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U.S. House of Representatives
Committee on Resources
Washington, DC 20515

May 25, 2004

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Dear Friends and OHV Enthusiasts,

Thank you for contacting me by e-mail to express your outrage over how your recreation fees are being used at the Imperial Sand Dunes Recreation Area (ISDRA). I appreciate you sharing your thoughts with me, and I absolutely agree with you.

I do not believe one dollar, let alone \$825,000 of your recreation fees, should be used for a monitoring program. This money should come from the operating budget of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM). It is my understanding that Congressman Duncan Hunter (R-CA) is working to secure increased funding for the operation of the ISDRA.

Using your fees on something far removed from recreation clearly violates the purpose for which the fees were established --- to enhance your recreational experience. In fact, Roy Denner of the Off-Road Business Association recently testified before the House Committee on Resources, of which I am Chairman, on proposed legislation to permanently authorize the Recreation Fee Program. Mr. Denner described the inappropriate use of fees at the ISDRA and requested that the Committee ensure that the situation is not repeated at ISDRA or at any other Federal recreation site.

I can assure you that should legislation move forward to permanently authorize the Recreation Fee Program for the BLM, I will make certain your fees are used only to enhance your recreational experience with on-the-ground improvements.

Again, thank you for taking the time to contact me.

Sincerely,

Richard Pombo
Chairman
House Committee on Resources