

SIGN THIS PETITION RE-OPEN SURF BEACH

The California Coastal Commission will be considering whether the summer closure of Surf Beach should continue at its meeting in San Luis Obispo on July 10, 11 & 12, 2019

A November 2016 Study by the Air Force showed that plover nests in the area close to Lompoc Valley residents and nests in areas at Surf Depot open to residents produced almost the same number of fledging chicks. (They made it to flight)

In the study period eggs and chicks were taken by: Coyotes 25%, Ravens 5.5%, Wind 5% and the tides 16%. Humans damaged ZERO nests in the 2016 study year

The study covered 2004 to 2016 and it found that on average only slightly more chicks survived in areas closed to the public compared to areas open to the public. 1-4 nests!

I AM SIGNING THIS PETITION ASKING THE COASTAL COMMISSION TO OPEN SURF BEACH FOR ONE OR MORE OF THE FOLLOWING REASONS.

1. Lompoc Valley Residents have successfully shared the beach with the Plovers since 1872 and the Chumash for eons before that
2. I support the nesting area created by the Air Force that has been very successful and I will support maintaining and improving it.
3. With Surf beach closed, the closest free beaches are Santa Barbara and Guadalupe and they are not as nice. The City of Lompoc is classified as an economically disadvantaged community and the drive to those beaches is expensive
4. Surf Beach, for generations, has been the summer fun spot for Lompoc families. It has been closed so long there is no student in Lompoc Schools that can remember it being open for summer fun and picnics in the dunes or just digging in the sand.
5. Surf Beach is a very cool beach so when it is closed in the summer the best time to go there is lost to Lompoc Valley residents.
6. The open path to the small open beach area at Surf Depot is down a steep hill through loose sand and is very difficult for the older people and small children.
7. At Surf Beach because of the wet sand at the edge of the lagoon, next to the accessible walk ramp, it is easy for people with limited mobility to access the beach and there is no other free beach like that near us.
8. The current Surf Beach closure plan has failed. Only in 2004, which had a very warm winter, did the population of plovers reach the plan goal.
9. The Air Force study shows that the survival rate for plover chicks is almost identical in closed areas and areas by Surf Depot open to Lompoc Valley residents.
10. Almost every Lompoc Valley resident that has lived here over 20 years has their favorite story of the fun times spent at OUR SURF BEACH.

Commissioners please give us back Surf Beach so future generations can make their fun memories at our beach.

Call _____ at _____ to have this picked up by June 10, 2019
OR take it to the BOX SHOP at 740 North H. Street: Mon.-Fri 9 to 5 and Sat 10-2

