

CA Department of Parks and Recreation/OHV

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**RE: Letter in support of the recently announced ruling by the environmental protection agency regarding saving the local population of snowy plover.**

Dear Commission persons,

I am a resident of Oceano. Over the years Oceano has endured the increasing onslaught of the off-road vehicle drivers and endured the degradation of our local beaches, roads and wildlife. The State Parks and certain off-road businesses and entities (Friends of the Dunes, ASA, etc.), both here and elsewhere, have begun a monolithic campaign to drown out local voices for the preservation of endangered species throughout the dunes complex.

The Oceano dunes is an integral part of the survival of several species. State Parks personnel often classify plover strikes as "unknown cause of death" even when there is obvious evidence the bird/bird eggs/nesting chicks have been killed by a vehicle. Vehicle tracks have been wiped over or ignored thereby reducing the actual "take" numbers reported. This behavior has been sanctioned, even encouraged by top management in the Oceano Dunes SVRA. Oceano Dunes SVRA should not be given further "take" authorizations to further continue the demise of the plover population.

During the pandemic closure of the dunes complex, an increase in California coastal snowy plover numbers showed that this particular subspecies can affect a comeback from its perilous situation. I applaud the recognition from the environmental protection agency to codify the rules regarding the Parks and their responsibility to preserve and protect all species with the jurisdiction of the Oceano Dunes SVRA.

Please do not let the fate of Oceano dunes and its integral species die under the wheels of the OHV riders through obsequious deference to clubs, business and Oceano Dunes SVRA.

Sincerely,



Terese Miller