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To: <PAIS_public_comments@nps.gov>
cc:
Subject: Padre Island National Seashore

I do not approve of BNP Petroleum's plan to drill Dunn-Peach Wells #2, 3, 4, 5, and 6. Considering that most of the Texas coast is currently being used to produce oil and gas, and considering that only 3 percent of Texas is public recreation land, the balance between population and resource use has already been met and favors resource extraction over recreation. Padre Island National Seashore should be the one area of the coast that offers the experience of coastal wilderness free of industrial development AND it should continue to provide safe harbor to the Kemp's Ridley sea turtles. Your job should be to protect this last great coastal wilderness from unnecessary drilling. Padre Island is a Texas treasure and should not be converted to a oil and gas superhighway. A federal buyout of the mineral rights should be included as one of the alternatives to the two you describe. Such an alternative would eliminate the need to allow access to privately owned mineral leases, would be consistent with the NPS environmentally preferred alternative, would meet all six of the national environmental policy goals, and would be consistent with the original intent of the park. As Alternative A evaluates baseline conditions under No Action, my vote at this time is for Alternative A - NO ACTION.

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