



Jim Suty, President  
15131 Garcal Drive  
San Jose, CA 95127  
408-242-4445  
E-mail: [jim@oceanodunes.org](mailto:jim@oceanodunes.org)  
[www.oceanodunes.org](http://www.oceanodunes.org)

December 16, 2019

Secretary Wade Crowfoot  
California Natural Resources Agency  
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1311  
Sacramento, CA 95814

**Subject: California State Parks closing 48 acres at the Oceano Dunes SVRA in December ahead of planting in March.**

Dear Secretary Crowfoot:

This letter is being submitted by Friends of Oceano Dunes, Inc. ("Friends"), a California not-for-profit corporation representing users of Oceano Dunes State Vehicle Recreational Area ("ODSVRA"). Friends is **deeply concerned** by the California Coastal Commission issuing an Emergency Permit (CDP G-3-19-0053) requiring State Parks to immediately close 48 acres of critical camping area ahead of the Christmas and New Year's vacation schedules. State Parks has estimated the loss of these 48 acres to require a reduction of 50% of the camping spaces...yet the closure is happening now and there has been no reduction in camping.

This 48 acre area will not be planted until March, so fencing this area off now makes no logical sense other than to harass the patrons of the Oceano Dunes SVRA and to quite possibly cause injury or death due to overly confined spaces.

We request that State Parks be told to **IMMEDIATELY** stand down in fencing off these 48 acres until planting is ready to occur and there has been adequate time to inform and educate the users of the park. Safety of the park visitors must not be overlooked.

Sincerely,

Jim Suty  
President – Friends of Oceano Dunes

CC: Tom Roth  
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Friends of Oceano Dunes is a 501(c)(3) California Not-for-Profit Public Benefit Corporation, comprised of over 28,000 supporters. We represent businesses, environmentalists, equestrians, campers, fishermen, families and off-road enthusiasts who enjoy the benefits of Public Access through Responsible Recreation at the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area (ODSVRA). We want to maintain Access For All!