

News Release



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Plan Well Ahead

Capacity Crowds at Oceano Dunes SVRA

OCEANO -- California State Park officials announced today that campers without reservations will not be allowed at the Oceano Dunes State Vehicular Recreation Area for the 4th of July holiday weekend (July 2-4).

"If you do not already have a reservation for the 4th of July holiday weekend, please do not plan to travel to the park for camping," said Superintendent Andy Zilke. "You will be turned away unless you have a reservation." "There will not be additional camping on a first-come-first-served basis."

Camping at the dunes has reached capacity every weekend since the Memorial Day holiday. The result: hundreds of hopeful campers without reservations have been turned away at the gates, a situation that park officials hope to avoid in the future.

Park officials annually urge visitors to acquire camping reservations for any planned camping visit to Oceano Dunes SVRA between the Memorial Day holiday period and Labor Day.

Camping reservations can be made up to 2 days in advance of the planned camping visit by contacting ReserveAmerica at (800) 444-7275.

According to Zilke, the park will reach day use vehicle capacity on Sunday, July 4th with visitors arriving early to secure good locations to view the annual evening fireworks display sponsored by the City of Pismo Beach from the Pismo pier later that evening. In addition, the park may reach day use vehicle capacity on Saturday, July 3rd. Once the park reaches the day use vehicle capacity, entry and/or re-entry for day use will not be allowed. Local law enforcement agencies will be assisting State Parks to route traffic away from the park once the day use vehicle capacity has been reached. Day users who stay in the park with their motor vehicles past the 11 p.m. closure and who camp illegally are subject to citation and a fine of \$270. Visitors are advised to plan any trip to the park well enough in advance to avoid an unpleasant experience.

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The use and possession of fireworks, including those designated as “safe and sane” is illegal at Oceano Dunes SVRA and all other State Beaches and State Parks in the area.

Oceano Dunes SVRA is located on the central coast of California in San Luis Obispo County near Pismo Beach and annually attracts nearly 1.5 million visitors.

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