Good Afternoon BOD,

As we reported on Thursday night, after a long protracted meeting full of lies and innuendo, the California Coastal Commission voted to revise the Coastal Development Permit that allows Oceano Dunes to operate. The revision has various components, including the mandatory phasing out OHV recreation in Oceano Dunes within 3 years and closure of the Pier Avenue entrance to Oceano Dunes within a year and a half.

The meeting was dismissive and condescending, in my personal opinion, but most off-roaders heard the same negative statements and came away with the same disgust. This was Coastal Elitism disguised as government. Now the question becomes what is State Parks going to do next - file and lawsuit or not file a lawsuit? There are complications with that decision specifically with the Newsom administration, and I don't expect that decision will be made quickly. I know the actions of State Parks up to now were in part decided with an eye towards filing a lawsuit, and preparations have been made. There were numerous references during the Thursday meeting about legal questions surrounding the Coastal Commission's authority to force State Parks to adopt these mandated actions.

Equally important is how the community reacts, and many of us will be reviewing options in light of the decision.

One thing everyone can do right now is to call their representatives in the Legislature. Call all the offices for your legislators, write emails or send faxes saying something very simple - we disagree with the Coastal Commission, the Coastal Commission acted beyond their statutory authority, the Coastal Commission ignored thousands of visitors to Oceano Dunes in violation of their mission. Keep calling weekly! http://findyourrep.legislature.ca.gov/

This is important first step, because as much as we complain to each other, we rarely reach out to our legislators. Our opponents are much more connected to the legislative process, and we lose because our community won't often respond.

The second important step is to get the community working together. We are a community of individualists, but we can work together, especially on an issue as critical to our access. I've heard motorcyclists saying Oceano Dunes isn't important to them because motorcycles don't really use the Dunes and rock crawlers basically say the same thing. All these people and groups have to understand that what happened at Oceano Dunes SVRA can spread to other SVRA's and areas throughout California. We can't use these excuses if we want to move forward and fight.

At the same time there are other issues in California. We have been negotiating with the Forest Service regarding the Subpart C OSV analysis and we were successful in calling a halt to the process. The Forest Service is now reviewing how decisions were made during the analyses for the 5 forests, and whether there was undue influence by anti-OSV groups. This is a real success for motorized recreation. We've alleged this undue influence many times, but this is the first time we've been able to call a halt to the process and start an investigation.

We are also working with Congressman LaMalfa's office in regards to possible Travel Management legislation.

The BLM has asked us to possibly conduct a small online Comments Project Workshop in April for the Berryessa Snow National Monument management plan. That should be a great opportunity.

I have a meeting this week with Parks California, to pursue some sort of partnership with regards to access. The more help and support we can get for our SVRA's, the better.

Thanks to everyone who helped Mike finish the end of year inventory. We will be reordering stock shortly, and stickers to restock the store.

So many issues, and so little time! But I have to thank everyone on the board who has called and written and helped writing CORVA's comments and getting messages out to the community. CORVA filed substantive comments to the Coastal Commission and on the State Parks Public Works Plan. It really is a team effort.

Amy