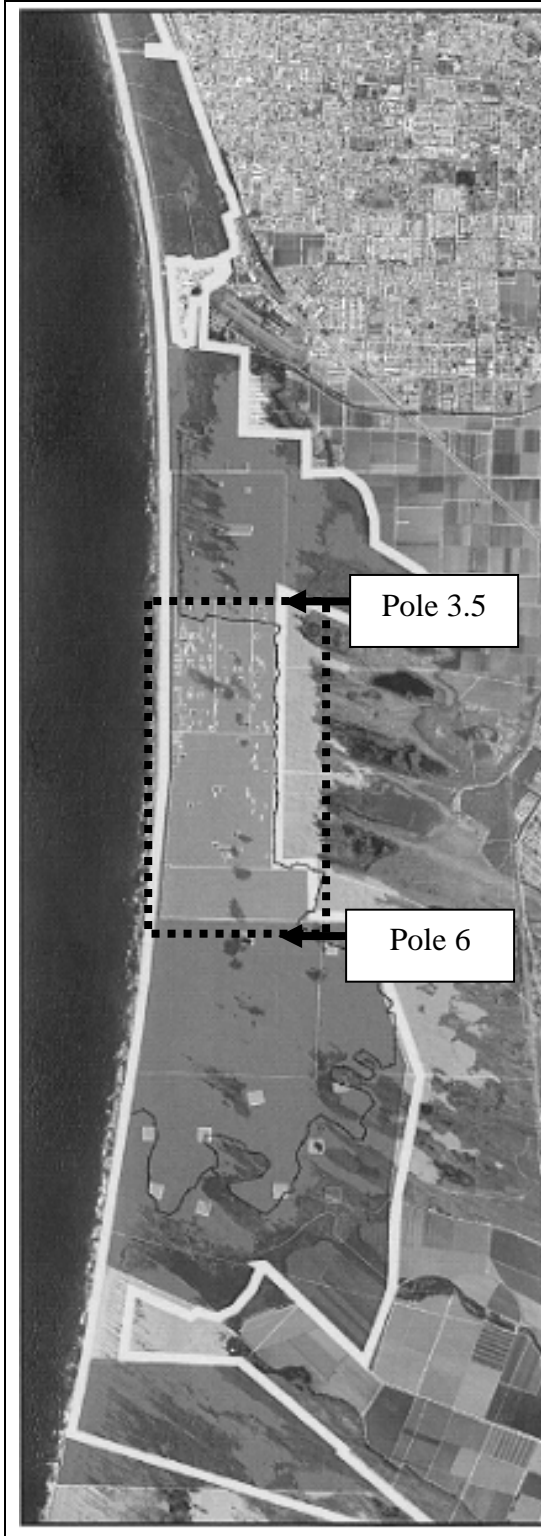




2008 ODSVRA Fact Sheet

Formerly Known as "Pismo"



OCEANO DUNES CLOSURE IS IT A REAL THREAT?

YES!

The County has leased the 584 acres identified in the map (Pole 3 ½ to Pole 6 all the way to the back fence) to State Parks for 25 years ending in June 08.

State Parks tried to buy it but opponents to our form of recreation have intervened and stacked the deck against the ODSVRA. If no sale and no lease can be accomplished, our opponents demand that the area be closed to OHV! If this happens, during Plover season, the remaining seasonal closures will essentially close camping and access from 3 ½ to Pole 8 1/2!

We have filed an expensive lawsuit with your donations.....but time is running out.

The park is in trouble and we need your HELP!

Please remember, Friends of Oceano Dunes is a 100% volunteer organization. 100% of your tax deductible contribution goes to keep this park open by paying the needed lawyers and lobbyists.

ABOUT THE ODSVRA

ODSVRA is **part of the 18,000 acre, 18 mile long Guadalupe-Nipomo Dunes complex** - 92 % reserved for protected/endangered species

ODSVRA became a **legislated Vehicle Recreation Park in 1971**. 4900-acre Park limits camping and vehicle recreation to 1500-acres, 3 miles of beach reduced to 1.5 miles six months each year.

2,000,000 annual ODSVRA visitors (*More than twice Hearst Castle*)

- Vehicle use include fisherman, disabled, surfers, personal watercraft, equestrians, as well as campers, hikers, tourists and ATVs.

ODSVRA is the last beach in California open to vehicles for both overnight camping and motorized recreation. (*only 1/2 of 1% of CA coastline*)

LEGISLATED PARK RECEIVES GOVERNMENT, BUSINESS, & PUBLIC SUPPORT

55 concerned bipartisan State Legislators authored a letter of support for FoOD concerns, to the California Coastal Commission (CCC).

Over 30,000 alarmed California citizens have signed petitions to the CCC expressing concern over threats of further reduction, or closure, of ODSVRA recreational space.

Tri-Cities Chamber of Commerce aware that 2,000,000 ODSVRA visitors spend **\$200 M /yearly**

MODEL ENDANGERED SPECIES PROTECTION & REPRODUCTION PROGRAM

California State Parks, at the ODSVRA has **created a responsive model program for protecting species**. Prominent biologists, intimately knowledgeable of efforts throughout California, applaud the success of ODSVRA programs. (***Some biologists privately indicate that the attack on the park is not substantiated by science but rather an attack on recreational vehicle use.***)

Evidence is overwhelming that **18 predators are the problem not people or vehicles!** BUT, adversaries demand more acreage be taken from visitors to increase "protections". No other beaches in California receive such biological scrutiny, nor are their species metrics evaluated for comparison! Reason: ODSVRA is a model park for protections.

Over 10 million visitors in the past seven years – only one Plover loss within the camping/riding are with neither vehicles nor people identified as "the cause".

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION PERSECUTION

It all began with a **25-year-old Parks permit** requiring approval by CCC, for bathrooms, fencing, and two kiosks (**long since completed**). That permit became a **lightning rod and weapon for those who are fundamentally opposed** to off road activity as a form of recreation. They use the open permit to, yearly add "conditions" to slowly strangle visitor's access. Instead of balance, the Endangered Species Act is used as a weapon to accomplish closure. If it's really about Plovers, the science and statistics demonstrate co-existence is practical and balanced!

The **Scientific Subcommittee** (a CCC requirement) has made clear that they have no charter to balance recreation interests! Or, be concerned with costs to implement their utopian recommendations! When asked for comparisons to other CA Plover beach habitats, to assess how well ODSVRA is doing, the Subcommittee stated that it was “out of scope!” also.

FINAL POINTS TO REMEMBER

- **The ODSVRA helps build family foundations.** It provides **quality-sharing time**. Whether it's preparing recreational equipment together, anxiously looking forward to the **fun trip** or the subsequent arrival and enjoyment of adventurous riding together. It's **playing together**, mutually **appreciating** what **nature** has provided, sharing the day's challenges around the campfire, eating together and meeting friends. It's leaving the adult troubles at home, and instead, sharing **new family experiences**. Parents learn about their children and children about parents. Returning home with memories of a time with family, with lifelong **relationships built** through these sharing of common interests. It builds **values and character** which continues for **generations**.
- This **choice of recreation** access, although objectionable to a vocal few, is no different than other motorized recreation choices – boating, snowmobiling, personal watercraft, paragliding, etc. **Each** is a recreational **preference**. **Discrimination** against any **ignores** the **public's intent** for the CCC and State Parks - **Assure** access for legal recreation **balanced** with protection of the environment.

**Fledgling: chicks that survive past 28 days and can progress to surviving on their own.*