result of complaints of airborne dust on the Nipomo Mesa the OHV riding area has already been systematically reduced as part of a mitigation plan required by the SLO County Air Pollution Control District (APCD). A reduction in OHV visitors will directly affect our local economy, businesses, and tax dollars for infrastructure and our schools. Diablo Canyon Power Plant is decommissioning and an estimated 500 high wage jobs in South County will be lost. South County cannot afford to lose another economic driver.

On Thursday July 11, 2019 at the Embassy Suites Hotel in San Luis Obispo, the California Coastal Commission will consider the continued use of the Off-Highway Vehicle State Recreation Area at the Oceano Dunes State Park. Below is a quote from the agenda staff report:

"The bottom line in staff's view is that the Park and the Coastal Development Permit cannot continue to operate as it has in the past, and that the range of coastal resource issues and constraints affecting ODSVRA together suggest that it is time to start thinking about ways to transition the Park away from high-intensity OHV use to other less intensive forms of access and recreation. Staff believes that it is appropriate to start to make these kinds of changes, and to start to plan for ODSVRA to transition to other less intensive uses...Put simply, in staff's view a Park that is fully consistent with on-the-ground realities, and with coastal resource protection requirements, does not include OHV use. Rather, it is clear to staff that the significant coastal resource issues and constraints attributable to OHV use render long-term OHV use at this location untenable."

Because it is evident that the Coastal Commission plans to prohibit OHV riding at Oceano Dunes State Park a group of Business Stakeholders has formed to address the economic impact concerns and advocate for the continued use of the OHV area.

The Oceano Dunes State Park and Pismo State Beach Business Stakeholder Coalition have asked the Chamber to invite you to engage on this issue.

Please plan to attend the Coastal Commission meeting on Thursday July 11, 2019. The meeting begins at 9:00am at the Embassy Suites Hotel 333 Madonna Road, San Luis Obispo CA 93405. To show your support wear a blue shirt and consider speaking during public comment. Please see last page for an example outline.

Sincerely,

The Oceano Dunes State Park and Pismo State Beach Business Stakeholder Coalition
and the South County Chambers of Commerce 2019 Board of Directors

In addition to attending the meeting please email your concerns to:
Coastal Commissioners: CentralCoast@coastal.ca.gov (must be sent by 5pm on 7/5/19)

Contact your representatives at the Air Pollution Control District:

<p>Council Member City of Grover Beach Chairperson APCD Mariam Shah mshah@groverbeach.org 154 S. 8th Street Grover Beach, CA 93433 Phone: (805) 437-4567 Fax: (805) 489-9657</p> <p>District 1 County Supervisor John Peschong jpeschong@co.slo.ca.us County Government Center San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 Phone: (805) 781-4491 Fax: (805) 781-1350</p> <p>District 2 County Supervisor Bruce Gibson bgibson@co.slo.ca.us County Government Center San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 Phone: (805) 781-4338 Fax: (805) 781-1350</p> <p>District 3 County Supervisor Adam Hill ahill@co.slo.ca.us County Government Center San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 Phone: (805) 781- 4336 Fax: (805) 781-1350</p> <p>District 4 County Supervisor Lynn Compton lcompton@co.slo.ca.us Lynn Compton County Government Center San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 Phone: (805) 781-4337 Fax: (805) 781-1350</p> <p>District 5 County Supervisor Debbie Arnold darnold@co.slo.ca.us County Government Center San Luis Obispo, CA 93408 Phone (805) 781-4339 Fax: (805) 781-1350</p>	<p>Council Member City of Arroyo Grande Jimmy Paulding jpaulding@arroyogrande.org 214 E. Branch Street Arroyo Grande, CA 93420 Phone: (805) 473-5404 Fax: (805) 473-0386</p> <p>Mayor City of Pismo Beach Ed Waage ewaage@pismo-beach.org 760 Mattie Road Pismo Beach, CA 93449 Phone: (805) 773-4657 Fax: (805) 773-7006</p> <p>Mayor City of San Luis Obispo Heidi Harmon hharmon@slocity.org 990 Palm Street San Luis Obispo, CA 93401 Phone: (805) 783-7752 Fax: (805) 781-7109</p> <p>Mayor City of Morro Bay John Headding jheadding@morrobayca.gov 595 Harbor Street Morro Bay, CA 93442 Phone: (805) 909-9785 Fax: (805) 772-7329</p> <p>Council Member City of Paso Robles John Hamon jhamon@prcity.com 1000 Spring Street Paso Robles, CA 93446 Phone: (805) 227-7206 Fax: (805) 237-4032</p> <p>Council Member City of Atascadero Roberta Fonzi rfonzi@atascadero.org 6907 El Camino Real Atascadero, CA 93422 Phone: (805) 470-3400 Fax: (805) 470-3497</p>
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Thursday July 11, 2019
9:00 am
333 Madonna Rd, San Luis Obispo, CA 93405

You have three minutes to speak during public comment.

Name	
Business Name	
Business Location	
Years in Business	
Number of Employees	
Estimated Percentage of Business from OHV users	
How is Your Business Impacted by OHV Tourism, provide examples	
How Would Your Business be Impacted if the OHV park were closed	
Additional comments	

More information:

Oceano Dunes State Park and Pismo State Beach Economic Impact Analysis

https://chambermaster.blob.core.windows.net/userfiles/UserFiles/chambers/815/CMS/Final-Oceano_Dunes_SVRA_2016_2017_3-5-18.pdf

California Coastal Commission Staff Report

<https://www.coastal.ca.gov/meetings/agenda/#/2019/7>

Air Pollution Control District

<https://www.slocleanair.org/>